

**St. John the Baptist Parish
Polish National Catholic Church**

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Central Diocese website: www.centraldiocesepncc.org

PNU website: www.pnu.org

Prime Bishop of the PNCC – **Most Rev. Dr. Anthony A. Mikovsky**
Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese – **Rt. Rev. John E. Mack**
Plymouth Seniorate Administrative Senior – **Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski**
Parish Committee Chairman – **Mr. Edward Halaburda**



Third Sunday of Lent – Cycle “B”

Solemnity – Institution of the PNCC

March 11, 2012

“Where do we go from here? Let's go to church!”

EVENTS for the WEEK

Holy Mass – 8:45AM – Traditional liturgy in English.

Today, March 11th – Solemnity – Institution of the PNCC – Third Sunday of Lent

Today we commemorate the Feast of the Institution of the PNCC - 115th Anniversary of the organizing of the first parish and mother cathedral of our Church.

8:40AM – The Oath of the Parish Committee.

8:45AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. **Mary Ann Etcho**, of. by Mr. John Etcho.

△ Collection for National Church Center

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., 2 Kings 5:1-5ab; Luke 4:24-30; **Tue.**, Daniel 3:25.34-43; Matthew 18:21-35; **Wed.**, Deuteronomy 4:1.5-9; Matthew 5:17-19; **Thu.**, Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23; **Fri.**, Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34; **Sat.**, Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14

Monday, February 20 – March 26th – Easter Eggs Sale Project

MONDAY, March 12th - *Lenten Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass; intention: for sp. **Maria Zaborowska**, of. by Janina Plichta.

TUESDAY, March 13th - *Lenten Weekday*

10:00AM – Funeral Mass – Sp. Eugenia Halaburda

WEDNESDAY, March 14th - *Lenten Weekday*

7:00PM – Choir practice before Palm Sunday.

THURSDAY, March 15th - *Lenten Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass for all **Parishioners**.

FRIDAY, March 16th - *Lenten Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass

6:00PM – Bitter Lamentations or Litany of the Passion.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 18th - *Fourth Sunday of Lent*

8:30AM – Lenten Penitential Service

8:45AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. **Charles Touchinsky Sr.**, of. by Mrs. Betty Brazausky.

Today's liturgy

ASPERGES – **Pokropisz mnie** Panie hyzopem, a będę oczyszczony, obmyjesz mnie, a nad śnieg będę wybielony. Zmiłuj się nade mną Boże, według wielkiego miłosierdzia Twego. Chwała Ojcu i Synowi i Duchowi Świętemu, jak była na początku, teraz i zawsze i na wieki wieków. Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE (Psalm 23:1-3.5)

V. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. In green pastures You let me graze; to safe waters You lead me, You restore my strength. You guide me along the right path for the sake of Your name.

R. You set a table before me as my enemies watch; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

R. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN – Our Symbol – PNCC Hymnal, p. 9

Prawdą, Pracą, Walką Zwycięzimy, With Truth, Work and Struggle our victory will be won. The Word of God, the Palm, the Sun and the Cross: The symbol of our Holy Church proclaims God's love for us. Prawdą, Pracą, Walką Zwycięzimy, With Truth, Work and Struggle our victory will be won.

I Reading: Wisdom 5:1-5

GRADUAL (Psalm 30:2-4)

V. I praise You, Lord, for you raised me up and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.

R. Lord, my God, I cried out to You and You healed me. Lord, You brought me up from Sheol; You kept me from going down to the pit.

II Reading: 1 Timothy 4:1-5

TRACT

In You, Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In Your justice deliver me.

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come Thou Creator Spirit blest. And in our souls take up Thy rest. Come with Thy grace and wondrous aid. Fill now the hearts which Thou hast made. Come with Thy grace and wondrous aid. Fill now the hearts which Thou hast made. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN – **Holy Cross** – PNCC Hymnal, p. 92

1. Holy Cross, O Tree all beauteous, Tree all peerless and divine! No grove on the earth can show us Such a flow'r and leaf as thine! Precious nails and precious the wood On which hung our dying Lord.
2. Lofty tree bend down thy branches, To embrace thy sacred burden; Relax, oh, relax the tension Of that all too rigid wood. Gently, gently bear the members Of thy dying King and God.
3. Tree which solely wast found worthy the world's victim to sustain; Harbor from the raging tempest, Ark that saved the world again! Tree with sacred blood anointed of the Lamb for sinners slain.

