

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

**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Organizing**

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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**Website:** www.stjohnpncc.org

PNCC website: www.pncc.org

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. Bernard J. Nowicki**

Plymouth Seniorate Administrative Senior – **Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski**

Parish Committee Chairman – **Mr. James Chistakoff**



**Second Sunday of Advent - "A"**

Druga Niedziela Adwentu

**December 8, 2013**

**EVENTS for the WEEK**

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

**Today, December 8<sup>th</sup>** – II Sunday of Advent

In this joyful Advent we are reminded that we are a people of hope and trust in God's promises. Let us gather to celebrate, mindful of this hope. May our lives be more and more open to that trust in God's love which can teach us to be gifts of God's love to others.

**8:45AM – Holy Mass** intention: for all **Parishioners**.

After the Mass – homemade frozen pierogies sale - \$5.00. Pierogies were donated by Mr. & Mrs. John Plaxa. Thank you!

△ Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

## WEEKDAY READINGS:

**Mon.**, Genesis 3:9-15.20; Ephesians 1:3-6.11-12; Luke 1:26-38; **Tue.**, Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14;  
**Wed.**, Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30; **Thu.**, Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15; **Fri.**, Isaiah 48:17-19;  
Matthew 11:16-19; **Sat.**, Sirach 48:1-4.9-11; Matthew 17:9a.10-13

### **MONDAY, December 9<sup>th</sup>** - Solemnity – Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*This feast has been celebrated in the East and also in many places in the West since the eighth century. Mary's freedom from all sin is the most beautiful fruit of the work of redemption accomplished by her Son. Chosen as a Mother of the Savior, Mary received the benefits of salvation from the moment of her conception.*

9:00AM – Holy Mass

### **TUESDAY, December 10<sup>th</sup>** - *Advent Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Melissa Chiao...(All Souls).

### **WEDNESDAY, December 11<sup>th</sup>** - *Advent Weekday*

6:30AM – *Rorate Mass*

6:30PM – Choir practice before Christmas.

### **THURSDAY, December 12<sup>th</sup>** - *Advent Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Edward Bulcavage...(All Souls).

### **FRIDAY, December 13<sup>th</sup>** - *Advent Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Jan and Marianna Zaborowski...(All Souls).

### **NEXT SUNDAY, December 15<sup>th</sup>** – III Sunday of Advent

8:30AM – Advent Penitential Service

8:45AM – Holy Mass, intention: for all Parishioners.

### 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 SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*Christ's Coming in the Hearts of Men*

#### Prayer:

P. Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the Just One.

**R. Let the earth be opened and bud forth the Savior.**

P. Lord Jesus, eternal Wisdom -

**R. In Your merciful love, You came down to earth to expel the darkness with the brightness of Your Divine Life.**

P. You removed the wall which sin had raised between God and us.

**R. You opened the gates behind which the devil made prisoners of humanity.**

P. Through You we regained access to God.

**R. You have reconciled us with the heavenly Father.**

P. But many have not yet seen Your Light.

**R. Ans many are the hearts that have not yet known Your Heavenly Peace.**

P. Our own hearts too, o Lord, are often dark and sinful.

**R. We cry to Your, in this Holy Season of Advent:/Come anew and save us.**

P. Let Your power be known, o Lord.

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

**Let us pray:** Merciful God and Savior, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to save what was lost. You made Him shine through the darkness of this world as the true daybreak. We pray to You, with the sweet radiance of Your

grace, illumine our dark hearts and the hearts of all those sit in the shadow of paganism, and guide our feet in the way of peace, unto Your glorious kingdom. Through the same Christ, our Lord.

R. Amen.

### **ENTRANCE RITE (John 1:6-8)**

V. A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

**R. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.**

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.**

### **I Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10**

*Even when everything around seems full of upheaval and threat, the Lord's justice and love for His people promises hope, and a future of peace and knowledge of His friendship.*

### **GRADUAL (Jeremiah 23:5-6)**

V. Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David; As king He shall reign and govern wisely, He shall do what is just and right in the land.

