



HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church
15 THAYER STREET

SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

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TODAY – JANUARY 12, 2025

SOLEMNITY- THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist in the
Traditional Rite.

OPENING HYMN

TO THEE WE COME, O LORD, OUR GOD

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God,
Before Thine altar, Father
Thou knowest best our yearning hearts.
This supplication answer.

Lift up from want Thy people, Lord,
Bless us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

Under Thy cross we stand prepared, To
serve Thee with devotion.

Be it with sweat of blood or tears, Or
humble resignation.

For we Thy people are, O Lord,
Save us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.



ENTRANCE HYMN

(Malachi 3:1; Matthew 2:2)

- V. The messenger of the Covenant of Whom you desire. Yes, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.
- R. We saw His star at its rising, and have come to do Him homage.
- C. 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.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the Highest,
And peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God, and Father
We worship You; we give You thanks
We praise you for Your glory
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God
You take away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us
You are seated at the
right hand of the Father
Receive our prayer
For you alone are the Holy One
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ
With the Holy Spirit, in the
glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

- C. The Lord be with you.
- R. And also with you.
- C. Let us pray. Almighty God, You manifested the glorious divinity of Your Son, Jesus, at His Baptism in the River Jordan. May the brightness of His presence shine in our hearts, and may His glory be set forth in our lives. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
- R. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

**A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH
(Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7)**

Thus says the LORD: Here is My servant whom I uphold, My chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put My spirit; He shall bring forth justice to the nations not crying out, not shouting, not making His voice heard in the street. a bruised reed He shall not break, and a smoldering wick He shall not quench, until He establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for His teaching. I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I

have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

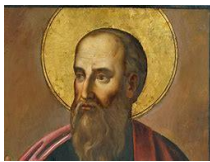
C. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL
(Isaiah 2:4)

V. He shall judge between the nations and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.

R. One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.



**A READING FROM THE BOOK
OF THE APOSTLES (Acts 10:34-38)**

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying: "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears Him and acts uprightly is acceptable to Him. You know the word that He sent to the Israelites as He proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil for God was with Him."

C. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE
(1 Chronicles 29:12)

C. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. The sea beheld and fled; the Jordan turned back.
The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs of the flock.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE
(Luke 3:15-16, 21-22)

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And with you.

C. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts, whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and as was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

C. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.



PROFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth

Of all that is seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

The only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father.

God from God, Light from Light, True God
from true God, begotten not made

Of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made

For us and for our salvation.

He came down from heaven:

By the power of the Holy Spirit

He was born of the Virgin Mary

AND BECAME MAN.

For our sake, He was crucified
under Pontius Pilate

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again
In fulfillment of the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and
Is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead
And His kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord and Giver of Life
Who proceeds from the Father,
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in One, Holy,
Catholic and Apostolic Church
I acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the + life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY VERSE

(Romans 6:3-4)

V. Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death. We were indeed buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

C. Lord our God, You presented Your beloved Son to the world at the River Jordan. May we, who bring You these offerings, now walk in the newness of life. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us Pray: Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION VERSE

(Mark 10:38b)

V. Can you drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

C. Let us pray: Heavenly Father, grant that we, who have been baptized into Christ and nourished by this Eucharist, may rejoice as children of God and servants of all. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



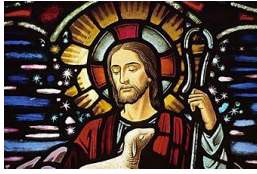
The Lineage of Jesus

In the early years of the Christian Church, there existed many controversies and heresies, trying to define and understand the identity and nature of Jesus the Christ. Was He pure spirit, or just a man?

From **Docetism**, in the 2nd century, which declared Jesus as having a body but was not incarnate, to **Arianism** in the 4th century, which held that Jesus was created by God.

Others held, as in the 4th century, the belief of **Apollinarianism**, that Jesus was truly divine and could not have possessed a human mind. Others questioned how God could have died on the cross, since God is eternal?

These beliefs, along with others, all centered around the two natures of Jesus: His spiritual and physical natures, which was to be defined. at the First Ecumenical Church Council, which was held, in the town of Nicaea, (modern day Turkey) in 325 AD, where the Early Church Fathers and Bishops, the successors to the Apostles of our Lord, gathered and gave the following collective and accepted belief, which is proclaim, in the various Christian churches.



I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light,
True God from true God,
begotten not made
Of one being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made
For us and for our salvation.
He came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary
AND BECAME MAN.

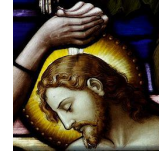
While Jesus was and is declared as the Only Begotten Son of God, we read in the Gospel according to Matthew 16:13-20, that Peter, one of His first chosen, was the one, who first declared and came to know and understand, the true spiritual “identity” of Jesus, the long-awaited Messiah. We read:

“Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loosen on earth will be loosed in heaven. Then He sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that He was the Messiah.”

