



HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH
Polish National Catholic Church
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TODAY, SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025

THE 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 pm – Holy Mass of the Eucharist

Mass Intention: Sp. Wanda J. Koerber offered by daughter Joye (Joyce) Koerber, son, Rev. Fr. Robert Koerber and all family members.

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

(John 13:34-35)

- V. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. Alleluia.
- R. This is how all will know that you are My disciples if you have love for one another. Alleluia.

- 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. God of eternal love, You sent us Your only begotten Son as our Savior. Give us the grace to be true disciples, walking in the way of His commandments and loving each other as He loves us. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS
(Acts 14:21-27)

After Paul and Barnabas had proclaimed the good news to that city and made a considerable number of disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch. They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying, "It is necessary for

us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God." They appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith. Then they traveled through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. After proclaiming the word at Perga, they went down to Attalia. From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now accomplished. And when they arrived, they called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

C. The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

(1 Peter 1:22; John 3:14)

V. Since you have purified yourselves by obedience to the truth for sincere mutual love, love one another intensely from a [pure] heart. Alleluia.

R. We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Alleluia.



A READING FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION (Revelation 21:1-5)

Then I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new."

C. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

(Romans 12:10)

C. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

V. Love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN

(John 13:31-35)

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

C. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him. If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and God will glorify Him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

C. 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

(1 John 4:12)

- V. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and His love is brought to perfection in us. Alleluia.



PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Heavenly Father, the sacrifice of Your Son shows us the true essence of Your love. May these gifts we place before You, make us holy and lead us to eternal joy. 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.

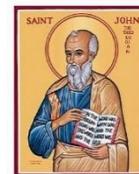
COMMUNION VERSE

(Romans 13:8)

- V. Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. Alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- C. The Lord be with you.
R. And also with you.
C. Let us pray. Almighty Father, through the grace of this Holy Eucharist may we come to love one another, that all may know we are truly Your disciples. 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.



THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Many of the early Christian Church Fathers, among them St. Polycarp, (69-155 AD) and St. Iraneus (120-200 AD) agree, that the author of the Book of Revelation was that of St. John, the Beloved, considered by tradition, to be the last of the Apostles who died circa 95 AD on the island of Patmos. It is believed that John wrote this book during the final years of his years and the reign of Roman emperor Domitian.

In his gospel account, John brings to the Church the words that He heard from Jesus and passed it on, who many of the disciples and scribes of John. who gives his testimony as he introduces his readers to Jesus as the “Logos, the “Word” as we find in (John 1:1), (1 John 1:1) and (Rev. 19:13).

In John, unlike any other of the Evangelists, he wrote upon the “spirit” and the teaching of our Lord, which we find in his Gospel, his three Letters and finally, the last book of the New Testament.

The book of Revelation is unlike any other book found in the New Testament. John receives a vision of the “end times” which is also known as “apocalyptic.”

During this time in Church history, there were many severe persecutions of Christians by the Roman government that stood as symbols that John described, were used in the fashion of the Old Testament books of Daniel and Ezekiel. How else would review His Word? Did He not sent prophet? Did not Jesus speak about this matter in several references found in the New Testament.

It is believed that the purpose of his book was to give comfort to the persecuted Christians. It should be noted that the persecution of Christians, first started with the emperor Nero in 64 AD, following the Great Fire of Rome and lasted for three centuries until the emperor Constantine issued the “Edict of Milan,” in 311 AD, which established a religious toleration for all Christians within the Roman Empire. We know that both Constantine and his mother Helena, were converted into the Christian faith, and Helena traveled to Jerusalem seeking holy relics of the wood and nails of Christ.

A major theme of the book of Revelation lies in the second coming of Christ (Parousia), which is presented as both a blessing, as well as future hope for all the followers of “The Way” or “Christians” as they were first called in the town of Corinth.

“Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul [Paul] and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So, for a whole year Barnabas and Saul [Paul] met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.” - Acts 11:25

It was quoted by Saint Augustine It can be said that the first book of the Old Testament is fulfilled in the last book of the New Testament. Whereas, in the Book of Genesis of the OT, mankind through Adam fell from the grace of God and was cast away from the Garden of Eden, with Eve. We find, in the Book of Revelation, mankind is restored unto the grace of God and placed back into the “garden” of the New Jerusalem.

