

St. John the Baptist Parish
Polish National Catholic Church
414 West Oak Street
Frackville, PA 17931
www.stjohnpncc.org
FB: St. John the Baptist PNCC
Phone (570) 874-1960
E-mail: stjohnthebaptist42@gmail.com
Pastor's E-mail: robertb1@ptd.net

Sunday, March 4, 2018

Pastor's Report – 2017 - Rev. Robert Plichta

The last Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, March 5, 2017.

- I started visiting our Parishioners while blessing their homes after the Epiphany of the Lord (January 6, 2017). I visited 22 (twenty two) homes. Thank you very much for your offerings.
- **1 Baptism**, August 20.
- No weddings.
- **First Holy Communion Day – Jourdin Karvois**, May 21.
- **Confirmation** classes with **Victoria Plichta**. Confirmation for her – April 15, 2018 in Dupont, PA.
- **Funerals (5): John Etcho** – Funeral Mass Jan. 7, buried at St. John's cemetery; **Russell Sincavage Sr.** - Funeral home service only on April 12; **Florence Bulcavage** – Funeral Mass Aug. 24, buried at St. John's cemetery; **Christina Pukas** – Funeral Mass – October 27, buried at Odd Fellows Cemetery; **Joseph Edmondson Sr.** – Funeral Home service only – Nov. 9, buried at Memorial Park Cemetery in Ringtown, PA. Since November 2003 till December 31, 2017 our Parish had **sixty three (63)** funerals [parishioners and friends]. In the Holy Ghost Congregation – we had **38** funerals in 14 years.
- The Sunday Holy Mass at 10:00AM. We had the Holy Mass as often as is possible – during the week. These liturgical celebrations usually takes place in the empty church. During the holy days of obligation I celebrated the Holy Masses according to the Liturgical calendar of the PNCC.
- **The Sick Parishioners** were visited mostly on the first Thursday of each month. There were **39** shut-ins from our Parish visited. They received Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion at their homes, hospital or at nursing homes.
- **The Lenten season** began on **Ash Wednesday**, March 1. Holy Mass with distribution of ashes took place in our church at 10:00AM (8 attended) and 6:00PM (12 attended). Ashes were also distributed at 12:00Noon (11 attended) and 4:00PM (23 attended).

During the Season of Lent I celebrated the Stations of the Cross (Fridays at 6:00PM). Bitter Lamentations service took place on Holy Wednesday, April 12, 10 people participated, and only **6**

parishioners.

- ♣ Lenten Retreat Sessions took place on Sundays: March 19, and March 26.
- The liturgy of the **Holy Week: Palm Sunday** – 10:00 AM (47 people attended) - (2016 – 42); **Holy Thursday** – 6:00 PM (9 people attended) - (2016 – 12); Good Friday – 12:00 Noon (12 people attended) - (2016 – 12); **Holy Saturday** – 2:00 PM (10 people attended) - (2016 – 23).
- Solemnity – **Resurrection of our Lord** – we celebrated the Holy Mass and Easter procession at 9:00 AM on April 16 (43 people attended).
- **Plymouth Seniorate Council** meeting took place in our church on Saturday, May 13 at 1:00PM in McAdoo, PA. Mrs. Ann Marie Wycheck, Mrs. Marjorie Dean and Ms. Elizabeth Greenman were our delegates present at the meeting.
- **Corpus Christi** service for our Plymouth Seniorate was held on Thursday, June 15 in Middleport, PA, at 7:00 PM.
- **Memorial Day** service was celebrated on Sunday, May 28 at 10:00AM.
- **All Souls** service we celebrated on Sunday, **October 29**, immediately after the Holy Mass, in the church.
- **Veterans Day** celebration took place on Sunday, Nov. 12.

St. John the Baptist parish has one lector last year – Mr. James Abicunas. Joe Karvois and Veronica Plichta helps from time to time at the altar.

I am a member of the Diocesan Council of the Central Diocese and a member of the Matrimony Commission in the Central Diocese. I do some work for the Central Diocese once a week.

- **Advent and Christmas 2017**. Every week (*Wednesday's*) during the season of Advent, I celebrated *Rorate* Mass in honor of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** at 6:30AM. Nobody participated.
Holy Mass of the Shepherds I celebrated on **December 24**, at 10:00 PM. (29) – twenty nine people attended the Mass (2016 – 26). The Christmas Vigil Mass was held time at 4:00PM with 20 participants [2016 – 27].

Christmas Day Mass we celebrated at 11:00AM, with (6) six people at the service - (2016 – 14).

