

**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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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. Charles Chiao Jr.**



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - "A"

Piąta Niedziela Zwyczajna

February 9, 2014

Lord, I am not worthy to ask You, but only say a word and Your Church will grow.

EVENTS for the WEEK

Holy Mass – 9:00 & 11:00AM – Traditional liturgy in English.

Today, February 9th – V Sunday in Ordinary Time

We disciples of Jesus are called not to be just passive. We are to come to the aid of our neighbors by what we say and what we do, opening the way for the Holy Spirit to grant them faith and conversion.

9:00AM – Holy Mass intention: for Sp. **Sophia Stetts**, of. by Blessed Sacrament Society.

11:00AM – Holy Mass – intention: for all **Parishioners**.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., 1 Kings 8:1-7.9-13; Mark 6:53-56; **Tue.**, 1 Kings 88:22-23.27-30; Mark 7:1-13; **Wed.**, 1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23; **Thu.**, 1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30; **Fri.**, 1 Kings 11:29-32. 12:19; Mark 7:31-37; **Sat.**, 1 Kings 12:26-32. 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10

WEDNESDAY, February 12th - *Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for the Remission of Sins.

THURSDAY, February 13th – *Weekday*

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

FRIDAY, February 14th – *Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass

SATURDAY, February 15th - *Weekday*

10:00 – 11:00AM – Confirmation Class in the hall.

NEXT SUNDAY, February 16th – VI Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Prime Bishop Francis Hodur.

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Lauren Feudale, of. by Joseph & Theresa Petrusky.

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 (Isaiah 58:3-4)

V. Why do we fast, and you do not see it? Afflict ourselves, and you take no note of it?

R. Yes, your fast ends in quarreling and fighting, striking with wicked claw. Would that today you might fast so as to make your voice heard on high!

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 58:7-10

God speaks to our heart, urging us to live lives of solidarity and mercy.

GRADUAL (Psalms 102:2-3)

V. Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.

R. Hide not your face from me in the day of my distress. Incline your ear to me; in the day when I call, answer me speedily.

II Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

How St. Paul explained the Gospel: very simply, and relying on the Holy Spirit.

ALLELUIA (Ephesians 5:8)

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus encourages us to let our light shine in the sight of the world.

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 the Holy Trinity give each of us grace to be salt and light to our own world.

COMING EVENTS

GENERAL CHURCH

Sep. 29th–Oct. 3rd, 2014 - 24th General Synod of the PNCC (Erie, PA)

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

March 3rd Pastors Seniorate Meeting (1:00PM)

March 19th Lenten Ecumenical Service (7:00PM)

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** and **Mr. Jacob Komara** for being a lectors;
- to **Veronica Plichta** for her help at the altar.
- to the **Sunday greeters**.

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE: Father Robert will celebrate **two Holy Masses on Sunday** – at **9:00AM** and **11:00AM** until the end of time :) Daily Masses will be celebrated according to the schedule in the bulletin.

THE PARISH NEWSLETTER: Father Robert is working on St. John's Parish NEWS-LETTER which – hopefully – will be available in **March 2014**, and will be published monthly. Any suggestions are appreciated. Thank you.

THANK YOU very much to **Mr. Morgan** for snow removal from our parking.

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.

HUURRAAYY! THE NEW PARISH COMMITTEE was elected last Sunday. May God Bless You All! Glory and Honor! **We Will Succeed Together as the Church Family!**

Chairman: Mr. Charles Chiao Jr. - telephone: 570-773-2782

Vice-Chairman: Mr. John Plaxa – 570-739-2411

Recording Secretary: Mrs. Sandra Elsavage – 570-874-0119

Financial Secretary: Mrs. Betty Brazausky – 570-874-0533

Treasurer: Mr. James Abicunas – 570-794-6059

Directors: Mrs. Flossy Bulcavage (?), Mrs. Elaine Antalosky, Mrs. Sharon Chiao, Mrs. Carolyn Boychak, Mr. John Golba.

Mr. George Wycheck (cemetery staff).

Thank you to the former Treasurer for her work.

From the Constitution of the PNCC: Tenets and Aims (p. 15): “The most important objective of the Polish National Catholic Church, as the Catholic Church of Christ, is to maintain, enrich and develop the life of God in the soul of man. To help man know God and His holy Being so that from this knowledge and understanding may flow blessing, light, love, strength and inner satisfaction which no person or thing can give, save God – this

is the most important goal of the Polish National Catholic Church”.

CHURCH NEWS – the carpet was washed in the church on Friday, Feb. 7. The Treasurer's 2013 report is now available.

