

St. John the Baptist Parish  
Polish National Catholic Church  
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**Pastor - Rev. Robert Plichta, M.Th., M. in Canon Law**

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**Solemnity – Humble Shepherds - “B”**

Uroczystość Ubogich Pasterzy

**December 31, 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, December 31<sup>st</sup> – Solemnity – Humble Shepherds**

This Solemnity reminds the members of our Church to pray for the living and departed clergy, to support the need of the increase of vocation to the Priesthood.

**10:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. **Flossie Bulcavage**, of. by Parish Committee Members.

^ Collection for the Seminary.

**WEEKDAY READINGS:**

**Jan. 1:** Genesis 17:9-14; Galatians 5:3-6; Luke 2:21; **Jan. 2:** Exodus 3:13-15; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 1:18-25; **Jan. 3:** 1 John 2:29 – 3:6; John 1:29-34; **Jan. 4:** 1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42; **Jan. 5:** 1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51; **Jan. 6:** 1 John 5:5-13; Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-38 or Luke 3:23.31-34.36.38.

**MONDAY, January 1, 2018** – Solemnity – Circumcision of the Lord

**10:00AM - Holy Mass**, intention: for God's Blessing in 2018.

**TUESDAY, January 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Solemnity – Holy Name of Jesus

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

**WEDNESDAY, January 3<sup>rd</sup>** - *Christmas Weekday*

**6:30PM** – Monthly meeting of the Parish Committee.

**THURSDAY, January 4<sup>th</sup>** - *Christmas Weekday*

**Holy Mass**, intention: for Bishop Bernard, Priests and Deacons of the Central Diocese.

**FRIDAY, January 5<sup>th</sup>** - *Christmas Weekday*

**Holy Mass** to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**5-6:00PM** – Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

**SATURDAY, January 6<sup>th</sup>** - Solemnity – Epiphany of the Lord

**10:00AM - Holy Mass**

**NEXT SUNDAY, January 7<sup>th</sup>** - Baptism of the Lord

**10:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. Joseph Petrusky, of. by Wife, Theresa.

- ⤴ Confession.
- ⤴ Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.
- ⤴ Collection for Missions.
- ⤴ A blessing of families after Holy 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 (Wisdom 18:14-15a; Psalm 93:2)**

V. For when peaceful stillness compassed everything and the night in its swift was half spent, Your all-powerful Word from heaven's royal bounded, a fierce warrior, into the doomed land.

**R. Your throne stands firm of old; You are from everlasting, Lord.**

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 62:11-12 or Jeremiah 31:10-14**

**Responsorial Psalm: A light will shine on us this day: The Lord is born for us.**

**II Reading: Titus 3:4-7 or Galatians 4:1-7**

**ALLELUIA (Psalm 93:1)**

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

V. The Lord is King, in splendor robed: robed is the Lord and girt about with strength.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: Luke 2:15-20**

#### **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:** On this holy day let us implore the God of perfect love and peace to fill us with the glory of the Word-Made-Flesh.

- You have give us Christ to be our light. In the name of the Prince of Peace, enable us to be a people ever eager to do what is right, peaceable, and just. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- You have given us Christ, the Living Word. In the name of the Wonder-Counselor, pour out the Spirit of wisdom and understanding on all religious leaders especially our Prime Bishop, Bishops, Priests and Deacons of Your Holy Church. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- You have given us Christ to be the herald of good news to the poor and lowly. In the name of the Anointed One, help us to carry our Christ's mission of love and mercy. **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.**

- You have given us Christ to redeem humanity from the forces of sin and death. In the name of Emmanuel, teach us to set aside any jealousy and animosity that deprive us of closeness with You. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

- You have given us Christ as our eternal High Priest. In His holy name help those who are called to service in Your Holy Priesthood and diaconate to accept this Sacred Vocation. **R. Lord, hear us.**

- We pray, God of Good news, for our young men. You call them to serve as Priests and Deacons in our Holy Church. Through Your abundant grace grant that they may respond as the Humble Shepherds responded to the news of Your Son's coming. **R. Lord, hear us.**

- You have given us the descendant of David to be our blessed hope. In the name of the risen Savior, comfort all who mourn with Your tender compassion and heal those who are sick and suffering. **R. Lord, hear us.**

- For all deceased members of our families – especially for **Flossie Bulcavage** – and whose good deeds go with them: may they experience the fullness of life in Christ. **R. Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** God of glory, the light of Christ reveals Your love for us. Receive our prayers and grant that we may always receive Your Word-Made-Flesh with grateful hearts. We ask this in Jesus' name. **R. Amen.**

**As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds may we, like those humble shepherds, share "Good News" of the Incarnation. May God bless you and your family during this joyous Christmas season.**

### **COMING EVENTS**

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

March 4, 2018 – Annual Parish Meeting.

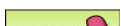
### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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** and **Veronica** for being a lectors;
- to all **altar servers**, who helped us during Christmas;
- to **Mr. Julian Bednarek** for his help with candles and taking collection;
- to the **Sunday greeters.**

**THIS WEEK PRAYER:** for **Father Andrzej Tenus**, his family, and Parishioners of St. Casimir's Parish in Lowell, MA.

**2018 HOME BLESSINGS** – will start on after January 6 according the the schedule sent to those, who need prayers and blessings.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Birthday best wishes are extended to: January 2 – Carolyn Boychak.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for – Father Senior Thaddeus Dymkowski – Gloria Dymkowski – Father Janusz Lucarz - Sarah Powanda - Helen Hopko - Helen Menzyk - James Panco – Connie Sincavage – Carl Guzik – 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.

**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.

### **FUTURE DIRECTION PLAN for 2018**

January – The example of the Holy Family

A blessing of families after Holy Mass on Sunday January 7<sup>th</sup>

#### **Some Things to Consider as we celebrate the Humble Shepherds**

1. How do I receive the good news that Jesus Christ has been born into the world? Since God spoke to the humble shepherds do I realize that He also speaks this word to me?
2. Do I respond as the humble shepherds did? Now that I have heard the Good News, do I share it with others and invite them to worship Jesus with me?
3. Do I pray and care for those who announce the Good News of Jesus Christ to me and the world? Do I remember the bishops, priests and deacons of the Polish National Catholic Church in my daily prayers?
4. Do I encourage vocations to the diaconate and priesthood through my thoughts, words and