COMMUNION HYMN – **Jesus, My Lord And Savior** – PNCC Hymnal, p. 159

1. Jesus, my Lord and Savior, here would I worship Thee. All that I have I give Thee for Thou didst die for me. Here in this Bread of heaven, here in this Host Divine. Thanksgiving, praise and honor be ev'ry moment Thine. All my vain pride I humble, all my poor soul I give unto my Lord and Savior that with Him I may live.
2. Hosanna in the highest! Angelic choirs do sing, Glorious praise unceasing to Christ our Lord and King. Setting for us a standard as we our songs employ, Bringing us closer to Him, filling us with His joy. He knows the tears of suffering through His own earthly life. With trembling heart we praise Him, telling Him of our strife.

RECESSIONAL HYMN – **Tyle Lat** – PNCC Hymnal, p. 2

Tyle lat my Ci, o Panie, Służbę wierną wypełniali, Szli ku słońcu, w świt zaranie, Łańcuch niewoli targali, Łańcuch niewoli targali.

O bodajem wierni byli, O bodaj ten sztandar święty, Aż do zgonu naszej chwili, W duszy, w sercu był rozpięty, W duszy, w sercu był rozpięty.

May the Lord save you from your sins. May the Lord heal all your wounds. May the Lord lead you into the fullness of life and joy.

COMING EVENTS

CENTRAL DIOCESE

Apr. 14th Diocesan Council meeting (Scranton, PA)

Oct. 11-13th Diocesan Synod in Scranton, PA

PLYMOUTH SENIORATE

Apr. 21st Seniorate Council meeting (Shenandoah, PA 1:00PM)

June 7th Corpus Christi Service (Middleport, PA 7:00PM)

FRACKVILLE

March 18th Lenten Penitential Service (8:30AM)
March 23rd Funeral: sp. Ann Balser (10:00AM)
March 25th Baptism: Joseph Tokarczyk
Apr. 15th Baptism: Joslin Payne
Apr. 29th "Chinese" Auction
May 28th Memorial Day Mass at 9:00AM.

SHENANDOAH

March 18th Lenten Penitential Service (10:45AM)
May 28th Memorial Day Mass at 11:00AM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Thanks go out to:

- **Mrs. Betty Brazausky** and members of the Parish for preparing the altars, and the church for services;
- to **Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff** for musical preparations, and to the Choir members;
- to **Mr. James Abicunas** for being a lector,
- to the **Sunday greeters**, the people working on fundraisers.

THANK YOU very much to our Parishioners who came to the hall to help with Easter Eggs project last week!

THE PARISH COMMITTEE 2012 – elected on Sunday, March 4, 2012:

Chariman: Mr. Edward Halaburda

Vice-Chairman: Mr. James Chistakoff

Recording Secretary: Mrs. Sandra Elsavage

Financial Secretary: Mrs. Betty Brazausky

Treasurer: Mrs. Ann Marie Wycheck

Directors: Mrs. Flossy Bulcavage, Mrs. Elaine Antalosky, Mrs. Judith Touchinsky, Mr. Charles Chiao Jr., Mr. John Plaxa, Mr. George Wycheck, Mr. James Abicunas; ***Honorary Director:*** Mr. Stanley Bulcavage.

Congratulations, and may God bless you!

PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY - ..if you or a relative are admitted to a hospital and nursing home;. if your phone number or address change;. if you have a prayer concern.

EASTER EGG PROJECT – St. John the Baptist Parish is asking our Parishioners for help at this fundraiser. We need everyone's prayer and help to succeed. If you feel a part of our congregation please sign your name on the list in the back of the church, including a time of a day when you may come for help. Thank you so much!!!

ST. JOHN PARISH is looking for the additional voices to our **Choir**: both men and ladies. If you feel that you can help us, please join our Parish Choir. Thank you.

LENTEN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Wednesday, March 14 – 7:00PM – Annunciation RCC


Wednesday, March 21 – 7:00PM – Zion Lutheran


Wednesday, March 28 – 7:00PM – St. Peter's UCC

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Senior William Chromey**, his family, and parishioners of the Holy Trinity Parish in Throop and St. Adalbert Parish in Dickson City, PA.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: March 15 – Betty Brazausky; March 16 – Father Robert Plichta.

 **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for – James Chistakoff – Dorothy Halaburda – Sophia Stetts – Sarah Powanda – Joseph Makauskas - Edward Halaburda – Helen Hopko – Paul Elsavege – John Etcho - George Chesko – Flossy Bulcavage – Sharon Chiao – Sue Pascavage – John Plaxa. At **Nursing Homes**: Helen Chistakoff – Dolores Halaburda - **Frackville Nursing Home** – Louise Gursky (307) - Ann Lech (108) – Stanley Bulcavage (313); NY – Cecelia Pyzowski.

 **HOSPITAL VISIT.** If you, or a member of your family, are hospitalized or enter a long-term nursing facility, please personally or through a closest family member contact Fr. Robert. I will visit a sick member upon his or his family notification.


