

**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.**



Second Sunday of Advent - "B"

Druga Niedziela Adwentu

December 7, 2014

Lord, I am not worthy to ask You, but only say a word and Your Church will grow in number of holy and dedicated people.

EVENTS for the WEEK

Holy Mass – 10:00AM – Traditional liturgy in English.

Today, December 7th – II Sunday of Advent

This Advent, how are we preparing to celebrate the Good News of Jesus Christ? God's messenger, John the Baptist, reminds us of the need for repentance and simplicity as we "prepare a way for the Lord".

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. **Michael** and **Mary Patcella**, of. by Mr. John Etcho.

- ^ The private Confession for those who are in need is available at any time before the services, during the week also.
- ^ Pierogies are available.
- ^ Collection for missions.
- ^ Coffee & Cake.

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 8th – Solemnity – Conception of the BVM

This feast has been celebrated in the East and also in many places in the West since the eight 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, intention: for all Parishioners.

WEDNESDAY, December 10th - *Advent Weekday*

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

THURSDAY, December 11th - *Advent Weekday*

8:30AM – Holy Mass, intention: Sp. John Keim & family...(All Souls).

FRIDAY, December 12th - *Advent Weekday*

8:30AM – Holy Mass, intention: all deceased members of Halaburda & Nelson families...(All Souls).

2:00 – 5:00PM – Pierogie Sale in the hall.

SATURDAY, December 13th - *Advent Weekday*

10:00 – 10:50AM – Confirmation Class.

11:00 – 12:00N – First Holy Communion Class.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 14th – III Sunday of Advent

12:45PM – Advent Penitential Service.

1:00PM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. James Dean, of. by Wife Marjorie.

Around **2:15PM** – Christmas Party in the hall.

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. And 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 You, 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 the 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 40:1-5,9-11

The prophet Isaiah announces that God's glory is about to be revealed, and calls on the people to prepare for it.

GRADUAL (Psalm 50:3; 85:10)

V. Our God comes and will not be silent! Devouring fire precedes, storming fiercely round about.

R. Near indeed is salvation for the loyal; prosperity will fill our land.

II Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

The followers of Jesus are called to lead holy and good lives while waiting for the new heavens and new earth, where righteousness rules.

ALLELUIA (Psalm 62:2)

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. See, upon the mountains there advances the bearer of good news, announcing peace!

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The first verses of St. Mark's Gospel announce the "beginning of the Good News" of Jesus Christ, and tell of the witness of John the Baptist.

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 of all, let us use this Advent to make Your love for us the foundation of our lives. Make us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope and untiring in love.

COMING EVENTS

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

Dec. 14th **Advent Penitential Service** (before the Mass – **12:45PM**) & Christmas Party (after the **1:00PM** Mass).

Dec. 24th Mass of Shepherds (10:00PM)

Dec. 25th Christmas Day Mass (10:00AM)

May 17th, 15 First Holy Communion Day

June 14th, 15 Confirmation (3:00PM)

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 **Mr. Julian Bednarek** for his help with candles and taking collection;
- to **Joe Karvois** and **Veronica Plichta** for their help at the altar;
- 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.

GENERAL CHURCH DUES – has been increased to \$100.00; therefore beginning January 2015, our church dues will be **\$124.00** per adult member.

BIBLE STUDY – Fr. Robert waited three Wednesdays (two times in October, and last Wednesday) to start classes. Unfortunately nobody came. So – classes are not actual for this time.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Bogumil Czaja**, his family and parishioners of SS. Peter & Paul Parish in South Milwaukee, WI.



CHRISTMAS PARTY – will be held in our church hall on **Sunday, December 14** after **1:00PM Mass**. The Parishioners invite you to participate, therefore please sign your name on the sheet at the vestibule. When you come, please bring **one inexpensive gift (up to \$10.00)**. Parents and guardians are responsible to provide gifts for their children. The deadline to sign your names is December 7.

2015 HOME LITURGICAL CALENDAR is publishing for members of the PNCC. This calendar contains information concerning PNCC holy days. For individual orders the calendar cost is **\$3.50**. If someone is interested to purchase this calendar, please sign your name on the list on the vestibule. The deadline for all orders is **December 7, 2014**.

