

**St. John the Baptist Parish**  
**Polish National Catholic Church**  
414 West Oak Street, Frackville, PA 17931  
Rectory: 570-874-1960



**First Sunday of Lent - "C"**  
Pierwsza Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

**March 10, 2019**

*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 10<sup>th</sup> – I Sunday of Lent – Institution of the PNCC**

**The Oath of the Parish Committee** – before the Mass.

**10:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for Sp. **Carolyn Boychak**, of. by Ms. Elizabeth Greenman & Mr. James Abicunas.

- Collection for National Church Center.
- *Daylight Saving Time begins.*

**MONDAY, March 11<sup>th</sup> – *Lenten Weekday***

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

**WEDNESDAY, March 13<sup>th</sup> – *Lenten Weekday***

**7:00PM** – Lenten Ecumenical Service – New Hope Wesleyan Church

**FRIDAY, March 15<sup>th</sup> – *Lenten Weekday***

**Holy Mass** and Litany to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.  
**6:00PM – Stations of the Cross.**

**SATURDAY, March 16<sup>th</sup>** – *Lenten Weekday*

**Holy Mass** and Litany to the BVM on Saturday, intention: God's blessing to the family.

**NEXT SUNDAY, March 17<sup>th</sup>** – *II Sunday of Lent*

**10:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for healing.

- Imposition of the Sacrament of Holy Anointing.

### **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** (Joel 1:14)

V. Proclaim a fast, call an assembly; Gather the elders, all who dwell in the land.

**R. Into the house of the Lord, your God, and cry to the 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: Deuteronomy 20:4-10**

**GRADUAL** (Proverbs 3:5-6)

V. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, on your own intelligence rely not;

**R. In all your ways be mindful of Him, and He will make straight your paths.**

**II Reading: Romans 10:8-13**

**TRACT** (Jeremiah 27:5; Psalms 24:1)

V. It was I who made the earth, and man and beast on the face of the earth, by My great power, with My outstretched arm; and I can give them to whomever I think fit.

**R. The earth is the Lord's and all that it holds, the world, and those who live there.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13**

### **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.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Special **Thanks** go out to: Church cleaner, Organist, lector, collector, and the Sunday greeters.

- **Hall for Rent** is available...**\$100.00 for 2 hours**/+ \$25.00 each additional hour, and **\$50.00** returnable deposit.
- **June 20 at 7:00PM** – Seniorate Corpus Christi Service in our church.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Birthday best wishes are extended to: March 10 – Sarah Powanda; March 15 – Betty Brazausky; March 16 – Father Robert.



**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 – Betty Brazausky - Joseph Ross - Thomas Justen – Edward Jurewicz. ***H & R Center Tremont: Dolores Halaburda (309); Luther Ridge – Pottsville, PA – Marie Demnitski (223).***

**Scripture verse of the week:** “Wash yourselves clean! Put away your misdeeds from before my eyes, cease doing evil; learn to do good. Make justice your aim; redress the wronged, hear the orphan’s plea, defend the widow. Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord: though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; though the be crimson red, they may become white as wool”. (Isaiah 1:16-18).

**HEALING MASS** – will be celebrated on **March 17**. We are inviting everyone to participate. During this Mass, the pastor will impart the Sacrament of Holy Anointing to every person, who would like to receive it.

**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.

**SPIRITUAL RETREAT SESSION 2019** – faithful our Seniorate are encouraged to participate in this event and join Scranton Seniorate on **Saturday, March 23, 2019 at St. Adalbert’s church – 515 Mary Street, Dickson City, PA; time: 10:00AM – 1:00PM**. If anyone is interested, please notify Fr. Robert at least next Sunday, March 17.

**In Order of the Resurrection Day Procession** the church needs the help of parishioners to carry: Processional Cross.... Paschal Candle... Resurrection Statue..., Resurrection Cross..., Members of the Blessed Sacrament Society with candles..., Parishioners... If anyone is interested to be a part of this liturgy, please contact the pastor ASAP. **Following items** is needed to be carry at the procession: *Processional Cross.....Paschal Candle...Resurrection Statue...Resurrection Cross (already taken position)*

