

St. John the Baptist Parish  
Polish National Catholic Church  
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**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - "A"**  
Ósma Niedziela Zwyczajna  
**February 26, 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 – Contemporary liturgy in English.**

**Today, February 26<sup>th</sup>** – VIII Sunday in Ordinary Time

The birds of the air and the followers of the field flourish under God's watchful eye. Our lives, too, in God's grace can be lived in tranquility of spirit.

**10:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. **James Dean**, of, by wife, Marjorie.

### **WEEKDAY READINGS:**

**Mon.**, Sirach 17:20-24; Mark 10:17-27; **Tue.**, Sirach 35:1-12; 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

**ASH WEDNESDAY, March 1<sup>st</sup>** - **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 distribution of Ashes, intention: for all **Parishioners**.

**12:00Noon** – Prayer service with distribution of Ashes.

**4:00PM** – Prayer service with distribution of Ashes.

**6:00PM - Holy Mass** with distribution of Ashes.

**THURSDAY, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** – *Lenten Weekday*

**Requiem Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. **Helena Zaborowska**.

**FRIDAY, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** – **First Friday of the month**

**Holy Mass** to the Sacred Heart of Jesus – intention: for God's blessing for Bishop, Priests and Deacons of the Central Diocese.

**5-5:45PM** – Private Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

**6:00PM** – Stations of the Cross (each Friday during the Lent).

**SATURDAY, March 4<sup>th</sup>** – *Lenten Weekday*

**10:00AM** – First Holy Communion Catechism Class.

**NEXT SUNDAY, March 5<sup>th</sup>** – **I Sunday of Lent**

**10:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. Hildegarde Tomczyk, of. by Mrs. Betty Brazausky.

- ⋈ **Confession.**
- ⋈ Collection for missions.
- ⋈ **Annual Parish Meeting after the Mass.**

**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. I cry aloud to God, cry to God to hear me.

**R. On the day of my distress I seek the Lord; by night my hands are raised unceasingly; I refuse to be consoled.**

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**

*God's love for us is like a mother's love for her child.*

**Responsorial Psalm: Rest in God alone, my soul.**

**II Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5**

*Let us be merciful to one another. The Lord alone is the true judge.*

**ALLELUIA (Hebrews 4:12)**

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

V. The word of God is living and effective; discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 6:24-34**

*The birds of the air and the flowers of the field have lessons for us.*

**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.

**THE PROFESSION OF FAITH** [PAGE 71]  
**GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**

**Celebrant:** Our heavenly Father knows all our needs. Let us pray trustingly in God for one another and for the needs of the world.

- For all the bishops of the Church: may they be examples of simple trust to inspire all of Christ's faithful people. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all parents and guardians of children: that they may help little ones to know and trust in God's ever-watchful care. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For environmentalists and for all who work on the land: that they may help us to reverence and care for the earth. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all who work in the caring professions: may they minister with grace to all and help people to be free from stress and anxiety. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all who are sick and for those nearing the end of their days: may they be comforted in spirit to trust in the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For the **President** of the U.S. and for the entire **Government**: may they succeed in their mission to lead our nation wisely. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all deceased members of our families, especially **James Dean**: may their memory and their prayers sustain us through life. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, hear our prayers, and help us to live lives of faithful service to you and to one another, through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen.**

May the Lord, who remembers you always, fill your heart and mind with confidence in His care for you.

**COMING EVENTS**

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

March 1 – Ash Wednesday.

March 5 – Annual Parish meeting.

March 12 – The Oath of the Parish Committee Officers.

March 19 & 26 – Lenten Spiritual Retreat.

April 9 – Palm Sunday.

April 16 – Easter Sunday.

May 14 – Mother's Day Celebration.

May 21 – First Holy Communion Day Celebration.

June 18 – Father's Day Celebration.

**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.

**THIS WEEK PRAYER:** for **Father Bruce Sleczkowski**, his family and parishioners of Holy Family Parish in

McKeesport, PA [web: hfpncc.org, FB: Holy Family National Catholic Church] and Transfiguration of Our Lord Parish in Mt. Pleasant, PA [FB: Transfiguration of Our Lord Parish].



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Birthday best wishes are extended to: February 29 – Jourdin Karvois; March 1 – Marcia Hessert; March 2 – Natalie MacDonald; March 4 – Jennifer Stetts.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for – Father Senior Thaddeus Dymkowski – Gloria Dymkowski – Father Raymond Drada - Sarah Powanda - Helen Hopko - Flossy Bulcavage – Helen Menzyk - James Panco – Connie Sincavage – Carl Guzik – Marcia Hessert – 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.



**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**.

**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.

**EASTER POPPY SEED & NUT ROLLS** – Holy Cross Parish in Wilkes-Barre, PA are selling these cakes. Order form is in the vestibule, by **March 26**, price: **\$11.00** each. Thank you for your generosity and understanding.

**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](mailto:FutureDirection@pncc.org) to become a part of this important effort for our Holy Church.

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

#### **February** – Our Financial Commitment and Stewardship

- 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.