



## Holy Family Parish Polish National Catholic Church



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Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church

## Solemnity – Nativity of our Lord December 25<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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

### Parish Staff:

Fr. Mariusz Mularczyk, Pastor 412.330.8286  
Don Newcamp, Committee Vice Chairman 412.708.8615  
Carol Davelli, Chopin Choir Director 412.678.2368  
Wendy Blotzer, Organist, Bell Choir 412.926.6029  
David Kost, Lector and SOCL Coordinator 412.519.7771  
Tom Popovic, Cemetery Coordinator 724.243.3033  
Angela Mayfield, Parish Custodian 412.860.3498



# CHRISTMAS EVE CONCERT (DEC 24<sup>th</sup>)

1. **Coventry Carol** – bell choir
2. **Kneel With the Shepherds** – flute and choir
3. **Sing We Now of Christmas** – bell choir
4. **Jesus Is Our Christmas Peace** – choir
5. **Receive His Son** – bells and choir
6. **Pastoralka od serca do ucha** – Izabela
7. **O Come O Come on Christmas Day** – instrumental
8. **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear** - flute and organ
9. **An Antiphonal Noel** – choir and boys on bells or chimes
10. **How Quietly** – bells and choir
11. **In The Bleak Midwinter** – quartet

## Christ, Be Our Light!

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
BERNADETTE FARRELL

Congregation:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first line is 'Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.' The second line is 'Shine through the dark - ness.' The third line is 'Christ, be our light! Shine in your' and the fourth line is 'Church gath - ered to - day.' The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

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This copyright owner graciously grants permission to copy the above Congregational Part for use by your congregation to join in with the choir while they sing this anthem. No other use of this part is authorized for any other purpose.

Our Savior's birth is celebrated with bold faith.

**May our hearts be willing.**

Like Mary, who showed humble surrender:

**May our hearts be willing.**

Like Joseph, who exhibited unconditional trust:

**May our hearts be willing.**

Like the shepherds, who displayed awestruck wonder:

**May our hearts be willing.**

Like the angels, who sang glorious praise:

**May our hearts be willing.**

For all who are willing to receive the gift of the Savior born in Bethlehem:

**Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

### *Candle Lighting*

Tonight we light all the candles. The **first candle** is the hope shining for those worn thin by times of waiting. The **second candle** is the hope shining for those worn down with wearied souls. The **third candle** captures the hopeful expectation of those eagerly watching for God's glory in our day. The **fourth candle** is the hope of a new tomorrow shining for those seeking freedom from the wounds of this world. Tonight, we light the **Christ candle**. This candle radiates the hope of Jesus Christ to all who are willing to receive it.

**Silent Night** – Polish, Slovak and English

*(candles are lit in the congregation who are seated in the pews)*

*Mass will then begin.*

*As the nativity statues are brought to the stable, we will all sing*

**Let Us Hasten to the Manger (Pójdźmy wszyscy do stajenki)** – PNCC #62

(Polish verse 1, then English verses 1 and 2)

### **OPENING HYMN**

**O Come All Ye Faithful** – Ritual Song #499 (verses 1 and 2)

### **ENTRANCE HYMN**

(Psalm 96:1-3)

**C.** Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name; announce salvation day after day.

**R.** Tell God's glory among the nations; among all peoples, His marvelous deeds.

**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.**

### **FIRST READING**

**IS 9:1-6**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this! The Word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM****PS 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13****R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.**Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all you lands.

Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

**R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.**

Announce his salvation, day after day.

Tell his glory among the nations;  
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.**R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.**Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;  
let the sea and what fills it resound;  
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!  
Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.**R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.**They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes;  
for he comes to rule the earth.He shall rule the world with justice  
and the peoples with his constancy.**R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.****SECOND READING****TI 2:11-14**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul the Apostle to Titus.

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good. The Word of the Lord.

**ALLELUIA****LK 2:10-11**I proclaim to you good news of great joy:  
today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.**GOSPEL****LK 2:1-14**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to

her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." The Gospel of the Lord.

### CLOSING HYMN

**Joy to the World** – PNCC #80 – all verses (*a free ring on verse 2 with chimes and bells on verse 4*)



### CHRISTMAS DAY (DEC 25<sup>th</sup>)

#### OPENING HYMN

**O Come All Ye Faithful** – Ritual Song #499 (verses 1 and 2)

#### ENTRANCE HYMN (Isaiah 9:6 [NRSV]; Psalm 98:1a)

**C.** A Child has been born for us, a Son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders; and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**R.** Sing a new song to the Lord, Who has done marvelous deeds.

**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.**

**FIRST READING****IS 52:7-10**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, “Your God is King!” Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion. Break out together in song, O ruins of Jerusalem! For the LORD comforts his people, he redeems Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God. The Word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM****PS 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6.**

**R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done wondrous deeds;  
his right hand has won victory for him,  
his holy arm.

**R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

The LORD has made his salvation known:  
in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.  
He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness  
toward the house of Israel.

**R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation by our God.  
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;  
break into song; sing praise.

