

St. Mary's of Parma, OH Monthly Newsletter

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

September 2026

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Youth Convo/Retreat 2026

The National PNCC Youth Convocation was held at Camp Monadnock in Jaffery, NH August 3-7. Fr. Jason and Brady attended from St. Mary's, driving roughly 11 hours each way to spend a half-week with kids, adults, and clergy from the church. The theme of the Convo was "Jesus said What?: The Parables and Teachings of Jesus". Fr. Jason was assigned "The Sermon on the Mount" but focused exclusively on the Beatitudes of our Lord, Matthew 5:1-12. He gave an intro, a close, comments and explanations on each of the eight beatitudes. Brady was given an assignment to write an article on his experience. It has been edited (slightly) to keep the focus on the Convo:

Brady's Convo Article Chapter 1: The before and first day...

So, there it was... Convo 2026 but lets get to that in a second. Let me tell you about what I had before Convo so get settled and get your popcorn and we are about to dive in! So it's the morning of July 30th and we are



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making a 2 hour drive (Interstate 80) to Du-bois, Pennsylvania... there for a night and on the road again (I-80) to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania for a wedding shower and my Aunt Jess opens her birthday gifts and Rose (gaga) drives me to Waymart, Pennsylvania for a night and then on August 2nd Gaga drives me to her house and takes me to the Grocery store also known as Wegmans. Father Jason left Cuyahoga County to Uncle Nick and Aunt Jess's house. (mentioned earlier) Dad got stuck in a storm (got stuck in rain every car ride) in about Williamsport, PA roads were flooded about 3 inches dad got to Nick and Jess' house at 9:15 (estimated). I headed to bed, woke up at 6:59 am, left my Uncle Nick's house (mostly Interstates 91 and 84) going through Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, until Massachusetts where we stopped at the Holyoke Mall in Holyoke, Massachusetts met Janice (my grandmama) and Andrew Soltysiak (Uncle), shopped for 50 minutes then headed to Jaffery, Nh, got there ate dinner, went to bed in an 86 degree basement (I know you're gonna say "oh jeez" you are not wrong to say that but it was Hot) then got a bad 7 hours of sleep. end of chapter 1

Chapter 2: The 2nd 3rd and 4th day

Ok that was your break alright? Ok, back to the story: So woke up, got ready for morning prayer and breakfast with bad and hot night of sleep then the first session about the rock

and sand (helper) then second session about Spanish songs and then it was time for Mass, lunch, swimming, games, boating, archery, and dinner then it was Fr. Jason's session (I was his helper) about the sermon on the mount (session 3) then we hung out on the big patio, had Ice cream, night prayer and bedtime in a better room 74 degrees overnight. It was a much better night of sleep and I did not want to wake up. We then had morning prayer, breakfast, then Session 4 the mustard seed an activity, Bishop Paul had Mass, then lunch was fine as usual then we were swimming, playing games, playing basketball, mini golf, gift shop trip #2, then dinner, and Fr. Nowak had a great session. We then did an activity, camp fire, evening prayer.. went to bed did not want to wake up again in the morning! Then we had a good breakfast of cinnamon rolls and I went to Cathedral Of The Pines. Prime bishop Anthony had a session and then we had Mass and I saw 14 Ruby-throated hummingbirds. Afterward, my dad and I said bye to everyone because we had to leave a little early because we had a long



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Opening Article (cont)

drive and my dad was the only driver in our car (I'll help in 8 years). We left for Westfield, Massachusetts to surprise my uncle Andrew Soltysiak.. took I-90, Taconic Pkwy, and I-84 until it heavily rained and that means you use up more gas and we were down to 22 miles in the tank, so we went to Shell gas, I got a treat in the shop (Limited edition: 2 Hostess cupcakes with strawberry frosting, sprinkles, and cream in the inside) Wow!

