

"Blessed are your eyes,  
because they see, and  
your ears, because they  
hear."

**St. John the Baptist Parish**  
Polish National Catholic Church  
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**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – "A"**  
Piętnasta Niedziela Zwykła

**July 16, 2023**  
*100<sup>th</sup> year of service*

**Events for the week:**

**Sun., 7/16/23 – XV Sunday**

10:00AM – 10:00AM – Holy Mass for  
+Howard & Lucille Greenman, of. by  
daughter, Elizabeth.

**Tue., 7/18/23 - Weekday**

+Helen Hopko's funeral

9-10:00AM – Viewing at the *Gricoski*  
*Funeral Home*

10:30AM – Funeral Mass

**Next Sunday, July 23: XVI Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

10:00AM – Holy Mass for +James Dean.

**Next Sunday's Mass intentions:** July 23:  
+James Dean; July 30: all Parishioners.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Birthday best  
wishes are extended to: July 17 – Theresa  
Petrusky; July 21 – Jean Keim.

Faith is a two-way relationship. Human beings yearn for God, and God our Father longs for us to turn back to Him. We are free either to answer that call, or to turn away. We have both the freedom and the responsibility to choose the Christian life.

**I Reading:** Isaiah 55:10-11

**II Reading:** Romans 8:18-23

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!' Then the disciples went up to Him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' He replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for - James Panco – Jean Keim – Betty Brazausky - Marjorie Dean – Elaine Antalosky – Josephine Hause – Edward Jurewicz. *H & R Center Tremont*: Dolores Halaburda. *Luther Ridge Pottsville, PA* – Marie Demnitski. *Rehab. & Nursing Center Pottsville, PA* – Thomas Justen.

they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. ‘You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.’

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Thanks go out to: Church cleaner, Organist, lector, collector, and the Sunday greeters.

Our parish is looking for a person who will be responsible for: cleaning the church (including: decorating the church for special events and seasons, washing altar clothes), beginning September 1, 2023. For information, please contact Mrs. Ann Marie Wycheck.

- Hall for Rent is available...\$100.00 for 2 hours/+ \$25.00 each additional hour, and \$50.00 returnable deposit.
- July 23 – Vehicles blessing after the Mass
- August 26 – Chicken Dinner;

*Half of Chicken – Baked Potato – Vegetable – Roll – Butter;*

*Price - \$10.00 – take out only – pick up: 2-4:00PM in church hall.*

To order, please call: 570-874-0119 or 570-205-3111 by August 20, 2023

- October 15, at 4:00PM Anniversary Holy Mass – Celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of organizing our parish; dinner will be in the Roman’s restaurant, Frackville, PA.

**“For whom the Lord loves He reproveth, as a father, the son he favors”**. (Proverbs 3:12)