

St. Mary's of Parma, OH Monthly Newsletter

A PARISH OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE OF THE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 2019

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Thou Shalt Cast One Stone for 2 Birds with...

Every priest has a memorable day or two...or ten. Unfortunately for me, most of the more memorable occasions are the most emotional, or the most tragic. The good days sort of slip by into the recesses of the mind, while the minute details of the bad ones always seem like they are able to burst through the front door.

As a priest, one the calls of my vocation is to be Christ for the people. So, so intimidating....but, it is part of it. One of the ways to bring Christ to His people is by the Sacraments.

We, as Catholics, absolutely hang our hats on the Sacraments. They are how we encounter Jesus Christ. They are a living, visible, and tangible sign of a portion of His ministry that He instituted while He walked this earth. The proper definition is "A visible sign of God's invisible grace instituted by Christ for our sanctification and salvation."

What this means is that our souls are saved by receiving the Sacraments... and from my point of view, I have



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the opportunity to impact someone's soul(!) every time I impart a sacrament.

For a refresher, the Sacraments in the PNCC have been adjusted to include a new one, while combining Baptism and Confirmation. Therefore, the Seven Sacraments are: 1: Baptism & Confirmation; 2: The Word of God; 3: Penance; 4: Holy Eucharist; 5: Holy Unction; 6: Holy Orders; 7: Matrimony.

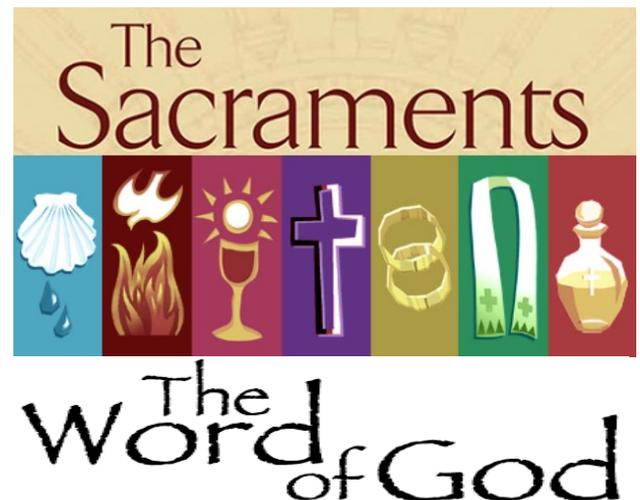
Recently, boy, I had a day! The world around me presented the opportunity to impart most of the Sacraments I, as a priest, can impart.

It was a Sunday, so the day began with Holy Mass. One of the joys of a Polish National Catholic Mass is the availability of the **Sacrament of Penance** at the outset. The opportunity to fulfill the granted penance as-

signed completes this Sacrament at the opening of Mass.

The **Sacrament of the Word of God** was offered next, began by the Old Testament Reading, through the Psalm, New Testament Reading, Alleluia Verse, Gospel, and Homily. Unique to the Polish National Catholic Church, you better believe that we encounter Christ and have our souls affected by God's Word.

After the Liturgy of the Word in Mass comes the Liturgy of the Eucharist, where the **Sacrament of Holy Eucharist** is offered to God's people. In the PNCC once again, we offer in both species by Intinction: Body of Christ dipped into the Blood of Christ and placed directly on the recipients tongue.



Fr. Jason's Article (continued)

After Mass was over, we had coffee hour and another Mass...and then a few hour break, for there was a wedding in the afternoon. Yes, the **Sacrament of Holy Matrimony** was imparted next, to a young couple who had been meeting with me over the previous weeks to address their relationship with each other and with God.

As the wedding concluded and the skies opened up (Isn't it Ironic...) a

Parish Committee Meets

The Parish Committee (Parish Board) of St. Mary's met at the home of Fr. Jason, Natalie, and Brady Soltysiak on the evening of Tuesday, August 20.

There, a traditional Polish meal was served of...tacos! Father and Natalie prepared traditional ground beef tacos, carnitas, home-made guacamole, Sub-Deacon Jim's home-grown salsa, chips, veggies, and more. Committee members ate inside and outside, some enjoying the heat of the August sun, some enjoying the ceiling fan overhead inside.