FRACKVILLE FOOD BANK – is open on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 9:00AM to 10:00AM. Anyone with proof of a Frackville address is welcome for 2 boxes of food: one nonperishable & one fresh. We are looking for a few volunteers from our Frackville churches to help out with the distribution. You would need to come at 8:00AM and we are finished just after 10:00AM. Helpers check people in & aid customers in carrying boxes out to their cars. If you have any questions, please call **Pastor Sue** at **570-874-0792**.

IN MEMORY of SOPHIA STETTS - \$910.00. Thank you.

In Memory of Josephine Studlick: donation: \$250.00 from Mr. Joseph Studlick (the son). Thank you.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE for LENT:

ASH WEDNESDAY – Mass with Distribution of Ashes: 10:00AM & 6:00PM. Distribution of Ashes only: 12:00Noon & 4:00PM.

HOLY WEEK: Holy Thursday: 6:00PM; Good Friday: 6:00PM; Holy Saturday: 3:00PM. Easter Sunday Procession & Mass: 7:00AM; Easter Sunday Mass: 10:00AM.

Lenten Services such as Stations of the Cross and Bitter Lamentations will remain the same (?) Friday's at 6:00 or 7:00PM with a new practice (for example: Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, few words of reflection, parishioners involved to read...). Father Robert is looking for some suggestions in this particular matters until **February 23, 2014**.

BIBLE STUDY and (or) CATECHISM CLASSES FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN – Father Robert is looking for people who will be interested in this matter. Any suggestions, including a day and time will be appreciated. **Responses:** As Soon As Possible.

MY DEAR PARISHIONERS & FRIENDS: We are facing a new reality within our Holy Congregation of people who have faith in God. You know that – unfortunately – **Holy Ghost Parish** does not exist anymore. No Masses and church services will be celebrated in Shenandoah, PA. Therefore, **PLEASE** welcome our Parishioners from Shenandoah (who would like to join us) as our own **CONGREGATION** without hate or dislike. My goal - as a pastor of this parish- is to make NO DIFFERENCES between congregations. I hope that there will be **NO MORE:** *“I am from Frackville and I am from Shenandoah.”* Let me put this way: **WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS.** Please help me to do it! **O Lord, I am Not Worthy To Ask You, But Only Say The Word, And Your Church Will Grow!** Because, as the Holy People of Great Faith, You Know that Everything Depends on **HIM**, who is **Our Lord, Jesus Christ and Savior**. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Edward Czudak**, his family and parishioners of Heart of Jesus Parish in Bayonne, NJ.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: February 10 – Flossy Bulcavage; February 11 – Jesse Keim.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Anniversary best wishes are extended to: February 14 – James and Helen Chistakoff.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for – Bishop John Mack – Father Senior Wiesław Pietruszka - James Chistakoff – 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. At **Nursing Homes:** Helen Chistakoff – Dolores Halaburda -

Frackville Nursing Home: Louise Gursky (307) - Ann Lech (108); NY – Cecelia Pyzowski. Helen Menzyk – James Panco - Connie Sincavage – Frank Gill. Dolores Halaburda. **Providence Palace Drums, PA** - Violet Cegielski. **Ridgeview (Shen. Hts.)** - Margaret Kruszynski (311) - Edward Ryszka Jr. (221).



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 MASS INTENTIONS: **Feb. 16:** Bp. Francis Hodur; **Feb. 23:** Sp. Josephine Studlick; **March 2:** Sp. Sophia Stetts; **March 9:** Sp. Sophia Stetts.



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 **8:45AM** (before Mass) or **10:45AM**. 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**.

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.



^ **SUBLIMITY OF WORDS**

St. Paul came to Corinth, Greece after literally being laughed out of Athens. In order to preach a new philosophy or religion in the Greek capital he had to gain a license from the "Court of Philosophers". It met on Mars Hill, opposite the Acropolis. He tried to preach Christianity in very philosophical terms. He was going fine until he spoke of the resurrection of the body. This was contrary to the lofty schemes of the intellectuals and they rejected him. In Corinth, he tried an entirely different, more spiritual approach and won many converts.

^ **SALT OF THE EARTH**

Salt was literally worth its weight in gold in ancient times. It was vital for preserving food before the invention of refrigeration. Also, people cooked food very quickly to preserve fuel. It did not acquire the taste that slow roasting would bring. Salt thus helped bring out the flavor of the meal. It was also used in the Kosher process, whereby excess blood was absorbed from meat. Once the salt had completely soaked up this fluid it was useless for anything except for drying icy or muddy roads. Jesus may have had several of these

aspects in mind when he spoke of his followers as having to be "salt for the world."

DUES 2014. 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 2014 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.

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 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 to the rectory immediately.

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

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:

Mr. Kenneth Payne