

**St. John the Baptist Parish
Polish National Catholic Church
90th 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**



Third Sunday of Advent - "A"

Trzecia Niedziela Adwentu

December 15, 2013

EVENTS for the WEEK

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

Today, December 15th – III Sunday of Advent

The expectancy of the coming of God is fulfilled in Jesus, who brings joy through love and compassion to all who are in need.

8:30AM – Advent Penitential Service with the Sacrament of Penance.

8:45AM – Holy Mass intention: for Sp. **Leonard Etcho**, of. by Mr. John Etcho.

^ Homemade frozen pierogie sale after the Mass - \$5.00 per dozen.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., Numbers 24:2-7.15-17a; Matthew 21:23-27; **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

MONDAY, December 16th - *Advent Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention from All Souls memorial list.

TUESDAY, December 17th - *Advent Weekday*

4:00PM – Holy Mass, intention: **Veronica Plichta** for God's blessing.

WEDNESDAY, December 18th - *Advent Weekday*

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

FRIDAY, December 20th - *Advent Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. **Bishop Casimir Grotnik**, of. by Fr. Robert.

6:00PM – Decorating the church for Christmas. If our Parishioners feel to be a part of this congregation, please join us. Thank you!

SATURDAY, December 21st - Feast – **St. Thomas, Apostle**

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. **Jan Zaborowski**, of. by the Family.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 22nd – **IV Sunday of Advent**

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

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 (Isaiah 26:19b; 29:19)

V. Awake and sing, you who lie in the dust. For your dew is a dew of light, and the land of shades gives birth.

R. The lowly will ever find joy in the Lord, and the poor rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

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 35:1-6.10

A wasteland in flower, blind people whose eyes are opened – these are among the joyful wonders that will accompany the coming of God.

GRADUAL (Psalms 146:5-7)

V. Happy are those whose help Jacob's God; whose hope is in the Lord, their God, the maker of heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them.

R. Who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free.

II Reading: James 5:7-10

The practical example of a farmer waiting patiently upon the weather without losing heart is given as a model for the Christian life.

ALLELUIA (Malachi 3:23)

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. Lo, I will send you Elijah, the prophet, before the day of the Lord comes.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

Jesus' deeds are signs of the coming of God as foretold by Isaiah in the first reading.

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.

May God come to each one of us in the silence of our hearts as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's birth.

COMING EVENTS

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

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Mass 10:00PM

Dec. 25th 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**.

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 Andrew Bieganowski**, his family and parishioners of Holy Cross Parish in Baltimore, MD [holycrosspncc.org].

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

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 18 – Kara Payne, Veronica Plichta; December 19 – George Tokarczyk.



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 Elsavege – 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 must come to private Confession. **If children (until Confirmation) would like to receive the Holy Communion in a worthy manner they must come and be well prepared 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 all the time.

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