

Holy Ghost Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

28 North Chestnut Street, Shenandoah, PA 17976

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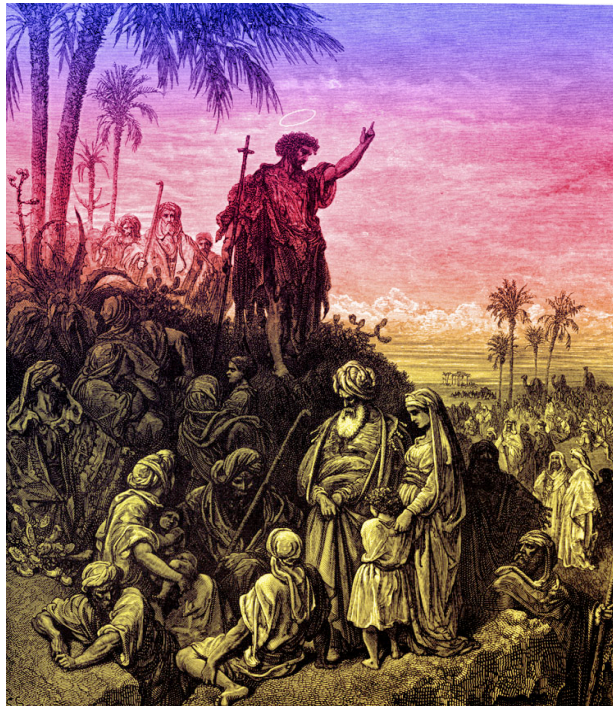
PNU website: www.pnu.org

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**



Second Sunday of Advent – Cycle “B”

Druga Niedziela Adwentu

December 4, 2011

“Compassionate Lord, fill my heart with Your peace and joy so that I can serve Your people.”

EVENTS for the WEEK

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

Today, December 4th – II Sunday of Advent

“Prepare a way for the Lord.” This cry of St. John the Baptist in the wilderness and it alerts us to the meaning of Advent as we await the coming of the Lord.

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

▲ Collection for missions.

4:00PM – Christmas Party in Frackville.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

Mon., Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26; **Tue.**, Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14; **Wed.**, Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30; **Thu.**, Genesis 3:9-15.20; Ephesians 1:3-6.11-12; Luke 1:26-38; **Fri.**, Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19; **Sat.**, Sirach 48:1-4.9-11; Matthew 17:9a.10-13

MONDAY, December 5th - *Advent Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

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

TUESDAY, December 6th - *Advent Weekday* (St. Nicholas of Myra, Bp)

(4th century). Present at the Council of Nicea (325), where he signed the document affirming the divinity of Christ, St. Nicholas served as the Bishop of Myra (in what is now Turkey), and is known especially for his compassion to the poor.

7:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

WEDNESDAY, December 7th - *Advent Weekday* (St. Ambrose of Milan)

(340-397). While St. Ambrose was living in Milan and serving the imperial government, he was elected bishop of the city – while still a catechumen. After his baptism and subsequent ordination, he distinguished himself through his apostolic zeal, service to the poor, and effective care of all the faithful. The most articulate opponent of Arianism in the West, he converted and baptized St. Augustine.

7:30AM – Rorate Mass in Frackville

9:30AM – Rorate Mass in **Shenandoah**, intention: for sp. William, Josephine Zamonas...(All Souls).

THURSDAY, December 8th - **Solemnity – Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of obligation)**

This feast has been celebrated in the East and also in many places in the West since the eighth century. Mary's freedom from all sin is the most beautiful fruit of the work of redemption accomplished by her Son. Chosen as a Mother of the Savior, Mary received the benefits of salvation from the moment of her conception.

9:30AM – Holy Mass in **Shenandoah**

11:00AM – Holy Mass in Frackville

FIRDAY, December 9th - *Advent Weekday*

9:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

SATURDAY, December 10th - *Advent Weekday*

1:00PM – 4:00PM – Open House in Manor at Waymart, PA (see details in the next pages of the bulletin).

NEXT SUNDAY, December 11th - **Third Sunday of Advent**

10:45AM – Advent Penitential Service.

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

▲ 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 SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Christ's Coming in the Hearts of Men

Prayer:

P. Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the Just One.

R. Let the earth be opened and bud forth the Savior.

P. Lord Jesus, eternal Wisdom -

R. In Your merciful love, You came down to earth to expel the darkness with the brightness of Your Divine Life.

P. You removed the wall which sin had raised between God and us.

R. You opened the gates behind which the devil made prisoners of humanity.

P. Through You we regained access to God.

R. You have reconciled us with the heavenly Father.

P. But many have not yet seen Your Light.

R. Ans many are the hearts that have not yet known Your Heavenly Peace.

P. Our own hearts too, o Lord, are often dark and sinful.

R. We cry to Your, in this Holy Season of Advent:/Come anew and save us.

P. Let Your power be known, o Lord.

R. Come, and let Your Face shine upon us.

Let us pray: Merciful God and Savior, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to save what was lost. You made Him shine through the darkness of this world as the true daybreak. We pray to You, with the sweet radiance of Your grace, illumine our dark hearts and the hearts of all those sit in the shadow of paganism, and guide our feet in the way of peace, unto Your glorious kingdom. Through the same Christ, our Lord.

R. Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE (John 1:6-8)

V. A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

R. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

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 40:1-5.9-11

Words of comfort that speak to the heart characterise this reading from Isaiah, together with the promise of a new Exodus and the revelation of divine glory.

GRADUAL (Psalm 50:3; 85:10)

V. Our God comes and will not be silent! Devouring fire precedes, storming fiercely round about.

R. Near indeed is salvation for the loyal; prosperity will fill our land.

II Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Against those who deny Christ's future return in glory, the author contrasts God's transcendence and forbearance with all that is transitory. He urges us to live in such way as to be ready to meet the Lord who will come unexpectedly.

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 1:1-8

St. John the Baptist is the last of the Old Testament prophets. He heralds the imminent coming of Jesus the Messiah.

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 (Zephaniah 3:14.15b)

V. Shout for joy, o daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, o Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, o daughter Jerusalem! The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst, you need have no further misfortune to fear.

COMMUNION VERSE (Revelation 3:11)

V. The one who gives this testimony says: "Yes, I am coming soon". Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

May God's word be a light on your path.

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, Ms. Melissa Nahas.** 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.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Very Rev. John Kraus**, his family and parishioners of St. Mary's Parish in West Allis, WI.

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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: December 8 – Jolene Johnston.



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. The Manor at Waymart - Personal Care Home Invites you to our **Open House December 10th 1:00PM – 4:00PM**. 596 Honesdale Rd., Waymart, PA. Door Prizes and Refreshments (570) 488-6829. 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 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

We are people in hurry to get things done. Nobody likes to wait to get what they want. That's understandable: When you're hungry, you want food. When you're cold, you want a warm blanket. That just makes sense. But just because you want or need something doesn't mean you can have it *right now*. Not getting what you want doesn't mean it's time to start complaining. God has a plan for getting all things done, but we don't know what the timetable is.

During Advent, we have a very clear timetable. We know that Christmas comes on December 25, and we can count the days until we get there. But when will Jesus return in glory? When will His kingdom be fulfilled on earth? We don't know. God is in charge of time, and we trust that He knows what He is doing.

It is not easy

to apologize,
to begin over,
to be unselfish,
to take advice,
to admit error,
to be charitable,
to keep trying,
to be considerate,
to avoid mistakes,
to forgive and forget,
to think and then act,
to make the best of little,
to shoulder and deserved blame,
to recognize the silver lining,
But it always pays; try it.

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.

