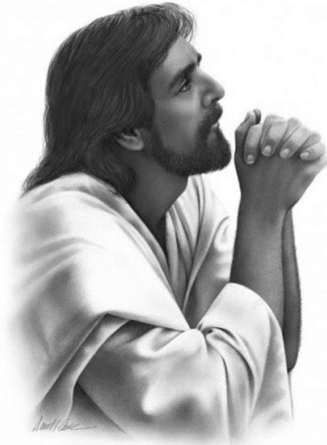


Holy Family Parish  
National Catholic Church  
1921 Eden Park Boulevard  
McKeesport. Pa. 15132  
412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009  
www.hfpncc.org  
Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church



*I am praying for  
them. I am not  
praying for the  
world but for  
those whom you  
have given me,  
for they are yours.  
John 17:9*

## EASTER 7 May 21, 2023

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](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



**Christ has ascended; Christ has ascended indeed!**

## Marian Devotions

Every Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. we will be praying the rosary followed by the Litany to the Holy Mother. Please make every effort to participate. Holy Mother pray for us.

## Parish Votes on Mass Schedule

The votes have been counted and the majority of our parish membership voting 2 to 1 have chosen to have one Mass on Sundays. Beginning in June, Mass will be celebrated at 10 A.M., a compromise between the 9 A.M. and 11 A.M. time schedules. It will be somewhat a sacrifice on some of our parts, changing our usual Sunday schedules, but it will enhance Sunday worship having more people filling our pews which would be a more encouraging sign to anyone who may be interested in becoming a part of our parish family by seeing a fuller Church attendance. Thank you to all who participated.

## This Week

### Sunday, May 21, 2023

Holy Mass

+**Jon Adamek** Int. Cathi Gianz; +**Laura Adamek** Int. Janet Ghetian.

50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary blessing upon Thomas and Virginia Popovic

SOCL Classes

Holy Mass

+**Helen Balawajder** Int. Bob & Janet Yonek

**Easter 7**

9:00 A.M.

10:15 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

### Monday, May 22, 2023

Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:30 P.M.



### Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Rosary and Litany of the BVM

7:00 P.M.

### Thursday, May 25, 2023

Frederic Chopin Choir Rehearsal

6:00 P.M.

### Sunday, May 28, 2023

Holy Mass

+**George Jugan** Int. Bonita Zaucha; +**Irene Jugan** Int. Carol Davelli

SOCL Classes

Holy Mass

**Pentecost**

9:00 A.M.

10:15 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

## **The 2023 Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocesan Youth Retreat**

The diocese would like to reestablish our annual youth retreats and a call is going out to all youth and young adults, ages 8 -20. Parents should consider sending their child. Holy Family parish helps to subsidize the costs. The retreat will be held Sunday, July 30-August 2, 2023 at the Camp Harmony in Hooverville, PA (check out the website [www.campharmony.org](http://www.campharmony.org)) Deadline to register is June 25<sup>th</sup>. Don't let your child or grandchild miss out on this opportunity.

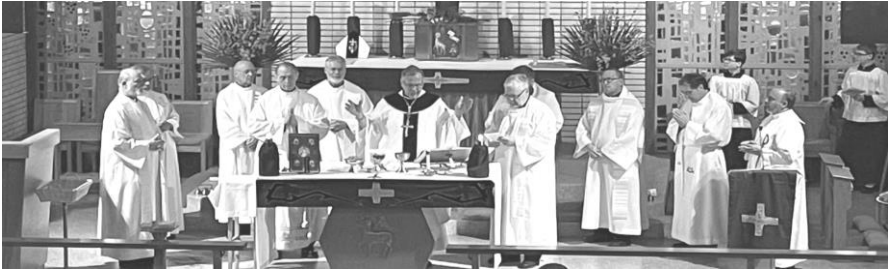
## **50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**

Congratulations to Thomas and Virginia Popovic as they celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at Mass with a anniversary blessing. May there be many more anniversaries.

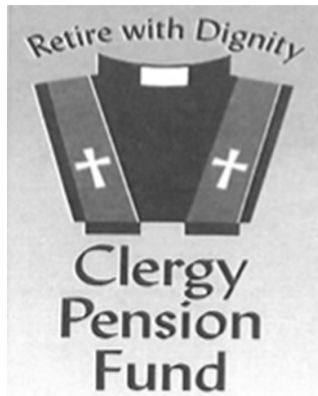
## **Memorial Day**

This year's Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Holy Family Parish Cemetery at 10:00 A.M. Everyone should make a sacrifice to be in attendance to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice so that we live in free country. There will be enough time after Mass to prepare for picnics or take advantage of the

Memorial Day sales but first honor the fallen heroes.



## Honor Your Father



We pray for all fathers, both lay and clergy, past and present, to express our gratitude, remembrance and love for all they have done for our families and for our Church.

For continued support of our Clergy Pension Fund and to acknowledge ALL FATHERS, we will publish in the June issue of God's Field — Rola Boza your name and the name of the father you wish to acknowledge or remember.

For each acknowledgement or remembrance, we are requesting a minimum donation of \$25.00, payable to the Clergy Pension Fund P.N.C.C.

