

Holy Family Parish
National Catholic Church
1921 Eden Park Boulevard
McKeesport. Pa. 15132
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www.hfpncc.org
Facebook Holy Family National Catholic Church
Celebrating our 100th Year



14 Sunday Ordinary Time
July 4, 2021

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements (six months in advance), please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678. 0566. Office **Hours:** Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at bsleczkowski@aol.com

Parish Staff:

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THIS WEEK



Sunday, July 4, 2021

14 Ordinary Time

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

+**Mildred & Ignatius Budziloski** (wedding Ann.) Int. daughter Terry Allen; +**Anna Mastrovich** (19th Ann) Int. daughter Carol Davelli

Sunday, July 11, 2021

15 Ordinary Time

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

+**Anthony Palko** (92nd birthday) Int. wife Frances Palko; +**Helen Popovic** Int. David & Sandy Kost.

N.B. Beginning next Sunday, in conjunction with the state regulations and in accordance with our bishops, masks will not be required for Holy Mass attendance. Masks can be worn at the discretion of the individual.

Condolences

Holy Family extends its sympathies and love to Cathy Trumpe upon the death of her husband, John Trumpe. John's funeral was held yesterday with a Mass of Christian burial. Eternal rest grant to him Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

God Bless America

Lord, we stand today as our forefathers have stood before You in times gone by, celebrating our history and revelling in all the great things that our country has achieved. On this day we rejoice in the favor You have graciously given us. We thank You for the blessings of liberty, for this generation and for the generations to come. We thank You for

our independence, peace and for all those who have bravely given their lives in the defense of freedom and justice. We thank You that Your gracious and provident hand has given us so much. Yet as a nation and people we have not always chosen the right way. We ask You to forgive us for these times. On this day we commit ourselves to wholeheartedly honoring and serving You. With everything that we are, we lay our lives before You. Make us a generous people, A holy nation, A people set aside to love You forever, For the sake of the land of the brave and free, And the peoples and nations of this world. Today, we do not presume Your grace for our country. Our land is in need of You, Our people are in need of You, Our industry and business is in need of You. May we look only to You this Independence Day, dependent on You. Please come now by Your glorious Holy Spirit, Breathe new life into the sinews of this nation. May justice flow like rivers, and righteousness like a never-failing stream, Until the whole of our country is covered with Your glory, as the waters cover the sea. We ask all this in the wonderful name of Jesus, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit. One God, now and for all eternity. Amen.

**Vendor Sale Saturday September 25th
Mark your calendars.**

Our first reading today is Ezekiel’s own account of his commissioning by God. This short reading has a remarkable honesty – the mission is not going to be easy. Those forbidding words, “whether they listen or not...” give us insights into the task the prophet faces. When we eventually get to the message that Ezekiel is to take with him, it might seem a little bit of an anticlimax: “The Lord says this.” This was the formula of Divine prophecy - a sign that the words, whatever they were, came from God.



Interestingly, it is the same phrase that we hear at the end of our Mass readings: “This is the Word of the Lord.” Paul gives us a strangely intimate insight into his ministry, in talking about his “thorn in the flesh”. There has been a lot of debate as to what this could be: some think it could be a serious, possibly disfiguring disease; others that he refers to the failure of his brothers and sisters in Judaism to accept his message; some have even suggested that it could refer to his baldness, his short stature or a speech impediment. Whatever the details, here Paul is giving us a deeply personal testimony to his faith and his mission - whatever the burden, he is quite happy to carry on.

A prophet's job is to open people's eyes to the reality of their situation pointing out to them the things they would rather forget or ignore. A prophet is a sort of “national conscience”, always awake to situations of injustice and always speaking out about them. A prophet is commissioned to do this by God, who sends the prophet on his mission. Jesus is just such a prophet, teaching and preaching about the Kingdom of God and the best way to live. Despite the welcome his message has received elsewhere, when he comes to his hometown, he is faced with rejection such that “he was amazed at their lack of faith.” It is curious that they seem to accept his wisdom, and his miracles, but because he grew up among them, they cannot accept him as a teacher from God. We should remember that it is often hardest to stand up for the truth among those who know us well.

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