

## Why do we fast?

### 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](mailto:robertb1@ptd.net)

### Quinquagesima Sunday – “B”

Niedziela Pięćdziesiątnicy

February 11, 2024

*101<sup>st</sup> year of service*

### Events for the week:

#### Sun., 2/11/24 – Pre-Lent 3

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention for:  
+John David’s family, of. by Ms. Barbara David.



*First Holy Communion Class.*

#### Mon., 2/12/24 – Pre-Lent Weekday

9:00AM – Holy Mass

#### Ash Wed., 2/14/24

11:00AM – Holy Mass with blessing & distribution of ashes, intention: for all Parishioners.

6:30PM - Holy Mass with distribution of ashes.

#### Fri., 2/16/24 – Lenten Weekday

9:00AM – Requiem Holy Mass for:  
+Prime Bp. Francis Hodur.

6:00PM – The Way of the Cross.

**Pre-Lent** – With the season of Septuagesima begins the second section of the Temporal Cycle having for its center the greatest of solemnities, the Solemnity of our Lord’s Resurrection. This liturgical period is a prelude to Lent and a remote preparation for Easter. It serves as a time of transition during which the Church passes from the Christmas joys to Lenten sobriety. The more familiar designations for the Sundays are, respectively, Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and **Quinquagesima**. These designate in Latin, the Sunday’s relationship to Passion Sunday. Thus, Septuagesima is seven Sundays from Passions Sunday, Sexagesima is six, **Quinquagesima** is five.

**I Reading:** Hosea 2:16-17, 21-22

**II Reading:** 2 Corinthians 3:1-6

**GOSPEL:** Mark 2:18-22

The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were accustomed to fast. People came to Him and objected, “Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?” Jesus answered them, “Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak. If he does, its fullness pulls away, the new from the old, and the tear gets worse. Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the skins are ruined. Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins.”

**Next Sunday, February 18: I Sunday of Lent**

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



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Birthday best wishes are extended to: February 17 – Joelle Karvois.



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

Anniversary best wishes are extended to: February 17 – Stephen & Joelle Karvois.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for: Jean Keim – Marjorie Dean – Elaine Antalosky – Josephine Hause - Shawn Matz. *H & R Center Tremont: Dolores Halaburda. Rehab. & Nursing Center Pottsville, PA* – Thomas Justen. *Shenandoah Manor* – Betty Brazausky (A-14).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**Upcoming events:**

- March 3 – Annual Parish Meeting.
- March 10 – Solemnity: Institution of the PNCC (127<sup>th</sup> Anniversary); *Daylight Savings Time Begins*.
- March 17 – Lenten Penitential Service with the Sacrament of Penance.
- March 24 – Palm Sunday.
- March 31 – Easter Sunday.

**FRACKVILLE MINISTERIUM LENTEN SERVICES** (always begins Wednesday's at **6:00PM**)

**Feb. 21** – First United Methodist Church

**Feb. 28** – Zion Lutheran Church (Annunciation church)

**March 6** – Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church

**March 13** – St. John the Baptist PNCC

**March 20** – New Hope Wesleyan Church

**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. Thank you very much to **Mr. Kenneth Payne** is taking care of the snow removal from our parking lot! 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).

The Holy Season of **Great Lent** begins on **Ash Wednesday**. As Jesus fasted for 40 days in the desert, the Church traditional fasts during Lent. A form of bodily prayer, fasting and abstinence in union with other Christian reminds us of our total dependence on and love for God. Please remember that Fridays are days of **abstinence** from meat. **Fasting:** all those of post-confirmation age are to fast on Fridays, and on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals, with no snacking between meals.

Our Lenten regulations are recommended for healthy **adults**. Children under First Holy Communion age, the infirm, those on restrictive medication and the elderly are exempt from the obligation of fasting. During this holy and grace-filled season of Lent, all of you are encouraged to share in our Lenten Journey in preparation for Christ's Resurrection by faithfully attending not only Sunday's Mass but also our Lenten services that will be include: **Stations of the Cross** (Friday's at 6:00pm) and Bitter Lamentations on Holy Wednesday (7:00pm) all three parts in Polish.

**"Do not insult one who is old, for some of us will also grow old. Do not rejoice when someone dies; remember, we are all to be gathered in."** *(Sirach 8:6-7)*