Ok back to the story.. Back on I-84 then explained to Dad 84 goes in New jersey got back in Pennsylvania pumped (Brady's convo article still, no need to worry) Got to Uncle Nick and Aunt Jess' house had a pizza party and everyone in my family was there! Had the succulent cupcakes after dinner. Then everyone left, and I stayed up to 11:35 as opposed to 9:45 and had an 80's movie quiz then my dad woke me up at 8am then back on the road (Interstate 380 84 81 80 and 77) Had the iPad, rained from Williamsport to roughly the Ohio border. Dad got gas from GetGo at the hour mark (beware: at the Ohio border there is a lot of 1 lane areas on 80 west) got back safely on August 7th. It rained hard all four days we drove.



My favorite session at Convo was Fr. Novak's session and my dad's session (Fr. Jason) I also liked having Mass at Cathedral of the Pines except it was hot. And also Deacon Doug broke his foot during basketball and maybe he should retire from that because he's too old.

The end and wow I typed over 800 words!

Brady Paul Soltysiak, Age 8



Blanket Blessing

May God continue to bless the work of our hands! Prayer blankets, lovingly prepared during our monthly workshops of the Mission Team, were blessed and given on Sunday, August 30 to Cathy K. on the loss of her brother, Deb W. on her continuing rehabilitation from surgery, and to John K. on his upcoming surgery. Fr. Jason offered the blessing after Mass and the

congregation laid hands in prayer for their various intentions.



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Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Solemnity of the Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated with Holy Mass on Saturday, August 15th at 10am. The traditional blessing of herbs, flowers, and firstfruits

which preceded Holy Mass honors the call of our Lord to always offer Him the best, as well as to recreate the scene left behind after Mary's assumption into Heaven. Mary, our patroness and mother, pray for us!



Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa—August 26

The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa was celebrated fully at St. Mary's on Wednesday, August 26th.

An hour of Eucharistic Adoration took place from 6pm-7pm, as we adored Christ, present in the Sacrament, upon the altar dedicated to Mary and under her watchful eye. After the sacrament was silently adored for an hour and reposed, Holy Mass for the Solemnity was celebrated at 7pm, as those in attendance then received fully what they adored for an hour prior.

Afterward, worshippers

were blessed with the generosity of Cathy Avondet, who had some dessert and more for everyone in attendance afterward. Thank you to our host, our attendees, and our good and gracious God!

We continue to offer an hour of Eucharistic Adoration each month, on different days and times to try to accommodate various schedules. September's Adoration takes place from 8am-9am on Monday morning, September 21st, the Feast of the Apostle and Evangelist, Matthew, and followed by a 9am Holy Mass.



Lunch Fellowship

On Thursday, August 20th, the St. Mary's lunch fellowship group reconvened at Simon's Restaurant in Brecksville, OH. Each month, an open invitation is given in the bulletin and announced at Mass to register with Barb B. so she can make a reservation and anyone could enjoy a lunch out with lively company. The "planning committee" discusses each month by alternative type of cuisine and location of restaurant in order to

serve our people best. 14 met up at Simon's, and we look forward to meeting at Bistro on 130th at 12:30pm on Thursday, September 24th.



Fr. Jason's August Mini Lesson

Fr. Jason offered his mini-lesson for the month of August during Coffee Hour after 9am Holy Mass on Sunday, August 23rd. His short lesson was on what makes up a "Eucharistic Prayer" during Mass. This was part one of a two-part lesson- the next takes place on September 20th and is a review of the 5 Eucharistic Prayers used in our Contemporary Rite. Some of his thoughts follow:

Canons of the Mass must have:

The Preface: A prayer of thanks and praise to God the Father, (Father, all powerful and ever-living God...) ending with the Sanctus"

The Sanctus: (Holy, Holy, Holy) –which must be recited by celebrant as the people recite or sing it.

