

**Holy Family Parish**  
**National Catholic Church**  
**1921 Eden Park Boulevard**  
**McKeesport. Pa. 15132**  
**412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009**  
**[www.hfpncc.org](http://www.hfpncc.org)**  
**Facebook Holy Family National Catholic Church**  
**Celebrating 101 years of ministry in McKeesport**



## **Solemnity-Brotherly Love**

### **September 11, 2022**

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements, please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678.0566. Office **Hours:** Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at [BSleczkowski@aol.com](mailto:BSleczkowski@aol.com)

#### Parish Staff:

Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski, Pastor 412.276.5562  
Ted Gibala, Committee Chairman 412.678.7347  
Carol Davelli Chopin Choir Director 412.678.2368  
Wendy Blotzer, Organist, Bell Choir 412.926.6029  
David Kost, Lector Coordinator 412.519.7771  
Tom Popovic, Cemetery Coordinator 724.243.3033  
Parish Custodian 412.678.7347



**PRAY FOR UKRAINE**

## **SOLEMNITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE:**

In 1897 Father Hodur and a group of people organized the first Polish National Catholic Church, Saint Stanislaus Parish, in Scranton, PA. As the years went by Father Hodur was dismayed by the way others were mistreating members of our Church. He was sometimes saddened by the manner in which some Church members responded to this injustice. He was disappointed because the members of the Church were not following the Great Commandments. Father Hodur wanted the faithful to follow Christ and His teachings. In 1904 the First General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church was held in Scranton, PA and in 1906 the First General Synod was reconvened to complete it. At these gatherings he proposed that we establish the Solemnity of Brotherly Love to be commemorated annually on the second Sunday in September as a reminder to all Polish National Catholics to be kind and loving to each other and to all people. Everyone at the Synod agreed and the Solemnity of Brotherly Love has been celebrated in the Polish National Catholic Church ever since. It is a day to remind us to love one another and to love all people.

### **This Week**

#### **Sunday, September 11, 2022**

#### **Solemnity-Brotherly Love**

#### **Mission Collection**

SAMBS Meeting

9:00 A.M.

Holy Mass

10:00 A.M.

**+Victims of the 9/11 attack remembrance**

*Special Envelope for the Bishop Hodur Retreat Center*

#### **Monday, September 12, 2022**

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:30 P.M.

#### **Wednesday, September 14, 2022**

Frederic Chopin Choir Rehearsal

6:00 P.M.

#### **Thursday, September 15, 2022**

Parish Council Meeting

7:00 P.M.

#### **Saturday, September 17, 2022**

Polish Platter Dinner

4:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.

#### **Sunday, September 18, 2022**

**25 Ordinary Time**

Holy Mass	10:00 A.M.
+ <b>Shirley &amp; Turk Potoczny</b> Int. Steffania Piekielek; + <b>Dorothy Misiura</b> Int Ted & Janis Gibala; + <b>Stanley Rucinski</b> (16 <sup>th</sup> Ann) Int. Allen, Wanda, & Kristen Korenoski; + <b>Ann Yonek</b> Int. Bob & Janet Yonek	
SOCL Classes	11:00 P.M.
YMSR Men's Meeting	11:00 P.M.

***Polish Platter Dinner***

*Featuring your favorite Polish Food*

***Saturday, September 17, 2022***

*4:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.*

*1921 Eden Park Boulevard*

*McKeesport, PA 15132*

*Eat in or take-out*

**September is Spojnia Month**

***Polish National Union of America a Fraternal Benefit Society***

*Providing Financial Security and Enriching Lives Through Faith,  
Service and Culture*

The Polish National Union of America is a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society. Established in 1908 by Bishop Francis Hodur and headquartered in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The PNU has been consistently dedicated to the material, educational and spiritual welfare of its membership by providing quality fraternal programs, superior life insurance protection and long-term savings and retirement plans. Protecting Families For over 114 years it has been the mission of the PNU to manage its resources in such a way that it will continually build value for its members, their families, and its employees, so that it can be here to serve their needs from birth through their senior years.



