



## **HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH**

National Catholic Church

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**Please note:** Daylight Saving Time begins this Sunday. **Please remember to push your clocks forward one hour.**

MARCH 9, 2025

### SOLEMNITY – INSTITUTION OF THE PNCC

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the Traditional Rite of the PNCC.

10:00 am – Annual Parish Meeting.

### 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

(Psalm 23:1-3, 5)

- V. The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing that I lack. In green pastures, You let me graze; to safe waters, You lead me. You restore my strength. You guide me along the right path for the sake of Your name.
- R. You set a table before me as my enemies watch; You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.
- 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.

### 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

- V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And also with you.
- V. Let us pray: Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, You called a humble priest, Father Francis Hodur, to be Your servant and to awaken Your people for work in Your vineyard. Grant that, as we observe the anniversary of Your call to us, our faith may be made firm and our hearts may be enkindled by the fire of sacrificial love. We ask this in the name of Your Son, 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 BOOK OF WISDOM**

**(Wisdom 5:1-5)**

When they see Him, they will be shaken with dreadful fear, and they will be amazed at His unexpected salvation. They will speak to one another in repentance, and in anguish of spirit they will groan and say, “This is the man whom we once held in derision and made a byword of reproach- we fools! We thought that His life was madness and that His end was without honor. Why has He been numbered among the sons of God? And why is His lot among the saints?

**V. This is the Word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL**

**(Psalm 30:1-4)**

**V. I praise You, Lord, for You raised me up and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.**

**R. Lord, my God, I cried out to You and You healed me. Lord, You brought me up from Sheol; You kept me from going down to the pit.**



**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF SAINT PAUL TO TIMOTHY**

**(1 Timothy 4:1-5)**

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience, seared with a hot iron forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

**V. This is the Word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**



**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN**

**(John 15:1-7)**

**V. The Lord be with you.**

**R. And with you.**

**V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.**

**R. Glory be to You, O Lord.**

At that time: Jesus spoke unto His disciples: I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of Mine that bears no fruit, He takes away and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, he it is who bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in Me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples.

**V. 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.



**OFFERATORY VERSE**  
(Psalm 89:13b-16)

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Mighty Your arm, strong Your hand, Your  
right hand is ever exalted. Justice and  
judgment are the foundation of Your throne;  
love and loyalty march before You. Happy  
the people who know You, Lord, who walk in  
the radiance of Your face.

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Loving Father, as we place these gifts before You  
grant us faith, integrity, and patience as we labor to  
build Your holy Church. We ask this in the name of  
Your Son, 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.  
Inflame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord  
and Savior. Amen.

**COMMUNION VERSE**  
(John 15:9)

V. As the Father loves Me, so I also love you.  
Remain in My love.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, our  
merciful Father, grant that, as we benefit from  
the grace received in this holy Sacrament, we  
may follow Your holy will as we continue to build  
Your Holy Church. We ask this through our  
Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and  
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for  
ever and ever.

R. Amen.

**HYMN OF THE PNCC**

**“TYLE LAT” – “THROUGH THE YEARS”**

Tyle lat my Ci, o Panie  
Służbę wiernie wypelniali  
Szli ku słońcu w swit, zaranie  
Łońcuch niewolli targali  
Łońcuch niewolli targali

Through the years unto Thee, O Lord  
Faithful service we have rendered  
At the break of dawn marched sunward  
At the chains of bondage straining  
At the chains of bondage straining

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**  
**“HYMN OF RESOLVE”**

Moved to the depths of our very souls, Lord  
We now turn homeward with grateful tear.  
For Words Diving, the breaking of bread.  
And Thy joyous mysteries which we did hear.

: For now, O Christ, we gain understanding,  
Of thine own purpose and judgments true.  
Thy font of grace and water of cleansing  
With which Thy children, Thou didst imbue.

**ANNUAL PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Annual Parish Committee meeting of Holy Name of Jesus PNCC will take place today, March 9, 2025 following Holy Mass. A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend.