**R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and melodious song.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.

**R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

**SECOND READING****HEB 1:1-6**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Brothers and sisters: In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is

more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say: You are my son; this day I have begotten you? Or again: I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me? And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.  
The Word of the Lord.

## **ALLELUIA**

A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, and adore the Lord.  
For today a great light has come upon the earth.

## **GOSPEL**

**JN 1:1-5, 9-14**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **CLOSING HYMN**

**Joy to the World** – PNCC #80 (all verses)

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

Athena Becker, Stephen Pociask, Marian Sleczkowski, Al & Betty Ann Perhas, Ed Babish, Barbara Cook, Paul Koper, Ted Flora, Dave Guillot, Emily Guy, Marcy Raiford, Antoinette Drake, Marianna Pełka, Bronisław Korus, Anna Dryfik, Justin Riddle, Ford Bartle, Jeff McBride, Carol Davelli, Helene Tylor, Richard Tomkovitz, Meredith Straw, Colleen Kortz, Lori Tomko, Charles Koczera, Marlene Koczera, John Razukiewicz, Jane Contrella, Vicki Griffiths, Kiersten Donahoe, Rose Marie Korch, Renata Woś, Roberta Wagner, Lucas Etzel, Kellie Gates, Bishop John Mack, Bishop Paul Sobiechowski, Nate Lennon, Luca Milbower, Karyn Muse, Joyce Haber, Blair Lloyd, Justice Coddington, Martin Carney, Kathy Guy, Veronica Campbell, Cindy Puchka, Wendy Blotzer, Gail Coddington, Angela Mayfield, Gladys Bacco.

## FAITH SHARING

Is Christmas the greatest feast celebrated in the Church? The answer is no. Easter is the number one feast, Pentecost is number two, and Christmas is in the third place. The Catholic Church started celebrating Christmas only after Christianity was recognized as the state religion. December 25<sup>th</sup> was fixed by Pope Julius in A.D. 353 as a part of baptizing or Christianizing pagan feasts so that the converted pagans might celebrate the birthday of Jesus on Dec 25<sup>th</sup> instead of celebrating the birthday the Sun-god during winter solstice, so that converted Roman soldiers might celebrate Christmas instead the birthday of Mithras, the Roman god-of-virility (*Deus Solus Invictus*). The Romans called their winter holiday *Saturnalia*, honoring the god of agriculture, Saturn. Later the *Kalends* of January were observed to celebrate the triumph of life over death. The entire season was called *Dies Natalis Invicti Solis*, the *Birthday of the Unconquered Sun* (or *Saturnalia*). It was Emperor Julianus who declared Christmas as a national holiday in the 6th century.

Most of the present-day Christmas decorations like the Christmas carols and gifts, Christmas tree and Christmas lights are also remnants of the pagan celebrations. It was St. Francis of Assisi who first introduced the manger or Christmas crib in the 13th century.



## LIFE MESSAGE

God undertook the Incarnation of Jesus as True God and true man to save us from the bondage of sin. We call our celebration of the Incarnation of God in a Baby today “*Good News*” because our Divine Savior has been born. As our Savior, Jesus liberated us from slavery to sin and atoned for our sins by his suffering, death and Resurrection. So, every Christmas reminds us that we need a Savior every day, to free us from our evil addictions and unjust, impure and uncharitable tendencies. Christmas 2024 also challenges us to accept Jesus in the manger as our saving God and personal Savior and to surrender our lives to him, allowing him to rule our hearts and lives every day in 2025, the coming New Year.



Christmas is the feast of the Emmanuel because God in the New Testament is a God Who continues to live with us in all the events of our lives. As Emmanuel, Jesus lives in the Sacraments, in the Bible, in the praying community, and in each believer. Christmas reminds us that we are bearers of God with the missionary privilege and duty of conveying Jesus to those around us by loving them as Jesus did, through sacrificial and humble service. Sharing with others Jesus, the Emmanuel, is the best Christmas gift we can give, or receive, today.

### USHERS FOR SUNDAY COLLECTION AND HOLY COMMUNION

12/29/2024	Don Newcamp	George Jobs
1/5/2025	Joe Parknavy	Shawn Davis
1/12/2025	Lenny Guy	Joe Lawrence
1/19/2025	Frank Pociask	Stan Tadajski
1/26/2025	Bill Griffiths	Rich DeLong
2/2/2025	Don Newcamp	George Jobs
2/9/2025	Joe Parknavy	Shawn Davis



### SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday Offering envelopes are available in the vestibule. Please take yours and help us to deliver them to your relatives and others who live in your neighborhood.



### OPLATKI - CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Oplatki are still available. Your free will offerings for Oplatki will support our choir and music in our church.

### CENTER FOR VICTIMS

Center for Victims is in need of gently used winter coats for the residents of the shelter. Needed are sizes toddler to adult. Donations would be greatly appreciated. A collection box will be placed in the Narthex of the Church.



If you have any questions, please contact **Janice Griffiths** at **412-477-7061**.



