

**Holy Ghost Parish
Polish National Catholic Church**

Shenandoah, PA 17976

Rectory: 570-874-1960

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Central Diocese website: www.centraldiocesepncc.org

PNU website: 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**



First Sunday of Advent - "A"

Pierwsza Niedziela Adwentu

December 1, 2013

EVENTS for the WEEK

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

Today, December 1st – I Sunday of Advent

A new season and a new liturgical year begin today, and immediately our focus is on coming of Christ – but not in the past, which we commemorate at Christmas; rather, in the present, and in the future.

8:45AM – Holy Mass intention: for Deceased Members of Cichocki and Mallick families (All Souls)

^ Collection for missions.

2:00PM – Frackville Elks Memorial Service in St. John's church. All participants are invited for refreshments in Elks after the service.

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.**, Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37; **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, December 2nd - *Advent Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

TUESDAY, December 3rd - *Advent Weekday*

9:00AM – Holy Mass in Frackville

WEDNESDAY, December 4th - *Advent Weekday*

6:30AM – *Rorate* Mass in Frackville.

THURSDAY, December 5th - *Advent Weekday*

11:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville; intention: for Bishop, Priest and Deacons of the Central Diocese

FRIDAY, December 6th - *Advent Weekday* – **First Friday of the Month**

5:00PM – Holy Mass in Frackville to **the Sacred Heart of Jesus**, intention: God's blessing for family

5:00PM – 7:00PM – Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Frackville

SATURDAY, December 7th – *Advent Weekday*

8:30-9:30AM – Confirmation Class in Shenandoah.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 8th – **II Sunday of Advent**

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for Sp. Sophie, Albert Bobbin... (All Souls).

^ Monthly meeting of the Parish Committee.

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 (Psalms 25:1-3)

V. I wait for You, o Lord; I lift up my soul to my God. In You I trust; do not let me be disgraced; do not let my enemies gloat over me.

R. No one is disgraced who waits for You, but only those who lightly break faith.

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 2:1-5

Isaiah's transforming vision of a lasting peace, crafted from former causes of destruction.

GRADUAL (1 Corinthians 16:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:6)

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

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

II Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Salvation is not just about the future. It is near; it is already at hand.

ALLELUIA (Psalm 47:9)

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. God rules over the nations; God sits upon His holy throne.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake, preparing for the coming of the Son of Man.

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 you always stand ready for the coming of the Lord.

COMING EVENTS

SNENANDOAH

Dec. 15th Advent Penitential Service (10:45AM)

Dec. 22nd Decorating the church for Christmas

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Mass 8:00PM

Dec. 25th Christmas Day Mass 9:30AM

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

Dec. 15th Advent Penitential Service (8:30AM)

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Mass 10:00PM

Dec. 25th Christmas Day Mass 11:00AM

Feb. 2, 2014 Annual Parish Meeting

March 3, 2014 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.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Boguslaw Janiec**, his family and parishioners of St. John the Baptist Parish in Hazleton and SS Peter and Paul Parish in McAdoo, PA.

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, 2013. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS: Dec. 29: Sp. Ann Kowalonek.Grande.



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. *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.

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.

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.

MEMBERS DUES 2013. 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 2013 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.