



Holy Family Parish National Catholic Church

1921 Eden Park Boulevard
McKeesport, PA 15132



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Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church

Quinquagesima Sunday (3rd Sunday of Pre-Lent) February 11, 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

Lord, Forsake Us Not (verses 4,5,7) – PNCC #175

ENTRANCE HYMN (Isaiah 42:8-10a)

C. I am the Lord, this is My Name; My glory I give to no other, nor My praise to idols. See now, the earlier things have come to pass, new ones I now foretell; before they spring into being, I announce them to you.

R. Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise from the end of the earth.

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

HOS 2:16, 17B, 21-22

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Hosea.

Thus says the LORD: I will lead her into the desert and speak to her heart. She shall respond there as in the days of her youth, when she came up from the land of Egypt. I will espouse you to me forever: I will espouse you in right and in justice, in love and in mercy; I will espouse you in fidelity, and you shall know the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-136

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills.

He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

READING 2**2 COR 3:1B-6**

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

Brothers and sisters: Do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you? You are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by all, shown to be a letter of Christ administered by us, written not in ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets that are hearts of flesh. Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that of ourselves we are qualified to take credit for anything as coming from us; rather, our qualification comes from God, who has indeed qualified us as ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit; for the letter brings death, but the Spirit gives life.

The Word of the Lord.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL**MT 8:17**

The Father willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

GOSPEL**MK 2:18-22**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were accustomed to fast. People came to him and objected, "Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" Jesus answered them, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak. If he does, its fullness pulls away, the new from the old, and the tear gets worse. Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the skins are ruined. Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins."

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, 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

From Ashes To the Living Font (verses 1 & 2) – Ritual Song #561

FAITH SHARING

Like an ardent and faithful lover, God woos us and speaks to our hearts. Jesus proclaims that he is the bridegroom of the new covenant.

In the First Reading, taken from the Book of the Prophet Hosea, God calls Israel back to the innocence of their Exodus relationship. Like a lover, God calls Israel back to be healed and made righteous.

St. Paul in the Second Reading needs no letter of recommendation other than the faithful community at Corinth. God's own Spirit wrote the message of salvation in their hearts.

In our Gospel today Jesus is the bridegroom, the sign of the marriage covenant between God and his people. In his presence, celebration, not fasting, is the appropriate response.

THE RULES OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE FOR LENT

Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays in Lent including GOOD FRIDAY.

Everyone 18 years of age and under 60 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal one full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

FAST & FEAST

Fast from worry, and feast on divine order by trusting in God.

Fast from complaining, and feast on appreciation.

Fast from negatives, and feast on affirmatives.

Fast from self-concern, and feast on compassion for others.

Fast from judging others, and feast on the Christ within them.

Fast from thoughts of illness, and feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute, and feast on the phrases that purify.

Fast from anger, and feast on optimism.

Fast from personal anxiety, and feast on eternal truths.

Fast from discouragement, and feast on hope.

Fast from suspicion, and feast on truth.

Fast from thoughts that weaken, and feast on promises that inspire.



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

Sunday, February 11: Bill Griffiths, Rich DeLong
Sunday, February 18: Don Newcamp, George Jobs
Sunday, February 25: Joe Parknavy, Ed Goralczyk
Sunday, March 3: Lenny Guy, Joe Lawrence



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.

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 12-14th** at **St. Barbara Parish, Houtzdale, PA**. All pastors and the laity representatives from each parish are encouraged to attend.



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.

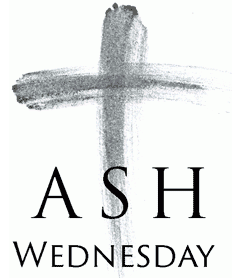


BUFFALO-PITTSBURGH DIOCESAN SYNOD

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

ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 14, 2024

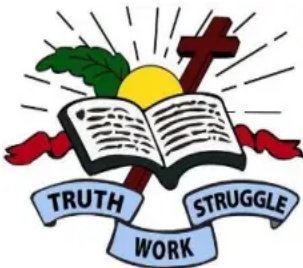
With Ash Wednesday we begin the holy season of Lent, our time for penance, reflection, and reconciliation. This is the time when we mark our souls with the cross. As a visible sign we want to mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross made with Ashes. Please come for **Holy Mass at 10:00 AM** (Fr. 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 is celebrated on the second Sunday in March (March 10th 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

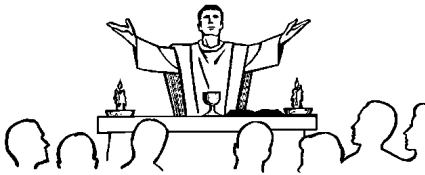
Our Special Lenten Penitential Service will be held on **Friday, March 22nd after Stations at 7:00 PM**. Plan on attending and make this year truly a Great Lent. Let us prepare for Easter. You can also schedule the individual confession or spiritual counseling at any time.



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 20th.

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY READINGS

READING 1

JL 2:12-18

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel.

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment. Perhaps he will again relent and leave behind him a blessing, Offerings and libations for the LORD, your God. Blow the trumpet in Zion! proclaim a fast, call an assembly; Gather the people, notify the congregation; Assemble the elders, gather the children and the infants at the breast; Let the bridegroom quit his room and the bride her chamber. Between the porch and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep, And say, "Spare, O LORD, your people, and make not your heritage a reproach, with the nations ruling over them! Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land and took pity on his people.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM**PS 51:3-4, 5-6AB, 12-13, 14, 17****R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my offense,
and my sin is before me always:
"Against you only have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight."

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A clean heart create for me, O God,
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.
Cast me not out from your presence,
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Give me back the joy of your salvation,
and a willing spirit sustain in me.

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**READING 2****2 COR 5:20—6:2**

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

Brothers and sisters: We are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him. Working together, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says: *In an acceptable time I heard you, and on the day of salvation I helped you.* Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. The Word of the Lord.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL**SEE PS 95:8**

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL**MT 6:1-6, 16-18**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you

give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you. "When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

"When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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 11, 2024 – Quinquagesima Sunday (3rd 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

Monday, February 12, 2024 – Weekday

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 – Weekday

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday

10:00 AM – Holy Mass with the distributing of the Ashes

OPEN

7:00 PM – Holy Mass with the distributing of the Ashes

† Michał Mularczyk – requested by Mularczyk Family

Thursday, February 15, 2024 – Weekday

Friday, February 16, 2024 – Weekday

Saturday, February 17, 2024 – Weekday

Sunday, February 18, 2024 – 1st Sunday of Lent)

10:00 AM – Holy Mass

† Bonnie Zaucha – anonymous request

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

† Genevieve Lawrence – requested by Henrietta & Terry Kleckner

3/3/24 Su 10:00 AM 3rd 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 (2nd Anniversary of Death) – requested by wife Elaine Grantz

† Helen Korch (10th Anniversary of Death) – requested by Janet Korch

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*