**R. In His days Judah shall be saved, Israel shall dwell in security. This is the name they give Him: "The Lord our justice".**

### **II Reading: Romans 15:4-9**

*Hope in God's great love for us is the foundation of a deep security, which frees us to offer true friendship to all people, regardless of how different they seem from us.*

### **ALLELUIA (Sirach 2:18)**

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

V. Let us fall into the hands of the Lord and not into the hands of men, for equal to His majesty is the mercy that He shows.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12**

*The coming of Jesus is a moment of promise but a moment, too, of a difficult message for those like the Pharisees. The promise of God's love in Jesus calls for repentance, a change of life built on an honest humility about who we really are.*

## **HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Holy Spirit, come, let this be Your home; come and dwell among all of us who sing this song. Come into this place, shine on ev'ry face, fill us with Your love and grace, Holy Spirit come. Come and dwell among us. Amen.

God our Father calls us to activities of hope in and for His world. As you go out from this celebration, may you live lives of growth and fruitfulness, and so prepare ways for Christ to come into the world afresh.

## **COMING EVENTS**

**FRACKVILLE** – Each **First Friday** on the month – Private Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament (5:00PM – 7:00PM)

**First Sunday** of each month – coffee & cake after the Mass

Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> Advent Penitential Service (8:30AM)  
Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> Decorating the church for Christmas (6:00PM)  
Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Mass 10:00PM  
Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Mass 11:00AM  
Feb. 2, 2014 Annual Parish Meeting  
March 3, 2014 Pastors Seniorate Meeting (1:00PM)

## 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**;
- to **Veronica Plichta** for her help at the altar last Sunday and Friday.

**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.

**THIS WEEK PRAYER:** for **Father Richard Wosiak**, his family and parishioners of St. Joseph's Parish in Middleport, PA.

**CHRISTMAS WAFERS – OPLATKI** – are available in the back of the church. Free will offering are for our organist – Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff.

**2014 HOMES' BLESSING** – will begin on January 6. If you would like your home to be blessed, please sign your name on the list located in the back of the church. The deadline to sign is **December 8, 2013**.

**2014 CALENDAR** is publishing for members of the PNCC. This calendar contains information concerning PNCC holy days. For individual orders the calendar cost is \$3.00 plus \$1.92 shipping and handling. An additional \$25.00 per order is required for ad setup for a sponsor and specific parish information regarding Sunday services, telephone numbers, names of pastor, etc. If someone is interested to purchase this calendar, please sign your name on the list on the vestibule.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Birthday best wishes are extended to: December 14 – Angela Elsavage.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for – Bishop John Mack – Father Senior Wiesław Pietruszka - James Chistakoff – Sophia Stetts – Sarah Powanda – Joseph Makauskas - Helen Hopko – Paul Elsavage – John Etcho - Flossy Bulcavage – Sharon Chiao – Sue Pascavage – Carolyn Boychak – Anna Folta – John Kruk – Charles Chiao Jr. – Victoria Plichta. At **Nursing Homes**: Helen Chistakoff – Dolores Halaburda - **Frackville Nursing Home**: Louise Gursky (307) - Ann Lech (108); 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.



**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.

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS** – in case of your inability to come to church on any particular Sunday, please mail or submit your Sunday offerings and donations to our parish. Your church needs your financial support in order to pay utilities and expenses.

**SNOW and ICE ALERT** – During winter days, please remember that we do not cancel our Worship Services. In the case of unfavorable travel conditions, please make appropriate decisions about venturing forth.

**WARNING** – If someone would like to come to the rectory in the winter time, please use the front porch door. This is a second year since back porch corner gutter is not fixed, and stairs are full of ice.

**KINDLY REMINDER** – We would like to remind our Parishioners that all financial books for this year would be closed on **December 31, 2013**. Therefore, please, be responsible for your own church and fulfill your obligation to the Parish before that date. **THANK YOU**. A member, who fulfills the financial obligation to the Parish, by paying our yearly dues (\$79.00), is a financial good standing member of the Church. This means that he/she is a voting member of the Parish, can be elected to the Parish Committee, can be elected as a delegate for Synods and Seniorate Council, can be married in the church, and when time comes could be buried at the Parish Cemetery.

 **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.

*BULLETIN SPONSOR:*  
**Mrs. Flossy Bulcavage**