Epiclisis: The priest extends his hands over the bread and wine and asks the

Holy Spirit to change them into the Body and Blood of Christ. ("Send Your Holy Spirit and fill these Gifts with His life-giving power", Eucharistic Prayer V)

Institution Narrative and Consecration:

The priest says the words exactly as his jurisdiction has approved the translation to most-closely represent the words of Christ ("Take this, all of you, and eat it: FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.", Eucharistic Prayers I, II, IV, V)

Anamnesis: Recalling the death, resurrection, and return of Jesus. ("Your death,

Lord Jesus, we proclaim! Your resurrection we celebrate! Your return in glory we await!", Eucharistic Prayer IV)

Oblation: The offering of the sacrificial victim (Christ) to the Father. (Many examples of "offering" and "oblation")

Intercessions: Prayers for the bishops, the living, the dead, and the whole Church (Some, especially Eucharistic Prayer III & IV, have more than others, like V)

Concluding Doxology: A final brief praise of God ending with a concluding "Amen" (Great Amen) sung or spoken by the people. The example of this is "Through Him, with Him, in Him") Eucharistic Prayer IV & V) or "Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ" (Eucharistic Prayer III).



Sanctuary Work

Thank you to parishioner Carlos Cancel who on August 25th spent an entire day working on making repairs to the sanctuary of our parish. He has much expertise in many things, and diligently scraped, cleaned, prepped, plastered, sealed, primed, and painted the water-damaged area above the Main Altar. Thanks also to Nick N. and Fr. Jason for offering their day to hold the ladder, hand things up, and keep conversation going. It was a particularly difficult job on how one must con-

tort his or her body once on the ladder in order to address the crevice that is behind the overhang of the Main Altar. God bless our volunteers always, and may God reward their dedication.



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+Robert "Bob" Kaczmarek

Robert Kaczmarek, 80, Beloved Father of Emily (Rex) Wilford. Grandfather of Chloe and Ella. Dear brother of Cathy (Dave) and Frank (Kathleen).

Loving uncle of Carrie (Brian) and Nicole (Todd) and great-uncle of Christopher and Matthew.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at 11am on Saturday, August 29th at St. Mary's, with Fr. Jason as celebrant and homilist. His daughter and granddaughters offered the Old Testament, New Testament, and Responsorial Psalm readings. Entombment will take place at a date to be determined by his family.



+Johanna Markiewicz

Johanna Markiewicz, 85, of Valley View, Ohio, passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by those she loved. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 1, 1941, Johanna was the daughter of the late Josephine (Zychowski) and John Markiewicz. She leaves behind her brother, David Markiewicz of Maple Heights; her daughter, Constance "Connie" Benko of Strongsville; her grandchildren, Christina (Crystal) Lemmer, Jason (Megan) Kozora, Andrew (Tara) Kozora, and Johnathan (Matthew) Benko; as well as many other beloved family members and friends. Among those relationships especially dear to Johanna was the close bond she shared with her cousin, William "Bill" Zychowski.

Johanna spent part of her early adult life traveling and living abroad with her then-husband who served in the military. Their travels took them to several foreign homes, including Turkey, a chapter of her life she remembered with happiness as well as her time living in Germany.

Eventually, Johanna returned to the Cleveland area, she always called home and began a career with Ohio Bell. During those years, she was also a member of the SELREC Signing Group, taking the stage and performing for live audiences with the special sparkle those who knew her will remember.

Retirement, however, did not mean slowing down for Johanna. In many ways, that was when she really got to work.

She became an active member of the Valley View Village Seniors Club, organizing bus trips, bake sales, events, and countless other activities.

ties. She took great pride in being involved in her community and bringing people together. Johanna was also a proud member of St Mary's Polish National Catholic Church located in Parma.

But nowhere was Johanna's talent for bringing people together more apparent than with her family.

For many years, she organized the family's annual reunion and worked tirelessly to keep generations of relatives connected. The holidays were especially important to her, and she had a remarkable ability to make them memorable for everyone around her.

