



St. John the Baptist Parish
Polish National Catholic Church
414 West Oak Street
Frackville, PA 17931

www.stjohnpncc.org

FB: St. John the Baptist PNCC

Phone (570) 874-1960

E-mail: robertb1@ptd.net

Sunday, February 7, 2016

Pastor's Report - 2015 - Rev. Robert Plichta

The last Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, March 15, 2015, with the Diocesan Bishop – Bernard J. Nowicki DD participation.

- I started visiting our Parishioners while blessing their homes after the Epiphany of the Lord (January 6, 2015). I visited 20 (twenty) families. Thank you very much for your offerings.
- **Two Baptisms:** Elena Fannick (Oct. 15) and Theodore Tokarczyk (Nov. 8).
- No weddings.
- **First Holy Communion** (2 students) – **Veronica Plichta** and **Dylan Andrusichen** received on May 16.
- **Confirmation** – June 14 – **Michael Russell, Joseph Karvois** and **Mrs. Theresa Leonarczyk** were confirmed by Bishop Bernard J. Nowicki, DD.
- **Funerals (5):** **Anna Folta** – Funeral service Jan. 9; **John Licholat** – March 27, buried at our cemetery; **Louise Gursky** – Funeral Mass – March 28; **Paul Elsavage** – Funeral on June 15 (buried at our cemetery); **Ann Lech** - Funeral Mass on Oct. 31; **Walter Jaskierski** – Funeral Service on Nov. 2. Since November 2003 till December 31, 2015 our Parish had **fifty five (55)** funerals [parishioners and friends]. In the Holy Ghost Congregation – we lost **28** members in 11 years.
- The Sunday Holy Mass at 10:00AM. We had the Holy Mass as often as is possible – during the week - mostly at 8:30AM or 6:00PM. These liturgical celebrations takes place in an empty church. During the holy days of obligation I celebrated the Holy Masses according to the Liturgical calendar of the PNCC.
- **The Sick Parishioners** were visited mostly on the first Thursday of each month. There were **79** shut-ins from our Parish visited. They received Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion at their homes, hospital or at nursing homes.
- **The Lenten season** began on **Ash Wednesday**, February 18. Holy Mass with distribution of ashes took place in our church at 10:00AM (5 attended) and 6:00PM (14 attended). Ashes were also distributed at 12:00Noon (8 attended) and 4:00PM (8 attended).

During the Season of Lent I celebrated the Stations of the Cross (Fridays at 6:00PM) and the Bitter Lamentations.

Frackville Community Lenten Ecumenical service was held in our church on Wednesday, March 4 (42 people participated).

- The liturgy of the **Holy Week**: **Palm Sunday** – 10:00 AM (44 people attended) - (2014 – 48); **Holy Thursday** – 6:00 PM (11 people attended) - (2014 – 12); Good Friday – 12:00 Noon (14 people attended) - (2014 – 19); **Holy Saturday** – 2:00 PM (22 people attended) - (2014 – 16).
- Solemnity – **Resurrection of our Lord** – we celebrated the Holy Mass and Easter procession at 7:00 AM on April 5 (64 people attended).
- **Plymouth Seniorate Council** meeting took place in our church on Saturday, October 17 at 1:00PM in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Ms. Elizabeth Greenman and Mr. Lance Nelson were our delegates present at the meeting.
- **Corpus Christi** service for our Plymouth Seniorate was held on Thursday, June 4 in Plymouth, PA, at 7:00 PM. No one from our parish attended.
- **Memorial Day** service was celebrated on Sunday, May 24 at 10:00AM.
- **All Souls** service we celebrated on Sunday, **November 1**, immediately after the Holy Mass, in the church.
- **Veterans Day** celebration took place on Sunday, Nov. 8.

St. John the Baptist parish has one lector last year – Mr. James Abicunas. Veronica Plichta, Joe Karvois and Dylan Andrusichen help at the altar.

I am a member of the Diocesan Council of the Central Diocese and a member of the Matrimony Commission in the Central Diocese. I do some work for the Central Diocese once a week.

- **Advent and Christmas 2015**. Every week (*Wednesday's*) during the season of Advent, I celebrated *Rorate* Mass in honor of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** at 6:30 AM. Nobody participated.

Holy Mass of the Shepherds I celebrated on **December 24**, at 10:00 PM. (40) – forty people attended the Mass (2014 – 37).

Christmas Day Mass we celebrated at 11:00AM, and (2) two people at the service - (2014 – 5).

- The principal feast days and PNCC feast days were observed, as required.
- In the year **2015** we had **241** services in the church: **1730** people attended, and **1470** received the Holy Communion; [2014: 232 – 1783 – 1429].
- The monthly parish newsletter is printed and sent to our Parishioners and Friends on each first Sunday of the month.
- Our dedication to God, and attendance during the Holy Days of obligation and Lenten Services:

a) Holy Days of obligation: **January 1** (Circumcision of the Lord) – **0**
January 6 (Epiphany of the Lord) – **0**
May 14 (Ascension of the Lord) – **2**
August 15 (Dormition/Assumption of the BVM) – **0**
November 1 (All Saints) – **25** (it was Sunday)
December 8 (Conception of the BVM) – **0**.

b) Lenten Services: Feb. 20 – Stations of the Cross – **6**
Feb. 27 – Bitter Lamentations – **9**
March 6 – Stations of the Cross – **4**
March 13 – Bitter Lamentations – **4**

March 20 – Stations of the Cross – 5
March 27 – Bitter Lamentations – 1

Since **September 2012**, the private adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place in our church every **First Friday of the month (5:00PM – 7:00PM in winter: 5:00-6:00PM)** for those who feel the necessity of prayer, and it was continued in 2015, and will be continue this year. The church remains empty all the time.

