

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



**Second Sunday of Advent - "A"**

Druga Niedziela Adwentu  
Seconda Domenica di Avvento

**December 8, 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, December 8<sup>th</sup> – II Sunday of Advent**

**10:00AM – Holy Mass of healing**, intention: for Sp. **James Dean**, of. by wife, Marjorie.

- The Sacrament of Holy Anointing will be imparted after the sermon.
- Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament & Litany to the Blessed Sacrament.

**MONDAY, December 9<sup>th</sup> – Solemnity – Conception of the BVM**

**8:00AM - Holy Mass**, intention: for **Very Rev. Richard Seiler, Jr.**, his family and faithful of All Saints Parish in Carnegie, PA and Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Canonsburg, PA.

**TUESDAY, December 10<sup>th</sup> – Advent Weekday**

**Requiem Holy Mass** for those who are in purgatory.

**WEDNESDAY, December 11<sup>th</sup> – Advent Weekday**

**7:45AM – Rorate Holy Mass**, intention: for all **Parishioners**.

**THURSDAY, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Advent Weekday**

**7:45AM – Requiem Holy Mass** for: Sp. **Bishop Casimir Grotnik**.

**FRIDAY, December 13<sup>th</sup>** – Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:45AM - Holy Mass and Litany to the Holy Name of Jesus.

**SATURDAY, December 14<sup>th</sup>** – *Advent Weekday*

Holy Mass and Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday.

**NEXT SUNDAY, December 15<sup>th</sup>** – III Sunday of Advent

**Advent Penitential Service**

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Jean Stanulonis & Josephine Miernicki, of. by Ms. Elizabeth Greenman.

- Decorating the church for Christmas.

### 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 (John 1:6-8)**

V. A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

**R. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.**

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 11:1-10**

**GRADUAL (Jeremiah 23:5-6)**

V. Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David; As king He shall reign and govern wisely, He shall do what is just and right in the land.

**R. In His days Judah shall be saved, Israel shall dwell in security. This is the name they give Him: "The Lord our justice".**

**II Reading: Romans 15:4-9**

**ALLELUIA (Sirach 2:18)**

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

V. Let us fall into the hands of the Lord and not into the hands of men, for equal to His majesty is the mercy that He shows.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12**

### 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.
- **December 15** – Advent Penitential Service before the Mass and decoration of the church for Christmas, after the Mass.

- **December 24 – 4:00PM – Christmas Vigil Mass; 10:00PM – Mass of Shepherds (Pasterka)**
- **December 25 – Holy Mass at 11:00AM.**

**CURRENT WEEK PRAYERS** are offered for **Very Rev. Richard Seiler, Jr.**, his family and faithful of All Saints Parish in Carnegie, PA and Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Canonsburg, PA.

**CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATKI)** – are available in the vestibule. Free will offerings will go to our organist, **Mrs. Cindy Eickhoff.**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Birthday best wishes are extended to: December 8 – Jolene Johnston; December 14 – Angela Elsavage.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for – Father Senior Thaddeus Dymkowski – Gloria Dymkowski – Helen Hopko - James Panco – Connie Sincavage – Carl Guzik – Jean Keim – Betty Brazausky - Joseph Ross – Thomas Justen – Edward Jurewicz. ***H & R Center Tremont:*** Dolores Halaburda (309); ***Luther Ridge Pottsville, PA*** – Marie Demnitski (223); ***Shenandoah Manor:*** Helen Menzyk (D14).



**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.**

**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.

**FUTURE SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS:** Dec. 15 – Sp. Jean Stanulonis & Josephine Miernicki; Dec. 22 – Sp. Louise & Adolph Gursky.

**KINDLY REMINDER** – We would like to remind our Parishioners that all financial books for this year would be closed on **December 31, 2019.** Therefore, please, be responsible for your own church and fulfill your obligation to the Parish before that date. **THANK YOU.** A member, who fulfills the financial obligation to the Parish, by paying our yearly dues (**\$137.00**), is a financial good standing member of the Church. This means that he/she is a voting member of the Parish, can be elected to the Parish Committee, can be elected as a delegate for Synods and Seniorate Council, can be married in the church, and when time comes could be buried at the Parish Cemetery.



**ADVENT** – The Ecclesiastical Year begins on the first Sunday of Advent and ends on the Saturday following the last Sunday after Pentecost. Advent is composed of four weeks, during which with the patriarchs and prophets,

we prepare to celebrate the first coming of our Lord in a Bethlehem stable. During Advent the approved liturgical colors are **blue, rose or violet**, unless otherwise indicated by the feast of the day. If violet vestments are used rose is recommended color for the Third Sunday in Advent. This is in keeping with the theme of joy. The “Gloria” is omitted from the Mass liturgy.

It is a Polish custom from antiquity that a special votive Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated in the parish Church once a week (usually on a Wednesday). It is called “*Rorate*” Mass, from the first words of the Latin Introit “*rorate caeli*”. This unique Polish custom, first celebrated at the Wawel Cathedral in Krakow in 1545 dictates that seven candles are lighted and placed on the St. Mary’s Altar. The seventh candle is much taller than the rest and is decorated with a green branch tied with a white ribbon. This symbolizes the Old Testament prophecy fulfilled; the Messiah stemming from the “Root of Jesse”.

It is also customary, in some parishes, to prepare an Advent Wreath consisting of four candles in a circular wreath with a larger candle (the Christ candle) in the center. The Advent Wreath serves as a reminder of the four thousand years of expectation for the coming of the Savior, Jesus Christ, born on Christmas Day. **Solemn Marriage ceremonies are forbidden without the explicit permission of the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese.** (from “Rites and Ritual” – a liturgical handbook for the PNCC).

### **Prayer to St. Michael**

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wiles and wickedness of the devil. Restrain him, o God, we humbly pray, and you, o Prince of the heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into Hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin and destruction of souls. Amen.