

**Holy Ghost Parish  
Polish National Catholic Church**

Shenandoah, PA 17976

Rectory: 570-874-1960

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PNCC website: [www.pncc.org](http://www.pncc.org)

Central Diocese website: [www.centraldiocesepncc.org](http://www.centraldiocesepncc.org)

PNU website: [www.pnu.org](http://www.pnu.org)

Prime Bishop of the PNCC – **Most Rev. Dr. Anthony A. Mikovsky**  
Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese – **Rt. Rev. Bernard J. Nowicki**  
Plymouth Seniorate Administrative Senior – **Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski**  
Parish Committee Chairman – **Mr. Joseph Petrusky**



**Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord - “A”**

Uroczystość Chrztu Pańskiego

**January 12, 2014**

**EVENTS for the WEEK**

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

**Today, January 12<sup>th</sup>** – Solemnity – Baptism of our Lord

Jesus sought out His cousin John at the River Jordan and was revealed as God's beloved Son. Today we recall the start of Jesus' ministry and cherish our own mission to spread the good news of the kingdom of God.

**11:00AM – Holy Mass** intention: for all **Parishioners**.

^ Annual Parish Meeting.

**WEEKDAY READINGS:**

**Mon.**, 1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20; **Tue.**, 1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28; **Wed.**, 1 Samuel 3:1-10.19-20; Mark 1:29-39; **Thu.**, 1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45; **Fri.**, 1 Samuel 8:4-7.10-22a; Mark 2:1-12; **Sat.**, 1 Samuel 9:1-4.17-19. 10:1; Mark 2:13-17

**TUESDAY, January 14<sup>th</sup>** - *Weekday*

**9:00AM** – Holy Mass in Frackville.

**WEDNESDAY, January 15<sup>th</sup>** – *Weekday*

**9:00AM** – Holy Mass for **Health** in Frackville.

**SATURDAY, January 18<sup>th</sup>** – *St. Pater's Chair at Antioch* – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

**9:00AM** – Holy Mass in Frackville.

**NEXT SUNDAY, January 19<sup>th</sup>** – **II Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**11:00AM** – Holy Mass, intention: for all Parishioners.

### 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 RITE (Matthew 3:16-17; Psalm 72:13)**

V. After Jesus was baptized, He came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened, for Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased."

**R He shows pity to the needy and the poor and saves the lives of the poor.**

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: Isaiah 42:1-4.6-7**

*The Suffering Servant, filled with the Holy Spirit, is also the one who will open the eyes of those who are blind, free prisoners and bring light to those in darkness.*

**GRADUAL (Isaiah 2:4)**

V. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;

**R. One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.**

**II Reading: Acts 10:34-38**

*It is because God has no favorites that Jesus was able to help and heal everyone who came to Him.*

**ALLELUIA (Psalm 114:3-4)**

V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

V. The sea beheld and fled; the Jordan turned back. The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs of the flock.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17**

*John reluctantly baptized Jesus, whom God then acknowledged as "my Son, the Beloved".*

### 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.

May the Lord guide you as you explore and follow the vocation to which He has called you.

### COMING EVENTS

#### GENERAL CHURCH

Sep. 29<sup>th</sup>–Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> General Synod of the PNCC (Erie, PA)

FRACKVILLE – Each **First Friday** on the month – Private Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament (5:00PM – 7:00PM)

Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parish Meeting

March 3<sup>rd</sup> Pastors Seniorate Meeting (1:00PM)

### 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 greeters, the people working on fundraisers, the decorators, repair and maintenance people, and members of the choir.

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

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS** – in case of your inability to come to church on any particular Sunday, please mail or submit your Sunday offerings and donations to our parish. Your church needs your financial support in order to pay utilities and expenses.

**On Sunday, February 2**, the Holy Mass will be celebrated at **9:30AM** due the Annual Parish Meeting in Frackville.

**THIS WEEK PRAYER:** for **Father Mariusz Zochowski** and parishioners of Howell, NJ, Dunallen, NJ and Perth Amboy, NJ.



**WELCOME NOTICE** – We would like to introduce you our new Parishioners: **Mr. Lance Nelson** and **Ms. Theresa Leonarczyk** who joined our Parish family. We wish them all the best and God's blessing!