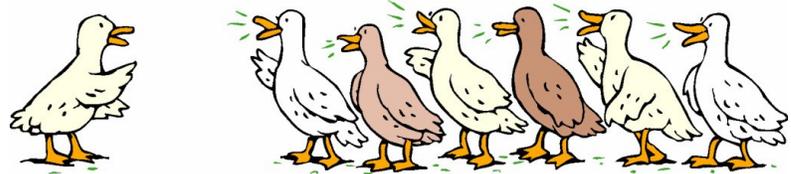
The monthly meeting spoke of the successes and struggles of the recent month, plans for the upcoming 6th Annual PolishFest, and

person came to church with the need, desire, and request for **The Sacrament of Anointing**. After ministering to her and answering some questions, she was anointed in the same way taught in the Letter of St. James.

For those keeping score...nope, I'm not allowed to impart the **Sacrament of Holy Orders** nor the **Sacrament of Confirmation**. But,

these walls have witnessed Confirmation within the last 6 months, we have the **Sacrament of Baptism** scheduled for September 22 and an Ordination to the Diaconate is set to take place in November!

May we continue to enjoy and thrive on the fullness of Sacraments, imparted for the people of St. Mary's! Fr. Jason



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

the "usual."

For those wondering the "usual" work, it includes the acceptance of the previous minutes, Pastor and Treasurer reports, old and new business, and society reports. Members of the parish in active standing who have been with the parish for at least a year are eligible to serve on the Parish Committee.



10th Annual Dinner & a Car Show

Under a perfect August afternoon sky, the 10th Annual St. Mary's Dinner and a Car Show was held.

Home of the famed "Kielbasi Kup", this venture has been led by 1st Vice Chair Steve Fesz for the entirety of its very successful run here.

Unfortunately, due to Broadview Road's current sorry state and some increased competition, we were down a few entrants this year. However, all who filled out comment cards were thrilled with the venue, the food, and the camaraderie built over a decade of car shows.

A Saturday afternoon Mass was celebrated as well at 5pm, as we have the last few years, allowing attendees to ful-

fill their weekend obligation of worship.

Many thanks to Steve Fesz and family for putting together this car show once again.



Golf Tournament

On Friday morning, August 16, the Parma delegation left for Waymart, PA to stay at the beloved Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center in advance of the Annual YMSofR Golf Tournament.

After an uneventful 6 hour drive, the group arrived to sunny skies, a glistening pool, and drinks & snacks. After a couple hours of relaxation, dinner was served to roughly 40 people on site. Dinner was pizza, boneless wings, salad, and nachos. Short presentations took place afterward, all with the Prime Bishop of the PNCC, the Most Rev. Anthony Milkovsky, in attendance.

After an early, early morning wake-up, golfers arrived at Panorama Golf Course in Forest City, PA. The first hole the Parma group headed to was #13, where George Bennett's 1st



swing resulted some hours later in the closest to the pin prize, as his shot came to rest 30 inches from the hole.

An up-and-down day led to a pretty good score, as team St. Mary's finished seven under par, three behind

the winning score of ten under par. A buffet dinner was served afterward that included the presentation of prizes. After a long drive, the group returned home, trophyless, but with the memories of a wonderful whirlwind weekend.

Various Announcements

CHILI COOK-OFF

Due to prime time games and out-of-this world expectations, the chili cook-off will be a bit early this year. Please mark your calendar to come for noon on September 29 for this year's iteration. Bring a pot of any kind of chili to share and, perhaps, win a prize! If you are not a chef, no prob— there is always plenty to go around— all invited!

SPOJNIA SUNDAY

September 22, 2019 - This year, in conjunction with the traditional Spójnia Sunday observance the PNU is honoring the work and dedication of the late CEO Irene Jugan through a month long "Heart & Soul" remembrance. There are a number of ways that she can be remembered and honored during this month long celebration which includes Spójnia Sunday. One is through participation in the **PNU Irene Jugan Heart & Soul Award** and nominations are being accepted through **September 15, 2019**. This is expected to

be awarded annually and criteria for nominations can be found on the PNU Facebook page or inside the Straż. Submissions can be made by email to insurance02@pnu.org

POLISHFEST UPDATE

As the weather cooperated and our people supported, last weekend's PolishFest went down as one of our better ones. Numbers are still being tabulated, so no clear profit margin is available yet. We saw hundreds visit our grounds, many of whom even came to Mass or prayed in our church – a blessing! A wrap-up meeting, which is open to everyone, will take place 6pm on Tuesday, Sep. 24. More info will be available in next month's newsletter.

