

"I am the handmaid of the Lord," said Mary "let what you have said be done to me."

St. John the Baptist Parish
Polish National Catholic Church
414 West Oak Street, Frackville, PA 17931
Rectory phone: 570-874-1960
Email: robertb1@ptd.net
Fourth Sunday of Advent – "B"
Czwarta Niedziela Adwentu

December 24, 2023
100th year of service

Events for the week:

Sun., 12/24/23 – IV Sunday of Advent

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention for: +Michael & Sophia Stetts, +Edmund & Marcia Hessert, of. by Children/Siblings.

4:00PM – Christmas Vigil Mass

10:00PM – Mass of Shepherds (Pasterka), intention: for all Parishioners, Blessing of the manger and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Mon., 12/25/23 – Solemnity – Nativity of our Lord

11:00AM - Holy Mass

Tue., 12/26/23 – Feast – St. Stephen, Proto-Martyr

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for the Peace of the World

Today the weeks and months of preparing for Christmas are almost over. Christmas Day is just around the corner. Another 24 hours and our Christmas celebrations will be under way. But it's still not too late to capture the true spirit of this feast. Who better to guide us in our quest than Mary, who is at the very heart of the Christmas story?

I Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16

II Reading: Romans 16:25-27

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favored! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favor. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His ancestor David; He will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and His reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special **Thanks** go out to: Organist, Mrs. Janina for cleaning and decorating the church, lector, collector, and the Sunday greeters.

Wed., 12/27/23 – Feast – St. John,
Apostle & Evangelist
9:00AM - Holy Mass

Thu., 12/28/23 – Holy Innocents
6:00PM – Holy Mass, intention: for
Children & Youth.

Sat., 12/30/23 – Solemnity – Holy
Family
10:00AM – Holy Mass

**Next Sunday, December 31: Solemnity –
Humble Shepherds**

10:00AM – Holy Mass of Thanksgiving
for God's Graces in 2023.



*Collection for Savonarola
Seminary.*

Next Sunday's Mass intentions: Jan. 7,
2024: +James Dean; Jan. 14: +John
David's family; Jan. 21: +Michael, Sophia
Stetts, and Edmund, Marcia Hessert; Jan.
28: +John Michael Stabinsky.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK –
especially for - James Panco – Jean Keim
– Betty Brazausky - Marjorie Dean –
Elaine Antalosky – Josephine Hause -
Shawn Matz. *H & R Center Tremont:*
Dolores Halaburda. *Rehab. & Nursing*
Center Pottsville, PA – Thomas Justen.

Thank you very much to Mr. John Golba and Mrs. Mary Ann Hoppes for making arrangements to remove our Anniversary Banner!

Thank you very much to our Parishioners for sending Christmas gifts to the rectory!

Upcoming events:

- February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday
- March 3, 2024 – Annual Parish Meeting.

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.

In the case of freezing rain, please use the front porch to come to the rectory, if you need it (back porch stairs are “icy” all the time in this case).

“Trust in God, and He will help you; make your ways straight and hope in Him. You that fear the Lord, trust in Him, and your reward will not be lost”.
(Sirach 2:6.8)

May your Christmas celebration be filled

With peace, love and happiness,

And may your New Year 2024

Bring you every joy, good health, and God's blessings!