2022 Education & Youth  
Commission Raffle Tickets  
available on the Narthex Table.

Benefits the PNU College Stipend Program

**Autumn Craft & Vendor Sale**  
**Saturday September 24, 2022**

10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

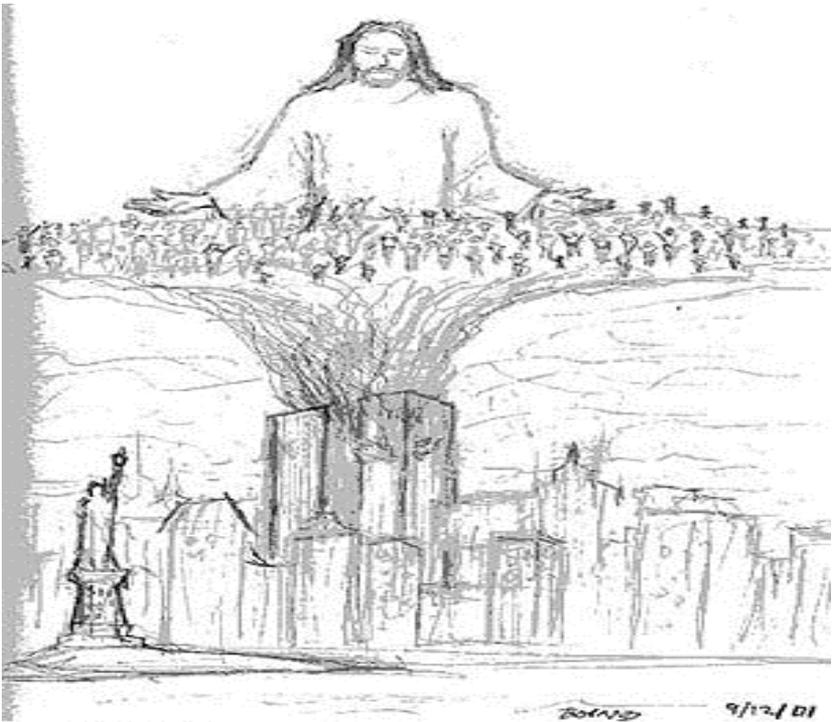
1921 Eden

Park Boulevard  
McKeesport, PA 15132

Featuring Polish and American Food- Chinese Auction-50/50 Raffle *Chinese Auction baskets and Lottery Tickets will be greatly appreciated. All Chinese Auction Baskets and Lottery Tickets are due today, so the Auction Baskets and Lottery Ticket baskets can also be sold at the Polish Platter Dinner. Also, the Chinese Auction Baskets tickets, 50/50 tickets and Lottery Ticket baskets will be sold Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> after Mass. **Needed:** soft drinks aka Coke, Diet Coke, Root Beer, Cream, Sprite, and Iced Tea. Bottled Water 16.9 once. Bring donated Baked goods on Friday and lottery tickets for auction baskets. **Help Needed:** Friday 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. for Prep work; Saturday at 8:00 A.M. & 3:00 P.M. to help unload & reload crafter cars. **Proceeds benefit Holy***

*Family. **Contact** Kristen Korenoski @ 412.848.9215 for tables, auction baskets and added information.*





Through A Child's Eyes...

This was drawn by an elementary student in response to the WTC Disaster.

Heavenly Father, we turn to You, Lord, on this day of remembrance. It was twenty-one years ago that our country was attacked and plunged into fear and mourning. Yet, You in Your infinite wisdom, brought us together during that time. We were, for a while, no longer Democrats or Republicans. We were no longer Black, Hispanic, Asian or Caucasian....instead we were united as one people. We stood together as Americans to comfort those who were grieving and to proclaim a love for this proud country. Today we ask You to guide us back to this sense of unity. We are a sinful people...always straying and turning our backs on Your help and presence. But we are also a people of great generosity and kindness. In Your mercy, forgive our sinfulness and guide us in this journey Home to You. We pray for our country that we remember and affirm once again...we are "one nation under God." You are our guide and protector. We look to You alone for help through these difficult times. We pray for a return to the values of Family, Faith and Morality. In Jesus name we pray.

