

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

414 West Oak Street, Frackville, PA 17931

Rectory: 570-874-1960

Pastor - Rev. Robert Plichta, M.Th., M. in Canon Law

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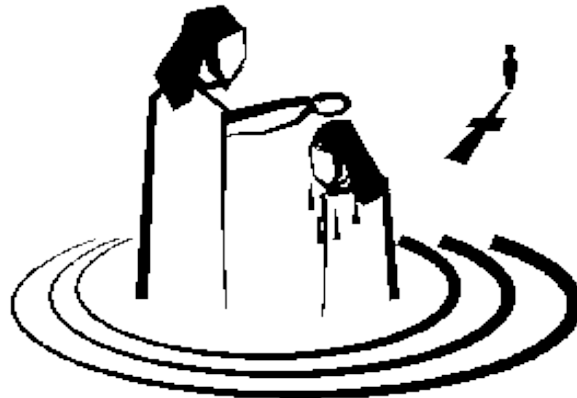
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Prime Bishop of the PNCC – **Most Rev. Dr. Anthony A. Mikovsky**
Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese – **Rt. Rev. Bernard J. Nowicki**
Plymouth Seniorate Administrative Senior – **Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski**
Parish Committee Chairman – **Mr.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



I Baptize With Water
But One Mightier
Is Coming

Third Sunday of Advent - "C"

Trzecia Niedziela Adwentu

December 16, 2012

EVENTS for the WEEK

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

Today, December 16th – III Sunday of Advent

The coming of our Savior is a source of great joy to us. We look forward to celebrating His presence among us with great gladness.

8:45AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. **Melissa Chiao**, of. by Mr. & Mrs. Sharon Chiao & family.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

December 17: Genesis 49:2.8-10; Matthew 1:1-17; **December 18:** Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25; **December 19:** Judges 13:2-7.24-25a; Luke 1:5-25; **December 20:** Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38; **December 21:** Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45; **December 22:** 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56

MONDAY, December 17th – *Advent Weekday*

11:00AM – Holy Mass

6:00PM – Decorating the church for Christmas – all help are welcome.

TUESDAY, December 18th - *Advent Weekday*

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. Krystyna Plichta...(All Souls).

WEDNESDAY, December 19th - *Advent Weekday*

6:30AM – Rorate Mass, intention: for all Parishioners.

9:00AM – Rorate Mass in Shenandoah.

FRIDAY, December 21st - Feast – St. Thomas, Apostle

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for those who are in Purgatory.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 23rd – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:45AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Wolk (God's Blessing and good health), of. by St. John the Baptist Parish.

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.

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Christ's Coming in Glory

Prayer:

P. Beloved, let us live in this world with temperence, justice and piety.

R. Let us wait for the blessed hope and glorious coming of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

P. Heaven and earth will pass away.

R. But Your Words, o Lord, will not pass away.

P. What You foretold shall be accomplished: You will come to judge the living and the dead.

R. You will reward everyone according to their deeds.

P. Keep us from being engulfed in worldly desires.

R. For at an unexpected hour, the Son of Man will come.

P. Grant us, o Lord, to be always on the watch.

R. That we may meet You with burning lamps on Your return.

P. Lord, remember not our transgressions.

R. For with You, o Lord, is kindness and plantiful redemption.

P. Let Your power be known, o Lord.

R. Come, and let Your Face shine upon us.

Let us pray: Almighty, Eternal Father, stir our hearts and grant us to be steadfast in fervent prayer, in holy love and child-like confidence, so that one day we may joyfully meet Your Son, and our Lord, Jesus Christ, when He shall come on the clouds to heaven to judge the world. Through the same Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE (Psalms 85:6-7; 90:14)

V. Will You be angry with us forever, drag out Your anger for all generations? Please give us life again, that Your people may rejoice in You.

R. Fill us at daybreak with Your love, that all our days we may sing for joy.

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 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel – PNCC Hymnal, p. 32

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here. Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, o Israel!
2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, And order all things far and night; To us the path of knowledge show, And cause us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, o Israel!

I Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord takes away all fear and brings us great joy.

GRADUAL (Zephaniah 3:19b-20)

V. I will save the lame, and assemble the outcasts; I will give them praise and renown in all the earth, when I bring about their restoration.

