



Holy Family Parish Polish National Catholic Church



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McKeesport, PA 15132

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Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church

Solemnity – Presentation of the Lord February 2nd, 2025



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
Carol Burlikowski, Chairman 412.398.0162
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



OPENING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy – Ritual Song #624, verses 1, 2, 3

ENTRANCE HYMN (Luke 1:46-48; Psalm 29:11)

C. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

R. For He has looked upon His handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. May the Lord give might to His people; may the Lord bless His people with peace.

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

MAL 3:1-4

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

Thus says the Lord GOD: Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me; And suddenly there will come to the temple the LORD whom you seek, And the messenger of the covenant whom you desire. Yes, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who will endure the day of his coming? And who can stand when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire, or like the fuller's lye. He will sit refining and purifying silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi, Refining them like gold or like silver that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD. Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem will please the LORD, as in the days of old, as in years gone by.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL

PSALM 24:7, 8, 9, 10

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Lift up, O gates, your lintels;
reach up, you ancient portals,
that the king of glory may come in!

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is this king of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Lift up, O gates, your lintels;
reach up, you ancient portals,
that the king of glory may come in!

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is this king of glory?
The LORD of hosts; he is the king of glory.

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

SECOND READING

HEB 2:14-18

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the Devil, and free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life. Surely he did not help angels but rather the descendants of Abraham; therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. The Word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

LK 2:32

A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.

GOSPEL

LK 2:22-40

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, *Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord*, and to offer the sacrifice of *a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons*, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted --and you yourself a sword will pierce-- so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.
The Gospel of the Lord.

THE BLESSING OF THROATS

Traditionally, this blessing is given on February 3, the Feast of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr. The blessing is given to the faithful with two candles blessed according to the following form:

THE BLESSING OF THE TWO CANDLES

C. Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, Who has created all things by the power of Your Word, and Who, for the salvation of man, has willed that that same Word, by Whom all things were made should become incarnate; You Who are great and does wondrous things, awesome and worthy of praise: for the confession of whose faith the glorious Martyr and Bishop Blaise, spurning various torments, was counted worthy to receive the martyr's palm: to whom, among other gifts You did grant the virtue of healing infirmities of the throat through Your almighty power; we humbly beseech Your Majesty that, regarding not our sins, You would deign to bless ✠ through his prayers and merits, this creature of wax, sanctifying and hallowing it through Your grace: that all who with a lively faith receive its impress upon their throats, may be freed from all ailments of the same, and being restored to health, may show forth in Your holy Church their thankfulness for Your benefits, by praising Your glorious Name, which is worthy of eternal benediction. We ask this in the Name of the same Jesus Christ, Who with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns God, forever and ever.

R. Amen.

The candles are then sprinkled with holy water. Placing the two candles in the form of a cross, the priest applies them to the throats of the faithful, saying:

Through the intercession of blessed Blaise, may God free you from all afflictions of the throat, and from all other ailments: In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

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, 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, Gladys Bacco, Lani Knabenschuh, Ted Gibala.

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace (tune of Amazing Grace) – Ritual Song
#874

FAITH SHARING

Today's Gospel presents the head of the Holy Family, Joseph, faithfully obeying God's law given through Moses concerning the purification of the mother and the redeeming of the child, by presenting Mary and the Baby Jesus in the Temple. The events recounted appear elsewhere in the liturgical year but are those we traditionally celebrate today, February 2nd, with the Feast of Presentation of Jesus.

The Mosaic Law taught that, since every Jewish male child belonged to Yahweh, the parents had to "buy back" the child ("redeem" him), with the payment of "five shekels (=15 Denarius = wage for 15 days of work) to a member of the priestly family". In addition, every mother had to be purified after childbirth by prayers and the sacrifice of a lamb (or two turtledoves for the poor) in the Temple. Joseph kept these laws as an act of obedience to God. By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the old, pious, Spirit-filled Simeon and the very old prayerful, fasting widow, Anna, both of whom who had been waiting for the revelation of God's salvation, were present in the Temple the day Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to Present Him to the Father. Simeon recognized Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One, and in his prayer of blessing, he prophesied that Jesus was meant to be the glory of Israel and a Light of revelation to the Gentiles. Simeon was prophesying both the universal salvation that would be proclaimed by Jesus and the necessity of suffering in the mission of the Messiah.

LIFE MESSAGE

Every Holy Mass in which we participate is our presentation. Although we were officially presented to God on the day of our Baptism, we present ourselves and our dear ones on the altar before God our Father through our Savior Jesus Christ at every Holy Mass. Hence, we need to live our daily lives with the awareness, both that we are dedicated people consecrated to God, and that we are obliged to lead holy lives. Let us also remember and pray for our godparents who presented us to the Lord on the day of our Baptism.

USHERS FOR SUNDAY COLLECTION AND HOLY COMMUNION

1/26/2025	Bill Griffiths	Rich DeLong
2/2/2025	Don Newcamp	George Jobes
2/9/2025	Joe Parknavy	Shawn Davis
2/16/2025	Lenny Guy	Joe Lawrence
2/23/2025	Frank Pociask	Stan Tadajski
3/2/2025	Bill Griffiths	Rich DeLong
3/9/2025	Don Newcamp	George Jobes
3/16/2025	Joe Parknavy	Shawn Davis



WHAT IS TODAY'S SOLEMNITY ALL ABOUT?