BOWLING

Bowling begins Sept. 15 at 3pm. The St. Mary's league takes place at Red Circle on State Road – please see Elaine Ploskonka if interested.

CATECHISM CLASSES

As the school year has begun, so has the call for any need to have Catechism Classes in preparation for First Communion or Confirmation. First Communion student should be at least 7 years old with good reading comprehension and Confirmation students should be at least 13 years old. Class times/days are flexible. Adult classes available by request.

ADULT EDUCATION

One desire of our parish is continuing education for all members. Come October, we will be offering a "Brush Up on the PNCC" class, which will touch on a few subjects that will appeal to new members as well as giving background and history on some things forgotten. Subjects will include: Denomination & Parish History, our place in Christianity, our view on the Sacraments, and our structure/ governance. Keep your eyes here for dates and times- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month are considered.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Begins September 22nd. Registration forms are available – please sign your children up !

St. Mary's of Parma, OH Monthly Newsletter

A note from your parish chair.....



WE Did It... God blessed us with just the weather we needed leading up to the days of our annual PolishFest and then through the weekend! I would personally like to thank EVERYONE who played a part in the success we had. Whether you were part of the planning and preparing, working during the 21+ hours, financial donations, or just able to be there in support, your contribution is appreciated! This fundraiser is a vital part of the financial needs of our parish and its success will certainly be beneficial. We successfully completed the 6th year of the PolishFest and will start working to the 7th (with a bit of a break first of course). If you have any ideas, suggestions, or certainly positive feedback, while still fresh in your minds, please share this with Fr. Jason or me. If you recall, last month I asked that we "all pray with expectation that God will shine upon us as we work together in fellowship for the good of our parish"Thank You God.



RIDING THE WINDS – Did you know that an eagle knows when a storm is arriving long before it breaks? The eagle will fly to some high spot and wait for the winds to come. When the storm hits, it sets its wings so that the wind will pick it up above the storm. While the storm rages, the eagle is soaring above. It glides past a mountain, down over a valley, dipping past an American flag, then heads back toward the high sky. We watch and wonder, amazed at the gracefulness, the speed, the agility of the huge bird, seemingly fearless, but always watching. The eagle does not escape the storm, it simply lets the storm lift it higher. It rises on the winds that brought the storm, setting our minds and belief toward God. God enables us to ride the winds of the storms that bring sickness, failure and disappointment into our lives. Just as the eagle does, we can soar above the storm. Remember, it is not the burdens of life that weigh us down, but the way we handle them. And, God places guardian angels by all of us to soar the highest problems. We just have to be there ready to ride the winds as our Lord watches over us.

Shared with us many years ago by the late Ann Kerik



Caught in the Acts... Sister Deena had just returned home from Sunday evening service when she was startled by a burglar. With great biblical authority she yelled, "Stop! Acts 2:38!", which implies "Turn from your sin." The thief stopped dead in his tracks. Then the woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man, he asked the burglar, "Why did you stop? All the old lady did was yell a Bible verse at you." "Bible verse?" replied the crook. "She said she had an ax and two .38s!"



Continued.....

Chicken Kelly



12 whole chicken breasts, skinned,
boned & cut into bite-sized pieces

6 eggs, mixed to combine
yolk/white
2 cloves garlic, minced
Progresso bread crumbs
2 lbs. Muenster cheese,
shredded
2 lbs. fresh mushrooms, sliced
Hot oil

Marinate chicken pieces in egg and garlic,
covered overnight. Bread chicken, fry and
drain well. Layer chicken pieces, mush-
rooms and cheese in 9"x 12" baking dish.
Repeat layers. Pour 2 cups chicken broth
over layers, cover and bake at 350 degrees
for 1 hour. Serves 20.

You can prepare casseroles without the

broth and freeze. Just defrost and add
broth and bake.

