

Holy Family Parish  
1921 Eden Park Boulevard  
McKeesport, Pa. 15132  
412.678.0566; 412.276.5562

[www.hfpncc.org](http://www.hfpncc.org)

Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church  
Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski, Pastor



## Institution of the PNCC March 12, 2023

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements, 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](mailto:BSleczkowski@aol.com)

### Parish Staff:

Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski, Pastor 412.276.5562  
Ted Gibala, Committee Chairman 412.678.7347  
Carol Davelli Chopin Choir Director 412.678.2368  
Wendy Blotzer, Organist, Bell Choir 412.926.6029  
David Kost, Lector Coordinator 412.519.7771  
Tom Popovic, Cemetery Coordinator 724.243.3033  
Parish Custodian 412.678.7347



**Pray for Ukraine**

**This Week**

**Sunday, March 12, 2023**

**Institution of the PNCC**

**Mission Collection**

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<b>+Rita Gdovic</b> (Ann. Of Death) Int. husband Dennis Gdovic;	
<b>+Mildred Kotulsky</b> Int. Karyn Muse	
SAMBS Monthly Meeting	10:15 A.M.
SOCL	10:15 A.M.
YMSof R Monthly Meeting	10: 15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.

**Monday, March 13, 2023**

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:30 P.M.
-----------------------------------	-----------

**Wednesday, March 15, 2023**

Chopin Choir Rehearsal	1:00 P.M.
------------------------	-----------

**Thursday, March 16, 2023**

Parish Council Meeting	7:00 P.M.
------------------------	-----------

**Friday, March 17, 2023**

Bitter Lamentations III	7:00 P.M.
-------------------------	-----------

**Sunday, March 19, 2023**

**Lent 4**

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<b>Deceased members of the +Fornal, Staniek &amp; Como Families</b>	
<b>Int. Steffania Piekielek; +Dennis Grantz</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> Ann.) Int. wife	
Elaine and Family; <b>+Josephine Kijowski</b> (15 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) Int. Dee	
Dee & Art Eagan	
SOCL	10:15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.

**PNU District 5 Branch 132**  
**“Roll Away the Stone of Hunger**  
**Lenten Food Drive**

Please bring can or dried food donations to the Church and help roll away the stone of hunger in our community. The Food Drive ends Passion Sunday. Make sure that the dates on the donated food have not expired.



## Easter Flowers

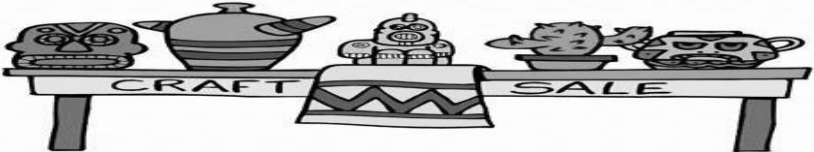
Envelopes are now available in the Church Narthex to purchase Easter Flower for the Church in memory of loved ones.



During the month of March when our One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Polish National Catholic Church was organized by Father Francis Hodur and hardworking Polish immigrants who were treated poorly and marginalized.

Bishop Francis Hodur was called by God and his people to organize our Polish National Catholic Church. This began on the second Sunday of March in 1897. Bishop Hodur said: "Our Church cannot be a blind, soulless copy of any Christian church. It must reach to the source of religious life, Christ the Lord. If we do not have Jesus' principles more adapted to life and effectively active, we do not have the right to life. Therefore, to work!"

## Spring Craft Show March 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.



Requested: Chinese Auction Baskets & Lottery Tickets (received by Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>) 50/50 Raffle tickets & Chinese Auction Baskets can be purchased between Masses on March 19<sup>th</sup> if not able to attend Craft Show. Needed: Coke, Sprite, Iced Tea, Root Beer, Cream Sodas, bottled water (16.9-ounce size) to be brought to hall by March 19<sup>th</sup>. Help will be needed to set up tables, prep work, etc. on Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Baked Good donations can be brought to the hall Friday at the same time. Polish Food, Baked Goods and Drinks will be sold during the Craft Show. On Saturday morning help will be need at 8:00 A.M.to help unload cars & at 3:00 P.M. to reload cars. All proceeds from the craft show will benefit the church. Please check our Facebook page and share it to invite your family and friends! Any questions, please call Kristen Korenoski --- 412-848-9215. Thank you in advance for all your help and support for the craft show.

