

# TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

		†	MASS INTENTIONS	†
Sat.	9/23	4:00 PM	For the People	
Sun.	9/24	7:30 AM	Mark Kopczynskie by Henry and Dan Kopczynskie	
		10:30 AM	Francis Falatko by Tom and Tess Muccio	
Mon.	9/25	7:00 PM	Richard Poluka by His Wife Theresa and Family	
Tue.	9/26	7:00 AM	Angeline and Finito Donato by Mary Grace	
Wed.	9/27		<b>NO MASS</b>	
Thur.	9/28	7:00 AM	Helen Capozzelli by Her Family	
Fri.	9/29	7:00 AM	Bernard Uricheck by Theresa Brennan and Chris Griffing	
Sat.	9/30	4:00 PM	Mary Beth Kopczynskie by Her Husband Raymond, Daughters Pamela and Jennifer and Sons-in-Law	
Sun.	10/1	7:30 AM	Catherine Matz by M/M Stanley Wysocky	
		10:30 AM	For the People	



## Last Weekend:

Sunday \$4,086.00; Dues \$1,045.00; Church in Europe \$5.00; Poor Box \$274.65

**SECOND COLLECTION** next weekend is for the Care and Education of Priests.

**CANDLES ON THE ALTAR** are in Memory of Richard Poluka by His Wife Theresa & Family

**LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING** on Wednesday, September 27th, at 6 PM in the rectory.

**CHOIR PRACTICE** will be held on Tuesday, September 26th, at 6:00 PM.



**LEGION OF MARY** meets every Thursday at 1:00 PM in the church basement. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this honoring of our Blessed Mother.

**FAITH FORMATION NEWS:** The 2017-18 session has begun. All children in all classes must be registered to attend. All info is available after the 7:30 Mass or at the parish office. We have invoices available for all families who have not received one. A note of appreciation to Mrs. Goetsch for acquiring dry erase boards, markers, and a cork board for our classrooms. These items will help to enhance the Faith Formation experience for everyone. Thank you for all you do!



**ANNUAL CHILDREN'S WARM WINTER COAT COLLECTION** - We are seeking new, warm winter coats for the needy children in our Freeland Community. If you would like to donate a coat, you can drop them off at the parish office or place them on the right side of the altar steps. If you prefer to make a donation, you can drop it off at the parish office or place it in the collection basket marked "Coats." Last year we distributed over 125 coats, hats, and gloves to children who would not otherwise have had a coat at all. This year we are most in need of larger size coats (8, 10, 12, 14, 14/16, 16, 16/18, 18, and 20) for both boys and girls.



**FOOD PANTRY** donation for September is packaged meals such as Hamburger Helper, potato or rice meals. Next distribution is Tuesday, September 26th. Volunteers are needed to help unload the truck at 1:00 PM. Packing bags is 1:30 PM; distribution is 3:30 PM.

**OUR ANNUAL CHICKEN/HALUPKI DINNER** will be on Sunday, October 1st. Tickets are available after each of the weekend masses and at the parish office. Absolutely no tickets will be sold at the door.



**TRICKY TRAYS** are needed for our dinner. We are asking all of you wonderfully creative people to create your tricky tray and bring it to the Freeland Event Center on Fri, Sep 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 6 PM. Tricky trays are always a favorite part of the Chicken/Halupki Dinner.



### **Greetings from the Pastor...**

It's not fair! How come he gets as much as I do and he did half the work? Most of us would probably think that about this weekend's Gospel. We have to understand that the Gospel is not about rewards, but salvation. It's about God's grace and how God distributes that grace. In the temporal world, we earn a living and, under most circumstances, the more we work, the more we earn. God's grace does not work like that. You all remember the Good Thief (scripture scholars refer to him as Dismas). He led a life of debauchery. On his cross, looking over at Jesus, he realized the wrong he had done and knew he needed to change. Other than Mary, he's the only human being we know is in heaven because Jesus told him he would be with Him in Paradise that day. I assure you, Mary was not at the foot of the Cross yelling at Jesus and saying: "It's not fair!" We should rejoice at folks like Dismas being in heaven as well as be comforted knowing that Mary is in heaven. Now, that's fair!



### **A VIEW FROM THE PEW, THE PATRON SAINT OF ALTAR SERVERS: SAINT TARCISIUS.**

The Roman Emperor Valerian brutally persecuted Christians during the 3rd century forcing them underground to the catacombs for Mass. Even back in this time communion was taken to the sick and homebound. This dangerous duty was usually done by mature and strong men because any public expression of Christianity was a death sentence. It was during one Mass when a priest asked who would take communion to the sick, a young altar server stepped forward saying "Send me!" His name was Tarcisus. The priest was reluctant to send such a young man, but Tarcisus was persistent: "My youth will be the best shield for the Eucharist!" After being assured that the young altar server truly understood who he was carrying, the priest relented and carefully wrapped the Blessed Sacrament and placed it in a small linen bag and gave it to the young boy. This was the last time Tarcisus was seen alive. On his journey, he was approached by a group of young men. They saw he was protecting something close to his heart. Upon refusing to let them see what he was clutching, they realized he was a Christian. The pagan crowd began to beat and eventually stoned him to death. He never let go of the linen bag. A Praetorian guard, who also was a secret Christian, picked up the body, brought it back to the priest, set it down and pulled back his arms and observed something astonishing. Oral tradition records that the Blessed Sacrament was not found on St. Tarcisus' body or clothing. "The Blessed Sacrament which the young Martyr had defended with his life had become flesh of his flesh thereby forming, together with his body, a single Immaculate Host offered to God." Pope Benedict\*. Excerpts from Pope Benedict XVI General Audience 8/4/10.

**SPONSORSHIP:** I was asked by someone years ago for a letter to become a sponsor for Baptism. The person said they belonged to the parish. It turns out the person received Confirmation in the parish 15 years earlier and had not been to church since. We chatted and came up with a solution. The person agreed to come back to church. After a month or so of coming to church on a regular basis, I was able to write the letter allowing him to become a Godparent.

The following are the criteria for becoming a sponsor for either Baptism or Confirmation:

You must **BELONG** to a parish. Anyone over the age of 18 must register as a parishioner. Do not assume that if you were raised in the parish, you belong. I have had folks come back to the parish after having moved away saying that they received their sacraments at this parish and thinking they still belonged.

You must **PRACTICE** your faith on a regular basis. This means that you come to church more than just Christmas or Easter. If you do not meet these requirements, come and talk to me. We can work it out. By the way, the gentleman I spoke of happened in my first parish in Williamsport 30 years ago. He still comes to church on a regular basis.

**\*\*\*TO HAVE YOUR CHILD BAPTIZED IN THE PARISH, YOU MUST BELONG TO THE PARISH.**

## CHICKEN / HALUPKI WORK SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM**, we are preparing the cabbage for the Chicken /Halupki Dinner in the church basement.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> at 9:00 AM**, we will be preparing the halupki for the Chicken/Halupki Dinner in the Event Center.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM**, we will be peeling potatoes for the Chicken/Halupki Dinner at the Event Center.

**CHICKEN / HALUPKI DINNER** will be held on **Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**, in the Freeland Event Center. Take outs are served from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM. Dinner is served from 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

**BAKE SALE** will be Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please bring your baked goods to the event center on Saturday at 8:00 AM.

**PRE-ORDERS FOR HALUPKI** can be picked up Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Event Center from 4:00 to 6:30 PM. Please bring your own container.

**TRICKY TRAYS** for the Chicken / Halupki Dinner may be dropped off at the Event Center on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10AM-7PM. Your support is greatly appreciated.