

St. John the Baptist Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

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The Water I shall Give
Will Become A Spring
Of Living Water
Welling Up To
Eternal Life

Third Sunday of Lent - "A"

Trzecia Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

March 19, 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, March 19th – III Sunday of Lent

Jesus is the fountain we thirst and the one who brings everlasting life to all.

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

^ First day of Spiritual Lenten Retreat and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., 2 Samuel 7:4-5a.12-14a.16; Romans 4:13.16-18.22; Matthew 1:16.18-21.24a; **Tue.**, Daniel 3:25.34-43; Matthew 18:21-35; **Wed.**, Deuteronomy 4:1.5-9; Matthew 5:17-19; **Thu.**, Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23; **Fri.**, Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34; **Sat.**, Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38

MONDAY, March 20th – Solemnity – St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM
Holy Mass, intention: for all Parishioners.

TUESDAY, March 21st – *Lenten Weekday*
Requiem Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Edward Zaborowski.

WEDNESDAY, March 22nd – *Lenten Weekday*
6:30PM – Lenten Ecumenical Service – Wesleyan Church.

THURSDAY, March 23rd – *Lenten Weekday*
Holy Mass, intention: for remission of sins.

FRIDAY, March 24th – *Lenten Weekday*
6:00PM – Stations of the Cross.

SATURDAY, March 25th – Solemnity – Annunciation of the BVM.
9:00AM – Holy Mass
10:00AM – First Holy Communion Class.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 26th – III Sunday of Lent
10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Michael and Sophia Stetts, of. by Children.
▲ Second day of Spiritual Lenten Retreat & Confession.

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 42:2-3; Psalm 63:2)

V. As a deer longs for streams of water, so my soul longs for You, o God. My being thirsts for God, the living God. When can I go and see the face of God?

R. O God, You are my God – for You I long! For You my body yearns; for You my soul thirsts like a land parched, lifeless, and without water.

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: Exodus 17:3-7

This is one of several stories about the Israelites complaining to Moses, in this case about being thirsty. God instruct Moses how to provide water for them.

GRADUAL (Psalms 78:15-18)

V. He splits rocks in the desert, gave water to drink, abounding as the deep. He made streams flow from crags, drew out rivers of water.

R. But they went on sinning against Him, rebelling against the Most High in the desert. They tested God in their hearts, demanding the food they craved.

II Reading: Romans 5:1-2.5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, giving us faith and hope.

TRACT (John 7:37-38)

V. On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood up and exclaimed, "Let anyone who thirsts come to Me and drink.

R. Whoever believes in Me, as scripture says: 'Rivers of living water will flow from within him.'"

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

The encounter of Jesus with the Samaritan woman at the well, where He reveals His true identity to her and offers her living water.

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 the Lord inspire us this week to seek reconciliation and healing in all our relationships.

COMING EVENTS

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

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 11 – Mother's & Father's Day Brunch.

June 15 – Corpus Christi Service in Middleport, PA.

June 16 – Bleenie Sale.

June 18 – Father's Day Celebration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special **Thanks** go out to:

- to **Mrs. Janina Plichta** for preparing the altars, and the church for services, especially for Lent.
- 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 **Victoria** for carrying the cross last Friday;
- to the **Sunday greeters**.

THANK YOU very much to **Mrs. Ann Marie Wycheck** and **Mr. George Wycheck** for preparing such a great brunch after the Mass last Sunday!

OUR 2017 PARISH COMMITTEE

Chairperson – Mrs. Ann Marie Wycheck

Vice-Chair – Mrs. Marjorie Dean

Recording Secretary – Mr. Lance Nelson

Treasurer – Mr. James Abicunas

Financial Secretary – Mrs. Sandra Elsavege

Directors: Ms. Angela Elsavege, Mrs. Elaine Antalosky, Mrs. Flossy Bulcavage, Mrs. Judith Touchinsky, Mrs. Betty Brazausky, Mrs. Jean Keim, Mr. John Plaxa, Mr. George Tokarczyk, Mr. George Wycheck.

Congratulations and May God Bless You All!

THANK YOU to **Ms. Angela Elsavege** for working as the Financial Secretary last year.

St. John's Blessed Sacrament Society Officers for 2017:

President – Ms. Angela Elsavege

Vice-President – Mrs. Janina Plichta

Recording Secretary – Mrs. Elaine Antalosky

Treasurer – Mrs. Marjorie Dean

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Felix Pyzowski**, his family and parishioners of St. Joseph Mission in Belle Vernon, PA.




PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for – Father Senior Thaddeus Dymkowski – Gloria

Dymkowski – Sarah Powanda - Helen Hopko - Flossy Bulcavage – Helen Menzyk - James Panco – Connie Sincavage – Carl Guzik – Marcia Hessert – Frank Savitsky – Jean Keim. 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.

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.**

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 to become a part of this important effort for our Holy Church.

THE WATER ROCK

It is possible to find water in the driest desert. There are limestone springs in the Sinai. Eventually a crust forms over them, blocking the flow. Anyone who had lived in the area for several years would be likely to recognize the signs of such springs. Moses only had to break through the crust to release the water. He becomes frustrated at the slow response and shows a lack of trust in God.

LIVING WATER

It is often said that Eskimos-Native Americans of Alaska and Canada-have many different words for snow. These words describe different kinds of snow. A similar diversity of words for water is true of people of the Middle Eastern desert. Today, Jesus speaks of "living water". Literally this is "flowing" water as opposed to that which accumulates in pools or wells. Standing water can become stagnant. It becomes less desirable in taste than water which has flowed from a spring or river. The Samaritan woman offers to draw water from the well, but Jesus suggests that he can offer her the living variety. Apparently he is referring to the water of Baptism which allows each of the baptized to become sources of life themselves.

A Gift of Love

As many of you throughout the P.N.C.C. know, the Rt. Rev. Stanley Bilinski, Diocesan Bishop of the Western Diocese has been waiting for some time for a kidney transplant. Through the pages of **God's Field** we ask for your continued prayers for Bishop Stanley as he awaits this procedure. We also wish to find those who may be interested in giving the selfless gift of serving as a transplant donor in this case. After much prayer, if you are interested in helping Bishop Stanley, please reach out to him at (847) 698-0578 to discuss this matter.