

Holy Ghost Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

28 North Chestnut Street, Shenandoah, PA 17976

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Central Diocese website: www.centraldiocesepncc.org

PNU website: www.pnu.org

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



Fourth Sunday in Advent – Cycle “A”

Czwarta Niedziela Adwentu

December 19, 2010

“Past failures are guideposts for future success.”

Events for the Week

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

Today, December 19th – IV Sunday in Advent

The Gospel writer, St. Matthew, describes for us the circumstances of the birth of Jesus. St. Paul the apostle explains the mystery – Jesus of Nazareth is both divine and human.

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. **Geraldine Andrews**, of. by Joe & Karen Wienches.

WEEKDAY READINGS:

December 20: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38; **December 21:** Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45; **December 22:** 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56; **December 23:** Malachi 3:1-4.23-24; Luke 1:57-66; **December 24:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5.8b-12.14a.16; Luke 1:67-79 (Mass in the morning)

MONDAY, December 20th – *Advent Weekday*

9:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

TUESDAY, December 21st - *Feast – St. Thomas, Apostle*

Among the apostles, Thomas is remembered mainly for his doubts about the resurrection of Christ. Eight days after the Resurrection, he made up for his unbelief with a profession of faith, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28). According to tradition, he preached the Gospel in India, where he was martyred.

9:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

WEDNESDAY, December 22nd – *Advent Weekday*

9:30AM – Rorate Mass in Shenandoah.

THURSDAY, December 23rd - *Advent Weekday*

7:30AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

FRIDAY, December 24th - *Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord*

8:00PM – Mass of the Shepherds in Shenandoah, and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament; intention: for all Parishioners.

10:00PM – Mass of the Shepherds in Frackville, and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament; intention: for all Parishioners.

SATURDAY, December 25th - *Solemnity – Nativity of our Lord*

9:30AM – Holy Mass in Shenandoah.

11:00AM – Holy Mass in Frackville.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 26th – *Feast – Humble Shepherds*

11:00AM – Holy Mass, intention: for sp. Geraldine Andrews, of. by Richard & Helen Wienches.

- Collection for the Seminary.

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 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Prayer of Intercession

Prayer:

P. Prince of Peace and Lord, Jesus Christ, Father of the world to come, You will return with power and glory on the clouds of heaven. Now You dwell among us in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, not as our judge, but as our Brother who wishes to share with us the riches of His inheritance. Hear we ask You, the petitions of Your people!

R. Have mercy, o Lord, have mercy.

P. Prepare our hearts for a fervent celebration of Your Nativity.

R. We ask You, hear us.

P. Lead all those who doubt and disbelieve to acknowledge Your Divine Glory.

R. We ask You, hear us.

P. Help the poor, console the afflicted, and deliver the oppressed.

R. We ask You, hear us.

P. Banish from our midst all quarrels and wars, lies, treachery and injustice; and make us all one in You.

R. We ask You, hear us.

P. Grant that, amidst the joys and sorrows of this life, we may always long for Your coming.

R. We ask You, hear us.

P. Have mercy on us in the day of judgement, and lead us all to the glory of eternal life.

R. We ask You, hear us.

Let us pray: For You are He who is to come in the splendor of the heavenly armies. You gather Your people at the Eucharistic Table, as You will one day gather them from all times and all nations to the wedding feast in Your Kingdom, where You live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in all eternity.

R. Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE (John 11:27; Psalm 90:2)

V. Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world.

R. Before the mountains were begotten and the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity You are God.

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 7:10-14

Ahaz, threatened king of Judah, seeking security in human alliances, is given the promise of peace in a child.

GRADUAL (Sirach 43:30,28)

V. Awesome indeed is the Lord's majesty, and wonderful is His power.

R. More than this we need not add; let the last word be, He is all in all!

II Reading: Romans 1:1-7

St. Paul spells out in clear and certain language the essence of the Gospel – Jesus, risen from the dead, is both God and man.

ALLELUIA (Revelations 22:16)

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. I, Jesus, sent My angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the root and offspring of David, the bright morning star.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-24

The story of Mary and Joseph is told, and of the Child born to them.

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 light of faith burn in iyr hearts today and every day; and as you go from here may almighty God bless you.

COMING EVENTS

SHENANDOAH

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Mass – 8:00PM
Dec. 25th Christmas Day Mass – 9:30AM

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.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS – are available in the vestibule. Thank you for all donations.

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.

HELP NEEDED – If anyone is interested to help at the altar during our services, and serve as the Lector, please contact the pastor.

THIS WEEK PRAYER: for **Father Augustin Sicard**, his family, and parishioners of the **St. Martin** and **St. Rose** PNCC in San Antonio, TX.

MASS LITURGY CHANGES – beginning today until Easter we will stop shaking hands during the Holy Mass, due flu season.

UPCOMING SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS: **Sp. Geraldine Andrews:** Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 2011, Jan 9, 2011; **Jan. 16, 2011:** sp. Susan Bednarek, Helena Bednarek, Julian Bednarek Sr.; **Jan. 23, 11:** sp. Franciszek, Elzbieta Sroka; **Jan. 30, 11:** for sp. John and Dolores Sroka; **Feb. 6, 2011:** sp. Jan Sroka; **Feb. 13, 2011:** sp. Catherine Marasco.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Birthday best wishes are extended to: December 19 – Rosemary Savitsky; December 23 – Lee Sincavage.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK – especially for Helen Menzyk - Maurice Crucio – James Panco - Connie Sincavage – Ida Socker. **Trinity Mission (Shen. Hts.)** - Margaret Kruszynski - Edward Ryszka Jr.



