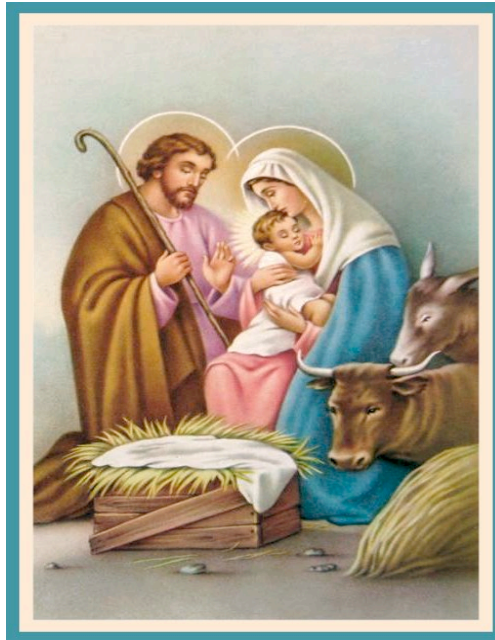


Holy Ghost Parish
Polish National Catholic Church
28 North Chestnut Street, Shenandoah, PA 17976
Website: www.holyghostpncc.org
The Rev. Robert P. Plichta, M.A., Administrator
Rectory: (570) 874-1960
E-mail: robertb1@ptd.net

PNCC website: www.pncc.org
Central Diocese website: www.centraldiocesepncc.org
PNU website: www.pnu.org

Prime Bishop of the PNCC – **Most Rev. Robert Nemkovich**
Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese – **Right Rev. Anthony Mikovsky**
Plymouth Seniorate Administrative Senior – **Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski**
Parish Committee Chairman – **Mr. Joseph Petrusky**



Solemnity – Holy Family – Cycle “C”
Uroczystość Świętej Rodziny
January 3, 2010

“Success has always been easy to measure. It is the distance between one’s origins and one’s final achievement.” – MICHAEL KORDA

Events for the Week

Holy Mass – 11:00AM – Traditional liturgy in English

Today, January 3rd, 2010 – Holy Family

Our liturgy today encourages us to reflect on the role of family in our lives, both our immediate family and the wider family of the Church and the world. Family life is not

always easy, but God has given us the strength to support one another and care for each other's needs.

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. **Andruscavage, Komara, Wasser, Wychulis** families (All Souls).

- **Collection for the Seminary.**
- The second weekly collection – second, third, fourth or fifth Sunday in the month - (after the Holy Mass) is for operation of the Holy Ghost parish – **THANK YOU!**

WEEKDAY READINGS:

January 4: 1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42; **January 5:** 1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51; **January 6:** 1 John 5:5-13; Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-38 or Luke 3:23.31-34.36.38; **THURSDAY after EPIPHANY or January 10:** 1 John 4:19 – 5:4; Luke 4:14-22; **FRIDAY after EPIPHANY or January 11:** 1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16; **SATURDAY after EPIPHANY or January 12:** 1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30

MONDAY, January 4th – *Christmas Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

6:30PM – Monthly meeting of the Parish Committee in Frackville.

TUESDAY, January 5th – *Christmas Weekday*

10:00AM – 5:00PM – Fr. Robert works in the chancery (Scranton)

WEDNESDAY, January 6th – Solemnity – Epiphany of our Lord - - Trzech Króli - (*blessing of incense, charcoal & chalk*). A pastoral visitation begins.

The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan, and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi representatives of the neighboring pagans religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation.

9:00AM – Holy Mass in Shenandoah.

10:00AM – Holy Mass in Frackville, intention: God's blessing for Bishop, priests and deacons of the Central Diocese, of. by Fr. Robert.

SATURDAY, January 9th – *Within the Octave of the Epiphany*

9:00AM – First Holy Communion Catechism class in Shenandoah.

NEXT SUNDAY, January 10th – Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. Cichocki and Mallick families, (All Souls).

- Annual Parish meeting after the Holy Mass. Please **attend** the **Annual Parish Meeting** in order to discuss the important aspects and projects of our Parish. Thank You.

Today's liturgy

ASPERGES – Pokropisz mnie Panie hyzopem, a będę oczyszczony, obmyjesz mnie, a nad śnieg będę wybielony. Zmiłuj się nade mną Boże, według wielkiego miłosierdzia Twego. Chwała Ojcu i Synowi i Duchowi Świętemu, jak była na początku, teraz i zawsze i na wieki wieków. Amen.

ENTRANCE

(Luke 2:15b-16)

V. The shepherds said to one another, “Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

R. So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Infant lying in a manger.

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: 1 Samuel 1:20-22.24-28

Hannah, who had pleaded with God for a child, honors her promise and faithfully dedicates her son to God to live a life of service.

THE GRADUAL

(Psalm 27:4a; 84:5)

V. One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek: to dwell in the Lord’s house all the days of my life.

R. Happy are those who dwell in Your house! They never cease to praise You.

II Reading: 1 John 3:1-2.21-24

John reminds us that we are the children of God. We are to be confident in the love that God has for each one of us.

THE ALLELUIA

(Isaiah 45:15)

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Truly with You God is hidden, the God of Israel, the Savior!

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

Mary and Joseph have been to Jerusalem, but on the way home they discover that Jesus is missing. When they find Him, Jesus wonders why they did not know that this was the work of His Father.

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit, come, let this be Your home; come and dwell among all of us who sing this song. Come into this place, shine on ev’ry face, fill us with Your love and grace, Holy Spirit come. Come and dwell among us. Amen.

HOLY FAMILY

As a family Mary and Joseph had to help Jesus through His adolescent years.

Some may portray young people as perplexing and difficult, but this does not mean that they have no capacity for prayer or a spiritual life.