**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES**

**Please note:** On Fridays, “**Stations of the Cross**” or the “**Way of the Cross**” will be celebrated in our church at 12:00 Noon and again at 7:00 pm. An invitation is extended to all to participate.



**REFLECTIONS ON THE ORGANIZING OF THE  
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus:

Throughout the history of the Christian Church, there has been many milestones as well as obstacles which have left their imprints on the road to Christ.

From the history of the early Church, we read in the Book of Acts 4:32, that the followers of Jesus were of “one accord and had all things in common.”

But the beauty of this “One Faith, One Lord, and One Baptism” that Paul spoke about in his letter to the Ephesians 4:5 became muddled. There arose many divisions, debating over the personage and identity of Jesus Christ (Arianism), as well as the

understanding of the Holy Trinity; One God in three Divine persons.

So, in May of 325 AD, over 300 bishops were called by Constantine the Great, to resolve certain issues, which plagued Christian unity. As a result of their meeting, they agreed to set forth a formal proclamation of faith, which we know today as the Nicene Creed, which the Christian Church will observe this year its 1700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This profession of faith was to give definition to not only who Jesus was, condemning the Arian heresy, but also gave a clearer definition of the Holy Trinity

But problems continued throughout the coming years. where Rome battled with Constantinople, the sees of the Roman Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church over several theological issues and their interpretations of the faith. This would eventually lead to what is known as the “Great Schism” which happened in 1054 AD and divided the Church.

With this split of the Christian family, we would then move on to the Age of Reformation, which began when Martin Luther, a Roman Catholic priest, who objected to many issues of the Roman Catholic Church, including indulgences, and nailed his 95 theses on the door of the Wittenberg Cathedral on October 31, 1517, Through his action, other great religious reformers came forward, such as John Wesley, John Knox, Jan Hus, Ulrich Zwingli and others, who were instrumental in forming what would become known as the “Protestant” or “protesting” Movement of the 16<sup>th</sup> century in Europe.

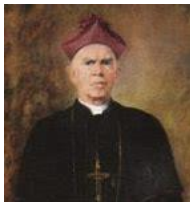
In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, another great religious reformer was born, in the poor village of Zarki, Poland on April 1, 1866, Easter Sunday. His name was Franciszek or Francis Hodur.

Francis came from a section of Poland known as Galicia, which was controlled by the Austro-Hungarian empire. They were anything but kind and did everything possible to oppress and make life difficult for the Polish people under their control.

Francis rebelled against these injustices and decided to come to America seeking religious freedom. Upon arriving in America, he saw other injustices perpetrated against the Polish immigrants by the Roman Catholic Church and through his

efforts, he eventually organized the Polish National Catholic Church in March of 1897.

On August 25, 1929, a gathering of the faithful met and held its first Mass at the “Red’s Man Hall” on the corner of Elm and North Main Street in South Deerfield and in less than a year, a new church was built and consecrated. This church would be named Holy Name of Jesus Parish and would come under the auspices of the Polish National Catholic Church. At the apex of this new church’s sanctuary the words “Chwala Bogu na Wysokoski” or “Glory to God in the Highest,” was inscribed to serve as a reminder to all who would worship within its walls, of the efforts and work of the early organizers of this Church who looked and still look to God for His blessings as did Prime Bishop Francis Hodur in 1897.



### **PRIME BISHOP FRANCISZEK HODUR**

The following is a sermon that the Organizer and the First Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church, Franciszek (Francis) Hodur preached on March 22, 1914.

#### **A SERMON ON THE CHURCH**

“The day of salvation has come to this house.”  
- Luke 19:9

“There are solemn, holy, days in life that one never forgets. Such a moment for me and for you who established this Church was the moment when seventeen years ago, I celebrated the first service in the basement- the crypt of this church. United then in common prayer, in the faith of the Holy Mass, strengthened by the Word of God, we pledged ourselves to stand together, to work together for the glory of God and for the sanctification of our souls.

So many years have passed since that solemn moment. We have lived through so many trials, afflictions. Storms of hatred and human perversity raged over the Church, but it stood unmoved like a monument of the faith, ardor, and love of the Polish people.

