

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

Official E-mail: robertb1@ptd.net

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.**



Quinquagesima Sunday

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - "A"

March 2, 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, March 2nd – Quinquagesima Sunday

During three Sundays prior to Ash Wednesday:

- ⋄ Rose vestments are to be worn (Purple if they are not available)
- ⋄ The Gloria will not 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 will be: **“Let Us Bless the Lord”**.

We gather here for Mass as daughters and sons of God, born through baptism into a new life of freedom and service.

Filled with the Spirit, we pledge ourselves anew to follow Jesus in our world.

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

11:00AM – Holy Mass – intention: for Sp. **Graham Danne**, of. by Mr. James Abicunas & family.

- ⤴ Sacrament of Penance.
- ⤴ Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament after 11:00AM Mass.
- ⤴ Collection for missions after both Masses.
- ⤴ Monthly meeting of the Parish Committee after 11:00AM Mass, due the weather on Monday.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., 1 Peter 1:3-9; Mark 10:17-27; **Tue.**, 1 Peter 1:10-16; Mark 10:28-31; **Ash Wednesday:** Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20 – 6:2; Matthew 6:1-6.16-18; **Thu.** after Ash Wed., Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25; **Fri.** after Ash Wed., Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15; **Sat.** after Ash Wed., Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32

MONDAY, March 3rd - *Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. **Grandparents Zaborowski & Jaskowiak**, of. by Janina Plichta & family.

TUESDAY, March 4th - Easter Egg Sale Project begins – **8:00AM** in the hall.

WEDNESDAY, March 5th – Ash Wednesday

***THE HOLY SEASON OF GREAT LENT** begins today. As Jesus fasted for 40 days in the desert, the Church traditional fasts during Lent. A form of bodily prayer, fasting and abstinence in union with other Christian reminds us of our total dependence on and love for God. Please remember that Fridays are days of abstinence from meat. Fasting: all those of post-confirmation age are to fast on Fridays, and on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals, with no snacking between meals.*

Our Lenten regulations are recommended for healthy adults. Children under First Holy Communion age, the infirm, those on restrictive medication and the elderly are exempt from the obligation of fasting.

10:00AM – Holy Mass with Blessing & Distribution of Ashes, intention: for all **Parishioners**.

12:00Noon – Distribution of Ashes only

4:00PM - Distribution of Ashes only

6:00PM – Holy Mass and distribution of Ashes; intention: for Sp. **Sophia Stetts**, of. by Rudy Fronczak.

THURSDAY, March 6th - *Lenten Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: God's blessing for Bishop, Priests & Deacons of the Central Diocese.

FRIDAY, March 7th – **First Friday of the month**

6:00PM – Stations of the Cross. After this devotion – the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament will be held until **7:00PM**.

7:00PM – Holy Mass to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

SATURDAY, March 8th - *Lenten Weekday*

10:00AM – 11:00AM – Confirmation Class

NEXT SUNDAY, March 9th – **I Sunday of Lent** – *Daylight Saving Time begins* – Institution of the PNCC

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Sophia Stetts, of. by Father Robert & family.

- ⤴ Collection for National Church Center.

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 (Psalms 77:2-3)

V. Aloud to God I cry; aloud to God, to hear me.

R. On the day of my distress I seek the Lord. By night my hands are stretched out without flagging; my soul refuses comfort.

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 49:14-15

There are times in our lives when we can feel lost, abandoned, unloved. Into this place of great sadness the Lord promises His people that He loves us with a deep, unfailing maternal love.

TRACT (Isaiah 54:7,8)

V. For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great tenderness I will take you back.

R. In an outburst of wrath, for a moment I hid my face from you; but with enduring love I take pity on you, says the Lord, your redeemer.

II Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

St. Paul reminds the Corinthians not to use their time and energy fretting about who is worthy or not. Rather, trusting all things to our heavenly Father, we are called simply to be faithful stewards of the mysteries Christ gives us.

VERSE BEFORE the GOSPEL (Wisdom 1:2)

V. Because he is found by those who test him not, and he manifests himself to those who do not disbelieve him.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:24-34

Recognizing the worries of everyday life, Jesus calls all who hear Him to reshape their lives in service to a new master. As servants of the Father we can live in freedom of heart, trusting all things to God.

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.

It is the will of the Father that all may come to know Him, and rest in His love and peace. We have shared this message afresh today, and opened our hearts to it in our sharing of the Eucharist. May you continue to share this good news with all you meet.

COMING EVENTS

GENERAL CHURCH

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

CENTRAL DIOCESE

May 17th Diocesan ANS Convention in Frackville, PA.

PLYMOUTH SENIORATE

April 26th Seniorate Council meeting in Hazleton, PA (1:00PM)

June 19th Corpus Christi service in McAdoo, PA (7:00PM)

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

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

March 23rd Lenten Penitential Service (9:45AM)

April 22nd Pastors 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** and **Mr. Jacob Komara** for being a lectors;
- to the **Sunday greeters**.

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE: Father Robert will celebrate **only one Sunday Mass at 10:00AM beginning March 9th**. Daily Masses will be celebrated according to the schedule in the bulletin.

FRACKVILLE MINISTERIUM LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday, **March 12** – First United Methodist Church (7:00PM)

Wednesday, **March 19** – St. John the Baptist PNCC (7:00PM)

Wednesday, **March 26** – Zion Lutheran Church (7:00PM)

Wednesday, **April 2** – St. Ann's RCC (7:00PM)

Wednesday, **April 9** – St. Peter's UCC (7:00PM)

Good Friday, **April 18** – Trinity Evangelical (2:00PM)

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**.

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 Marian Tarnowski**, his family and parishioners of the Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Passaic, NJ.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: March 3 – Anne Andruscavage; March 4 – Jennifer Stetts; March 8 – Elizabeth Greenman




PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for – Bishop John Mack – Father Senior Wiesław Pietruszka - James Chistakoff – 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. – 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 9: Sp. Sophia Stetts; **March 23:** Sp. Jan Zaborowski; **March 30:** Sp. Joseph Studlick. *Please, do not order the Mass intentions 3 months in advance.*


 **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**.

International Women's Day (IWD), originally called **International Working Women's Day**, is marked on **March 8** every year. In different regions the focus of the celebrations ranges from general celebration of respect, appreciation and love towards women to a

celebration for women's economic, political, and social achievements. Started as a Socialist political event, the holiday blended in the culture of many countries, primarily Eastern Europe, Russia, and the former Soviet bloc. In some regions, the day lost its political flavor, and became simply an occasion for men to express their love for women in a way somewhat similar to a mixture of Mother's Day and Valentine's Day. In other regions, however, the political and human rights theme designated by the United Nations runs strong, and political and social awareness of the struggles of women worldwide are brought out and examined in a hopeful manner. This is a day which some people celebrate by wearing purple ribbons.

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