We feel that this will have a two-fold affect, by acknowledging or remembering OUR FATHERS, LAY OR CLERGY, for all they have done for us and also to bolster our Clergy Pension Fund in order to show our continued support for our Clergy/our Church Fathers who make so many sacrifices each day in service to our Church.

All donations received go toward the Clergy Pension Fund of the Polish National Catholic Church.

Please complete the form on the opposite page and submit it prior to June 1, 2023, along with your minimum donation of \$25.00 per name, to the

Clergy Pension Fund  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505

Please make checks payable to the "Clergy Pension Fund P.N.C.C."

Thank you for your support.

P.N.C.C. Clergy Pension Fund Committee



# Honor Your Father on Father's Day

(Limit of one name per minimum \$25.00 donation)

I wish to remember/honor (please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remember/honor (Please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remember/honor (Please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remember/honor (Please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

\_\_\_\_\_

Remembered by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the "Clergy Pension Fund P.N.C.C." and submit the completed form with your minimum donation of \$25 per name, to the

Clergy Pension Fund Committee  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505  
570-346-9131

The readings for the 7th Sunday of Easter Year A remind us that even though Jesus is not with us in his human body, we are still connected to him and to each other in prayer. The first reading tells of how after the ascension of Jesus, his followers grow in community by praying together. The psalm expresses our longing for God. The second reading reminds us to glorify God always, even when we are suffering. And in the gospel Jesus prays as he prepares to ascend. In the gospel Jesus prays to the Father for himself, his disciples, and all believers. As Polish National Catholics this passage is particularly significant as it highlights the importance of unity and communion within the Church.

In the opening verses, Jesus addresses the Father, acknowledging that his hour has come and that he will soon be glorified. He speaks of the eternal life that comes from knowing God, emphasizing the significance of a personal relationship with the Father. For us, we should understand the importance of building and maintaining a close relationship with God through prayer and the sacraments. It is through this relationship that we can experience the fullness of life that Jesus speaks of in this passage. Jesus then turns his attention to his disciples, praying for them and asking the Father to keep them safe from the evil one. He speaks of the unity that he and the Father share and prays that his disciples may also be united with him and with one another. This prayer was prayed for our times as well. This message of unity is particularly relevant to our Polish National Catholic Church today, as we strive for physical and spiritual growth, protecting our children from being swayed from Jesus and worship. Jesus' prayer reminds us of the importance of coming together as one body in Christ, despite our differences. Finally, Jesus extends his prayer to all believers, praying that they too may be united with him and with one another. He speaks of the love that the Father has for him and prays that this same love may be in all believers, that we all be one.

As Polish National Catholics, the readings remind us that we are called to love one another as Christ loved us. This love extends beyond our immediate community to all believers around the world. Through prayer and communion with one another, we can work towards the unity that Jesus prayed for in this passage. Make

a recommitment to Christ and His church, our parish of Holy Family.

- **The unity of believers:** This Sunday focuses on the prayer of Jesus for his disciples to be united, just as he and the Father are one. The theme emphasizes the importance of unity and love among Christians. Our unity and love for each other is the most powerful tool for preaching in our Polish National Catholic Church.
- **Witnessing and evangelism:** The Gospel reading for this Sunday is from John 17:1-11, in which Jesus prays for his disciples and asks them to witness to the world about his mission and teachings. This is our duty as baptized and confirmed disciples of Jesus.
- **Waiting for the Holy Spirit:** As the Sunday after Ascension Thursday, this Sunday also prepares the faithful for the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The theme focuses on waiting and praying for the Holy Spirit's guidance and empowerment. Special Novena booklets are available in the Church Narthex.
- **Embracing new beginnings:** In order to move forward towards a hopeful future, we must relinquish the past and let go of any burdens that may hold us back. This requires us to seek forgiveness and healing, as we embark on a fresh start. We should also take time to reflect on our purpose and mission in life, seeking discernment of God's will, and trust in His guidance as we prepare ourselves for what lies ahead. This is the purpose that Jesus established the Church so that we will be guided in the right paths towards salvation.

### **Some Thought in our preparation for Pentecost**

1. What does it mean to have eternal life, and how can we cultivate a personal relationship with God in our daily lives?
2. How can we work towards greater unity and communion within our Polish National Catholic Church, despite some differences and disagreements?
3. In what ways do we see the love of the Father present in our lives, and how can we extend this same love to others?



4. How can we pray for and support our fellow believers, both within our own community and around the world?
5. What steps can we take in our own lives to become more united with Christ and with one another as members of the Polish National Catholic Church?
6. How does the Mass readings today, challenge us to rethink our own attitudes and behaviors towards those with whom we may disagree or find difficult to love?
7. What can we learn from Jesus' example of prayer and his emphasis on unity and love in this passage, and how can we apply these lessons to our own lives as Polish National Catholics?

This is an unusual "in between" Sunday - in between the Lord's return to the Father's right hand at Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Church's tradition is to spend this time 'in between' in prayer, as did Mary and the Apostles, waiting for the promised gift of the Spirit. Our Novena Booklets will be useful.

