

St. John the Baptist Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

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Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord - “B”

Uroczystość Chrztu Pańskiego

January 7, 2018

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, January 7th - Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord

As we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, we thank God for the gift of our baptism by which we become the beloved of the Father and are adopted as His children. We sing His praises and offer our lives to Him generously and without limit.

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.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., 1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20; **Tue.**, 1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28; **Wed.**, 1 Samuel 3:1-10.19-20;

Mark 1:29-39; **Thu.**, 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45; **Fri.**, 1 Samuel 8:4-7.10-22a; Mark 2:1-12; **Sat.**, 1 Samuel 9:1-4.17-19. 10:1; Mark 2:13-17

MONDAY, January 8th – *Octave of the Epiphany*
Holy Mass, intention: for all **Parishioners**.

NEXT SUNDAY, January 14th – II Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00AM – **Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. Flossie Bulcavage, of. by Mrs. Sandra Elsavage.

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 (Matthew 3:16-17; Psalm 72:13)

V. After Jesus was baptized, He came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened, for Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased."

R. He shows pity to the needy and the poor and saves the lives of the poor.

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 55:1-11

The word that goes from the Lord's mouth does not return to Him empty, without carrying out His will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

GRADUAL (Isaiah 2:4)

V. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;

R. One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.

II Reading: 1 John 5:1-9

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God our Father and do what He has commanded us.

ALLELUIA (Psalm 114:3-4)

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

V. The sea beheld and fled; the Jordan turned back. The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs of the flock.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:7-11

Jesus is God's Son, the Beloved; the Father's favour rests on Him.

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.

May God's blessing shine on all people who are baptized in the name of the Trinity and strengthen and protect you every day of this new year.

COMING EVENTS

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

Jan. 18 – Prayer for Christian Unity Service – St. Ann's RCC at 6:30PM

Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday

March 4 – Annual Parish Meeting

March 25 – Palm Sunday

April 1 – Easter Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special **Thanks** go out to:

- to **Mrs. Janina Plichta** for preparing the altars, and the church for services, and thank you so much for you so many hours work during this week;
- to **Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff** and to the Parishioners who are singing;
- to **Mr. James Abicunas** for being a lector;
- to **Veronica** for her help at the altar last Sunday;
- to **Mr. Julian Bednarek** for his help with candles and taking collection;
- to the **Sunday greeters**.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Senior Joseph Soltysiak**, his family, and Parishioners of St. Joseph's Parish in Westfield, MA [web: stjosephspncc.org] and Holy Cross Parish in Enfield, CT [web: hpcchurchpncc.tripod.com].

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



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Anniversary best wishes are extended to: January 9 – Frederick and 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 – Al Gursky. 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.**

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.

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SNOW and ICE ALERT – During winter days, please remember that we do not cancel our Worship Services. In the case of unfavorable travel conditions, please make appropriate decisions about venturing forth.

CORNELIUS

There may have been many gentiles who were baptized but the "catch" of them all was made by Peter. He was a Roman Centurion named Cornelius. Centurions were non-commissioned officers, roughly equivalent to Sergeant-Majors. They were in charge of Centuries--companies of approximately 100 men. They were vital to the daily routine and battles of the soldiers. Cornelius was called a "God-fearer". This indicates that he accepted most of the beliefs of Judaism, but rejected circumcision.

Peter had just experienced a vision in which God told him that it was permissible to eat non-kosher food. Had it not been for this revelation, Peter might never have entered the home of this important army leader. Jews avoided contact with pagans. The apostle's bold act would open the doors to all future conversions.



WHY DID JESUS ASK TO BE BAPTIZED?

Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries among the Jews as a ritual equivalent of Confession. Until the fall of the Temple in 72 A.D. it was common for Jewish people to make a spiritual cleansing in a special pool called a MIKVEH--literally a "collection of water". This was said to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Men did this weekly on the eve of the Sabbath. Women did it monthly. Converts were also expected to do it before entering Judaism. Orthodox Jews still retain the rite.

John preached that such a bath was a necessary preparation for the cataclysm that would be wrought by the coming Messiah. Jesus transformed this continual ritual into the one single, definitive act by which we begin our faith. In effect he fused his divine essence with the water and the ceremony.