

"Lord, it is wonderful to be here."

St. John the Baptist Parish
Polish National Catholic Church
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Second Sunday of Great Lent – "B"
Druga Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

February 25, 2024
101st year of service

Events for the week:

Sun., 2/25/24 – II Sunday of Lent

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

Tue., 2/27/24 – Lenten Weekday

9:00AM – Holy Mass asking God's mercy for remission of sins.

Wed., 2/28/24 - Lenten Weekday

6:00PM - Frackville Ministerium Lenten Ecumenical Service – Zion Lutheran Church held in Annunciation church.

Thu., 2/29/24 - Lenten Weekday

11:00AM – Plymouth Seniorate Clergy meeting – Hazleton, PA.

Fri., 3/1/24 – Lenten Weekday – First Friday of the month

'It is wonderful for us to be here!' These are the words of the disciples Peter, James, and John. In today's Mass we accompany them onto the Mount of Transfiguration to deepen our relationship with God's Son, the Beloved.

I Reading: Genesis 22:1-2,9,10-13,15-18

II Reading: Romans 8:31-34

GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence He was transfigured: His clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for You, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is My Son, the Beloved. Listen to Him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain He warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

9:00AM – Holy Mass and Litany to the SHofJ.

6:00PM – The Way of the Cross (3).

Next Sunday, March 3: III Sunday of Lent

10:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for +John David's family.

- Collection for missions.
- **Annual Parish meeting after the Mass.**
- *Benediction will be held next Sunday, March 10.*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Birthday best wishes are extended to: February 29 – Jourdin 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-I+).

Upcoming events:

- March 3 – Annual Parish Meeting.
- March 10 – Solemnity: Institution of the PNCC (127th Anniversary); *Daylight Savings Time Begins.*
- March 17 – Lenten Penitential Service with the Sacrament of Penance.
- March 24 – Palm Sunday.
- March 31 – Easter Sunday.
- June 2 – Corpus Christi & Procession after the Mass.
- June 9 – First Holy Communion Day.

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

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).

LENT – The period of Great Lent historically has been a period of **40 days penance** imposed on public sinners. As a time of public penance and self-reflection, the 40 days are reminiscent of the Old Testament Exodus from Egypt, Moses' period of ascent on Mt. Sinai, the story of Elias and the period spent by Our Lord in the desert following His Baptism in the Jordan river. This period was also one of preparation for catechumens in the early Church. Throughout Lent daily instruction in the tenets of the Christian faith took place with a regular study of scripture and a fasting of forty days. Great Lent not only presents a special opportunity for abstinence and a penitential spirit, but for prayer and the study of Christ's teachings as well. Originally these 40 days (*in Latin – Quadragesima*) were counted

from the eve of Quadragesima Sunday to the hour of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. Around the 7th century this changed and religious sought a period of not only penance but fasting. The liturgical vestments change to a **violet** color to accentuate the penitential feeling of the season.

"If you do good, know for whom you are doing it, and your kindness will have its effect. Do good to the righteous and reward will be yours, if not from them, from the Lord". *(Sirach 12:1-2)*