On February 2nd, we celebrate these events as a formal ending of the Christmas season. In a sense, this feast celebrates the meeting point of the two “Testaments” for Catholic-Christians: the old and new.

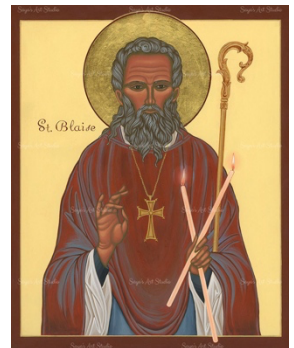


Jesus, who is the new Temple of God, enters the ancient temple. Jesus, who ushers in the law of love, comes to visit his people in a place in which the law of sacrifice was fulfilled, thus, bringing to fulfillment obedience to the Law and ushering in the last times of salvation.

This feast is also known as Candlemas because of the tradition of blessing candles and holding a candlelight procession on this day. These practices are drawn from Simeon’s words in the gospel for this feast, in which he prophesies that the child Jesus will become “a light for revelation to the Gentiles.”

BLESSING OF THROATS

The annual blessing of throats is a traditional sign of the struggle against illness in the life of the Christian. This blessing is ordinarily given on February 3rd, the memorial of Saint Blaise, by touching the throat of each person with two candles blessed on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and which have been joined together in the form of a cross. One of the more familiar legends involves St. Blaise healing a boy with a fish bone stuck in his throat. Other legends are about wild animals coming to him to be cured of their wounds. Another story tells of a kind woman who brought him candles to dispel the darkness of the prison cell where he was being held.



TAX REPORTING LETTER

You can request already the letter/receipt concerning your 2024 donations for you tax reporting purposes.

If it is needed, please email Fr. Mariusz (pastor@hfpncc.org). You can pick up the requested letter in person in Parish Office or after Mass on Sunday.

SAVE THE DATE

Spring Craft Show: Saturday, March 29, 2025, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

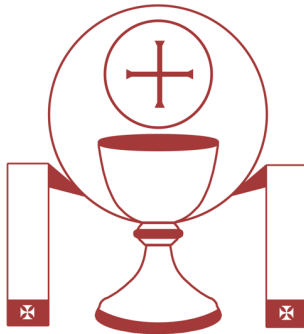
Prep Day: Friday, March 28, 2025, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Details to follow for Chinese Auction Baskets, Lottery Tickets, Baked Goods, and Donations.

PNA MEETING

The PNA 132 will have a meeting following today's Mass.

ORDINATIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS



We announce the ordination of **Deacon Marcus Ryan Tinajero** to the Holy Priesthood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Polish National Catholic Church to be conferred by His Grace The Rt. Rev. John E. Mack, Bishop Ordinary of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese Polish National Catholic Church on Saturday, March 8th, 2025 at 1:00 PM, Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral, 6298 Broadway - Lancaster, NY

We also announce the ordination of **Cleric Anthony Michael Anderson** to the office of Deacon of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Polish National Catholic Church to be conferred by His Grace The Rt. Rev. John E. Mack, Bishop Ordinary of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese, Polish National Catholic Church on Saturday, February 15th 2025 at 11:00 AM, Transfiguration of our Lord Parish, 353 Bridgeport St., Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666

We invite you to witness these ordinations by your presence or by offering your prayers to God for Deacon Marcus and for Cleric Anthony.

If anyone knows of any reason why Deacon Marcus or Cleric Anthony should not be ordained, inform the Bishop's Office immediately or forever hold your peace.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, February 2, 2025 – Solemnity – Presentation of our Lord
10:00 AM – Holy Mass with the blessing of the Candles and the blessing of Throats

† Patricia Hayduk – requested by Dolores & Frank Szatkowski

Monday, February 3, 2025 – Weekday

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 – Weekday

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 – Weekday

Thursday, February 6, 2025 – Weekday

Friday, February 7, 2025 – Weekday

Saturday, February 8, 2025 – Weekday

Sunday, February 9, 2025 – 5th Ordinary Sunday

10:00 AM – Holy Mass

† Jane Contrella – requested by Kost Family

† Ted Balawajder – requested by Bob & Janet Yonek

† Michal Mularczyk – requested by the Mularczyk Family

2/16/25 Su 10:00 AM Pre-Lent – Septuagesima Sunday

† Bonnie Zaucha – requested by the Lectors of the Holy Family Parish

† Bernice Drnach – requested by Izabela Dryfik

2/23/25 Su 10:00 AM Pre-Lent – Sexagesima Sunday

† Johanna Pardoe – requested by David & Sandy Kost

3/2/25 Su 10:00 AM Pre-Lent – Quinquagesima Sunday

† Jane Contrella – requested by Martha Krusienski

3/5/25 We 10:00 AM Ash Wednesday

† Johanna Pardoe – requested by the Lectors of the Holy Family Parish

3/5/25 We 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday

† Jane Contrella – requested by Tom Tondera

3/9/25 Su 10:00 AM 1st Sunday of Lent

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*