CONFIRMATION – Our Diocesan Bishop – the Rt. Rev. Bernard J. Nowicki will impart the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Sunday, June 14, 2015 at 3:00PM**. We have two students-candidates; if any adult members didn't receive Confirmation yet – please contact Fr. Robert ASAP. The deadline is: **March 31, 2015**.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: December 7 – Jacob Komara; December 8 – Jolene Johnston.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for – Father Senior Wiesław Pietruszka - James Chistakoff – Sarah Powanda - Helen Hopko – Paul Elsavage – John Etcho - Flossy Bulcavage – Sharon Chiao – Carolyn Boychak – Anna Folta – John Kruk – Charles Chiao Jr. - Helen Menzyk - James Panco – Connie Sincavage – Frank Gill – Patricia Abicunas. At **Nursing Homes**: Helen Chistakoff – ***Frackville Nursing Home***: Louise Gursky (307) - Ann Lech (108); ***NY*** – Cecelia Pyzowski. ***H & R Center Tremont***: Dolores Halaburda. ***Fritzingertown Drums, PA*** - Violet Cegielski. ***Ridgeview (Shen. Hts.)*** - Margaret Kruszynski (311) - Edward Ryszka Jr. (221).




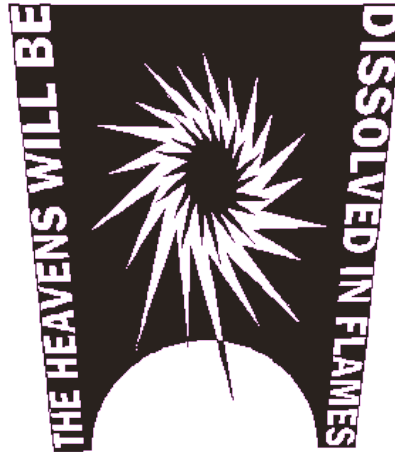
HOSPITAL VISIT. If you, or a member of your family, are hospitalized or enter a long-term nursing facility, please personally or through a closest family member contact Fr. Robert. I will visit a sick member upon his or his family notification.

UPCOMING SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS: **Dec. 14:** Sp. James Dean; **Dec. 21:** Sp. James Dean; **Jan. 4, 2015:** Sp. Edward Bulcavage; **Jan. 11:** Sp. Edward Bulcavage; **Jan. 18:** Sp. Edward Bulcavage; **Jan. 25:** Sp. Edward Bulcavage. **March 1:** for those who were touched with cancer.

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 **9:45AM** (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. ***Remember*** that penance during the Confession **MUST BE FULFILLED**, if not – the Sacrament is not **VALID**.

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.

 **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. **Come as a Guest – Leave as a Friend.**



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.

Members of the PNCC have two major duties:

1) Spiritual duties – a) partaking of the Sacraments (active participation in them will help strengthen members to live a Christian life; b) loving God (members should accept and obey Christ's teachings, maintain a personal relationship with God, pray to Him often and give Him glory by living a good life; c) sharing faith (members should actively take part in Church worship and listen sincerely to God's word; d) obeying the 10 Commandments (by obeying them, Church members help strengthen the kingdom of God on earth.

2) Material duties – a) to society: members should: practice Christ's ideals in their everyday lives, be tolerant of others' faith, recognize everyone's right to equality and opportunity, be loyal to their country, work for the good of all human society, rear children in the name of God and set a Christian example for them; b) to the Church: members should: follow the principles of the PNCC, give their time and talents to further church and parish goals, contribute financially to the support of the Church. *Members should participate actively in church affairs, vote on parish matters, serve on committees, etc.*

PNU MEMBER December Promotion – Looking for that Perfect Christmas Gift? The PNU can Help with your Shopping this year!

The PNU has many meaningful gift ideas for your children and grandchildren this Christmas...Gifts that will provide significant benefits for many years. Give the gift of an endowment or life insurance policy and your child/grandchild not only has financial security but also becomes eligible for PNU benefits like college stipends, membership in the Spojnia Credit Union, branch and district activities and much, much more. Contact the PNU Home Office at **1-800-724-6352** for more information.

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.