Not everyone endured the seventeen years in this toil and struggle. Some, life chaff, fell away when the wind of trial and temptation blew. Others lost interest and stood to the side, like the foreign, the cold and the uninterested. And others clearly left – because they had to leave, they fell asleep in the sleep of death, placed in the cemetery. They left through the portals of their church, covered with tears, honored by the Church and their family life brave soldiers, heroes awaiting eternal reward beyond the grave.

We the living remain, faithful members and confident that in time new legions of the people of God will join us. For today we constitute a considerable grouping, many parishes.

When today we observe the past times, what kind of task do we assign ourselves, what goal for the work and endeavors of the future. In the Revelation of St. John, we read: “God will dwell with them and they will be His people, and He, God, will be their God.” John 21:3.

In these words, lies the entire meaning of our past and present work. We built a house of God. We desired God to come down and live among us. And He fulfilled our desires. He lived with us through seventeen years like a Father among His children, like a Lord with His subjects, as the Savior and Healer among those needing help, encouragement and rescue. He came to us spiritually through the Word of God, that Word which created the world. Though in an unfit human form, it spread here, in this temple, awakening in our hearts this faith, this love, this veneration, this awe and yearning.

Here Christ led us, distributed graces, and through the Holy Sacraments fed us all, all the children of His Church. When the first time they came in youth in a white dress with a myrtle wreath, then in adulthood, and finally when strength failed or mortal illness has thrown us upon the bed of pain, Christ Jesus will come to us and gather us to eternal happiness.”

#### **Thoughts on the Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church**

We are taught that the Church is the “Body of Christ” with Christ as the Head and all baptized people are its members. The Church is a community

of people who believe in Jesus Christ and apply His teachings in their daily lives as best as they can.

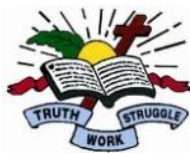
Today, as we commemorate the 128<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Institution of the PNCC, may we first give praise, honor and thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many blessings.

Let us also remember and give thanks on this day, to our first Prime Bishop, Francis Hodur, who led by the Spirit of God and who along with the first founders of the many churches in various parts of the United States and Canada, along in Poland, helped fulfill this vision in the PNCC.

It was through Bishop Hodur's spiritual insight and his dependence on the word of God, that brought together, I believe was and is the three main branches of Christianity.

First, he kept the Catholic tradition of the Early Church. Second, he drew upon the Orthodox teachings of the first seven Ecumenical Church Councils of the undivided Church as its foundation and finally, he brought to the shores of North America at the turn of the century, a vision and a purpose for a spiritual reformation for his people who were to protest against their unjust treatment both in Poland and in America.

Finally, may we give Almighty God our prayers and thankfulness, for the early organizers of the Holy Name of Jesus Parish, both men and women, who repose in our Parish cemetery; members of our families; grandparents, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, children and many others, who through their efforts, their work and struggles sought the Truth of God in the PNCC.



## **Beginnings of the Polish National Catholic Church**

The Polish National Catholic Church was organized on March 14, 1897 in Scranton, PA by the Rev. Fr. Franciszek (Francis) Hodur and a group of Polish immigrants.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, many thousands of Eastern European immigrants came to America seeking a

better life and freedom from oppression. When they arrived, they brought with them their Catholic faith, their culture and traditions. They worked hard to provide for themselves and their families a better life and built new churches in their communities where they could worship God.

But, for these hard-working people, they were often mistreated by the predominately German-Irish hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church in many areas of the country including Buffalo, Chicago, Scranton, and parts of New England. When difficulties increased, and problems were not resolved, a group of people in Scranton, PA, began constructing a new church building. They would name this church Saint Stanislaus, Bishop, and Martyr Church. When the Roman Catholic diocesan bishop would not support their efforts and refused to bless and consecrate their new church, they asked Father Francis Hodur, a pastor from Nanticoke, PA to be their pastor and leader.