- The principal feast days and PNCC feast days were observed, as required.
- In the year **2017** we had **212** services in the church: **1504** people attended, and **1304** received the Holy Communion; [2016: 312 – 1499 – 1281].
- The Committee decided to have the newsletter edited quarterly and send to our Parishioners together with 50/50 chances.
- Our dedication to God, and attendance during the Holy Days of obligation and Lenten Services:
 - a) Holy Days of obligation: **January 1** (Circumcision of the Lord) – **14** (was Sunday)
January 6 (Epiphany of the Lord) – **0**
May 25 (Ascension of the Lord) – **0**
November 1 (All Saints) – **0**

December 8 (Conception of the BVM) – 0.

- b) Lenten Services: March 3 – Stations of the Cross – 7
March 10 – Stations of the Cross – 3
March 17 – Stations of the Cross – 5
March 24 – Stations of the Cross – 4
March 31 – Stations of the Cross – 1

Since September 2012, the private adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place in our church every **First Friday of the month (5:00-6:00PM)** for those who feel the necessity of prayer, and it was continued in 2017, and will be continue this year. **The church remains empty all the time!**

Social Activities and important events – 2017:

- Social Brunch – Sunday, March 12.
- Mother's/Father's Day Breakfast – June 11.
- Medicare Supplement Seminar – Tuesday, September 19.
- Chinese Auction – on Sunday, September 24.
- Polish Happy Meal Dinner – Saturday, October 14.
- Covered Dish Christmas Party – Sunday, December 10.

Church and Rectory

- **Mrs. Janina Plichta** cleans the church. THANK YOU! And also, thank you to Parishioners who decorated the church and donated items to decorate our church last year.
- **Rectory's** back porch stairs were repaired.
- Members of the **Blessed Sacrament Society** purchased furniture for the rectory's living room and the floor for the kitchen. Thank you.
- **Mrs. Judith Touchinsky** sponsored altar clothes. Thank you!
- **Mr. Julian Bednarek** painted rectory's foundation.
- The new opener was purchased for the rectory's garage.
- **Mr. Kenneth Payne** takes care for snow removal, and he did some work at our cemetery. Thank you!
- **Rev. James Konicki** takes care for the web site for our parish. THANK YOU SO MUCH!
- **Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff** is our organist. Thank you – and we wish her all the best!

Priest's schedule – 2017

- ✧ January 18 – Prayer Service for the Christian Unity
- March 22 – Lenten Community Service (New Hope Wesleyan Church)
- April 11 – Clergy Conference of the Central Diocese (Holy Tuesday) – Scranton, PA.
- April 29 – Diocesan Council meeting – Scranton, PA.
- July 23 – Automobile's blessing after the Holy Mass at our parking.
- October 7 – Animals blessing.
- December 3 - Frackville Elks Memorial Service.

Some of activities in 2018

- ✧ Stations of the Cross will be held in Lent on Fridays at 6:00PM.
- March 21** – Lenten Ecumenical Community Service (6:30PM).
- March 29** – Holy Thursday Mass – 7:00PM
- March 30** – Good Friday Service – 12:00Noon.
- March 31** – Holy Saturday Service – 2:00PM.
- April 1** – Easter Sunday – Resurrection Procession and Mass – **9:00AM.**
- July 22** – Automobiles Blessing (after the Mass).

September 16 – 95th Anniversary of our parish Mass.

October 6 – Animals Blessing (1:00PM) at the parking.

November 4 – All Souls Service in the church.

November 11 – Veteran's Day Celebration.

December 24 – Christmas Vigil Mass – 4:00PM; Mass of Shepherds – 10:00PM.

I would like to thank members of the Parish Committee, the Ladies of the Blessed Sacrament Society, Cemetery Trustees Committee, Organist and Choir Members and Greeters for your assistance in the service for the spiritual and material benefit of our St. John the Baptist Parish. Special “thank you” to our Parishioners for your help during some projects in our parish family – for your time, very hard work, and donations!

Because of your work and service our Parish is active and continues the mission of Jesus and is considered an extend family for all of us. On behalf of my family and myself, I’d like to say, “*Thank you very much*” to our Parishioners for your help, friendly words, and all gifts!

May God bless you All!!!

My Dear Parishioners, we begin New Year **2018**. May we be instruments of God’s peace and love. May our Parish grow in the faith of our Lord, and may the Lord Jesus Christ bless all members of our Holy Polish National Catholic Church.

With best wishes and prayer:

Rev. Robert P. Plichta