

**Holy Ghost Parish**  
**Polish National Catholic Church**  
**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Organizing (1922 - 2012)**

Shenandoah, PA 17976

Rectory: 570-874-1960

Website: [www.holyghostpncc.org](http://www.holyghostpncc.org)

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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. John E. Mack**  
Plymouth Seniorate Administrative Senior – **Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski**  
Parish Committee Chairman – **Mr. Joseph Petrusky**



**Fifth Sunday of Lent – Cycle “B”**

**Passion Sunday**

**March 25, 2012**

“Your religion will do more for you if you do more for it.”

**EVENTS for the WEEK**

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

**Today, March 25<sup>th</sup> – V Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday**

God truly loves the world and all humanity. As we celebrate God's faithfulness today, let our hearts be healed and inspired.

**11:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for sp. **Loretta Kovalewski**, of. by Stan and Jean Popash.

♣ Stations of the Cross.

## WEEKDAY READINGS:

**Mon.**, Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38; **Tue.**, Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30; **Wed.**, Daniel 3:14-20.91-92.95; John 8:31-42; **Thu.**, Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59; **Fri.**, Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42; **Sat.**, Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

### **MONDAY, March 26<sup>th</sup>** - Solemnity – Annunciation of the BVM

*The Annunciation was the moment when St. Gabriel told Mary she would be the Mother of the Son of God. Mary, also a daughter of God, gave her “Fiat” (Be it done), by which she conceived the Savior by the working of the Holy Spirit. Christians can always find meaning in this dialogue in which our Lady appears to us so humble yet so great. Through her consent to God’s plans, she took part in the whole redemptive work of her Son, Jesus. We venerate her as the Mother of Christ and our Mother.*

**7:30AM – Holy Mass** in Frackville.

### **TUESDAY, March 27<sup>th</sup>** - *Lenten Weekday*

**7:30AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for sp. **Father Filip Kedzierski** (57<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death), of. by Fr. Robert.

### **WEDNESDAY, March 28<sup>th</sup>** - *Lenten Weekday*

**7:30AM – Holy Mass** in Frackville.

### **FRIDAY, March 30<sup>th</sup>** - *Lenten Weekday*

**7:30AM – Holy Mass** in Frackville

**6:00PM – Bitter Lamentations** (Gorzkie Żale) in Frackville.

### **SATURDAY, March 31<sup>st</sup>** - *Lenten Weekday*

**5:00PM – Choir practice** before Palm Sunday.

### **NEXT SUNDAY, April 1<sup>st</sup>** - *Palm Sunday – Blessing & Distribution of Palms*

**11:00AM – Holy Mass**, intention: for sp. Eugenia Halaburda, of. by Mrs. Eugenia Tyrrell.

♣ Collection for missions.

## **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.

### **ENTRANCE** (Psalm 43:1-2)

V. Do me Justice, o God, and fight my fight my fight against a faithless people; from deceitful and impious men rescue me.

**R. For You, o God, are my strength. Why do You keep me so far away? Why must I go about in mourning, with the enemy oppressing me?**

V. Lord, for us Your wounds were suffered.

**R. O Christ Jesus, have mercy on us.**

### **I Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*This is the only reference to a “new covenant” in the Old Testament. It provides a description of that covenant under which God’s people will live.*

### **GRADUAL** (Psalm 143:9-10)

V. Rescue me from my enemies, o Lord, for in You I hope.

**R. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.**

## **II Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9**

*Jesus learned obedience of that covenant under which God's people will live.*

## **TRACT (Psalm 129:1-4)**

V. Much have they oppressed me from my youth, let Israel say, Much have they oppressed me from my youth; yet they have not prevailed against me.

**R. Upon my back the plowers plowed; long did they make their furrows but the just Lord has severed the cords of the wicked.**

## **GOSPEL: John 12:20-33**

*Jesus foretells His passion and explains its significance.*

## **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.

## **OFFERTORY VERSE (Psalm 116:16-17)**

V. O Lord, I am Your servant; I am Your servant, the son of Your handmaid; You have loosed my bonds. To You will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the Lord.

## **COMMUNION VERSE (John 12:24-25)**

V. Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

May the Lord inspire you to be energetic and hopeful Christian witnesses in the world.

## **COMING EVENTS**

### GENERAL CHURCH

June 22<sup>nd</sup> Special Synod of the PNCC (Scranton, PA)

### CENTRAL DIOCESE

Apr. 14<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Council meeting (Scranton, PA)

Oct. 11-13<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Synod in Scranton, PA

### PLYMOUTH SENIORATE

**Apr. 21<sup>st</sup> Seniorate Council meeting (Shenandoah, PA 1:00PM)**

June 7<sup>th</sup> Corpus Christi Service (Middleport, PA 7:00PM)

### FRACKVILLE

Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> Baptism: Joslin Payne

Apr. 29<sup>th</sup> "Chinese" Auction

## **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.

**THANK YOU** to church operational fund donation: **Mrs. Mary Ann Hoppes, Mrs. Helen Menzyk, Mrs.**

Mary Stukas, Mr. Lance Nelson, Mr. Julian Bednarek, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Savitsky, Mrs. Claire Mallick, Mr. Stanley Sawecki, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Petrusky; Ms. Maria Celso, Ms. Diane Jellen, Ms. Susan Bobbin, Mr. Frank Gill, Ms. Melissa Nahas; Anthony and Barbara Ideson; Mr. & Mrs. James Panco. When you make a check for donations, please make them out to: **Holy Ghost PNCC**.