John brings forth to the readers the image of the perfect sacrifice and the reconciliation of man back to God through the “Slain Lamb,” Jesus, who shed His blood as the Pascal Lamb at Passover and was the only one in heaven or on earth who was worthy to open the “Book of Life.” In the closing chapters, the beast is defeated and a new heaven on earth is established.

The following is an outline of the Book of Revelation:

Source: Master Study Bible, Holman Bible 1977.

- Letters to the Seven Churches (Chap. 2-3)
- The Seven Seals (Chap.4:1-8:1)
- The Seven Trumpets (Chap. 8:2-11:19)
- The Dragon and the Woman (Chap. 12)
- The Two Beasts (Chap. 13)
- The New Song (Chap. 14)
- The Seven Bowls (Chap. 15-16)
- Babylon as the Harlot ((Chap. 17:1 – 19:10)
- Victory and Judgement of Christ (Chap. 19:11- 20:15)
- The New Heaven and the New Earth (Chap.21: 1-22:5)
- Closing of the Revelation and the New Testament (Chapter 22:6-21)

**I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA,
THE FIRST AND THE LAST
THE BEGINNING AND THE END**

In the closing book of the New Testament, we read in the Book of Revelation 22 12-17. these words:

“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with Me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am, the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the

right to the Tree of Life and may go through the gates into the city.”

In the Rabbinic literature of Judaism, we find the word “***Emet***” meaning "truth" is one of the names of God in Judaism. This word has been interpreted as consisting of the first, middle, and final letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

In Islam, the Qur'an gives the words: ***al'Awwal*** (الأول), meaning "The First" and ***al'Akhir*** (الأخر), meaning "The Last," which are also the two names of God as found in the Koran (Koran 57:3).



JESUS, THE PASCAL LAMB

“Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.”

- 1 Corinthians 5:7

Throughout the New Testament, there are many references, found in the NT, who identifies Jesus as the Lamb of God. These are but a few:

“The next day he [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

- John 1:29

“After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands.”

- Revelation 7:9

“And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.”

– Revelation 7:10

“For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

- Revelation 7:17

“And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.”

– Revelation 21:23



Friday, May 23rd
Girolamo Savonarola
Priest & Martyr
(1452 -1498)

“The World has come to such a state that one can no longer find anyone who does good.”
- Savonarola

Girolamo Savonarola who as a 15th century Italian Christian preacher, reformer, and martyr, who clashed with the corruption of the Roman Catholic Church. After the overthrow of the Medici in 1494, Savonarola became a major leader in Florence, who strived “to set up” a democratic republic. His chief enemies were the duke of Milan and Pope Alexander VI, of the infamous “house of Borgia,” who issued numerous decrees against Savonarola; all of which he ignored.

Taken from the book “**Origin and Growth of the Polish National Catholic Church**” written in 1974 by the Rev. Stephen Wlodarski, P.H.D, we read the following:

“On September 29, 1898, a letter of excommunication, was prepared by Bishop Michael Hoban of the Scranton Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church. In this letter, Father Francis Hodur was forbidden from entering any Roman Catholic Church or participate in the Eucharist.

It should be pointed out that this ban of excommunication, was not effective, because it was not signed by the pope.”

“On October 3, 1898, at High Mass, celebrated at the first PNCC church, St. Stanislaus B&M, in Scranton, PA, Father Hodur read the text of this ban and at a meeting in the Parish Hall at 7:30 pm, Father Hodur gave a lecture on the famous Florentine reformer – Hieronimus Savonarola, who was burned at the stake in 1498.

Father Hodur then burned the document of excommunication and ordered that the ashes be thrown into a creek below the hill where the first church was erected.”

In April 1905, Savonarola Theological Seminary, received its first six pupils.

So, in reflection, why was our PNCC Seminary named after by some, a considered heretic, burned at the stake, but yet was considered by many, as a great religious reformer, “on par” with other great religious reformers such as Martin Luther and John Hus?