Johanna was proud of her family's Polish heritage and loved sharing the foods and traditions that came with it. Pierogi, kielbasa, chicken paprikash, and treasured family recipes were more than meals in her home. They were another way of passing family history from one generation to the next.

Anyone who knew Johanna also knew that she was extraordinarily organized. Everything had its place, every detail had been considered, and every event had a plan. Nothing was overlooked.

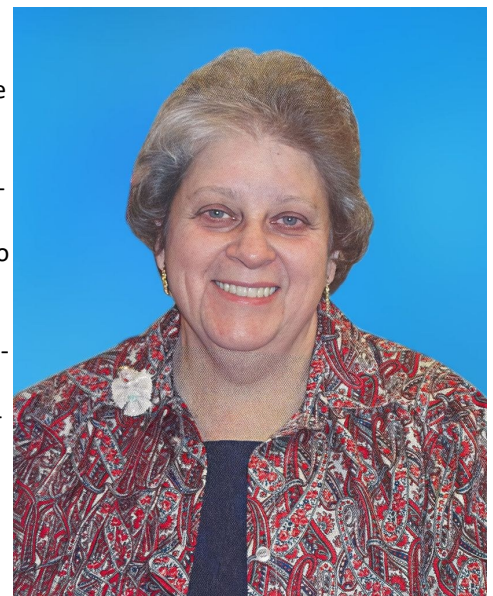
That attention to detail was simply part of who she was, particularly when she was doing something for the people she loved.

Family was extraordinarily important to Johanna, but her definition of family extended well beyond blood. She treasured the chosen family she gathered throughout her life, including her lifelong friend, Dottie Ann Kipp, whose friendship with Johanna began when they were in seventh grade and endured for the

rest of her life.

Johanna spent her final days where she wanted to be: at home, surrounded and cared for by those she loved. She leaves behind a family she worked for decades to keep connected, countless memories and traditions, and a legacy that will live on every time those she loved gather around a table together.

Johanna's funeral Mass was held at 9:30am on Thursday, August 27th, with Fr. Jason as celebrant and homilist and Fr. Jim Ploskonka in sanctuary. She was entombed just down the road at the Brooklyn Heights Cemetery.



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St. Mary's Golf Outing

For a variety of reasons, golfers of St. Mary's were unable to travel to the Northeast Pennsylvania region for the 12th Annual YMSofR Golf Tournament. While our own Branch #29 of the YMSofR still showed support by sponsoring a hole at the Sleepy Hollow Golf Course, they also decided to have a mini-tournament back home at the same time.

Three teams of golfers teamed up over 9 holes at Seneca Golf Course of the Cleveland Metroparks in Broadview Heights, OH. Things got off to a bit of a slog with a slow-moving group ahead of the first team, and then the weather let everyone know that there was to be no dilly-dallying!

After golf, the Soltysiak family hosted

golfers and family at their home not far from the course. Lunch was served of hot dogs, sausages, burgers (regular and veggie), salads, chips, drinks, and desserts. It was right as the food was being served that the skies finally opened and everyone moved inside to eat.

With cozy company and good food, it was over dessert that Mark did the presentation of awards and prizes, with various accomplishments acknowledged such as lowest score for pipsqueaks, middle-aged, seniors, and women; highest score/most consecutive trees struck; hardest hit/exploding ball, and first to give up!

After the rain let up, golfers and friends began to head home. It was a nice alternative to a situation where we couldn't

travel, but we look forward to doing this again in the early summer next year while supporting the National Tournament at the end of the summer.



Newsletter Change

The Newsletter of St. Mary's will be going through a necessary change over the next month or two. Microsoft announced about

a year ago the discontinuation of "Publisher", which Fr. Jason has used to make newsletters for almost 20 years now. This takes place on October 1. As he seeks a

new format, may we be open to the change and offer feedback in order to produce a publication worthy of our parish.

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Various Announcements

CANON – For all of September, we use the 4th Eucharistic prayer on p. 88.