## Parish Cemeteries

The first week of April marks the start of a new season of cemetery care. Please remove any artificial decorations, lights, grave blankets etc. at ground level. Any remaining will be removed and placed behind the equipment shed for pick up. Last year's decorations that are behind the shed will be discarded by the end of March. Please secure anything that you want prior to the last week of March. Decorations that attach to the top of monuments will remain as they do not present a danger to the crew if they are not "unsightly" due to age. Volunteer to help maintain the Parish cemeteries are to contact Tom Popovic, Cemetery Coordinator 724.243.3033. Don't forget to make your cemetery donations this year using the Fair Share Envelopes in April and October.



Lent is the season we reflect upon our spiritual lives and how we conduct our lives each day. On Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 P.M. there will be a special Lenten Penitential Service at 7:00 P.M. Plan on attending and make this year truly a Great Lent.

## **22<sup>nd</sup> National Mission & Evangelism Workshop**

Friday, April 28-Sunday April 30

St Stephen the Martyr Parish

Reading, PA

“Ambassadors for Christ”

Interested persons who would like more information and to attend are to contact Fr. Bruce or David Kost.

## **The Seven Penitential Psalms**

During times when we wish to express repentance and especially during Lent, it is customary to pray the seven penitential psalms. The penitential designation of these psalms' dates from the seventh century. Prayerfully reciting these psalms daily will help us to recognize our sinfulness, express our sorrow and ask for God's forgiveness. Each week will be a different Psalm to meditate upon during Lent making our Lenten pilgrimage spiritually fulfilling.

## Psalm 38

**Lord, do not punish me in your anger;  
in your wrath do not chastise me!  
Your arrows have sunk deep in me;  
your hand has come down upon me.  
There is no wholesomeness in my flesh because of your anger;  
there is no health in my bones because of my sin.  
My iniquities overwhelm me,  
a burden too heavy for me.**

We often use metaphors to describe sin and its effects on us. Metaphors give a shape and sound to sin. They make it visible and tangible and help us recognize and name the insidious impact it has on us. Because the diagnosis had not yet been made, the ancients couldn't use the most powerful metaphor for sin we have today. But they surely knew enough of the malignancy we call sin to speak of it as a sickness that robs the body of "health" and "wholesomeness." They understood that sin gets deep inside us, penetrating even to the bone. They realized that sin spreads, that it's a silent killer moving often undetected to the farthest reaches of our beings, making itself at home as it consumes its home from the inside out.

Today, we don't speak so graphically about sin. We tend to psychologize it, even explain it away. We see ourselves more as victims than as sinners; as wounded, misunderstood nice-guys and gals who are doing the best we can. We don't sin; we just make mistakes.

But that's not the way the psalmist saw it. He makes no excuses and seeks no place to hide. He knows that sin has taken up residence inside him. The evidence of sin's effects is all around him: his body is failing; his mind is troubled; his spirit is in turmoil. And in addition to this internal misery, he's also afflicted from without. "Enemies" set traps and lie in wait, and his friends and neighbors shun him.

All this the psalmist sees as God's punishment. But the punishment is not arbitrary or random. No, it flows directly from his actions. The situations in which he finds himself were not knotted together by God the way an overlord might fashion a whip to chastise a rebellious servant. The psalmist knows he's the one who made the whip, tied the knots, and attached the bone chips that will tear his flesh when he is flogged with the

consequences of his own free choices.

But let us not forget the psalms are prayers, not the rantings of hopeless sinners. The psalmist has shut his mouth and raised his arms in surrender because he lacks a remedy for all his ills. He has no excuses and can make no self-defense. And so he turns to the only place he can: the merciful God to whom he can say in confidence, “Do not forsake me... /help me, / my Lord and my salvation!” That’s the genius of the psalms. The goodness of God shines all the brighter when human frailty is not hidden but openly admitted. It’s when we face the darkness of our sin, that the light of God’s merciful love shines brightest.

---

**Time to Renew or Get Your New Subscription to God’s Field!**

God’s Field Annual Subscription Form March 2023 - February 2024

Name:

Street Address:

City: State/Province:

Check No. and amount. and Amt: \$48.00 U.S./ \$62.00 Canada

Return form & payment to: God’s Field 1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505 God’s Field Annual Subscription Form



**Tree of Life**

Two leaves have been added to the branches on the Tree of Life in memory of Dennis Grantz by his wife Elaine and family on the first anniversary of his passing.