## Adult SOCL Class

Have you ever been asked, “are you saved?” Did you have a good response? Or why do Catholics worship Mary and the saints and pray to them and pray to statues? Misinterpreting the Catholic teachings to question. There are many things we do in the Church that have meaning and have been in practice, but do we know why? Here is a chance to learn as to why and to be able to answer questions to those who challenge our faith. I invite everyone to attend these classes. It will be very informative, and you will be able to defend the faith with the right response.

S	D	N	A	G	I	R	B	I	N	LAWYER	MASTER	INHERIT
R	U	O	B	H	G	I	E	N	A	ETERNAL	LIFE	NEIGHBOUR
E	R	E	R	S	N	D	A	H	R	BRIGANDS	BEAT	PRIEST
T	E	L	E	V	I	T	E	E	I	LEVITE	SAMARITAN	INN
S	T	T	Y	P	I	N	G	R	T			
A	E	S	W	R	N	I	T	I	A			
M	N	A	A	I	B	E	E	T	M			
Y	R	M	L	E	L	I	F	R	A			
W	A	L	A	S	I	R	P	I	S			
S	L	T	E	T	E	R	N	A	L			



The precise motive behind the Lawyer’s question isn’t clear. It’s the question that matters. “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” The question itself contradicts the core of Jesus’ teaching because the inheritance of any form is the result of a relationship. It’s not a goal achieved through effort. Likewise, eternal life is a gift we inherit from God through our relationship with him. Not something we earn through works of righteousness. Jesus answered with a counter-question. He asked, “What is written in the law? How do you understand it?” The lawyer answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.” The Lawyer was right but got trapped. (He sought to prove that eternal life required the fulfillment of the Law. But his answer proved otherwise.) Then he pulled out a wild card, in an attempt to justify himself. “Who is my neighbor?” In Jewish culture, only a fellow Jew was considered to be a neighbor.

Gentiles weren't considered neighbors. The Lawyer was implying he has fulfilled the Law by treating his fellow Jew with respect in keeping with the Law. Therefore he has earned eternal life by complying with the Law, not through a personal relationship with God. Our friend thought he finally had Jesus. But Jesus is smarter and wiser. He told him the parable of the Good Samaritan.

By telling this parable Jesus wanted us to understand:

Eternal Life is an inheritance of God reserved for those who love him. But we cannot say we love him if we refuse to show mercy to people. Our love for one another truly reveals our love for God. To show mercy and be a neighbor to the needy is the act of that love. Be a neighbor to anyone in need. Don't divide people as neighbors and non-neighbors based on their race or behavior because God created everyone in his image.

The story compels us to explore our own tendency to ignore those who lie helplessly in the ditches of life, and then to justify our inaction by blaming the victims for being in the ditch in the first place.

The story dares us to think deeply about the groups and individuals we've cordoned off as unworthy of our neighborliness.

The story implores us to confront, with honest humility, our preference for the ease of generalizations over the time-consuming effort of relationships. The opportunity in the story is to see it, not as a call to "do better," but as an invitation to repent—to seek God's mercy and forgiveness. Only when we begin to see how our tribalism, prejudices, and hatreds have wounded our own souls, will we be able to receive the balm of Christ's healing.

Our repentance can begin right now, in this place, around this Table. The One who feeds us with the Sacrament of his Body and Blood, will strengthen us to do the work of mercy in a broken world. Wounded as we are, we can still bind up the wounds of others in Jesus' Name, and in so doing, begin to bind the wounds of the world. Having experienced God's mercy, we can begin to live as people of mercy.

"Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"

He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."