Chef: Pollyanna Gajda

Raw Apple Cake

Flour mixture:
2 cups flour (after sifting)
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
Pinch of salt

Beat 3 eggs with 1-3/4 cups sugar. Add
flour mixture alternately with 1 cup Crisco
oil to egg mixture. Mix well. Add 1 tea-
spoon vanilla. Add 2-1/2 cups raw apples,
sliced very thin. Add 1 cup chopped nuts.
Bake in greased tube pan at 375 degrees
for 1 hour.

Chef: Josephine Ference



Smaczno !

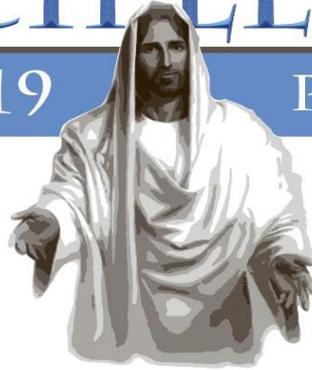
elaine a. ploskonka

PNCC Future Directions Update

DISCIPLESHIP

2019

PNCC

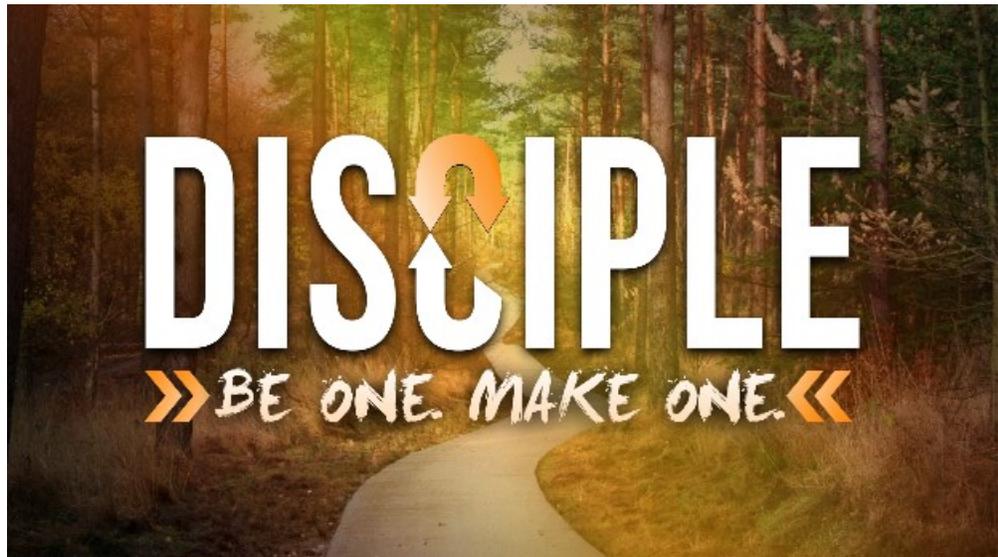


September 1, 2019

Dear Bishops, Very Rev. and Rev. Fathers, Deacons and Faithful of our Holy Church,

As we begin the month of September we are called to be ambassadors of Love and Mercy. May we, as Jesus says, "Go and Do Likewise!" Thanks to the youth from the Eastern Diocesan Youth Retreat for this message for this month. Please click on the link below or look up on Youtube "PNCC Future Direction". The latest video is catchy...you'll be humming it all day!

<https://youtu.be/tjnRyc9CgM8>



Please keep these church-wide undertakings in your daily prayers – asking God to bless this work and allow it to bear fruit for the building of His Kingdom through our Holy Church.

PNCC Future Direction is on Facebook! Like us and follow our updates on Facebook too. If you know of parishioners or friends who are not a part of our monthly email updates – please have them email us at FutureDirection@pncc.org to become a part of this important effort for our Holy Church.

During this month where our Holy Church celebrates the Solemnity of Brotherly Love - let us make sure that we are showing our love for God and our neighbor (especially the one in need) in concrete ways by the choices we make each and every day. Be ambassadors of love and mercy in Jesus's name!

