



## Holy Family Parish National Catholic Church

1921 Eden Park Boulevard  
McKeesport, PA 15132



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www.hfpncc.org info@hfpncc.org pastor@hfpncc.org  
Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church

### Sexagesima Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Pre-Lent) February 4, 2024



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 412.678.0566. Office Hours: by appointment.

**Bulletin announcements** should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication.

#### **Parish Staff:**

Fr. Mariusz Mularczyk, Pastor 412.330.8286  
Ted Gibala, Committee Chairman 724.765.4269  
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 724.765.4269



## OPENING HYMN

Turn Your Eyes to Jesus – PNCC #221

## ENTRANCE HYMN (Daniel 9:8-9)

C. O Lord, we are shamefaced, like our kings, our princes, and our fathers, for having sinned against You.

**R. But Yours, O Lord, our God, are compassion and forgiveness! Yet we rebelled against You.**

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.**

## READING 1

JB 7:1-4, 6-7

A reading from the Book of Job.

Job spoke, saying: Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings? He is a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages. So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me. If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?" then the night drags on; I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope. Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.

The Word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**

Praise the LORD, for he is good;  
sing praise to our God, for he is gracious;  
it is fitting to praise him.

The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;  
the dispersed of Israel he gathers.

**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**

He heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.

He tells the number of the stars;  
he calls each by name.

**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;  
to his wisdom there is no limit.

The LORD sustains the lowly;  
the wicked he casts to the ground.

**R. Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.**

## **READING 2**

**1 COR 9:16-19, 22-23**

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters: If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

The Word of the Lord.

## **ALLELUIA**

**MT 8:17**

Christ took away our infirmities  
and bore our diseases.

## **GOSPEL**

**MK 1:29-39**

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND RELATIVES**

Hudson Tutko, Athena Becker, Stephen Pociask, Marian Sleczkowski, Al & Betty Ann Perhas, Ed Babish, Barbara Cook, Paul Koper, Ted Flora, Dave Guillot, Emily Guy, Marcy Raiford, Johanna Pardoe, Antoinette Drake, Marianna Pełka, Bronisław Korus, Ewa Nowak, Justin Riddle, Ford Bartle, Rosalie Clark, Lucille Davelli, Joan Kotulsky, Karyn Muse, Jeff McBride, Carol Davelli, Helene Tylor, Peter Mantzaris, Richard Tomkovitz.

**Please keep us informed that we might minister to those who are ill at home, in the hospital or nursing home. Father Mariusz will visit them with the Holy Communion.**

## CLOSING HYMN

**Sweet Hour of Prayer** (verses 1 & 2) – PNCC 223

## FAITH SHARING

Today's readings challenge us to avoid Job's pessimistic and desperate view of life as a chain of pain and sufferings and to accept life with hope and optimism as a precious gift from God, using it to do good for others and spending our time, talents and lives for others.

The first reading details Job's frustrations in striking contrast: Job complains of the tedium and futility of life and the miseries of human existence. But eventually, his eyes opened by God, Job surrenders himself, his suffering, his work and everything he had had and lost to God's greater wisdom.

The second reading reveals Paul to us as a true, dynamic follower of Jesus, preaching the Gospel to the people, and serving them as their slave with love and fidelity.

Pointing out the spontaneous response of Peter's mother-in-law after she had been healed by Jesus, today's Gospel teaches us that true discipleship means giving selfless, loving service to others. Mark shows us a typical Sabbath day in Jesus' ministry: taking part in the synagogue worship, teaching with authority, exorcising a demon, healing Simon's mother-in-law and, after sundown, curing "*many who were sick with various diseases, and [driving] out many demons*" – a full day and evening of selfless ministry. Yet, Jesus rises early the next morning and goes off "to a deserted place" to pray, in order to assess his work before God his Father and to recharge his spiritual batteries.



**THANK  
YOU  
GOD**

## LIFE MESSAGE

We all need healing for our minds, our memories, and our broken relationships, and now Jesus is also using counselors, doctors, friends, or even strangers in his healing ministry. Let us ask for the ordinary healing we need in our own lives. When we are healed, let us not forget to thank Jesus for his goodness, mercy, and compassion by turning to serve others. Our own healing process is completed only when we are ready to help others in their needs and to focus on things outside ourselves. Let us also be instruments for Jesus' healing by visiting the sick and praying for their healing. But let us remember that we need the Lord's strength not only to make ourselves and others well, but to make us and others whole.



