

"Lord, You have the words of everlasting life."

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
Third Sunday of Great Lent – "B"
Trzecia Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

March 3, 2024
101st year of service

Events for the week:

Sun., 3/3/24 – III Sunday of Lent

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

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

Mon., 3/4/24 – Lenten Weekday –

Commemoration of St. Casimir, King
9:00AM – Holy Mass for all Parishioners.

Wed., 3/6/24 - Lenten Weekday

6:00PM - Frackville Ministerium
Lenten Ecumenical Service – New Hope Wesleyan Church.

Thu., 3/7/24 - Lenten Weekday

There are many distractions in our world today and we can easily lose sight of what is really important. We gather today to remind ourselves of where true value and wisdom lie and commit ourselves to treating all people with fairness and respect.

I Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

II Reading: I Corinthians I:22-25

GOSPEL: John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple He found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, He drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning My Father's house into a market.' Then His disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for Your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But He was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words He had said. During His stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in His name when they saw the signs that He gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; He never needed evidence about any man; He could tell what a man had in Him.

9:00AM – Holy Mass for the Clergy of the PNCC and their successful ministry among God’s people entrusted to their care.

Fri., 3/8/24 – Lenten Weekday – International Women Day

9:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: God’s blessing for Ladies from our Congregation.

6:00PM – The Way of the Cross (4).

Next Sunday, March 10: Solemnity – Institution of the PNCC

The Oath of the Parish Committee takes place **before the Mass.**

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

- *Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.*
- *Collection for the National Church Center.*
- *First Holy Communion Catechism Class.*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Birthday best wishes are extended to: March 5 – Ronald Stabinsky; March 8 – Elizabeth Greenman; March 9 – Tina Teichman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Upcoming events:

- 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.
- April 27 – Plymouth Seniorate Council meeting – 11:00AM in Plymouth, PA – Good Shepherd church.
- June 2 – Corpus Christi & Procession after the Mass.
- June 9 – First Holy Communion Day.

OUR MINISTRY – the Parish Committee is not a Board of Directors. It is work that goes beyond the “material” necessities of a parish. It is a unique group of committed Christians with a conviction – to proclaim the Good News of Jesus. Thus, each member of the Committee has a vocation: to be a steward, a good manager of the gifts of God. The Parish Committee member is one who is called to make commitment, with a conviction to function for the sake of the Gospel. To be this person, we must be good stewards or managers of the mysteries of God and faithful witnesses of the same.

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

March 6 – New Hope Wesleyan 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!

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-I4).

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.

“Do not talk much with stupid or visit the unintelligent. Beware of them lest you have trouble and be spattered when they shake themselves off. Avoid them and you will find rest and not be wearied by their lack of sense” (*Sirach 22:13*)