R. At that time I will bring you home, and at that time I will gather you; for I will give you renown and praise, among all the peoples of the earth, when I bring about your restoration before your very eyes, says the Lord.

II Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Our prayers will bring the peace of God to guard our hearts.

ALLELUIA (Matthew 6:33)

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:10-18

St. John the Baptist announces the coming of the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

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 – From Heav'n A Voice – PNCC Hymnal, p. 15

1. From heav'n a voice comes down to earth; A star foretells the Savior's birth. It shines through darkness sin and grief, And brings to mankind's souls relief.
2. From Jesse's stem a flower springs, Which to the world salvations brings. God sent to us His Son, our Lord, Before the ages long adored.
3. Our fathers heard the tale of old; The prophet's words had long foretold That God would come to man might be Rescued from death eternally.

COMMUNION HYMN – Come Unto Jesus – PNCC Hymnal, p. 180

1. Come unto Jesus, Come while you may; hear how He calls you, Come now this day. How He does love

you, follow His way, Gently He calls you, Come! **Refrain:** Lo, the vision wondrous to behold! He would save us from this sinful world. To heaven's blessed glory untold, O dearest Lord, we come!

2. Come, O my child, now, Come heed His call, Give Him your heart, your love and your all. He shall uplift you, lest you should fall, Gently He calls you, Come! **Refrain:**
3. Come, fallen sinner; come while you may! Christ will accept you! Do not delay! Tears of repentance He wipes away. Trust in Him only! Come! **Refrain:**

RECESSIONAL HYMN – Send Forth, O Heavens – PNCC Hymnal, p. 16

1. Send forth, O Heaven's, dew from the sky. Pour forth, O Clouds, the Just One most high. Hold back Your wrath, Lord; O hold back your anger. Our sins forgive, Lord; save us from our languor.
2. Lonely is Zion, anguished and hollow, See Your Jerusalem drowning in sorrow. Once in Your temple hymns of glory sounded; Now is defiled the temple which was founded.

May God take away all your fears through the joy of His presence.

COMING EVENTS

FRACKVILLE

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Mass – 10:00PM
Dec. 25th Christmas Day Mass – 11:00AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Thanks go out to:

- **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.

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.

THE CHRISTMAS WAFERS – are available in the vestibule. A free will offering goes to our organist – Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Michal Gitner**, his family and parishioners of St. Joseph's Parish in Stratford, CT.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: December 18 – Veronica Plichta, Kara Payne; December 19 – George Tokarczyk.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for – James Chistakoff – Sophia Stetts – Sarah Powanda – Joseph Makauskas - Edward Halaburda – Helen Hopko – Paul Elsavage – John Etcho - Flossy Bulcavage – Sharon Chiao – Sue Pascavage – Carolyn Boychak – Anna Folta - Ted Butcavage.

At **Nursing Homes:** Helen Chistakoff – Dolores Halaburda - ***Frackville Nursing Home:*** Dorothy Halaburda (205) – 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.

UPCOMING SUNDAY'S MASS INTENTIONS: Dec. 23: Mr & Mrs. Joseph Wolk (God's blessing); **4 Sundays** in Jan. 2013 – sp. Edward Bulcavage. *Please, do not order the mass intentions ahead of 1 year. Thank you.*



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.

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.



GOSPEL SUMMARY

The knocks we receive in life can teach us the true meaning of joy more than all our careful plans.

We are encourage to rejoice always, especially in our awareness of the nearness of our Lord.

We are called to free ourselves from concentrating too much on the past or the future. The Lord meets us and frees us in the unique moments that make up the present in our lives.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

A Christian is slow to lose patience and quick to be gracious.

A Christian looks for a way to be constructive, even when provoked.

A Christian refrains from trying to impress other with his own importance.

A Christian practices good manners, **not verbal abuses**, what happens many times.

A Christian is not “touchy”, even when insulted.

A Christian thinks the best, not the worst, of others. He is wise as a serpent and harmless as a dove in dealing with others.

A Christian does not gloat over the wickedness of other people.

Above all, a Christian exhibits **the love of Christ** in his heart and life.

BULLETIN SPONSOR:
Mrs. Flossy Bulcavage