**Ministerium Lenten Ecumenical Services Schedule (All services are at 7 pm.)**

**March 13** – New Hope Wesleyan Church, 32 S.Spencer St.

**20** - Zion Lutheran Church, 48 S. Nice St.

**27** – St. John the Baptist PNCC, 414 W. Oak St.

**April 3** – St. Joseph the Worker Parish RCC, 49 N. Line St.

**10** – First United Methodist Church, 25 S. Balliet St.

**19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MISSION and EVANGELISM WORKSHOP** - This year’s theme is **“Identity: Who We Are in Christ”** and will be hosted by the Holy Trinity Parish, Plantsville, CT **Friday, March 29 - Sunday, March 31, 2019**  
Greetings from the Mission and Evangelism Commission of the Polish National Catholic Church. Over the past nineteen years the National Commission on Mission and Evangelism has presented to the faithful and clergy of the Church an opportunity to explore one of many faith-driven aspects of the Church on a National level, as well as experiencing the Church on a local Parish level. Our goal for each Mission Workshop has been that the Faithful come away with a burning desire to bring faith-driven work of the Workshop back to their parishes and be a light to that local Community of Faith, the Parish, and the communities in which they live. This year’s Mission Workshop will be held at Holy Trinity Parish in Plantsville, Connecticut. Our accommodation is at **Comfort Suites** located at 64 Knotter Dr, Southington, CT 06489.

The guaranteed **room rate of \$105.00** plus tax. Please use the **code: “Polish National Catholic Church”** when making your reservation. The **deadline** cut - off date for obtaining this guaranteed room rate is **Friday, March 8, 2019**. When you fill out you registration form, send it along with a check for the **Workshop Registration Fee of \$75.00** per person. Please make the check payable to: Holy Trinity Parish. The **deadline for registering is March 15, 2019**. For registrations post-marked after March 15, 2019, the registration fee is \$95.00.

We pray that you will consider joining us for the Nineteenth National Mission & Evangelism Workshop of the P.N.C.C., and we look forward to your attendance. If you have any questions, please contact: Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, Commission Chairman Parish Phone: (313) 365-5191 email: [nowak@netscape.com](mailto:nowak@netscape.com).

### A WANDERING ARAMEAN

Today's first reading describes an ancient thanksgiving ceremony. A farmer brings a basket of the first fruits of the harvest and then states a sort of creed. It is a brief acknowledgement of God's saving acts in history. It begins with the notion that the patriarchs came from Aram, usually identified with eastern Syria. The ritual ends with prostration before God. This passage is probably meant to link with the Gospel by teaching that one should only bow before God.

### THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After his baptism, Jesus makes a retreat in the desert of Judea. Since he was alone at the time we must assume that he later shared news of this experience with his apostles. The devil tempts the Lord to use his divine power to win quick acclaim. But Christ has not come to work magic tricks. He has come to teach that salvation is possible for all, with the grace of his Father. The parapet or pinnacle of the Temple was probably part of the great plaza surrounding the building. Its southeast corner had a sheer drop of many yards. If Jesus jumped from this spot and landed safely, he would win public adulation. Jesus rejects this type of fame, knowing how fleeting it would be.

**ANNIVERSARY** – Today we celebrate the **122<sup>nd</sup>** anniversary of God's call to the people of St. Stanislaus Parish in Scranton, PA, to take up their rightful place as children of God and followers of Jesus Christ and organize a church in which they had a say in the workings of their parishes and also in the expression of their faith. If we examine the whole history of the Christian Church from its founding in Jerusalem right down to the present day we find many who struggled for a Church which respected the rights and responsibilities of all of the people of God. These early reformers, like Jerome Savonarola and Jan Hus, did not want to change the Catholic faith, but desired to have a church in which all of God's people took an active part. Where other Church movements failed to keep their rights and remain Catholic, it was here that the Old Catholic Church was instituted. It was to this church that Father Francis Hodur and the newly organized PNCC turned to insure their apostolic succession. Following the First Vatican Council in 1870, many learned priests and laity, as well as parishes, struggled against the absolute rule of the papacy in the governance of the church. These movements came together as the Old Catholic Churches. Here in the USA many different groups of people struggled against the authorities of the church which denied them their rights and lorded their authority over the people. In Chicago, IL, Buffalo, NY and Scranton, PA, groups of Polish immigrants brought several of these parishes into a church, and finally these movements coalesced into the Polish National Catholic Church. What was begun in the earliest Christian communities, what was fought for during the reformation in Europe, has taken firm hold here within the PNCC, a church that is **one, holy, catholic and apostolic**, yet **democratic** in its governance. A church in which all God's people, guided by the Holy Spirit, have a rightful say in the governance of their church. At this time we must begin by thanking Almighty God for the faith and courage of Bishop Francis Hodur and all the priests and laity that organized the PNCC. We must spread the word that our Church is one where every Catholic Christian is given the opportunity to share his or her work and talent for the building of the Kingdom of God in all areas of the work of the Church. When we hear of those struggling to exercise their rights, we must show them how they are preserved here in the PNCC.