**THANK YOU** – very much to **Joe Karvois** and **Dylan Whitecavage** for their help at the altar.



**MEMORIAL LILIES:** Again this year we will accept your donations for Lilies. These donations will enhance the beauty of our church altars for the glory of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Cost per plant is **\$15.00**.  
**DEADLINE FOR REQUESTS IS PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.**

**CHURCH SERVICES** – we stop shaking hands during the Holy Mass due the flu conditions. Thank you.

**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.

**THIS WEEK PRAYER:** for **Father John Kalabokes**, his family, and parishioners of St. Francis Parish in Denver, CO

**THE PARISH MEMBERSHIP** – to keep our parish membership list up to date – please pay your dues during the fiscal year, a deadline is December 31, 2012. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK** – especially for Helen Menzyk – James Panco - Connie Sincavage – Frank Gill. Dolores Halaburda. *Providence Palace Drums, PA* - Violet Cegielski. *Trinity Mission (Shen. Hts.)* - Margaret Kruszynski (311) - Edward Ryszka Jr. (221).



**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.

**UPCOMING SUNDAY'S MASS INTENTIONS:** **April 1:** sp. Eugenia Halaburda; **Apr. 15:** sp. Eugenia Halaburda; **Apr. 22:** sp. Eugenia Halaburda; **Aug. 19:** sp. William Zamonas Sr. *Please, do not order the mass intentions ahead of 1 year. Thank you.*

**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!

**THE MANOR AT WAYMART** – a personal care facility, is located in beautiful waymart, PA near the Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center. We invite you to contact us at **570-488-6829** or [manoratwaymart@echoes.net](mailto:manoratwaymart@echoes.net) for rates, room availability, or to arrange a tour of our facility. Also these are our **room rates:** Semi-Private - \$2,097.00; Private - \$2,646.00; Private Deluxe - \$3,087.00.



**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.

**THE PNCC SPECIAL SYNOD** – pursuant to article *VII, LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY, B, THE SPECIAL SYNOD, SECTION 1* of the Constitution and Laws of the PNCC, the Prime Bishop Anthony A. Mikovsky calls a Special Synod for the PNCC to convene at St. Stanislaus Cathedral Youth Center, Scranton, PA, **on Friday, June 22, 2012** with the concurrence of the Supreme Council. The sole purpose of this one-day Synod will be to elect 2 Candidates for Bishop. It will be necessary for each parish to elect lay delegates to this Special Synod. The number of lay delegates to which a parish is entitled is determined by the General Fund Dues submitted for 2011. Mandates and Registration forms may be obtained from the offices of our Diocesan Bishop. The Synod will begin with Holy Mass at St. Stanislaus Cathedral on Friday, June 22, at 8:00AM. After Mass a light continental breakfast will be served in the Youth Center, followed by the election process. Two meal breaks for lunch and dinner, also served in the Youth Center, will be scheduled.

Keep in mind that it is a sacred right that we have to assemble at a Synod to do important work of the Church. Let us remember that the Church has been called into existence by Christ to continue His work. This is a Holy Assembly, and every parish has a moral obligation to send delegates to participate.

**THE HOLY GHOST PARISH CONCERNS** - In this blessed land of the United States of America, no community is complete without its House of Worship. For this, full credit must be justly given to the Founding Fathers of our Country. Our forefathers were of a thoroughbred spiritual stock. Being God fearing, religious and church going people they built our national structure upon the foundation of God. Judging by the results, God was with them in all their civic undertakings with a blessing that was as constant as it was generous. If there is any truth whatever in the proverb, “like father, like son,” then it is easy to understand why the present generation intends to keep God in its midst today, tomorrow and forever. To God’s glory and His name the people of the United States have built beautiful temples and churches, large or small, stately or simple, according to the means of the community and the needs of the congregation they were intended to serve. Inspired with this motive and impelled with this same purpose a group of citizens of Polish descent and emigrants from Poland residing in Shenandoah area united in a resolve to build for them a House of Worship. Early in the 1920’s residents of Shenandoah turned for guidance and advice to the Most Rev. Franciszek Hodur in Scranton, PA. An organizational meeting was held in May 1922 in the presence of the Rev. Father Leon Grochowski and the Rev. Father Jan Gritenas who helped to organize the Holy Ghost Polish National Catholic Church. The church records state that the first Mass was celebrated in the Russian Hall on Center Street by the Rev. Father Stanislaw Cybulski and for the first time the Mass was celebrated in the Polish language. Later, property was purchased at West Lloyd and Chestnut Streets and a church was built and dedicated in December 1923. In addition to the church building, the parish’s property consists of a rectory, cemetery and park. During these formative years, the parish grew in membership and various societies were organized to help with the work of the parish. Among them were the Ladies Adoration Society, The Polish School Society, two branches of the Polish National Union of America - (Spójnia), Young Men’s Resurrection Society, the St. Mary’s Girls Society and the Frederick Chopin Choir.

