

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.**



Sexagesima Sunday

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - "A"

February 23, 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 23rd – Sexagesima Sunday

During upcoming now two Sundays prior to Ash Wednesday:

- ⋄ Rose vestments are to be worn (Purple if they are not available)
- ⋄ The Gloria is not to be said or sung.
- ⋄ The Tract or Verse before the Gospel will be used.
- ⋄ The Preface for Pre-Lent is to be used.
- ⋄ The dismissal is to be: **“Let Us Bless the Lord”**.

Jesus asks us to turn the other cheek and to love our enemies. In this very demanding teaching the graciousness of God is revealed.

9:00AM – Holy Mass intention: for Sp. **Josephine Studlick**, of. by Mrs. Barbara Davis.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., Acts 1:15-17.20-26; John 15:9-17; **Tue.**, James 4:1-10; Mark 9:30-37; **Wed.**, James 4:13-17; Mark 9:38-40; **Thu.**, James 5:1-6; Mark 9:41-50; **Fri.**, James 5:9-12; Mark 10:1-12; **Sat.**, James 5:13-20; Mark 10:13-16

TUESDAY, February 24th - Feast – St. Matthias, Apostle

(+64). After the Ascension of our Lord, St. Peter proposed that the disciples select an apostle to take the place of Judas. The choice was Matthias. He worked for the faith in Palestine, and later was stoned to death. Today we are reminded that our Christian vocation is a gratuitous gift from God which we should accept and live out with gratitude and fidelity.

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Sophia Stetts, of. by Mr. & Mrs. George Gaydos and family.

THURSDAY, February 25th – Weekday

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Sophia Stetts, of. by Mr. John Hopko & family.

FRIDAY, February 28th – Weekday

9:00AM – Holy Mass, for Sp. Sophia Stetts, of. by Ed & Kathy Stetts and family.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 2nd – Quinquagesima Sunday

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Sophia Stetts, of. by George & Diane Evans.

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for All Parishioners.

- ⋈ Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament (after 11:00AM Mass).
- ⋈ Collection for missions

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 (James 2:1,9)

V. My brothers, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

R. But if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

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: Leviticus 19:1-2.17-18

Being holy means not hating our brothers and sisters and not taking vengeance.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

II Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

St. Paul tells us that we bear the presence of God within us for we are God's temple.

VERSE BEFORE the GOSPEL (1 John 2:5)

V. Whoever keeps the word of Christ, the love of God is truly perfected in him.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus commands us not to reciprocate violence and teaches us to love our enemies.

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.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Let us bring our needs before our heavenly Father.

- Let us pray for the Church: that she may give a clear witness to Jesus' appeal to avoid violence and to love our enemies. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- Let us pray for our families and communities: that we may avoid demonising our enemies and reach out to them with effective help. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- Let us pray for all those countries that are torn apart by violence and hatred: that they may seek peace with their enemies. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- Let us pray for those who become sick through bitterness and deep grudges: that they may turn to ask for God's gracious healing power. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For us assembled here: may each of us recognize the prophet within ourselves that urges us to show kindness, generosity and compassion. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- Let us pray for all those who have died – especially Sp. **Josephine Studlick**: that they may enter into the peace of the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Loving Father, hear all these our prayers; and what we ask in faith may You grant through Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. **R. Amen.**

May the Lord, who has revealed His love and peace to us through His Son, be with you throughout this week.

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 the **Sunday greeters**.
- to **Joseph Karvois** and **Veronica Plichta** for their help at the altar.

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.

PASTORS MEETING – Plymouth Seniorate Clergy will have their meeting in our church hall on **Monday, March 3 at 1:00PM**. Father Robert is looking for someone who can prepare a meal for **four priests** around **3:30PM** in the hall, or we may go to the restaurant. Thank you for your cooperation.

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.

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**.

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 Jan Kość**, his family and parishioners of the Polish National Catholic Church of Holy Trinity and St. Joseph in Linden, NJ.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: February 26 – Joseph Petrusky; February 29 – Jourdin Karvois; March 1 – Marcia Hessert.




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. **Pottsville Hospital** – Cheryl Stanitis. 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: March 2: Sp. Sophia Stetts; **March 9:** Sp. Sophia Stetts; **March 30:** 9:00AM - Sp. Joseph Studlick; 11:00AM - Sp. Jan Zaborowski.


 **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**.

PNU CARIBBEAN CRUISE – The PNU is inviting everyone to join them for a Caribbean Cruise aboard the Royal Caribbean's Vision of the Seas. The cruise will be September 14 through the 19th, 2015. The cost for the trip starts at \$570.00 per person based on double occupancy. Please call 1-800-642-2469 for additional details and reservations.

 **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.

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