

St. John the Baptist Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

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Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord - “A”

Uroczystość Chrztu Pańskiego

January 8, 2017

O Lord I am not worthy to ask You, but only say a word and this parish will grow in number of really holy and dedicated people to God and to the Church.

EVENTS for the WEEK

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

Today, January 8th – Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord

In the Baptism of the Lord, we find the divinity of Christ and His humanity acting in a unity. The Holy Spirit coming down on Jesus is an image of the divine sharing on the Spirit in the Trinity.

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. **Edward Bulcavage**, of, by wife, Flossy.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., Isaiah 62:11-12 *or* Jer. 31:10-14; Titus 3:4-7 *or* Galatians 4:1-7; Luke 2:15-20; **Tue.**, Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28; **Wed.**, Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39; **Thu.**, Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45; **Fri.**, Hebrews 4:1-5.11; Mark 2:1-12; **Sat.**, Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17

MONDAY, January 9th – Solemnity – Humble Shepherds

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for all **Parishioners**.

WEDNESDAY, January 11th – *Within the Octave of Epiphany*
7:25AM - Holy Mass for all Deceased.

SATURDAY, January 14th – *Weekday*
10:00AM – First Holy Communion Catechism Class.

NEXT SUNDAY, January 15th – *II Sunday in Ordinary Time*
10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Joseph Petrusky, of, by wife, Theresa.
 ^ ANS Election Meeting.
 ^ Removing decorations from the church.

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 HYMN (Matthew 3:16-17; Psalm 72:13)

V. After Jesus was baptized, He came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened, for Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased."

R. He shows pity to the needy and the poor and saves the lives of the poor.

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 42:1-4.6-7

We cannot bring peace into the world, except by being at peace.

GRADUAL (Isaiah 2:4)

V. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;

R. One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.

II Reading: Acts 10:34-38

At the incarnation, the human race became one. The Church proclaims that unity.

ALLELUIA (Psalm 114:3-4)

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

V. The sea beheld and fled; the Jordan turned back. The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs of the flock.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

In revealing His love for Jesus, God our Father opens His heart to all humanity.

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 your prayers and your life in Christ unite us all as we work and pray that the kingdom of the Father may come.

COMING EVENTS

FRACKVILLE – Each **First Friday** on the month – Private Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament (5:00PM – 6:00PM).

Jan. 15 – ANS election meeting after the Mass (or Jan. 22).

March 5 – Annual Parish meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special **Thanks** go out to:

- to **Mrs. Janina Plichta** preparing the altars, and the church for services;
- to **Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff** and to the Parishioners for help to sing;
- to **Mr. James Abicunas** for being a lector;
- to **Mr. Julian Bednarek** for his help with candles and taking collection;
- to the **Sunday greeters**.

DIOCESAN CHURCH DUES – has been increased to **\$25.00**; therefore beginning **January 2017**, our church dues will be **\$137.00** per adult member.

50/50 WINNER – **Mr. James Brennan Jr.** - **\$150.50**, Congratulations, and thank you very much to Everyone who participated at this fundraiser.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Matthew Kawiak**, his family and parishioners of Holy Family Parish in North Java, NY [web: holyfamilyncc.org; FB: Holy Family Parish NCC].



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Anniversary best wishes are extended to: January 9 – Frederick and Carolyn Boychak.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for – Father Senior Thaddeus Dymkowski – Gloria Dymkowski – Father Raymond Drada - Sarah Powanda - Helen Hopko - Flossy Bulcavage – Carolyn Boychak – Helen Menzyk - James Panco – Connie Sincavage – Carl Guzik – Joanne Plaxa – Frank Savitsky. At **Nursing Homes:** NY – Cecelia Pyzowski. **H & R Center Tremont:** Dolores Halaburda.



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.

DEATH NOTICE – Sp. **John P. Etcho** (95) passed away on Monday, Jan. 2, 2017. **Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him, O Lord...**

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! If you are new to our parish, please submit your name, address and telephone number to **Father Robert**. Father will contact you regarding parish membership and answer the questions you may have regarding our church. **WELCOME!** You are always welcome to join us in worship. **Come as a Guest – Leave as a Friend.**

PNCC Future Direction Message - If you know of parishioners or friends who are not a part of our monthly email updates – please have them email us at FutureDirection@pncc.org to become a part of this important effort for our Holy Church.

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**.

WHY DID JESUS ASK TO BE BAPTIZED?

Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries among the Jews as a ritual equivalent of Confession. Until the fall of the Temple in 72 A.D. it was common for Jewish people to make a spiritual cleansing in a special pool called a MIKVEH--literally a "collection of water". This was said to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Men did this weekly on the eve of the Sabbath. Women did it monthly. Converts were also expected to do it before entering Judaism. Orthodox Jews still retain the rite.

John preached that such a bath was a necessary preparation for the cataclysm that would be wrought by the coming Messiah. Jesus transformed this continual ritual into the one single, definitive act by which we begin our faith. In effect he fused his divine essence with the water and the ceremony.

P.N.C.C. Future Direction - Action Plan for P.N.C.C. Parishes in 2017: Year of Commitment

I. Growth and Membership II. Increase Spirituality

III. Lifelong Learning IV. Sacred Vocations

V. Community Involvement

Complete at least four community service projects: One service project could be in conjunction with the Institution of the P.N.C.C. in March 2017 and the others, selected by the local parish. It is important that these three projects be done in the local community of the parish so that these efforts will create a greater presence of the parish in the community.

Various options include but are not limited to: Food Drives, serving a free meal for the community, providing a community breakfast/meal for First Responders – for Veterans, prayer blanket ministry, clothing drive for the community, sponsoring a local family in need, responding to a particular need in the local community, etc.

Stewardship component: To increase our financial commitment to our parishes, diocese and national church components will be developed. A Pamphlet will be shared with all parishes. We then encourage parish committees to communicate this with the people and stress to them that stewardship is an integral part of a lived faith.