

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter - "A"
Szósta Niedziela Wielkanocna

May 17, 2020

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.

Following the rules – the Country and the Church – faithful attend services on their own responsibility. 10 people (no more!) could be in the church, keep at least 6 feet social distance, you may even wear the face mask, use sanitizers; no Holy Communion at this time.

Today, May 17th – VI Sunday of Easter

10:00AM – Holy Mass and Litany to the BVM, intention: for all Parishioners.

MONDAY, May 18th – *Easter Weekday*

Holy Mass and litany to the BVM, intention for: **Father Bogusław Janiec, his family, and parishioners of St. John the Baptist parish in Hazleton and SS. Peter & Paul parish in McAdoo, PA.**

TUESDAY, May 19th – *Easter Weekday*

Requiem Holy Mass and litany to the BVM, intention for: those who are in purgatory.

THURSDAY, May 21st – Solemnity – Ascension of the Lord
Holy Mass and litany to the BVM.

FRIDAY, May 22nd – *Easter Weekday*
Holy Mass and Litany to the Most Precious Blood of Christ.

SATURDAY, May 23rd – *Easter Weekday*
Holy Mass and Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

NEXT SUNDAY, May 24th – VII Sunday of Easter
10:00AM – Holy Mass and Litany to the BVM, intention: for all Parishioners.

Today's liturgy

ENTRANCE RITE (Acts 1:3; Psalms 68:20)

V. He presented Himself alive to them by many proofs after He had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. Alleluia.

R. Blessed be the Lord day by day, God, our salvation, Who carries us. Alleluia.

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: Acts 8:5-8.14-17

GRADUAL (Acts 2:38)

V. Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; Alleluia.

R. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia.

II Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18

ALLELUIA (Matthew 5:10)

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

Act of Spiritual Communion

(To be used at the time of communion when not receiving the sacrament or anytime we wish to be united with our Lord)

Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. Inflame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

Supplication – PNCC Hymnal, p. 290, 3v.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Thank you very much to **Mrs. Ann Marie Wycheck** for organizing some extra funds for our Parish in this difficult time; to **Mrs. Sandra Elsavege** for smoothly cooperation; to **Mrs. Janina Plichta** for keep our home of worship clean; to **Mr. James Abicunas** for doing his work in this difficult time. God Bless Us All!

- **Hall for Rent** is available...**\$100.00 for 2 hours**/+ \$25.00 each additional hour, and **\$50.00** returnable deposit.
- **May 25** – Memorial Day Mass.
- **Sep. 26** – Craft Vendor & Food Truck Fall event.

PNCC GENERAL CHURCH NEWS COVID-19 - In regards to the celebration of the Liturgy, **Holy Mass will continue so that the Church will continue to pray for her people, but we are instructing all our parishioners to remain at home** joined in prayer with others at home during the appropriate time. Worship aids for each Sunday will be available on the P.N.C.C. website (pncc.org) and on the P.N.C.C. Facebook Page (PNCC1), so that you can follow the liturgical prayers and readings of that particular Sunday.

The celebration of Holy Mass will appear on the **P.N.C.C. Facebook Page (PNCC1)** on Sundays and Holy Days.

Although we are instructing our people to remain at home, if anyone does attend the celebration of Mass, **the clergy will not distribute Holy Communion during Mass**. At the appropriate time, the “Act of Spiritual Communion” will be read together by the celebrant and any worshippers present.

This statement has been posted on our P.N.C.C. Facebook Page (PNCC1) and our P.N.C.C. website.

(All Statements from this office can be downloaded from pncc.org via the Prime Bishop’s Blog (COVID-19 - Statements from the Office of the Prime Bishop, P.N.C.C.) at: http://www.pncc.org/?page_id=3611)

THIS WEEK PRAYER for: - **Father Bogusław Janiec, his family**, and parishioners of St. John the Baptist parish in Hazleton and SS. Peter & Paul parish in McAdoo, PA.



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 – Marjorie Dean - Edward Jurewicz – Jaden Leiby. ***H & R Center Tremont:*** Dolores Halaburda (309); ***Luther Ridge Pottsville, PA*** – Marie Demnitski (223); ***Shenandoah Manor:*** Helen Menzyk (D14).



GRADUATIONS – to **James N. Abicunas** (the son of Mr. James Abicunas), graduate: Penn State Schuylkill: Bachelor’s Degree in Science & Biology!



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**.

PNCC 2020 Future Direction Plan Committee – Action plan for PNCC parishes based on the efforts of the 24th and 25th General Synods.

Develop and emphasize Discipleship through **2020: Our purpose is to strengthen all members in their following of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This will give us a better sense of ourselves as the Church. During 2020 we will examine the lives of the early disciples of our Lord and their discipleship**

to see what we can learn from them and apply to our daily living. **Please, see the monthly Future Direction messages regarding this effort with reflections for living this out daily.**

MAY – ST. PETER: Humility, Trust

Reflecting question: Peter didn't feel worthy to accept the Lord's call and he was right, yet, he followed and Jesus used him to boldly proclaim the Gospel to others and to give the greatest witness in his martyrdom. How can you overcome your sense of unworthiness and embrace God's great plan for you?

A PRAYER in OUR TIME of the CORONAVIRUS

(adapted from the monthly publication, America)

O Jesus Christ, my Savior and healer, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help, who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us. **Amen.**

The Coronavirus Prayer in Its Essence

(also one, in Tweet-able form)

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, that we may experience your healing love.

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.

PHILIP IN SAMARIA

Last week we saw that the apostles had ordained seven men to administer the soup kitchen in Jerusalem. The men - later known as deacons--quickly expanded their role to missionary work. One of these travels to Samaria, part of what is now the West Bank. There had been a bitter antagonism between the Jews and Samaritans, but Jesus had broken the ice. One of the deacons, Philip, capitalizes on this and begins making converts.

Philip baptizes several people. When the apostles hear the news, they dismiss Peter and John to evaluate the situation. They complete the initiation of the converts by laying hands on them administering Confirmation. We might see this as a foreshadowing of the differing roles of deacons and bishops. The former baptized, but only the latter can confirm.

I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS

Jesus didn't want the apostles to remain dependent upon His physical presence. They would have to make their own way in the world. They had a destiny to fulfill as missionaries, spreading the faith to the world. At a certain point Christ had to cut the apron strings. As He had said to Mary Magdalene on Easter, "do not cling to me, but go and tell My brothers..." Now it was the apostles' turn to let go.

But Jesus didn't abandon them. He promised to send another

"Paraclete" - a legal word implying a defender, a sort of barrister. This would be the Holy Spirit who would come a little over a week later on Pentecost. Jesus gave ample warning of His departure, but the reality of this farewell did not sink in until He finally ascended into heaven.