

St. Mary's of Parma, OH Monthly Newsletter

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

April 2022

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Just Before Easter

Depending on how the weeks line up during Lent sort of depends how my articles line up on a monthly basis. I obviously enjoy writing something each month, be it a musing on something that happened at church/in life, or something with a little more depth. Today's question du jour was, with April 1 still in the teeth of Lent, should I write something about Lent or something about Easter. And after some internal debate, I felt it appropriate to address something that I never really do- the Good Friday Liturgy.

Throughout my life, I have attended or ministered at parishes where the Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified, the only required thing a priest is to do on Good Friday, has been celebrated at times ranging from early morning (8am), mid morning, and evening.

This Good Friday service is part 2 of the Triduum Liturgy that begins with Holy (Maundy) Thursday's Mass of the Institution of the Holy Eucharist. How Thursday's Liturgy ends is how Friday's begins, with that one peculiarity – the priest plans to consecrate extra hosts to be the Body of Christ to not only be distributed to the people on Good Friday, but for the priest himself to receive at the Good Friday Liturgy.

Hence, it really isn't correct to call the Good Friday service "Mass"- the official title goes "liturgy of the pre-sanctified". The omission of Mass reflects the deep sorrow the Church has in remembering the sacrifice of our Lord on the first Good Friday. The church, simply, is not permitted to have Mass celebrated this day.

Portions of worship "feel" like Mass...and, like any-time in church, when we veer-off a little bit from the norm, it feels like we go way off! The service consists of a solemn procession, readings (including the Passion in the Gospel of St. John), a

series of petitions, the veneration of the cross, receiving the elements, and a Communion service. The simple Communion service includes the recitation of the Our Father, the proclamation "This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, happy are those who are called to His Supper," and then the reception of Holy Communion (which was consecrated at the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lords Supper) by the celebrant and the faithful.

Byzantine churches (like Holy Spirit parish across from the gates of our Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery) retain the practice to have many pre-sanctified liturgies throughout the church year, mainly in Lent. Especially reserved for Wednesdays and Fridays during Lent, the Anaphora, or Eucharistic Prayer (as we have listed 1-5 in our Contemporary Rite Liturgy) is omitted. This reflects a softening of the joyfulness that the anaphora



Holy Week

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Fr. Jason's Article (con't)

(translated as, "thanksgiving") offers as remind worshippers to focus on other portions of prayer and increased reception of Communion.

I mentioned the phrase "Triduum Liturgy" earlier, which encompasses Maundy Thursday's events, Good Friday's Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, and the "odd" worship service that takes place on Holy Saturday. Traditionally, this third part (Holy Saturday) would take place late evening, culminating with an overnight (into the next day) Resurrection Mass, marking the Day of Resurrection. This is

the same idea of having Mass at Midnight on Christmas – let us celebrate, ASAP!

If one were to attend each portion of the Triduum, it would make more sense why the Easter Procession always begins from the Altar of Repose (Mary's Altar at our parish). For the previous 3 days, that area where procession kicks-off has represented the site of Jesus' arrest, his trial, his crucifixion, his placement in the tomb and subsequent entombing. The Mass of Resurrection begins by cele-



GOOD FRIDAY

brating His final victory over all the "negative" that has taken place on that site the last few days – with the priest joyfully proclaiming to the congregation and to the world: "Come Rejoice the Lord is Risen/Wesoly nam dzis dzien nastal!" *Fr. Jason*

Various Announcements

PASSIONTIDE – Passiontide is the last two weeks before Easter. It commemorates the solemn turn the church takes in the Lenten Season as Christ prepares for the Passion. You'll notice the crucifixes in church are covered, that the organ is muted at times, and that "Lord for us, your wounds were suffered" replaces "Glory be to the Father..."

COLLECTION FOR UKRAINE – The Prime Bishop of the PNCC, the Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, has advised parishes to have a collection that will support our sister parishes in the PNKK, our sister denomination in Poland. They are ministering directly to Ukrainian refugees. Our parish committee made the decision to have a weeks-long collection, with envelopes available today and through Palm Sunday, April 10, with donations sent that week in time for Easter. Please be supportive of this peaceful endeavor.