LAST WEEK! – thank you to everyone who was a part of last Sunday's Holy Mass (10am) and Potluck. We had such a well-balanced spread of food and dessert after sharing such a blessed time of worship together. It was joyful in celebrating Jonah Godfrey-Cornish's last Sunday as he has matriculated at our PNCC Seminary. Pictures next month!

SEMINARY – For anyone wishing to further support Jonah in his journey to the priesthood, send him a line at: Savonarola Theological Seminary, 1031 Cedar Avenue Scranton, PA 18505. The Seminary also has a website, Savonarola.net, where we can keep tabs on him via updates, their newsletter, and more!

ROSARY PROJECT – The Mission Team had their monthly workshop preparing our parish for Rosary month in October. On Sunday, October 4th, rosaries will be

blessed at 9am Holy Mass – those prepared by the Mission Team for distribution as well as any you may own that have yet to be blessed. Stay tuned for further information!

WHY DID the Samaritan help the man on the road while the others walked by? Because the priest and the Levite were using GPS, and it told them to avoid all delays on the route.

SEPTEMBER ADORATION – We will adore our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament again in September, early! 8am-9am, Monday the 21st followed by our celebration of Holy Mass.

SEPTEMBER'S FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON – takes place at 12:30pm at Bistro on 130th on Thursday, September 24th. If interested, please see Barb Bogzevitz to make sure you are part of the reservation.

HELP WANTED! – We are looking for a Sunday School teacher to begin late September, be it every Sunday or per-

haps every-other. Please see Fr. Jason.

CATECHISM CLASSES – September brings anew the opportunity for children and adults to begin classes in preparation for 1st Communion or Confirmation. Please contact Fr. Jason with any questions or to enroll yourself or your child/grandchild for this school year. This is also open to adults who desire to receive Communion/Confirmation if they have not done so.

TRUNK AND TREAT – St. Mary's will hold a Trunk and Treat once again at 1pm on Sunday, October 25. We will plan on advertising on our sign and locally, on facebook. We ask participants to get some treats, pop the trunk, and be prepared to hand out candy!

SYNOD – Fr. Jason and Elaine Ploskonka (elected) will attend our General Synod in Manchester, NH. The election of the Prime Bishop, Bishops, discussion on parish dues and more are on the docket. See Fr. Or Elaine with any thoughts.

JOIN US IN PRAYER DAILY as we prepare for the **GENERAL SYNOD OF OUR PNCC September 28-30, 2026**

**Almighty God, grant to all delegates of the Synod a humble spirit.
As they seek Your wisdom, lead and guide them in their deliberations.
May they be aligned with Your desires and plans for Your Holy Church.
Give them vision, courage, and hope for the future
as they follow where You lead.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer offered by the Eastern Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church

Scheduled Mass Intentions at St. Mary's

Sep 6– The Kaminski family—Adam, Alice, Alden, Mary Mae– of. by Jo Orlowski

2nd Intention—John Mielcarek (20th Anv.) of. by father Walt Mielcarek

Sep 13 — United Choirs members, past and present of. by Christine Paulus

Sep 20 – George Stepanik of. by brother Gene Stepanik

Sep 27– Florence Plocica of. by her family

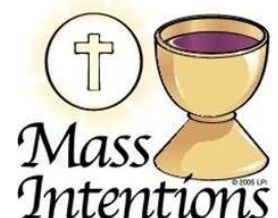
Oct 4 – Sophie & Martin Szpilka of. by John Spilka

Oct 11 — Steve Temesi (22nd Anv.) of. by wife Patty Temesi

Oct 18 – Helen Bogzevitz of. by son Bruce Bogzevitz

Oct 25– Adolph Kasperczyk (birthday) of. by son John & family

What a response! We have run out of Sunday dates for intentions. Should the need arise, an intention can always be scheduled at a weekday Mass or as a Sunday Second Intention.