Like Jesus, young people need to be helped to grow in responsibility and respect.

Spirituality takes many forms and can be embraced in different ways.

May the hope of Christ be with each of you and all your families throughout the coming week.

COMING EVENTS

SHENANDOAH

Jan. 9th, 2010 First Holy Communion Catechism Class – 9:00AM

Jan. 10th The Annual Parish Meeting

FRACKVILLE

Feb. 7th, 2010 The Annual Parish Meeting

Feb. 15 – March 21st Easter Egg Sale Project

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU very much to our Parishioners and Friends for their donations, time and hard work this week to better our parish and Church. The Sunday greeter, the people working on fundraisers, the decorators, repair and maintenance people and members of the choir.

THANK YOU very much to **Mr. Jacob Komara** and **Joe Karvois** for help during the liturgy last Sunday, December 27.

SOLEMNITY of the EPIPHANY of OUR LORD – Epiphany means “manifestation” and speaks of the “light of the world” manifesting itself to the Gentiles represented by the Magi who came to adore the Christ Child. This feast is celebrated by both Eastern and Western Christianity and goes back to the third century. On this feast the traditional blessing of incense and chalk is held. (from “Rites and Ritual” – a liturgical handbook for the PNCC).

In the *PNCC* as well as other catholic churches on January 6, the priest blesses incense (one of the gifts of the Wise Men), and chalk, which is used for the marking of the door-frame of parishioners homes with the initials of the Three Kings and the year: **+20+K+M+B+10+**. Beginning with this day, and ending on February 2 (*Presentation of the Lord*), the parish priest will make Epiphany pastoral visits to as many parishioners as possible. There he will bless the home and its inhabitants.

A properly prepared home displays a white linen cloth, upon which is placed a crucifix, a blessed candle, holy water and chalk; the sweet scent of blessed incense fills the air.

“This Solemnity is celebrated in **white** vestments. A traditional blessing of candles in remembrance of Simeon’s declaration occurs *prior* to the Mass. This blessing is done in **violet** vestments.” (from: Rites and Rituals for the PNCC)

EPIPHANY – ‘KOLEDA – BLESSING OF HOMES – Visit of the priest at your home for a blessing and prayer is not only a gesture of keeping alive our ethnic and spiritual heritage but also an expression of faith and a manifestation of the family’s unity with the Church and with our parish in particular. During the year, in every household there are moments of crisis, pain and sorrow. The best healing comes through prayer, blessing and an act of faith through Jesus Christ. Please don’t neglect this very special opportunity during this special time of the year.

PLEASE CALL FR. ROBERT - ..if you or a relative are admitted to a hospital and nursing home; ..if your phone number or address change; ..if you have a prayer concern.

PARISH COMMITTEE – Our PNCC is a democratic Church, where the members have a privilege to serve in the parish. It is a privilege and responsibility to help the church grow, and to be a member of the parish committee. If anyone is interested to help the Committee, please contact Fr. Robert or Mr. Joseph Petrusky. Thank you.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for Margaret Kruszynski – Helen Menzyk - Connie Sincavage - Maurice Curcio – James Panco – Catherine Marasco - Edward Ryszka Jr.

UPCOMING SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS: Jan. 10, 2010: sp. Cichocki & Mallick families (All Souls); **Jan. 17:** sp. Zamonas family...and Kowalonek family...(All Souls).



Sacrament of Anointing

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.

“Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord...” (James 5:14). If you, or a member of your family are sick and would like to receive the Holy Communion at home, please notify the rectory.

SHOPPING at “REDNER” REMINDER – We would like to remind our Parishioners and Friends that if you go shopping at *Redner’s* please use your “Redner’s card” for purchase. When you will do it the Parish can get a credit – Thank you!



WELCOME OUR VISITORS – We welcome all our visitors who are present with us for worship this Sunday! Please write your names in the guest book located in the vestibule of the church. You are always welcome to join us in worship!

EPIPHANY (from Koine Greek ἐπιφάνεια "appearance", "manifestation") is a Christian feast day which celebrates the revelation of God in human form in the person of Jesus Christ. It falls on January 6 or on a Sunday close to that date. January 6 in the Julian Calendar, which is followed by some Eastern Churches, corresponds at present to January 19 in the Gregorian Calendar, which is the official civil calendar in most countries. On this day, Western Christians commemorate principally the visitation of the Biblical Magi to the child Jesus, i.e., his manifestation to the Gentiles; Eastern Christians commemorate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River, seen as his manifestation to the world as the Son of God. It is also called **Theophany**, especially by Eastern Christians.

The West historically observed a twelve-day festival, starting on December 25, and ending on January 5, known as Christmastide or the Twelve Days of Christmas. Some Christian cultures, especially those of Latin America and some in Europe, extend the season to as many as forty days, ending on Candlemas (February 2).

On the Feast of the Epiphany, the priest, wearing white vestments, will bless the Epiphany water, frankincense, gold, and chalk. Chalk is used to write the initials of the three magi over the doors of churches and homes. The letters stand for the initials of the Magi (traditionally named Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar), and also the phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which translates as "may Christ bless the house".

According to ancient custom, the priest announced the date of Easter on the feast of Epiphany. This tradition dated from a time when calendars were not readily available, and the church needed to publicize the date of Easter, since many celebrations of the liturgical year depend on it. The proclamation may be sung or proclaimed at the *ambo* by a deacon, cantor, or reader either after the reading of the Gospel or after the postcommunion prayer.



Receiving the Holy Eucharist – those who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist are invited to partake of this Holy Sacrament. It is the practice of the PNCC to distribute the Holy Eucharist through the method of intinction. The Body and Blood of Christ is placed on the tongue, not in the hand.