It could be said, that Savonarola, as a great religious reformer, in his time, spoke out against the corruption and injustices perpetrated by the Roman Church, in the 16th century such as, just as the Rev. Fr. Francizek Hodur, as an ordained priest, in the Roman Catholic Church, and who later to become the Organizer of the PNCC, latter spoke also against the injustices leveled against Polish immigrants and others who came to America in the 19th century who sought religious freedom, where its people would have a voice in the matters, of ownership of its churches, as well as a language of its people in a Church which existed in the late 1860’s.

It should also be noted, that just as Pope Alexander VI, issued a letter of excommunicated, ordering Savonarola not to preach, Father Hodur was ordered was his Diocesan Bishop, Bishop Hoban, not to have anything to do with families who had chosen to break away from the Church of Rome. But Father Hodur, upon much prayer, chose differently

From his “**Confession of Faith**” Bishop Hodur wrote about the equality and respect of all peoples:

I BELIEVE that all peoples as children of one Father, God, are equal in themselves; that privileges arising from differences in rank, from possession of immense riches or from differences of faith, sex and race, are a great wrong, for 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 humanity.

OUR PARISH CALENDAR

8:45 am Morning Devotionals

9:00 am Holy Mass of the Eucharist

THIS WEEK’S MASS SCHEDULE

(May 19th - May 25th)

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|---------------|---|
| Mon. 5/19 | Private Prayer and devotions Dunstan of Canterbury, Bishop Prudentiana & Pudens, Martyrs Alcuin, Abbot |
| Tues. 5/20 | Mass of Thanksgiving Bernadine of Siena, Confessor Thalelaeus, Martyr Basilla, Virgin & Martyr |
| Wed. 5/21 | Mass for health & healing Andrew Bobola, Martyr Godric, Confessor Constantine the Great, King |
| Thurs. 5/22 | Mass to the Holy Martyrs of God Julia of Carthage, Martyr Custus & Aemilius, Martyr Quiteria, Virgin & Martyr |
| Friday 5/23 | Mass to the Holy Angels of God Jerome Savonarola, Priest & Martyr Desiderius, Bishop & Martyr Guibert, Confessor |
| Saturday 5/24 | Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus Vincent of Lerins, Bishop Donatian & Rogatian, Martyrs Lanfranc of Canterbury, Bishop |
| Sunday, 5/25 | 6th Sunday of Easter to be celebrated in the Contemporary rite. |



MINISTRY OF LAY READERS

I wish to thank Peg Kostiuik, who did a lot of work in creating a schedule of “lay readers.” The following is the schedule for the next upcoming weeks.:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sunday, May 18 th – | John Harrington |
| Sunday, May 25 th - | Josh Tudryn |
| Sunday, June 1 st - | Cheryl Major |
| Sunday, June 8 th - | Jonathan Boschen |
| Sunday, June 15 th - | Peg Kostiuik |
| Sunday, June 22 nd - | Eric Dibrindisi |
| Sunday, June 29 th - | Jim Winn |
| Sunday, July 6 th - | Paula Winn |
| Sunday, July 13 th - | Shirley Mietlicki- Floyd |

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

In our prayers, may we remember all our dear brothers and sisters, who are sick ill. May we pray for the blessings of health and healing to rest upon all those whom we remember in prayer:

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. Deliver them, according to Your will, from all 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

Our Food Ministry: “To Feed the Hungry”

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

Our next grocery “give-a-way” date will be **Saturday, June 21st**, from 10 o'clock till supplies last. We are still in need of the following:

- 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 packs.

Please note: Also, through our Parish ministries, we are continuing to collect “full sized” containers of personal care items and cleaning items to aid others.

All items collected, will be donated to the various survival centers in our area. Items 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. Collection containers have been set up in the vestibule of our church. Please help donate your plastic tops to aid others in this, our new ministry.

THE EASTERN DIOCESE OF THE PNCC

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

On Wednesdays, at 12:00 Noon, during the month of May, all are called upon to offer these prayers:

Let us Pray: Almighty God, speak to our hearts whenever courage fades. Sustain us with an unyielding trust and steadfast faith, so that we may not be afraid to profess defend our faith in You. May we stand with the same courage and perseverance of Your holy martyrs as we face the challenges placed before us. Renew us with Your unfailing love and fill us with hope in Your eternal purpose. Enlighten us to look beyond the temporary things of this world to You, the Source of all courage. We ask this through Your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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 our daily bread and forgive us of our trespasses this day, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.