*Providence*  
Jr. (221).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for: Bishop John Mack – Very Rev. Wiesław Pietruszka - Helen Menzyk – James Panco - Connie Sincavage – Frank Gill. Dolores Halaburda – Victoria Plichta. *Palace Drums, PA* - Violet Cegielski. *Ridgeview (Shen. Hts.)* - Margaret Kruszynski (311) - Edward Ryszka



**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. Please remember that with privacy laws, the Parish is often not informed when someone enters. Please call the rectory so Fr. Robert can come for prayer.

**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!



**CONFESSIONS FOR THE YOUTH** – Our younger members as well as their parents are reminded that Confession is an essential part of a child's religious upbringing. Remember this important part of their religious life. Confession is held on the **first Sunday** of every month at **10:45AM** (before Mass). Children before Confirmation age should come to **private** Confession. If children (until Confirmation) would like to receive the Holy Communion in a worthy manner they must come for private confession at least once a month.

If other times are necessary please contact Fr. Robert.

**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 are placed on the tongue, not in the hand.

**Members of the PNCC have two major duties:**

**1) Spiritual duties** – a) partaking of the Sacraments (active participation in them will help strengthen members to live a Christian life; b) loving God (members should accept and obey Christ's teachings, maintain a personal relationship with God, pray to Him often and give Him glory by living a good life; c) sharing faith (members should actively take part in Church worship and listen sincerely to God's word; d) obeying the 10 Commandments (by obeying them, Church members help strengthen the kingdom of God on earth.

**2) Material duties** – a) to society: members should: practice Christ's ideals in their everyday lives, be tolerant of others' faith, recognize everyone's right to equality and opportunity, be loyal to their country, work for the good of all human society, rear children in the name of God and set a Christian example for them; b) to the Church: members should: follow the principles of the PNCC, give their time and talents to further church and parish goals, contribute financially to the support of the Church. *Members should participate actively in church affairs, vote on parish matters, serve on committees, etc.*

**MEMBERS DUES 2014.** Since January 2005, a change was made that eliminated the 'family plan' method for paying Church dues. This change was voted upon and approved at the last General Synod.

Each adult member will now be recorded as an individual unit. This means every adult member is now responsible for his/her own dues. To continue to be a member at the Holy Ghost Parish and a member of the Polish National Catholic Church each adult will be responsible for paying the following:

**Total dues for 2014 per Adult Member: \$95.00 Per Year**

The parish itself has an obligation to pay dues according to the number of active members to the General Church and Diocese and our financial administration distributes these monies also as directed by the General Synod. A breakdown of where these dollars are sent is available upon request.

There are also many other funds within your parish that require your attention and need your donations:

Sunday Collection, Fuel Fund, Cemetery Fund, Clergy/Pension Fund, Easter Donations, and Christmas Donations.

**PARISH INFORMATION. Daily Masses** as announced. Examples of the Mass intention are: for the Sick, in remembrance of the faithful departed (especially parents, grandparents, relatives...), to ask God's Grace, Birthdays and Anniversaries (...) To make arrangements, please contact Father Robert.

**Holy Day Masses** are held as announced in the bulletin.

**Sacrament of Baptism** – Arrangements should be made at least two weeks prior the ceremony. **Only practicing Christians** should be chosen as **godparents**.

**Sacrament of Matrimony** – Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance.

**Emergencies, Sickness and deaths** – please contact to the rectory immediately.

**The parish bulletin** - is made on **THURSDAYS** and **FRIDAYS**. All requested announcements should be submitted by **FRIDAY 10:00AM**.

### **WHY DID JESUS ASK TO BE BAPTIZED?**

Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries among the Jews as a ritual equivalent of Confession. Until the fall of the Temple in 72 A.D. it was common for Jewish people to make a spiritual cleansing in a special pool called a MIKVEH--literally a "collection of water". This was said to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Men did this weekly on the eve of the Sabbath. Women did it monthly. Converts were also expected to do it before entering Judaism. Orthodox Jews still retain the rite.

John preached that such a bath was a necessary preparation for the cataclysm that would be wrought by the coming Messiah. Jesus transformed this continual ritual into the one single, definitive act by which we begin our faith. In effect he fused his divine essence with the water and the ceremony.