CHURCH PROPERTY CLEAN-UP – We will hold another clean-up day on Saturday, April 23, beginning at 10am. Anyone can come and lend a hand, and especially helpful would be if you brought your own rakes, shovels, brooms, hedge trimmers, and gardening gloves. Lunch & snacks will be provided with a rain date in May.

LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION – Has concluded. We partnered with the Polish

National Union of America spring program: People Need Us- Roll away the Stone of Hunger, sponsored by PNU District 5 & 12 and hosted by Branch 112.

ONLINE WORD OF GOD STUDY – The Lenten online study led by Fr. Sr. John Kowalczyk has concluded. In a few weeks, Deacon Jim & Father Jason will lead one in early May on the Acts of the Apostles. We hope you will consider being a part of it.

PAPER BIN RECYCLING – The collection bin has arrived in the parking lot of our parish. It is for you to drop off your paper, cardboard, and bagged paper shredding. This collection box was voted upon by the parish committee and the parish receives a portion of money each quarter, based on how much is recycled.

LENTEN CROSS – The Mission Team is again sponsoring the Lenten Prayer Cross. It was raised on Ash Wednesday and placed in the back, parking lot side corner of the church (Mary's corner – her statue and window reside there!). Please take on that Lenten discipline of increased prayer and devotion and plan on placing your prayers upon it.

READING OF THE PASSION – On Palm Sunday, we hear the Passion Account from St. Luke's Gospel. This gospel sets up Holy Week, and leaves no room for a homily.

POLISH FOOD – You can place your Easter Kolaczki order with the forms near the par-

ish mailboxes, by speaking to Patti D. or Susan B. Pierogi is sold out!!! Pick up for kolaczki is Holy Saturday while a pickup for the others is this Saturday from 2-4pm.

PARISH LIBRARY – Please be on the lookout in the coming weeks for a small parish lending library- a bookcase will be set up with religious and cultural books to borrow – see Fr. Jason with any questions.

MISSION & EVANGELISM – The 2022 Workshop took place earlier this month—we will have a write-up in next month's newsletter.

SP ANN WARZALA—(nee Klabon); 90, Beloved wife of Chester, and the late Michael Bukach, Jr.; Loving mother of Michael W. Bukach (Janet) and Alan Bukach (Carla); Step-mother of Karen Warzala, Jennifer Mong (Greg) and the late Jeff Warzala (Pam); Dearest grandmother of Michael Bukach (Caitlin), Christy Townsend (Clark), Travis Bukach (Tammy), Sadie Depta, and Chelsea Miller (Eric); Dear great grandmother of 10; Predeceased by 4 brothers and 6 sisters. She was a former worshipper at St. Mary's.



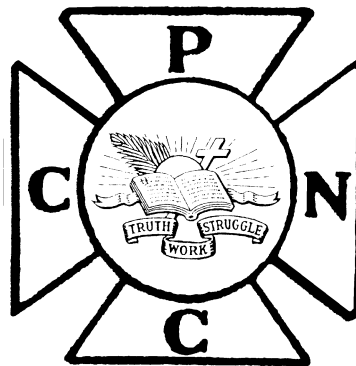
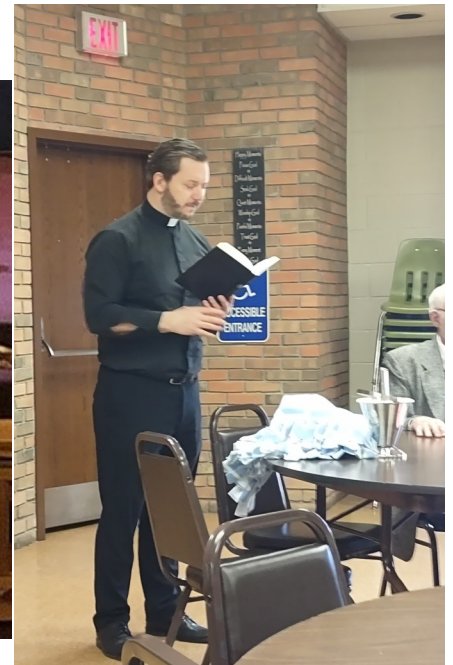
Lenten Season Begins

The Lenten Season of worship and devotion began at St. Mary's at noon on Wednesday, March 3, with our first blessing and distribution of ashes that was accompanied by the Litany of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our second blessing and distribution took place at 7pm and was part of Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Jason.