September Days of Note



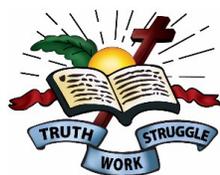
September

- 1st – Judy Lynne Mondok
- 1st – Brett Spilka
- 5th – Jim Ploskonka
- 7th – Elaine Ploskonka
- 7th – Sharon Skiba
- 9th – Marcus Todorovich
- 13th – David Knapp
- 14th – Monika Gorchek
- 16th – Andrea Grmovsek
- 17th – Rose Kronen
- 21st – Bob Bernacki
- 27th – Allison Suarez
- 27th – Roland Ploskonka



September

- 19th — Pete & Marge O'Conner
- 26th — Steve & Barbara Fesz
- 26th — John & Adrienne Michalczyk
- 26th — Tom & Cherie Kugler



"Sick"

"I cannot go to school today,"
Said little Peggy Ann McKay.
"I have the measles and the mumps,
A gash, a rash and purple bumps.
My mouth is wet, my throat is dry,
I'm going blind in my right eye.
My tonsils are as big as rocks,
I've counted sixteen chicken pox
And there's one more—that's seven-
teen,
And don't you think my face looks
green?
My leg is cut—my eyes are blue—
It might be instamatic flu.
I cough and sneeze and gasp and
choke,
I'm sure that my left leg is broke—
My hip hurts when I move my chin,
My belly button's caving in,
My back is wrenched, my ankle's
sprained,
My 'pendix pains each time it rains.
My nose is cold, my toes are numb.
I have a sliver in my thumb.
My neck is stiff, my voice is weak,
I hardly whisper when I speak.
My tongue is filling up my mouth,
I think my hair is falling out.
My elbow's bent, my spine ain't
straight,
My temperature is one-o-eight.
My brain is shrunk, I cannot hear,
There is a hole inside my ear.
I have a hangnail, and my heart is—
what?
What's that? What's that you say?
You say today is. . .Saturday?
G'bye, I'm going out to play!"

—Shel Silverstein —

Our Prayer List

Please pray for these St. Mary's parishioners:

Bill & Pat Glatzer	Barbara Baranowski
Bill & Joan Kastak	Anna Dawidziuk
Craig Atherton	John Spilka
Johanna Markiewicz	Mary Ann Loschelder
Ralph & June Zaun	Len Pryer
Marty Bengela	Tom Putynski
Polly Gajda	Millie Dominik
Kathleen Beres	Louise Cygan
Helen Budney	Bruno Tracy
Chester & Ann Warzala	Tom Petrie
Amy Dreger	Patti Dotson
Elizabeth Starnawski	Jack Spilka
Elaine Repede	

Please pray for our family and friends:

Wanda Clark	Beth Chihill
Michael Cosevin	Helen Cummings
Laina Dachtal	Sharon Seitz
Jay Grabowsky	Pam Chesar
Cecelia Hall	Caroline Kunes
Mark & Kim Andreas	Thomas Lill
John & Anne Nemetz	Rhonda Smith
Rose Neyman	Carol Boesch
Joanie True	Daniel Rinella
Fr. Tom Sheha	Tom Slomka
Gerri S.	Ben Soltesy
Pam Tropiano	Linda Vect
Dennis and Sue Vect	Marcus Vaughn, Jr.
Bryson Dzuroff	Fr. Sr. Joseph Soltysiak
Cherise Pacanovsky	Jane Hunter
Dennis Thome	The Finnie Family
Carlene Fliss	Jim Fliss Jr.
John Michalczyk	Bill Hinton
Nan Cramer	Rose Petrosky
Bp. John Mack	David Vaden
Bp. John Swantek	Mary Cawley
Richard & Edna Samelson	Jim Giles
Wanda Heffner	Loretta Baldwin
Donna Kidd	Paulette Lilli
Muffie B.	Azriel G.
Marilyn Girard	Courtney Austin
Stephanie Milla	Rich Dombrowski
Shannon Alberino	Jayden Pieciak
Jeremy Steinbrick	Katie Stallbaum
Marcia Klein	Julia Badarzynski
George & Linda Makovicka	Julie L.
Kelly B	Barbara B.
Michael McGivern	Sylvia Kowalski
Daniel Morgan	Emma Freshwater
Kim Penney	Cathy Pieciak

WE ALSO REMEMBER

ALL ACTIVE & RETIRED CLERGY
ALL SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Visit us online at

www.stmaryspncc.org