To define the human side of Jesus, both Matthew and Luke, wrote to two of the great influences of humanity at that time; Matthew, to the history and traditions of the Jewish world, and Luke, to the intellectual minds of the Greeks,

In the Gospel of Matthew 1:1-17, Matthew is believed to have written to the Jews. starting with Abraham and through genealogical roots through David, to Joseph, to Jesus.

In the Gospel of Luke 3:23-38, Luke starts with Jesus and descends through genealogical roots to Adam. The Greeks would not have understood the importance of the “Jewish” Messiah, whom Mathew portrayed.



The Baptism of Jesus

As we begin, the new Liturgical year of 205, We read, from the four Gospels of Jesus and His Baptism at the age of 30.

Matthew
(3:13-20)

“Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented Him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?’ But Jesus answered him, ‘Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as He came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to Him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is My Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’”

Mark
(1:13-17)

“Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented Him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?’ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as He came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to Him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is My Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’”

Luke
(3:21-22)

“Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are My Son, the Beloved; with You I am well pleased.’”

John
(1:29-34)

“The next day he [John] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, ‘Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because He was before me. I myself did not know Him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that He might be revealed to Israel.’ And John testified, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on Him. I myself did not know Him, but the One who sent me to baptize with water said to me, He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

It should be understood that two of the Evangelists were Apostles of the Lord, as in the case of Matthew and John and the other two Evangelists, in the case of Mark and Luke were disciples as mentioned in the Epistle of Paul to the Colossians 4:10.18.

In the PNCC, we teach that the Sacrament of Confirmation is a “completion” of the Sacrament of Baptism as based on scripture, citing John 3:3-6; a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus:

“Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.’”

When we look at the origins of our Christian faith, the Sacrament of Baptism may be considered as an “entrance rite” by which we are made “members” of

the “Body of Christ.” St. Paul wrote in His Epistle to the Ephesians 4:4-6, c. 60-61 AD:

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.”



OUR PARISH CALENDAR

January 13th - January 18th

8:45 am Liturgy of the Hours

9:00 am Holy Mass of the Eucharist

- Mon. 1/13** Private Prayer & Meditation
Agrecius of Trier, Bishop
Berno of Cluny, Abbot
Julia (Yvette) of Huy, Widow
- Tue. 1/14** Mass of Thanksgiving
Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop & Doctor
Felix of Nola, Priest & Confessor
Martyrs of Mt. Sinai, Martyrs
- Wed. 1/15** Mass of Health & Healing
Paul the Hermit, Hermit
Macarius the Elder, Monk
Maurus the Abbot
- Thurs. 1/16** Mass to the Holy Saints of God
Holy Name of Jesus
Macarius of Alexandria, Abbot & C.
Adelard of Corbie, Abbot
- Fri. 1/17** Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus
Antony of Egypt, Abbot
Julian Sabas, Monk
Sbinujs of Piacenza, Bishop
- Sat. 1/18** Feast – The Chair of Peter at Antioch
Peter’s Chair at Antioch
Prisca, Virgin and Martyr
Volusian of Tours, Bishop

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist in the Traditional Rite.



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

In our prayers, please remember all our brothers and sisters, who seek the blessings of God for health and healing.

Let us pray. O Lord, God of mercies, in Your kindness stretch out Your hand and heal all our brothers and sisters who are in any way ailing. Make them worthy of health, deliver them from their present sicknesses and illnessness and grant them recovery in Jesus' holy name. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

“Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” - Philippians 2:4

As Pastor, of Holy Name of Jesus PNCC, I am so proud that our Parish family, here in South Deerfield, has throughout this past year of 2024, supported and became deeply involved themselves into so many “outreach” programs in helping others: from donating non-perishable food items for our monthly “grocery giveaways,” to being involved in other ministries, such as “Adopt-A-Family,” the “Warm the Children” and “Socks for Vets” programs. I also want to thank all those who made monetary donations towards helping others. May God bless.

We continue to ask for assistance and donations, if possible, for non-perishable food items that may be left in our Parish Hall. We are currently collecting toiletries for “survival kits,” for the Northampton Survival Center which may be left in the vestibule of our church. A flyer of these needs of personal toiletries, etc. may be found in the vestibule of the church.

For monetary donations, personal checks may be made out to **“Holy Name of Jesus PNCC.”** with the memo **“HNJ Mission Fund.”** May God bless all our endeavors as we strive to help others in need.



Our Food Ministry: “To Feed the Hungry”

“I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat.” - Matthew 25: 35.

The next date for helping those in need will be held next **Saturday, January 18th, from 10 am till noon,** or while supplies last.



Collecting plastic tops

One of our dear parishioners, Maryanna Foster, who works closely with veterans, has asked for our help in collecting white or clear plastic tops that will be donated to aid in the making of prosthetics for veterans in need. A collection container has been set up in the vestibule of our church. Please help donate your plastic tops in this new ministry.



Can Soda Tabs

As most of you know, we are also collecting tabs from soda cans that are then donated to aid the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled children. Please save your can soda tabs. There are containers that are located in our Parish vestibule for this purpose. Thank you and may God bless.



BLESSING OF HOMES

I will continue this week to visit the homes of our parishioners for the traditional blessing with chalk. If you wish to have your home blessed this year, I ask that you please see Fr. Koerber to make an appointment.