DEATH NOTICE – Sp. **Eugenia P. Halaburda** passed away on Thursday, March 8, 2012. Born in Morea, Nov. 7, 1922, she was a daughter of the late Neil and Mary Bonner O'Donnell. She was preceded in death by her husband Joseph Halaburda Sr., a son Joseph Halaburda Jr., sisters Anna Swartz and Aileen Early, brothers Joseph, John, Al, Neil and Lawrence O'Donnell. *Eternal rest grant unto her, o Lord...*


UPCOMING SUNDAY'S MASS INTENTIONS: March 18: sp. Charles Touchinsky Sr.; **Apr. 15:** sp. Josephine Studlick **Apr. 22:** sp. Father Edward Tomczyk; **May 20:** sp. Mary Ann Etcho. *Please, do not order the mass intentions ahead of 1 year. Thank you.*



CHINESE AUCTION will be held on **April 29, 2012** in the parish hall. We are asking all parishioners to help with the fundraiser by donating new items for this event. We are also appealing to you for your help. Everyone's help is needed especially on the day of the auction. The ANS Society is asking Parishioners for donating items for **Big** and **Small** tables. Thank you!

THE MANOR AT WAYMART – a personal care facility, is located in beautiful waymart, PA near the Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center. We invite you to contact us at **570-488-6829** or manoratwaymart@echoes.net for rates, room availability, or to arrange a tour of our facility. Also these are our **room rates**: Semi-Private - \$2,097.00; Private - \$2,646.00; Private Deluxe - \$3,087.00.

 **CONFESSIONS FOR THE YOUTH** – Our younger members as well as their parents are reminded that Confession is an essential part of a child's religious upbringing. Remember this important part of their religious life. Confession is held on the **first Sunday** of every month at **8:30AM** (before Mass). Children before Confirmation age should come to **private** Confession. If children (until Confirmation) would like to receive the Holy Communion in a worthy manner they must come for private confession at least once a month. If other times are necessary please contact Fr. Robert.

 **WELCOME OUR VISITORS** – We welcome all our visitors who are present with us for worship this Sunday! Please write your names in the guest book located in the vestibule of the church. You are always welcome to join us in worship.

PNCC MISSION & EVANGELISM WORKSHOP – our goal has been that the Faithful come away with a burning desire to bring faith-driven work of the Workshop back to their parishes, and be a light to that local Community of Faith, the Parish, and the communities in which they live. This year the Workshop will take place on **Apr. 27-29** in St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Cedar Lake, IN, the theme: **“Nourished to Serve”**. Deadline for registering is April 16, 2012. For more details, please contact Fr. Robert.

67 ANNUAL PNCC/YMSofR Bowling Tournament – will be held on **May 18-20, 2012** sponsored by Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Schenactedy, NY. Registration closes on April 15, 2012. For more details, please contact Fr. Robert.

VISIT LITHUANIA, POLAND and PRAGUE – June 30 – July 15, 2012; \$3,895 Single supplement \$750 from New York to Warsaw. See Eastern Europe on the Baltic Sea, major cities and sights, quaint sea resort

towns, visit a health spa and lake districts, Hitler's bunker crystal and pottery shops. Buffet breakfast, and full lunch or dinner daily. LOT airlines, New York departures, bus to/from airport. For more information, please call Margaret Valinsky at: 570-277-6163 or valinskym@verizon.net

RECEIVING THE HOLY EUCHARIST – those who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist are invited to partake of this Holy Sacrament. It is the practice of the PNCC to distribute the Holy Eucharist through the method of intinction. The Body and Blood of Christ are placed on the tongue, not in the hand.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Resting of the Sabbath. This is the third commandment, preceded only by having no other gods before the Lord God and not taking God's name in vain. In other words, God considers this weekly vacation from work very important. God rested on the seventh day not because He needed time off, but to delight in the “good” He had created and set an example for us. Notice that other than “no work” He leaves our choice of activity up to us. This leads to the idea that rest is itself a holy thing. Our family does nothing on the Sabbath that we could cross off of a “To Do” list. This is harder than you may think but worth it. Play a board game with your family, read a good book, visit friends or go bird watching, and say to yourself, “*It is good. Thank You, God.*”



St. Stanislaus Cathedral - inside

DUES 2012. Since January 2005, a change was made that eliminated the ‘family plan’ method for paying Church dues. This change was voted upon and approved at the 2002 General Synod.