## SAMBS MEETINGS AND MISSION COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Feb 11, 2024; Mar 10, 2024;  
Apr 7, 2024; May 12, 2024

### USHERS FOR SUNDAY COLLECTION AND HOLY COMMUNION

<u>Sunday, February 4:</u>	Frank Pociask, Stan Tadajski
<u>Sunday, February 11:</u>	Bill Griffiths, Rich DeLong
<u>Sunday, February 18:</u>	Don Newcamp, George Jobs
<u>Sunday, February 25:</u>	Joe Parknavy, Ed Goralczyk
<u>Sunday, March 3:</u>	Lenny Guy, Joe Lawrence



### PARISH WEBSITE

Stay updated on parish news and events by visiting our website [www.hfpnc.org](http://www.hfpnc.org) or follow us on **Facebook**. (Thank you David and Marian for all posted updates).

### SPRING CRAFT SHOW

The Spring Craft Show will be on **Saturday, April 20, 2024 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**. We will be preparing on Friday, April 19, 2024 from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. We will need help starting the week of Sunday, April 7, 2024 to start setting the tables, organizing the Chinese Auction Baskets, and pulling down all the supplies.



### PALMS

If you still have the palms from the last year Palm Sunday, please bring them to the church. Please leave them in the narthex. They will be burned, and we will make from them the ashes for the Ash Wednesday.

### MASS OF CHRISM

Mass of Chrism and Spring Clergy Conference of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese will be hosted this year at Holy Trinity Parish (Woodlawn, NY) on March 26, 2024.



### NATIONAL MISSION & EVANGELISM WORKSHOP

National Mission & Evangelism Workshop will be on **April 12-14<sup>th</sup>** at **St. Barbara Parish, Houtzdale, PA**. All pastors and the laity representatives from each parish are encouraged to attend.

## THE SEASON OF PRE-LENT

The celebration of this season is a **preparation** for Holy Lent. The three Sundays of Pre-Lent come seventy, sixty and fifty days before Easter. The **liturgical color** of this season which prepares us to anticipate the spiritual rigors of the Lenten Season is **rose**. Lent then takes on the somber hue of purple signifying the seven week period of penitence and introspection and our conversion of heart.

During Pre-Lent the **Alleluia** heard before the proclamation of the Gospel is **eliminated** from the Mass and will continue to be so through Lent until Easter morning. In place of the Alleluias, we will hear only a mournful chant called the Tract.

Also begun in Pre-Lent is the **elimination of the singing of the Gloria** which will remain silenced through the Lenten season until the Resurrection of Jesus is proclaimed on Easter.

Floral adornments of the high altar are still appropriate through Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, though such adornment may be abandoned if so desired.

## PRE-LENT BOOKLET

A printed version of the Pre-Lent Booklet is available for you. Also, a digital copy can be found on our webpage [www.hfpncc.org](http://www.hfpncc.org).



## 2023 FINANCIAL FAIR SHARE REPORT

If you would like a copy of your 2023 Fair Share Donations for Income Tax, please contact Fr. Mariusz via telephone or email.

## PĄCZKI SUNDAY

Sunday, February 11, enjoy Oakmont Bakery pączki assorted flavors, and coffee for **\$5.00** after Mass. Hosted by our choirs. Pączki (Polish) [poinch-key] or [pan-shki]



## PNA FOOD DRIVE

PNA Lodge P132 is collecting non-perishable food items for Intersection Food Pantry in McKeesport. They are mainly in need of cereals, soups and spaghetti sauce. The collection is from Ash Wednesday through March.

## **BUFFALO-PITTSBURGH DIOCESAN SYNOD**

The Synod will be hosted by the Cathedral Parish. It will begin an evening Mass on Wednesday August 21<sup>st</sup> and sessions will begin on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> all day. Synod will end on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **ST. BLAISE THROAT BLESSING**

Yesterday, Saturday, Feb 3 was the Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop who was martyred in the year 316 AD. The oldest accounts tell us that Blaise was a physician at Sebasta before he was made bishop. In the 4<sup>th</sup> century persecution of Licinius, St. Blaise was taken prisoner. After suffering various forms of torture he was beheaded.