As Father Hodur and these people began praying and working together, they developed the National Catholic Church Program. This program was to set forth their vision for not only their parish, but also for other churches in other cities. The National Church program contained four points:

1. Legal ownership of church properties by the people.
2. Parish governance in secular matters by parish committees elected by the parishioners.
3. Appointment of pastorates of priests approved by parishioners.
4. Appointed of Polish Bishops in America with input by the clergy and the laity united.

Father Hodur realized the importance of the printed word to communicate the National Church Program and other related ideals and principles to members of this new church and for others who could benefit. Therefore, **The STRAZ – The Guard** newspaper was created in 1897 as a publication of Saint Stanislaus Parish and was to serve as a missionary tool.

In the next few years, many new parishes were organized in other parts of the United States. In 1904, Father Hodur called a “synod” for this emerging religious movement. A synod is a convention of both clergy and lay delegates from affiliated parishes and

these delegates were able to make decisions and set policy for the Church. At the First Synod in 1904, the delegates officially organized the PNCC; a Church constitution was adopted that set for the administration of parishes; the **STRAZ** became the official newspaper of the PNCC. Also, it was decided that a decisive break be made with the Roman Catholic Church.

The PNCC is not a new Church, but it is an integral part of the Early Christian Church founded by Jesus Christ. Therefore, our Church is an integral part of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic, Church.

Father Hodur would later be consecrated a Bishop at Saint Gertrude's Cathedral in Utrecht, Holland on September 29, 1907 by bishops of the Old Catholic Church. This consecration gave Bishop Hodur and its clergy, Apostolic Succession and set forth a valid and an indisputable order of the Priesthood of Jesus Christ.

At the Third General Synod of the PNCC in 1914 Bishop Hodur, along with the clergy and lay delegates, established the Solemnity of the Institution of the PNCC. This synod determined that this Solemnity would be celebrated on the second Sunday of March each year. The Church continued to grow and expand in various parts of the United States, as well as in Canada and Poland. With this expansion it became necessary for additional bishops to be elected and consecrated. Therefore, in 1924, four new bishops were consecrated for the Church and four new dioceses were established.



### **The Confession of Faith of the Polish National Catholic Church**

**“Through truth, work and struggle we shall triumph.”** - Bishop Francis Hodur

Bishop Francis Hodur composed the Confession of Faith of the Polish National Catholic Church which was first accepted and adopted in 1913 at the Provincial Synod and then at the Third General Synod convened at Chicago, IL in 1914.

Contained in his “Confession of Faith,” we are given an insight into our Organizer’s faith, his deep religious conviction and his profound spiritual acumen which speak volumes of truth to this day.

**I BELIEVE** in Almighty God, the cause of all existence, in a Being who permeates the universe and is the source of its life and development, both material (physical) as well as spiritual and moral. In relation to man, God reveals Himself through His creative power. His inexpressible wisdom, His provident influence on the formation of the destiny of individual man, nations, states, and all of humanity. In a more particular way, God as the Spirit of Life, Light and Goodness, influences chosen spirits of nations, who in each epoch of human development, are the creative agent in the building of God’s Kingdom on earth. This direct influence of God – is not limited to one nation, to one epoch, but is directed to all nations and times – for the purpose of stimulating life, progress, and the attainment of the highest degree of culture by individual nations, states, and all mankind; it is the outpouring of Divine forces acting upon humanity and the benefiting from these forces by individuals, nations states and all mankind.

**I BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ, the Savior, and Spiritual Regenerator of the world.

**I BELIEVE** that Christ the Lord was the Emissary of God, of one substance with Him, as to humanity born of the humble woman Mary. I believe that this Nazarene Master revealed His Divine mission on earth through His life, an unsurpassed ideal of goodness, wisdom, and self-sacrifice for others, especially for sinful and disinherited people, that by His work, teaching and sacrificial death, He became the glowing ember of a new life of mankind, taking its beginning and deriving its strength and fullness in knowing God, loving Him and fulfilling His Holy Will.

**I BELIEVE** that the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God, rules the world in the natural as well as in the moral order; that all the laws of the universe, as well as those by which the soul of individual man and humanity as a whole are guided, are an emanation of the will, goodness and righteousness of the Divine Being.