Each adult member (18 years old+) will now be recorded as an individual unit. This means every adult member is now responsible for his/her own dues. To continue to be a member at St. John the Baptist parish and a member of the Polish National Catholic Church each adult will be responsible for paying the following:

Total dues for 2012 per Adult Member: \$79.00 Per Year

The parish itself has an obligation to pay dues according to the number of active members to the General Church and Diocese and our financial administration distributes these monies also as directed by the General Synod. A breakdown of where these dollars are sent is available upon request.

There are also many other funds within your parish that require your attention and need your donations:

Sunday Collection, St. Johns Fund, Fuel Fund, Cemetery Fund, Clergy/Pension Fund, Easter Egg Project Fund, Easter Donations, Flower Fund, Bleenie Sales (we had a great time last year, come out help out, join in the fun...), and Christmas Donations.

OUR MINISTRY – the Parish Committee is not a Board of Directors. Its work goes beyond the “material” necessities of a parish. It is a unique group of committed Christians with a conviction – to proclaim the Good News of Jesus. Thus, each member of the Committee has a vocation: to be a steward, a good manager of the gifts of God. The Parish Committee member is one who is called to make commitment, with a conviction to function for the sake of the Gospel. To be this person, we must be good stewards or managers of the mysteries of God and faithful witnesses of the same.

TWO KINDS OF ANGER

Making a whip of cords, He drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables (John 2:15). Jesus is often portrayed as being gentle, kind and wise. He was, but like all humans, He felt many emotions. This reading includes a rare gospel image of an angry Jesus who got riled up about the misuse of the holy temple. Most parents teach their children not to hit or throw tantrums when they are angry, and they try hard to control their own frustration and impatience. They are right to do so – but there is a big difference between *selfish* anger, which you might feel if you don't get your own way or have to wait your turn, and *righteous* anger, which you might feel when you see a situation that is unjust and want to stop it. Jesus was angry that people were using the temple for purposes other than worshipping the Lord. He needed to remind the people what was most important, and His actions spoke as loudly as His words.

Lord, help us to resist selfish anger but honor righteous anger.

PARISH INFORMATION. **Daily Masses** as announced. Examples of the Mass intention are: for the Sick, in remembrance of the faithful departed (especially parents, grandparents, relatives...), to ask God's Grace, Birthdays and Anniversaries (...). To make arrangements, please contact Father Robert.

Holy Day Masses are held as announced in the bulletin.

Sacrament of Baptism – Arrangements should be made at least two weeks prior to the ceremony. Only **practicing Christians** should be chosen as **godparents**.

Sacrament of Matrimony – Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance.

Emergencies, Sickness and deaths – please contact the rectory immediately.

The parish bulletin - is made on **THURSDAYS** and **FRIDAYS**. All requested announcements should be submitted by **FRIDAY 10:00AM**.

ANNIVERSARY – Today we celebrate the **115th** anniversary of God's call to the people of St. Stanislaus Parish in Scranton, PA, to take up their rightful place as children of God and followers of Jesus Christ and organize a church in which they had a say in the workings of their parishes and also in the expression of their faith. If we examine the whole history of the Christian Church from its founding in Jerusalem right down to the present day we find many who struggled for a Church which respected the rights and responsibilities of all of the people of God. These early reformers, like Jerome Savonarola and Jan Hus, did not want to change the Catholic faith, but desired to have a church in which all of God's people took an active part. Where other Church movements failed to keep their rights and remain Catholic, it was here that the Old Catholic Church was instituted. It was to this church that Father Francis Hodur and the newly organized PNCC turned to insure their apostolic succession. Following the First Vatican Council in 1870, many learned priests and laity, as well as parishes, struggled against the absolute rule of the papacy in the governance of the church. These movements came together as the Old Catholic Churches. Here in the USA many different groups of people struggled against the authorities of the church which denied them their rights and lorded their authority over the people. In Chicago, IL, Buffalo, NY and Scranton, PA, groups of Polish immigrants brought several of these parishes into a church, and finally these movements coalesced into the Polish National Catholic Church. What was begun in the earliest Christian communities, what was fought for during the reformation in Europe, has taken firm hold here within the PNCC, a church that is **one, holy, catholic and apostolic**, yet **democratic** in its governance. A church in which all God's people, guided by the Holy Spirit, have a rightful say in the governance of their church. At this time we must begin by thanking Almighty God for the faith and courage of Bishop Francis Hodur and all the priests and laity that organized the PNCC. We must spread the word that our Church is one where every Catholic Christian is given the opportunity to share his or her work and talent for the building of the Kingdom of God in all areas of the work of the Church. When we hear of those struggling to exercise their rights, we must show them how they are preserved here in the PNCC. (*from: "God's Field" – March 11, 2006*).



BULLETIN SPONSOR:
Mrs. Flossy Bulcavage