Now we are desperately struggle to survive, and to keep our church doors open. **Dear Parishioners and Friends**, please, take care of your own parish, because we are in danger to close. Our parish family needs you, your assistance and participation: both: spiritually – in time of worship, and financially – to support your own church by your donations. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**VISIT LITHUANIA, POLAND and PRAGUE** – June 30 – July 15, 2012; \$3,895 Single supplement \$750 from New York to Warsaw. See Eastern Europe on the Baltic Sea, major cities and sights, quaint sea resort towns, visit a health spa and lake districts, Hitler's bunker crystal and pottery shops. Buffet breakfast, and full lunch or dinner daily. LOT airlines, New York departures, bus to/from airport. For more information, please call Margaret Valinsky at: 570-277-6163 or [valinskym@verizon.net](mailto:valinskym@verizon.net)

**PNCC MISSION & EVANGELISM WORKSHOP** – our goal has been that the Faithful come away with a burning desire to bring faith-driven work of the Workshop back to their parishes, and be a light to that local Community of Faith, the Parish, and the communities in which they live. This year the Workshop will take place on **Apr. 27-29** in St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Cedar Lake, IN, the theme: “**Nourished to Serve**”. Deadline for registering is April 16, 2012. For more details, please contact Fr. Robert.

**67 ANNUAL PNCC/YMSofR Bowling Tournament** – will be held on **May 18-20, 2012** sponsored by Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Schenectady, NY. Registration closes on April 15, 2012. For more details, 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 DUES 2012.** 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 2012 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**.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

The symbol of the crucifixion is **covered on Passion Sunday** (a week before Palm Sunday). – From: **“Rites and Ritual”** – a liturgical handbook for the PNCC.

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 include: Stations of the Cross and Bitter Lamentations (Fridays at 6:00PM in Frackville *or* Sundays after 11:00AM Mass in Shenandoah).

**History's Mystery – V Sunday of Lent**

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name Him Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)*

It's sometimes brought up that this was referring to something completely different in the book of Isaiah, and we

shouldn't take it to be a prophecy about Mary conceiving Jesus. Our way of thinking is so concrete that often we can't look past the desire for tangible proof. The God who created the universe has an overview of history that we can't possibly grasp. He's fully capable of speaking through Isaiah to the need of that moment and to also speaking to every soul's need later fulfilled in Christ Jesus. We can dig into the theology, but eventually it is a mystery that our puny brains must simply accept, just like the fact that Jesus' sacrifice for us truly redeems our souls. It thrills me to see that verse and so many more in the Old Testament are a testimony to God's loving care for each and every one of us, no matter when in time we exist.

### **Seeds of life**

*Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. (John 12:23-24)*

A grain of wheat is, of course, a seed. Have you seen a seed sprout? It does nothing unless it is put into soil, watered and exposed to sunlight's warmth drawing it up out of the dirt. A wheat plant grows, is harvested and ground into flour for bread to feed us. Think of other seeds and the plants they grow into. We use different plants for shade, food and even medicine. Jesus knew that the purpose of His life and death would not happen until the resurrection, when He, like seed, rose up from His burial place to bear fruit of new life in us who are freed from sin and death. The Bread of Life, He continues to feed us as we grow in holiness with Him. Each of us, too, is like a seed with our own purpose – if we are planted well, we grow into the person God created us to be. Suggestion: plant early spring seeds to grow in a sunny window to remind you of this message  
*God of sunlight and water, transform us into a life-giving people who provide shade, food and healing for others.*

### **MY INTENTIONS AT MASS**

*The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest of all prayers and because it is so, it is a worthwhile practice to offer it for specific intentions. The following prayer may be said before Mass begins.*

O Great and good God, I have come into Your presence to share in offering to You the great sacrifice of Your Blessed Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, (and to receive the Holy Sacrament of the Body and Blood of the Same Jesus Christ), in remembrance of His life, death and passion, and in thanksgiving for all Your Blessings bestowed upon Your whole Church and on me, a most unworthy sinner.

I desire to offer this Mass (and to receive Communion), with all the love and contrition of which wherewith our Savior instituted and our Holy Church ever offers it.

I desire, therefore, to offer this Mass (and receive Holy Communion)...

...for Your greater glory.

...for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of Christ.

...to give thanks for all the blessings You have bestowed upon me, especially...

...to ask Your help in any matter in hand, especially...

...to ask You all my friends and relations, among whom I especially remember...

...for the dead, especially...

...for my special intention, namely...

Bless the priest through whom I am to make this oblation. Bless all the people who are here to participate in this glorious action, and all who would like to be here.

Convert all sinners. Heal the anguish of the world. And have mercy upon all the faithful departed. Amen.