**I BELIEVE** that from the Holy Spirit flows grace, that is an invisible power which brings it to pass that, when a man cooperates and works in harmony with it, he becomes better, more perfect, better fitted for his tasks, a participant in the peace of heart and soul, until one day, through union with God in eternity, he finds infinite bliss and the fulfillment of his own being.

**I BELIEVE** in the need of uniting all followers of Christ's religion into the one body of God's Church, and that the Church of Christ, Apostolic and Universal, is the representation of the Divine community of mankind, which the Savior proclaimed, for the realization of which all noble-minded people labored, are still laboring and for which the soul of man yearns, desiring truth, light, love, justice and consolation in God.

**I BELIEVE** that the Church of Christ is the true teacher of both individual man as well as of all human society, that it is a steward of Divine Graces, a guide and a light in man's temporal pilgrimage to God and salvation, in so far as the followers and members of this Church, both lay and clerical, are united with the Divine Founder through faith and life proceeding from this faith.

**I BELIEVE** that every Christian should take an active and vital part in the spiritual life of the Church; through the hearing of the Word of God, through the receiving of the Holy Sacraments, through fulfilling the laws and the regulations established by Christ and His Apostles, as defined, and given us by the Church.

**I BELIEVE** that all people as children of one Father, God, are equal in themselves; that privileges arising from differences in rank, from possessions of immense riches or from differences of faith, sex and race, are a great wrong, thro they are a violation of the rights of man which he possesses by his nature and the dignity of his divine origin and are a barrier to the purposeful development of man.

**I BELIEVE** that all people have an equal right to life, happiness and those ways and means which lead to the preservation of existence, to advancement and salvation, but I also believe, that all people have sacred obligations toward God, themselves, their nation, state and all of human society.

**I BELIEVE** in the ultimate justice of God, in a future life beyond the grave, which will be a continuation of this temporal life and which, as to its condition and degree of perfection and happiness is dependent on our present life, but above all on the state of our soul is the final hour before death.

**I BELIEVE** in immortality and everlasting happiness in eternity, in the union with God of all people, races and ages, because I believe in the Divine power of love, mercy and justice and for nothing else do I yearn, but that it may be to me according to my faith.



## **OUR PARISH CALENDAR**

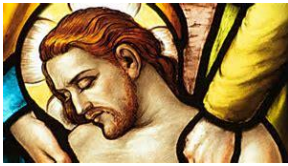
**March 10<sup>th</sup> - March 16<sup>th</sup>**

8:45 am Liturgy of the Hours

9:00 am Holy Mass of the Eucharist

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Mon. 3/10  | <b>Mass of Thanksgiving</b><br>Forty Martyrs of Sebastea, Martyrs<br>Macarius of Jerusalem, Bishop<br>Simplicius of Rome, Bishop   |
| Tue. 3/11  | <b>Mass for Health and Healing</b><br>Contantine of Comwall, K & M.<br>Sophronius of Jerusalem, Bishop<br>Aengus the Hagiographer, Bishop  |
| Wed. 3/12  | <b>Mass to the Holy Saints of God</b><br>Gregory the Great, Bishop & D.<br>Maximilian of Tebessa, Martyr<br>Peter, Grogronius & Dorothesus, M.   |
| Thur. 3/13 | <b>Mass to the Holy Saints of God</b><br>Roderic, Priest & Solomon, Martyr<br>Gerald of Mayo, Abbot<br>Euphrasia, Virgin   |
| Fri. 3/14  | <b>Mass to the Holy Angels of God</b><br>Thomas Aquinas, Doctor & Confesor<br>Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs<br>Theophylact. Bishop  |
| Sat. 3/15  | <b>Private Prayer and Meditation</b><br><b>Lenten Retreat – Central Seniorate</b><br>Longinus the Centurion, NT, Martyr<br>Zachary of Rome, Bishop<br>Lucretia of Cordoba, Virgin & Martyr |





**CENTRAL SENIORATE  
LENTEN RETREAT**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025**

As previously mentioned, our Parish will host a **Lenten Retreat** of the Central Seniorate, of the Eastern Diocese of the PNCC.