### POINSETTIAS AND LUMINARIA DONATIONS

Thank you all who sponsored poinsettias and luminaria and dedicated them in memory of your deceased relatives or in other intentions. Also, thank you Greensburg Lowe's for donating poinsettias and other Christmas decorations (\$420 value).



## ❖ C ❖ M ❖ B ❖ CHRISTMAS HOME BLESSINGS

Contact Father Mariusz (cell 412-330-8286, office 412-678-0566) or email [pastor@hfpncc.org](mailto:pastor@hfpncc.org) if you would like your home blessed during the 2024/25 Christmas Season where time and date arrangements can be made.

## OUR CHURCH LOOKS FABULOUS FOR CHRISTMAS

Thank you all parishioners helping in decorating our church last week!



## CHRISTMAS MUSIC PROGRAM

Thank you all musicians, Chopin Choir, and Annuntiation Bell Choir under direction of Wendy, our Organist and Carol, our Choir Director, for lifting up our prayers of worship to the higher level. Keep singing to the greater God's glory!



## 2025 PNCC CALENDARS

Please take home PNCC Home Liturgical Wall Calendar sponsored by Jaycox-Jaworski Funeral Home & Willig Funeral Home & Crematory. You can find it in the narthex.



*Glory to the newborn King!  
Merry Christmas to all Parishioners,  
Friends, Benefactors and Visitors!*

*Holy Family PNCC Parish Committee*



## 2024/25 CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE

### **Tuesday, December 24, 2024      Vigil of the Nativity**

- **10:00 PM** Festival of Polish/Slovak/English Christmas Carols presented by the Frederic Chopin Choir & Annunciation Bell Choir followed by the Lighting of the Christmas Candle and the Mass of the Shepherds. This Mass is offered for All Living and Departed Parishioners.

### **Wednesday, December 25, 2024      Christmas Day – Nativity of the Lord**

- **10:00 AM** Solemn Christmas Day Holy Mass

### **Thursday, December 26, 2024      Feast – St. Stephen, Martyr**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass

### **Friday, December 27, 2024      Feast – St. John, Apostle & Evangelist**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass with the Blessing & Distribution of Wine

### **Sunday, December 29, 2024      Solemnity – Humble Shepherds**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass

### **Wednesday, January 1, 2025      Solemnity – Circumcision of our Lord**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass and the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

### **Thursday, January 2, 2025      Solemnity – Holy Name of Jesus**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass

### **Saturday, January 5, 2025      Solemnity – Holy Family/Epiphany of the Lord**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass with the Blessing of Families and with the blessing of incense, charcoal & chalk

### **Monday, January 6, 2025      Solemnity – Epiphany of the Lord**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass with the blessing of incense, charcoal & chalk

### **Sunday, January 12, 2025      Solemnity – Baptism of the Lord**

- **10:00 AM** Holy Mass with the renewal of our baptismal promises and the Installation of the 2025 Parish Committee

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, December 22, 2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**10:00 AM – Holy Mass**

† Johanna Pardoe – requested by Alexa Foster

**Monday, December 23, 2024 – Advent Weekday**

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024 – Vigil of Christmas**

**10:00 PM – Shepherd Mass (Pasterka)**

For All Living and Departed Parishioners

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – Solemnity – Nativity of our Lord**

**10:00 AM – Holy Mass**

For All Living and Departed Parishioners

**Thursday, December 26, 2024 – Feast – St. Stephen, Proto-Martyr**

**10:00 AM – Holy Mass**

† Stephen Popovic – requested by sons Tom and Dave

**Friday, December 27, 2024 – Feast – St. John, Apostle & Evangelist**

**10:00 AM – Holy Mass with the blessing of wine (BYO Bottle for blessing)**

† John, Mary, Ken, Tom, Bonnie Zaucha, Nick Fioravanti – requested by Toni Fioravanti

**Saturday, December 28, 2024 – Memorial – Holy Innocents**

**Sunday, December 29, 2024 – Solemnity – Humble Shepherds**

**10:00 AM – Holy Mass**

OPEN

**1/1/25 We 10:00 AM Solemnity – Circumcision of our Lord**

OPEN

**1/2/24 Th 10:00 AM Solemnity – Holy Name of Jesus**

For All Parishioners of the Holy Family Parish

**1/5/24 Su 10:00 AM Solemnity – Holy Family / Epiphany of our Lord**

† Josephine Tarli, Angelo Tarli – requested by Diane, Archie, Bob and Cindy

**1/6/24 Mo 10:00 AM Solemnity – Epiphany of our Lord**

OPEN

**1/12/25 Su 10:00 AM Solemnity – Baptism of our Lord**

† Warren Albeck – requested by Henrietta Albeck

**1/19/24 Su 10:00 AM 2 Ordinary Sunday**

OPEN

**1/26/24 Su 10:00 AM 3 Ordinary Sunday**

† Mildred & Phillip Kotulsky – requested by Barbara Kostovny

**2/2/24 Su 10:00 AM Solemnity – Presentation of our Lord**

OPEN

