

Holy Ghost Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

28 North Chestnut Street, Shenandoah, PA 17976

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PNU website: www.pnu.org

Prime Bishop of the PNCC – **Most Rev. Dr. Anthony A. Mikovsky**

Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese – **Right Rev. John E. Mack**

Plymouth Seniorate Administrative Senior – **Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski**

Parish Committee Chairman – **Mr. Joseph Petrusky**



First Sunday of Advent – Cycle “B”

Pierwsza Niedziela Adwentu

November 27, 2011

“God’s mercies are as old as eternity and yet they are new every morning.”

EVENTS for the WEEK

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

Today, November 27th – I Sunday of Advent

In Advent we look forward to the coming of Jesus and prepare our hearts by faith to meet Him.

11:00AM – Holy Mass with the Reading of the Memorial List intention: for sp. **Charles Hoppes** and **Robert Hoppes**, of. by Mrs. Mary Ann Hoppes.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., Isaiah 2:1-5; or Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11; **Tue.**, Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24; **Wed.**, Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22; **Thu.**, Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21.24-27; **Fri.**, Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31; **Sat.** Isaiah 30:19-21.23-26; Matthew 9:35 – 10:1.5a.6-8

MONDAY, November 28th - *Advent Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

TUESDAY, November 29th - *Advent Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

WEDNESDAY, November 30th - *Feast – St. Andrew, Apostle*

Born at Bethsaida, he was a disciple of John the Baptist before he became a follower of Christ, to whom he also brought his brother, Peter. According to tradition, he preached the Gospel in Greece and in year 60 was crucified in Patras on an X-shaped cross. He is a patron saint of Russia and Scotland.

Patron Saint of: fishermen

7:30AM – Rorate Mass in Frackville.

9:30AM – Rorate Mass in Shenandoah, intention: for deceased members of Cichocki and Mallick families (All Souls).

THURSDAY, December 1st – *Advent Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville, intention for: Bishop, Priests and Deacons of the Central Diocese (God's blessing), of. by Fr. Robert.

FRIDAY, December 2nd - *First Friday of the month*

7:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville, to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, intention: God's blessing for the family.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 4th - *II Sunday of Advent*

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

^ Collection for missions.

4:00PM – Christmas Party in Frackville.

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.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Prayer:

P. Listen to the voice of one crying in the desert: Make ready the way of the Lord.

R. Make straight His paths!

P. Eternal, only-begotten Son of God, in this Holy Season of Advent, prepare our hearts to celebrate Your birth.

R. Cleanse our hearts through sincere penance * and grant us the spirit of silence which we need to celebrate Your mysteries.

P. O Lord, You give Yourself to all men of good will.

R. Our hearts truly long for You.

P. Come and free us from the slavery of sin.

R. Come and bring us new life.

P. Make our hearts Your worthy dwelling place.

R. Deliver us from being lukewarm or indifferent in Your Service.

P. That we may meet You with confidence.

R. When You will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.

P. Lord, teach us Your ways.

R. Lord, show us Your paths.

Let us Pray. O God, You gladden us year after year with the promise of our redemption; grant we ask You, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that we who now prepare for the coming of the Redeemer may also behold Him without fear when He comes as our judge, our Lord, Jesus Christ, who with You lives and reigns, world without end.

R. Amen.

The priest then blesses the Candle, saying:

The Blessing of Almighty God, The Father + the Son + and Holy Spirit + descend upon these candles which serve as a symbol of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world; and remain with us forevermore.

R. Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE (Psalm 130:5-6; Lamentations 3:25-26)

V. I trust with longing for the Lord, my soul waits for His word. My soul looks for the Lord more than sentinels for daybreak.

R. Good is the Lord to one who waits for Him, to the soul that seeks Him. It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

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 63:16-17; 64:3-8

The prophet proclaims the Lord as Father and Redeemer and longs for Him to reveal himself.

GRADUAL (Luke 12:37a,38; 1 Thessalonians 5:6)

V. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. And should he come in the second watch or the third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants.

R. Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober.

II Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

St. Paul expresses thanks for the Christian witness and help of the Spirit as the faithful wait for the return of Jesus.

ALLELUIA (Psalm 62:1)

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. My soul rests in God alone, from Whom comes my salvation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus encourages us to have a watchful expectancy and readiness for His return.

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 (1 Corinthians 16:13)

V. Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong.