This Lenten Retreat will be attended by our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski, together with the clergy of the Central Seniorate, of his diocese, along with members of the various parishes in our Seniorate.



**SHARING THE CROSS**

**“As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry His cross.” - Matthew 27:22**

The theme for this year’s Retreat is **“Sharing the Cross,”** which I think is an appropriate and a suitable Lenten theme, for this retreat.

Beginning, at 9:30 am with registration and then starting the day with Morning Devotions at 10:00 am, we will continue the day with a working “breakfast.”

At the same time, we will present several Lenten topics, that will strive to help all to prepare, not only for the season of Lent, but also for Holy Week the “Tridium,” and leading up to the Solemnity of the Resurrection of our Lord, Easter, on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

We are also planning on taping this Lenten Retreat for future broadcasts on YouTube with the help of Jonathan Boschen, the GM of FCAT, a dear friend.

A simple Lunch will be provided to all participants, and we are planning on concluding our retreat, at 3:00 pm with “Stations of the Cross,” a Lenten Penitential Service of the PNCC in church.



**NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

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



**PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING**

In our prayers, let us please remember all our brothers and sisters, who are in need of the blessings of God for health and healing.

We ask, that if you know of anyone, who are need in prayer, whether it be of health and healing, or another need, please write out your request. Cards may be found in the vestibule of our Church.

In our prayers, may we especially remember:

George and Janet Sadowski, Wayne Shaw, Karen Herzig, Richard Foster, Cindy Benjamin, Marge Sanderson, Carolyn Rapelye, Liam and Evelyn Spatcher, Paula Winn, Jerry Pawlikowski, as well as others. May we also pray for each other.

**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.

**PAINTING OF OUR MAIN ALTAR**

Due to the need to reschedule, our main altar will be prepped and painted this week, starting on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. This project will take place over the next two days. Following today’s Holy Mass, altar linens and other appointmentst will be removed from the Main altar for this work to be done.



### **OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

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



### **Our Food Ministry: “To Feed the Hungry”**

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

The next date for handing out groceries will be held on **Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>** from 10 am while supplies last. Again, we ask for help and assistance in donating the following items:

- Cereals and packets of instant oatmeal.
- Fruit juices, - V8, Apple and cranberry
- powder milk / condensed milk.
- Hot chocolate and tea bags.
- Pasta and spaghetti sauce
- Boxes of Mac-n-cheese
- Canned tuna in water
- Canned meats- chicken, salmon, etc.
- Ramen noodles
- Soups- all varieties
- Canned veggies and fruits.
- Children’s snack pack.

**Please note:** We are also collecting full sized containers of personal care as well as cleaning items for the various survival centers. Some of those items that are needed:

- Bar soaps and body wash, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, hand sanitizers, toilet paper, and personal products for incontinence (pads & panty liners, baby powder, baby wipes and diapers.
- Liquid dish soap, laundry detergent, paper towels, bathroom and kitchen cleansers, dish sponges/scrubbers, trash bags.



### **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 bottle 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 to this new ministry. May God bless all of our endeavors.



### **Can Soda Tabs**

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 to all who have donated to this cause and may God bless all our endeavors.



### **BLESSING OF HOMES**

I will continue this week to visit the homes of our parishioners for the traditional blessing with chalk. Unfortunately, recovering from the flu that I was hit with recently, I apologize for having to cancel several appointments. I will be placing calls this week to continue with the blessing of homes.



### **FUEL ASSISTANCE**

Envelopes for fuel assistance may be found in the vestibule of our Church. We truly appreciate any donations to help defray the costs of heating our Church Proper as well as the rectory. Thank you.



**ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAYS AT NOON – CALL TO PRAYER**

On Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon, during the month of February, a “call to prayer” the following two prayers are said.

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God. May they receive the gift of faith that they may come to believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen..