September Days of Note



September Birthdays

2nd — Marge O'Connor
2nd — Bill Chambers
5th — Fr. Jim Ploskonka
7th — Elaine Ploskonka
7th — Sharon Skiba
14th — Pam Nemec
17th — Rose Kronen
27th — Allison Suarez
27th — Roland Ploskonka



September Anniversaries

2nd — Kash & Emily Moore
2nd — Vince & Karen Colwell
18th — Jim & Susan Boehnlein
19th — Pete & Marge O'Connor
26th — Steve & Barbara Fesz
26th — Tom & Cherie Kugler
26th — Marty & Cheryl DeCara
30th — Bill & Jeanette Chambers

Have we missed a birthday or anniversary? Just give us a shout so we can fix any errors that have been made :-)

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September 11, 2001

May All of us Remember

May all of us remember with love and compassion this day.

May we grieve with those who still mourn,

And share memories with those who cannot forget.

May we draw strength from those who bravely responded,

And gave their lives to save others.

May we stand with strangers who became neighbors that day,

And remember their generosity and hospitality.

Above all God may we remember your faithfulness

And learn to trust in your unfailing love.

"Summer's End"

The rose has all but paled,
the sweet-pea has gone to seed.
Where the daffodils once swayed,
is now covered by a deadly weed.

The daisy has lost its last petal,
in a fight for love or not.
And the last of the pansies,
are looking a little fraught.

The lavender has now faded,
along with its aromatic scent.
By the looks of the gardenia,
it too, will soon be spent.

I look around the garden,
and see summer's final end.
And I sense His second coming,
is just around the bend.

• **Deborah Ann Belka**

Our Prayer List

Praying for St. Mary's Parishioners & Friends

Bill & Pat Glatzer	Rev. Greg Gronn
Bill Kastak	Gail Perz
George Makovicka	John Spilka
John Beno	Patrick Kmitt
Eddie Kawa	Lucy-Louise Hoegler
Marty Bengela	Tom Putynski
Jeff Parady	Millie Dominik
Kathleen Beres	Mike Paulus
Donna Micka	Ron Ference
Ed Pierson	George Bennett
Florence Nemkovich	Pattie Dotson
Nicole McGivern	Jack Spilka
Kenneth Parks	David Vaden
Wanda Clark	Beth Chihill
Michael Cosevin	Helen Cummings
Laina Dachtal	Michael McGivern
Jay Grabowsky	Carmen Torres
Cecelia Hall	Caroline Kunes
Linda Marks	Thomas Lill
John & Anne Nemetz	Rhonda Smith
Al Piniecki	Carol Boesch
Joanie True	Daniel Rinella
Penny Dennison	Tom Slomka
Pete James	Tom Pietka
Pam Tropiano	Linda Vect
Dennis and Sue Vect	Marcus Vaughn, Jr.
Bryson Dzurowf	Sue Simenc
Doreen Stanley	Jane Hunter
Dennis Thome	The Finnie Family
Carlene Fliss	Jim Fliss Jr.
Toni Colwell	Cathy Pieciak
Nan Cramer	Jim Lukas
Sage McLane	Dave Tuma
Diane Ellis	Shyanna Tiller
Jim Giles	Kathleen Sobocinski
Bill Zychowski	Loretta Baldwin
Donna Kidd	Paulette Lilli
Joseph Zubel	Margaret & Lew Heifner
Marilyn Girard	Courtney Austin
Stephanie Milla	Shannon Alberino
Jayden Pieciak	Joyce Zeigler
Sam Bass	Katie Stallbaum
Marcia Klein	Kim Penney
Laurie Slominski	Amanda Monyak
Roseanne & George Ziefle	Judy Alexin
Connie Benko	Joe Litto
Paul Smith	John Kasperczyk
Nicholas Natale	

WE ALSO REMEMBER

ALL ACTIVE & RETIRED CLERGY

ALL SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Bless them, O Lord.