COMMUNION VERSE (Revelation 3:11)

V. I am coming quickly. Hold fast to what you have, so that no one may take your crown.

May the light and power of God's kingdom be with us during the coming week

COMING EVENTS

SHENANDOAH

Dec. 11th Advent Penitential Service (10:45AM)

Dec. 18th Decorating the church for Christmas (after the Mass)

FRACKVILLE

Dec. 4th Christmas Party – at 4:00PM

Apr. 29th 2012 “Chinese” Auction

CENTRAL DIOCESE

Oct. 11-13th, 2012 Diocesan Synod in Scranton, PA

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.** When you make a check for donations, please make them out to: **Holy Ghost PNCC.**

ADVENT – The Ecclesiastical Year begins on the first Sunday of Advent and ends on the Saturday following the last Sunday after Pentecost. Advent is composed of four weeks, during which with the patriarchs and prophets, we prepare to celebrate the first coming of our Lord in a Bethlehem stable. During Advent the approved liturgical colors are **blue, rose or violet**, unless otherwise indicated by the feast of the day. If violet vestments are used rose is recommended color for the Third Sunday in Advent. This is in keeping with the theme of joy. The “Gloria” is omitted from the Mass liturgy.

It is a Polish custom from antiquity that a special votive Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated in the parish Church once a week (usually on a Wednesday). It is called “*Rorate*” Mass, from the first words of the Latin Introit “*rorate caeli*”. This unique Polish custom, first celebrated at the Wawel Cathedral in Krakow in 1545 dictates that seven candles are lighted and placed on the St. Mary’s Altar. The seventh candle is much taller than the rest and is decorated with a green branch tied with a white ribbon. This symbolizes the Old Testament prophecy fulfilled; the Messiah stemming from the “Root of Jesse”.

It is also customary, in some parishes, to prepare an Advent Wreath consisting of four candles in a circular wreath with a larger candle (the Christ candle) in the center. The Advent Wreath serves as a reminder of the four thousand years of expectation for the coming of the Savior, Jesus Christ, born on Christmas Day. **Solemn Marriage ceremonies are forbidden without the explicit permission of the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese.** (from “Rites and Ritual” – a liturgical handbook for the PNCC).

THE CHRISTMAS WAFERS – are available in the vestibule.



MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS: Again this year we will accept your donations for Memorial Poinsettias. These donations will enhance the beauty of our church altars for the glory of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

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.



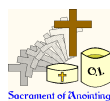
CHRISTMAS PARTY 2011 – will be held in St. John's church hall in **Frackville**, on **Sunday, December 4, 2011 at 4:00PM**. The Parishioners invite you to participate, therefore please sign your name on the sheet at the vestibule. When you come, please bring **one gift**. The deadline in **November 27**.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Jan Kutek**, his family, and parishioners of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Minneapolis, MN and St. Josaphat Parish in Duluth, MN.

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, 2011. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for Helen Menzyk - Maurice Crucio – James Panco - Connie Sincavage. Eugenia Halaburda – Dolores Halaburda. **Shenandoah Manor** – Violet Cegielski (B2). **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.

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 for rates, room availability, or to arrange a tour of our facility.



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.

PNCC 2012 LITURGICAL CALENDAR – is now available. The cost of calendar is \$3.00 plus \$1.85 S&H. Please place your order on the sheet in the back of the church as soon as possible.

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 built 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 Stanisław 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.

HOLY DAYS of OBLIGATION – a) **Sundays** throughout the year; b) **Christmas Day – December 25th**; c) **The Holy Name of Jesus – January 1st**; d) **Ascension of the Lord**; e) **Dormition/Assumption of the BVM – August 15th**; f) **All Saints – November 1st**; g) **Conception of the BVM – December 8th**.



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.

REFLECTION

Why are we still waiting for Jesus? Didn't He come already, born of Mary in a Bethlehem stable? Well, yea, He did, and we will celebrate that wonderful event on Christmas, just as Christians have been doing for 2000 years. In this season of Advent, Scripture reminds us that we are also looking forward to the coming of the Lord at the end of time.

Advent is not just about something that happened long ago or only about what will happen sometime in the future, for Jesus is coming to us *right now*. Through the Bible, through our prayers as a Church and as a family, Jesus comes to us as often as we open our hearts to Him.

So while we count the days to December 25 and look forward to the day Christ will return in glory, let's *not wait* to invite Him into our hearts and homes today, right now.

ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy. Amen.



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 THURSDAY'S and FRIDAYS. All requested announcements should be submitted by FRIDAY 10:00AM.