The most popular story attributed to St. Blaise occurred while he was in prison, when he cured a young boy who was in danger of choking to death because of a fishbone in his throat. That story, and the fact that St. Blaise was a doctor, made the saint very popular for intercessory prayer for throat ailments.

At an early date, the veneration of this Eastern saint was brought into Europe, and Blaise became one of the most popular saints of the Middle Ages. Numberless churches and altars were dedicated to him.

The blessing of St. Blaise will be given at Holy Family Church at the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, February 4.

The blessing of the throat is carried out using two white taper candles that were blessed on Friday, February 2, the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas Day).

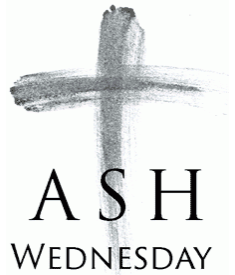
The white color of the candles symbolizes purity. A red ribbon draped over the base of the candles symbolizes the martyrdom of St. Blaise. The candles are grasped in an X-shape and held up to the throat of the person receiving the blessing: “Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”



## **ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

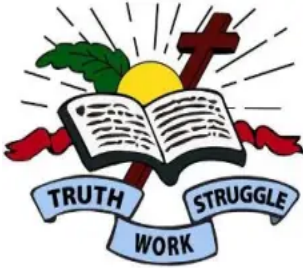
With Ash Wednesday we begin the holy season of Lent, our time for penance, reflection, and reconciliation. This is the time when we mark our souls with the cross. As a visible sign we want to mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross made with Ashes. Please come for **Holy Mass at 10:00 AM** (Fr. Bruce – celebrant) or **7:00 PM** (Fr. Mariusz – celebrant). Ashes to be distributed at both Masses.

Ash Wednesday is a holy day of obligation, and the distributing of the Ashes cannot be transferred to Sunday nor any other day.



## INSTITUTION OF THE PNCC

The anniversary of the founding of the PNCC just celebrated on the second Sunday in March (March 10<sup>th</sup> this year). Although this Sunday falls in Lent, we nonetheless commemorate our founding. The Solemnity of the Institution is celebrated in white with a hymn Gloria. Flowers are permitted and altar paraments should be white.



The symbol of the  
Polish National Catholic Church

The BOOK signifies the Word of God.

The SUN signifies freedom and fervor.

The CROSS signifies suffering and consecration for others.

The PALM signifies peace.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Each Friday during Lent 7:00 PM.**

Friday, Feb 16 (service led by father Mariusz)

Friday, Feb 23 (service led by Lectors and Altar Servers)

Friday, March 1 (service led by YMSR)

Friday, March 8 (service led by SAMBS)

Friday, March 15 (service led by both Choirs)

Friday, March 22 (service led by Parish Committee)

Friday, March 29 – Good Friday, outdoor Stations (if good weather)





## LENTEN LAMENTATIONS – GORZKIE ŻALE

One of the signs of Lent in the Polish community are the Gorzkie Żale, called in English Lenten Lamentations or Bitter Lamentations, sung at church on Sundays during that somber season. They're a series of melancholic hymns about Jesus Christ's passion and death, meant to be a form of grieving for His suffering. The Lenten Lamentations are divided into three parts. Part one recalls Christ's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, arrest and unjust trial. Part two recalls Christ's suffering from his unjust trial to His being crowned with thorns. Part three recalls Christ's crucifixion and death. Each part has its particular set of spoken intentions and hymns.

Bitter Lamentations are a particularly Polish Catholic tradition. Officially, the lamentations were first written down and sung on March 13, 1707 in Holy Cross Church in Warsaw.

Afterward, they spread to other churches around Poland and eventually wherever Poles emigrated. There are many different versions in English, however, none of them is good enough, because Lamentations were written in



old Polish language, even partially non-understandable to native Polish speakers today. Also, the melodies, music was composed to Polish phrases, not easy adjustable to English. Therefore, the best way is to use Polish or mix Polish-English.

We encourage all of you to attend at least once this devotion during Lent to hear these lamentations. Even if you cannot understand Polish, the haunting melodies will certainly move you. When done correctly, the Gorzkie Żale truly make it feel as if Christ is suffering right in front of you, and you with Him.

**Lenten Lamentations will be held at Holy Family church in the first (Feb 18), second (Feb 25) and third (March 3) Sunday of Lent at 3:00 PM and on Good Friday at 7:00 PM.**

The Polish and English subtitles will be displayed on the screen.

## LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Our Special Lenten Penitential Service will be held on **Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> after Stations at 7:00 PM**. Plan on attending and make this year truly a Great Lent. Let us prepare for Easter.

You can also schedule the individual confession or spiritual counseling at any time.



## A WALK THROUGH LITURGY

Liturgical classes *A Walk through Liturgy* will be held on **Tuesdays at 5:00PM** during Lent and Easter Season, beginning with Tuesday, Feb 20<sup>th</sup>.

These classes are addressed to the Altar Servers, Lectors, and everybody else who wants to learn of what we do, how we do and why we do things during liturgy. Special invitation is also addressed to adults who would like to serve funeral Masses and Blessing Services.

Our Old Catholic liturgy is beautiful if it is organized and performed with knowledge and understanding.



## Holy Week Timeline



**Palm**  
SUNDAY



**Maundy**  
THURSDAY



**Good**  
FRIDAY



**Holy**  
SATURDAY



**Easter**  
SUNDAY



## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024**

10:00 AM Holy Mass with Palms blessing, Procession and The Lord's Passion (the old rite).  
Breakfast will follow the Mass.

**Holy Monday, March 25, 2024**

10:00 AM Decorating the church for the Holy Week.

**Holy Tuesday, March 26, 2024**

Mass of Chrism and Spring Clergy Conference at Holy Trinity Parish (Woodlawn, NY)

**Holy Wednesday, March 27, 2024**

6:00 PM Holy Hour, Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunity to individual Confession.

**Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024**

7:00 PM Commemoration of the Institution of the Eucharist, Reception of the newly blessed Holy Oils, Last Supper Mass with the feet washing ceremony (Mandatum), Procession to the Altar of Repose, Adoration (church open till 10:00PM)

**Good Friday, March 29, 2024**

3:00 PM Stations of the Cross (outdoor), Good Friday Liturgy (contemporary rite): The Lord's Passion, Adoration of the Holy Cross, Holy Communion, Procession and the Opening of the Symbolic Grave (church will stay open, come and pray any time).

7:00 PM Bitter Lamentations

**Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024**

12:00 PM Blessing of the Easter Baskets

7:00 PM Easter Vigil Liturgy, the Blessing of the New Fire, the Blessing of the Paschal Candle and Holy Water, Exultet, Vigil Mass (contemporary rite).  
Blessing of the Easter Baskets will follow the Vigil Mass.

**Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024**

10:00 AM Resurrection Procession and the Resurrection Mass.

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, February 4, 2024 – Sexagesima Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Pre-Lent)**

**10:00 AM – Holy Mass with the Blessing of the Throats**

† Ted Balawajder – requested by Bob & Jan Yonek

**Monday, February 5, 2024 – Weekday**

**Tuesday, February 6, 2024 – Weekday**

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024 – Weekday**

**Thursday, February 8, 2024 – Weekday**

**Friday, February 9, 2024 – Weekday**

**Saturday, February 10, 2024 – Weekday**

**Sunday, February 11, 2024 – Quinquagesima Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pre-Lent)**

**10:00 AM – Holy Mass with the Blessing of the Throats**

† Josephine Dorazzio – requested by Marcia & Jack Schmitz

† Art Eagan – requested by Terry & Henrietta Kleckner

2/14/24 We 10:00 AM Ash Wednesday

OPEN

2/14/24 We 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday

† Michał Mularczyk

2/18/24 Su 10:00 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

OPEN

2/25/24 Su 10:00 AM 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

† Genevieve Lawrence – requested by Henrietta & Terry Kleckner

3/3/24 Su 10:00 AM 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

† Deacon Raymond Lagesse, † Max T. Sleczkowski – requested by Rev. Bruce & Marian Sleczkowski

3/10/24 Su 10:00 AM Solemnity – Institution of the PNCC

OPEN

3/17/24 Su 10:00 AM Passion Sunday

† Dennis Grantz (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Death) – requested by wife Elaine Grantz

3/19/24 Tu 10:00 AM Solemnity – St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM

Mass for all men of the Holy Family Parish

3/24/24 Su 10:00 AM Palm Sunday

OPEN



### MASS INTENTION REQUEST FORM

Mass for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date requested \_\_\_\_\_

Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Mass stipend \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mail this form and the Mass stipend to:  
Rev. Mariusz Mularczyk, 1921 Eden Park Blvd, McKeesport, PA 15132*