

St. John the Baptist Parish
Polish National Catholic Church
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Fourth

Sunday of Lent - "A"

Czwarta Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

March 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, March 26th – IV Sunday of Lent

Light and darkness; sight and blindness; forgiveness of sin and the fullness of life. All of these are major Lenten themes, and are to be found in the Gospel for today, with which we continue our Lenten journey.

Second Day of Lenten Retreat; Conference and Confession before the Mass.

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Michael and Sophia Stetts, of. by Children.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54; **Tue.**, Ezekiel 47:1-9.12; John 5:1-16; **Wed.**, Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30; **Thu.**, Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47; **Fri.**, Wisdom 2:1a.12-22; John 7:1-2.10.25-30; **Sat.**, Jeremiah 11:18-

MONDAY, March 27th – *Lenten Weekday*

Holy Mass, intention: for all **Parishioners**.

WEDNESDAY, March 29th – *Lenten Weekday*

Holy Mass, intention: for **Janina Plichta** on her Birthday.

6:30PM – Lenten Ecumenical Service – Zion Lutheran Church.

THURSDAY, March 30th – *Lenten Weekday*

Requiem Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. **Jan Zaborowski** (4th anniversary of death); of. by Janina Plichta & family.

FRIDAY, March 31st – *Lenten Weekday*

6:00PM – Stations of the Cross.

NEXT SUNDAY, April 2nd – V Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

10:00AM – **Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. Robert and William Zamonas, of. by Mrs. Theresa Petrusky.

- ⋈ Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.
- ⋈ Collection for missions.
- ⋈ ANS 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: 1 Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13

Many of Jesse's sons would have looked the part of king to succeed the disgraced Saul. Yet David, the youngest and almost forgotten, is anointed by Samuel as God's choice of king.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

II Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

A people once in darkness are now light in the Lord. As such, we are called to live as children of the light, shunning sin and darkness.

TRACT (John 8:12)

V. I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

R. Whoever follows Me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

Jesus cures a man born blind, but in the discourse that follows, it becomes apparent that those with physical sight can still be in total darkness in terms of awareness of God.

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.

Celebrant: With confidence we present our needs, and the needs of all our brothers and sisters, to God the Father who sent His Son into this world.

- For the Church: may we share the light of the Gospel with all who are drawn by the attractions of the world, that they may turn to the light of Christ. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all who are bound by prejudice: may God open their eyes to the value and dignity of each human person. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For reconciliation among communities of faith: may we each open our eyes to the light of Christ, that we may be enabled to see in every other human being a brother or sister in Christ. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all who are sick, and today in particular for those without sight or who fear losing their sight. **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 **Michael** and **Sophia Stetts** that they may rise to the eternal presence of Christ who is the light of the world. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Lord God, from the darkness of sin, Your Son has drawn us to eternal light that comes from You. Hear our prayers for ourselves and for all people in need. We ask You to grant them through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen.**

May the one who is Father and Creator, Son and light of the world, and Spirit who teaches us all we need to know, be with you always.

COMING EVENTS

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

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** 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 **Joe** for his help at the altar last Sunday;
- to **Victoria** and **Veronica** for their assistance last Friday;
- to **Mr. Julian Bednarek** for his help with candles and taking collection;
- to the **Sunday greeters.**

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Marian Kozar**, his family and parishioners of St. John the Baptist Cathedral parish in Toronto, Canada.

GORZKIE ŻALE (Bitter Lamentations) – all three parts, we will sing in Polish (English translation) on **Holy Wednesday, April 12 at 7:00PM.** Everyone is welcome to participate.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: March 27 – Mary Ann Tokarczyk; March 29 – Janina Plichta.



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.



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 today **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.



WHOSE SIN WAS IT?

A common belief in Old Testament times held that all illness was caused by sin. Jesus meets a man who has been blind from birth. The Apostles wonder about the severity of the sin that might cause this handicap. Jesus rejects the idea. He teaches that lack of