**Let us Pray:** Almighty and Eternal God, You created humanity in Your own image and likeness. Grant grace to those who do not believe in You,, so that all might come to acknowledge You as the one true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. +

(From a Book of Devotions and Prayers, PNCC)

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father** who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and led us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**DISCIPLESHIP 2025  
KNOW YOUR FAITH, GROW IN CHRIST**

The Eastern Diocese will focus on the Person of Jesus Christ, His Identity and Mission.

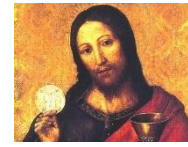
Please join us for the third in a series of Know and Grow presentation on **Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM (EDT)**

Deacon Justin Daviault will help us to explore the topic: **Jesus in the Old Testament.**

To join via Zoom, please contact:

**revpauls@yahoo.com** or **ksobiechowski@yahoo.com.**

*Eastern Diocese Mission & Evangelism Commission*



**ORDINATION OF DEACON JUSTIN DAVIAULT**

On Wednesday, March 19, 2025, Deacon Justin Daviault will be ordained to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ, through the imposition of hands by the Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski, Bishop Ordinary of the Eastern Diocese of the PNCC. This most special day in the life of Justin will take place at the Holy Trinity PNCC at 200 Summer St. in Plantsville, CT.



**ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION  
LENTEN COLLECTION BOXES**

At a meeting of the Eastern Diocesan M & E Commission, it was decided that beginning with Septuagesima Sunday, all parishes in our Diocese will be asked to help contribute donations during this Lenten season. It should be noted, that as in the past, each parish will determine what charitable organization(s) they wish to donate all monies collected at the end of the Lenten season. Thank you.



**PRAYER FOR PEACE FOR UKRAINE**

**O Lord, our God:** Your Son taught us how blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called Your children We come before You this day, Father, in prayer, for the people in Ukraine. We pray for all those who have lost and will lose their lives in a war that they did not seek nor provoke. We pray for the people of Ukraine, who have been displaced from their homes and country: especially the women, the children and the aged, who are now seeking safety and security. We pray today for the defenders of this great nation and ask for the protection of Your Holy angels to guard and protect all of them at this time of crisis. May all the people of Ukraine have the blessed assurance that you are ever present. Amen.



## **A MORNING LENTEN DEVOTIONAL**

At the time of prayer, the following is said:

Lord, come to my assistance. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

### OPENING HYMN

Lord, whose love in humble service  
Bore the weight of human need,  
Who did on the cross, forsaken,  
Showed us mercy's perfect deed;  
We, Your servants, bring the worship  
Not of voice alone, but heart;  
Consecrating to Your purpose  
Every gift which You impart.

As we worship, grant us vision,  
Till Your love's revealing light,  
Till the height and depth and greatness  
Dawns upon our human sight;  
Make known the needs and burdens  
Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to faithful service,  
Your abundant life to share

### A DEVOTIONAL READING

(Romans 12:1-2)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God and what is good and acceptable and perfect.

### CLOSING PRAYER

**Father**, He who knew no sin was made sin for me, to save me and restore me to Your friendship. Look upon my contrite heart and afflicted spirit and heal my troubled conscience, so that in the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit, I may proclaim Your praise and glory before all the nations. I ask this through my Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



## **AN EVENING LENTEN DEVOTIONAL**

At the time of prayer, the following is said:

Lord, come to my assistance. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

### OPENING HYMN

The setting sun now dies away,  
And darkness comes at close of day.  
Your brightest beams, dear Lord, impart,  
And let them shine within our heart.

We praise Your name with joy this night;  
Please watch and guide us till the light;  
Joining the music of the blest,  
O Lord, we sing ourselves to rest.

To God the Father, God the Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,  
Trinity blest, whom we adore,  
Be praise and glory evermore.

### A DEVOTIONAL READING

(Isaiah 53:4-7)

Surely, He has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted Him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the punishment that made us whole, and by His bruises we are healed. All we are like sheep, who have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.

### CLOSING PRAYER

**God of mercy**, when Christ called out to You in torment, you heard Him and gave Him victory over death because of His love for You. I already know the affection that You have for me; fill me with a greater love of Your name, that I may proclaim You more boldly before all men. I ask this in the name of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.