Sacrament of Anointing

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.

“Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord...” (James 5:14). If you, or a member of your family are sick and would like to receive the Holy Communion at home, please notify the rectory.

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.

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.

CHURCH OPERATION FUND – as of today the following have donated: Mr. & Mrs. James Panco, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Savitsky, Mrs. Mary Ann Hoppes, Mr. John Golba, Mrs. Ida Socker, Mrs. Mary Stukas, Mr. Frank Gill, Mr. Stanley Sawecki, Mrs. Claire Mallick, Mrs. Helen Menzyk, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Petrusky, Mrs. Loretta Kovalewski. Thank you!

PARISH COMMITTEE – Our PNCC is a democratic Church, where the members have a privilege to serve in the parish. It is a privilege and responsibility to help the church grow, and to be a member of the parish committee. If anyone is interested to help the Committee, please contact Fr. Robert or Mr. Joseph Petrusky. Thank you.



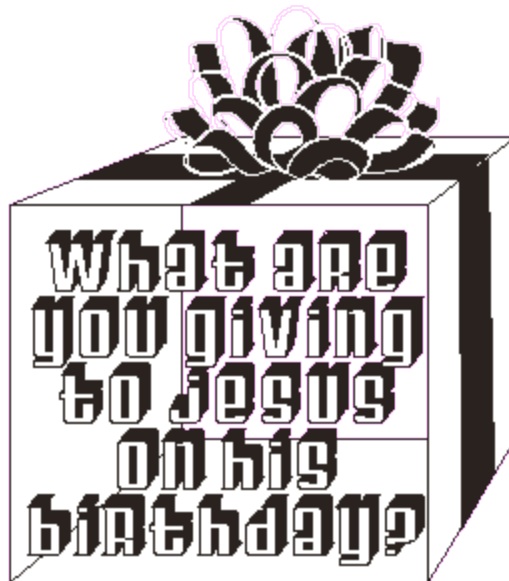
MEMBERS DUES 2010. Since January 2005, a change was made that eliminated the 'family plan' method for paying Church dues. This change was voted upon and approved at the last General Synod. Each adult member will now be recorded as an individual unit. This means every adult member is now responsible for 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 2010 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, Bleenie Sales (we had a great time last year, come out help out, join in the fun...), Chinese Auction, and Christmas Donations.

THE PARISH CATECHISM – *What three things are necessary before a sin is a mortal sin?* The action, word, desire, thought or neglect must in itself be seriously wrong. The sinner must know it is seriously wrong. The sinner must deliberately and freely choose to do it. *What is venial sin?* Venial sin is a small sin – a small violation of the law of God as opposed to a mortal sin which deprives man of God's grace. *Give some examples of venial sin.* Impatience. Telling a small lie. Being slightly late for Mass on Sunday. Small family arguments and disagreements.



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 **FRIDAYS**. All requested announcements should be submitted by **FRIDAY 10:00AM**.

ETIQUETTE FOR CHURCH MEMBERS

1. Arrive early. You need at least five minutes to settle your mind before the service begins.
2. Do not whisper, read, or do anything during the services that would destroy the reverence of worship.
3. Never walk down the aisle when Scripture is being read, prayer offered, or a special song sung.
4. Sit near the front if you are on time. Occupy the center of the pew so there will be as little disturbance as possible when late comers are seated.

5. If you are late, take a seat near the door.
6. Sing if you can.
7. Do promptly whatever is asked of the congregation.
8. Be as courteous to guests in your church as you would in your home, welcoming everyone warmly. Introduce strangers to the pastor. Never pass anyone in the Lord's house without speaking to them. Make your church a friendly place.

CHRISTMAS CAN MEAN SCROOGE, SANTA OR SAVIOR

- **Scrooge** – to those in the Scrooge image, without his conversion, thei season can be painful. Everything about it makes people groan and winve. They resent spending and sharing. They complain about decorating and cooking. To such people, Christmas is a waste of time and money. The shouts and excitement of little children makes them cantankerous. The carols and lights mean commercialism. The good will and charity are marks of hypocrisy.
- **Santa Claus** – to others, Christmas is Santa Claus. It is a chance to go out on the town. It is credit spending to the limit. It is the hoped for season of bonuses and company gifts. It is toys and dolls for the little and perfumes and jewelry for grown ups. Santa rules and decrees fun for everyone.
- **Savior Jesus Christ** – but the real Christmas centers about the Savior Jesus Christ. He does not arrive by parade on 5th Avenue. He is not sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. There can be no real Christmas without Him. Without Him you have either Scrooge or a Santa Claus. You face either disillusionment or fantasy. Jesus Christ brings reality. He makes Christmas more than a holiday season from Thanksgiving to New Year's. He makes it an everyday affair. Jesus Christ at Christmas brings into your life the freshness and expectancy of little children. It is a gladness of faith. The birth of Jesus gives meaning to birth, family, work, challenge, and death. It is not suddenly all over like the big Christmas rush. Through Jesus you receive eternal life. The Christmas experience He gives does not depend upon money or credit cards, Christmas is more than a calendar date. We need the same direction today as the Wise Men and Shepherds.

This Gift cannot be wrapped and tugged and laid under a tree. God's gift was nailed to a tree. MAKE ROOM IN YOUR HEART FOR HIM THIS CHRISTMAS – This is the real side of Christmas.