Social Activities and important events – **2015**:

- Ice Cream Social – Sunday, August 9 (ANS fundraiser)
- “Penny” Auction – Sunday, August 23 (Parish fundraiser)
- Spaghetti Dinner – Thursday, September 17 (ANS fundraiser)
- Chinese Auction – on Sunday, October 18 (ANS fundraiser)
- Covered Dish Christmas Party – Saturday, December 12.

Church and Rectory

- **Mrs. Janina Plichta** cleans the church. THANK YOU! And also, thank you to Parishioners who decorated the church and donated items to decorate our church last year.
- **Mr. Joseph Petrusky** did the work on the church choir: lamps, organs, etc. Together with his wife – **Theresa** they donated parts necessary to accomplish this project. Thank you!
- The members of the **Blessed Sacrament Society** sponsored a new carpet and 11 windows (together with the parish) for the rectory's building. **Mrs. Ann Marie Wycheck** was almost every day in the rectory's during this work. Thank you!
- Church's piece of roof was fixed in October.
- **Mr. Michael Russel** replaced bulbs in the church. Thank you!
- The side walk and walls at the front porch were re-repaired. Gutter work was done at the rectory's building
- **Mr. Michael Fannick** repaired pipes in the rectory's basement. Thank you!
- **Mr. George Tokarczyk** took care of the church's door. Thank you!
- **Rev. James Konicki** takes care for the web site for our parish. THANK YOU SO MUCH!
- **Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff** is our organist. Thank you – and we wish her all the best!

Priest's schedule – 2015

- ♣ January 11 – New Year's Party in Hazleton, PA.
- ♣ January 21 – Prayer Service for the Christian Unity (New Hope Wesleyan Church)
- February 25 – Lenten Community Service (St. Ann's RCC)
- March 4 – Lenten Community Service (St. John's PNCC)
- March 11 – Lenten Community Service (Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church)
- March 18 – Lenten Community Service (New Hope Wesleyan Church)
- March 21 – Lenten Spiritual Retreat (Dupont, PA)
- March 25 – Lenten Community Service (Zion Lutheran Church)
- March 31 – Clergy Conference of the Central Diocese (Holy Tuesday) – Scranton, PA
- June 4 – Corpus Christi Service – Plymouth, PA

- July 26 – Automobile’s blessing after the Holy Mass at our parking.
- August 18 – August 20 – Central Diocesan Clergy retreat and conference in Mt. Pocono, PA.
- September 19 – Deacon's Ordination – McAdoo, PA
- October 3 – Animals blessing.
- October 17 – Seniorate Council Meeting – Wilkes-Barre, PA
- October 24 – Diocesan Council meeting – Dupont, PA
- November 22 – Ministerium Thanksgiving Service – New Hope Wesleyan Church
- December 6 - Frackville Elks Memorial Service.

• **Important activities in 2016:**

February 10 – Ash Wednesday – Masses with distribution of ashes: 10:00AM & 6:00PM; distribution of ashes only: 12:00Noon & 4:00PM.

▲ Stations of the Cross or Bitter Lamentations will be held in Lent on Fridays at 6:00PM.

February 24 – Lenten Ecumenical Community Service (7:00PM).

March 6 – Mass for those whose life was touched by the cancer.

March 24 – Holy Thursday Mass – 6:00PM

March 25 – Good Friday Service – 12:00Noon.

March 26 – Holy Saturday Service – 2:00PM.

March 27 – Easter Sunday – Resurrection Procession and Mass – **9:00AM**.

July 24 – Automobiles Blessing (after the Mass).

October 1 – Animals Blessing (1:00PM) at the parking.

November 13 – Veteran's Day Celebration.

December 24 – Christmas Vigil Mass – 4:00PM; Mass of Shepherds – 9 or 10:00PM (?)

I would like to thank members of the Parish Committee, the Ladies of the Blessed Sacrament Society, Cemetery Trustees Committee, Organist and Choir Members and Greeters for your assistance in the service for the spiritual and material benefit of our St. John the Baptist Parish. Special “thank you” to our Parishioners for your help during some projects in our parish family – for your time, very hard work, and donations!

Because of your work and service our Parish is active and continues the mission of Jesus and is considered an extend family for all of us. On behalf of my family and myself, I’d like to say, “*Thank you very much*” to our Parishioners for your help, and all gifts!

May God bless you All!!!

My Dear Parishioners, we begin New Year **2016**. May we be instruments of God’s peace and love. May our Parish grow in the faith of our Lord, and may the Lord Jesus Christ bless all members of our Holy Polish National Catholic Church.

With best wishes and prayer:

Rev. Robert P. Plichta