The services were well-attended and provided the first step needed for all of us to "take on the Lord Jesus Christ." Lenten Devotions began that Friday, March 5, beginning with Stations of the Cross. We walked the first set of Stations and concluded with the Benediction and Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Services were held each Friday during March.

Preceding our Lenten Season was the return of our Holy Hotcake Dinner and paczki sale. As our chairperson Susan notes later in this newsletter, thank you to all who worked and ate!

The Parish took a quick break during the Lenten Season to celebrate the PNCC Solemnity of the Institution of the PNCC, with 2022 marking



the 125th year of Truth, Work, and Struggle across the world. Fr. Jason preached on these 3 topics while the parish offered a change of scenery upon entering the Fellowship Hall. With a banner overhead, we are making sure parishioners and visitors alike can get a taste of the Polish National Catholic Church with documents, books, flyers, and more.

We also made sure to offer a blessing of a prayer blanket for a friend in need!



Simple Soup Supper

A "Simple Soup Supper" was held on the evening of Friday, March 19. The event was led by the Repede family and featured dessert, bread, and two cups of soup out of a choice of: chipotle corn chowder, clam chowder, mushroom barley, macaroni and cheese, and red borscht. The dinner was also accompanied by a frozen soup sale, making sure that everyone was fully prepared for the "third winter" that ended our month of March. Unfortunately for a soup dinner, that Friday was 75 degrees and a hot

soup meal might've not been in the cards for all, even though the frozen quarts flew off the shelf! We look forward to giving this delicious dinner another go in future years.



Ladies' Lenten Retreat

The St. Mary's Love of God Sodality sponsored a ladies retreat that took place on Saturday, March 26 from 9am-12:30pm.

The morning began at 9am with the celebration of Holy Mass for the Word of God. This votive Mass was celebrated by Fr. Jason with the homily passionately offered by Deacon Jim. After receiving the bread of angels, we were in for a treat! A breakfast to rival all breakfasts was served! It featured a blueberry French toast

bake, many different egg bakes, yogurt, cakes, fresh fruit, coffee, tea, and juice. After thoroughly enjoying ourselves, Fr. Jason led our first presentation on the big screen in the Fellowship Hall.

He spoke on the Feast Days that take place during the Lenten Season, which included St. Joseph's Day on March 19, St. Patrick's Day on March 17, the Annunciation on March 25, and St. Gabriel on March 24. He gave a detailed history and expla-

nation of each day, highlighting some Catholic rules and notes regarding the Solemnities and feasts.

Deacon Jim led our next presentation on what the Institution of the Church means for us on a parish level. We went through some church history, planned how to start a church, remembered those loved ones that helped build our faith



NEWS & NOTES

Parish Chair's News & Notes



- *We had two, very successful, dine-in dinners. March 1st, Holy Hotcakes Dinner, put on by Steve Fesz and Jim Boehnlein. March 18th, Simple Soup Supper, put on by Elaine and Martha Repede. 5 excellent, homemade soups. Bakery donated by several parishioners. Quarts of frozen soup are still available. We are going to consider a Soup dinner in the Fall.
- *We received our Acme Receipt rebate check amounting to just over \$47. More than double what we received our first year (2021). Thank you to all who, simply, brought in their Acme receipts!
- * We had a pierogi making session. About 12 parishioners made about 1000 sauerkraut and potato with cheese pierogi. Barb Wisniewski and Patti Dotson headed up this event. Steve and Barb Fesz put together a sloppy joe lunch. The pierogi were advertised on our facebook page and are sold out. We are going to try to make small batches of pierogi once a month and sell them continuously throughout the year.
- *If you haven't seen the basement please take a look. George Ziefle, Steve Fesz and Jim Boehnlein did an excellent job clearing off the stage and organizing the storage room behind the paneling doors.
- *The rectory is rented! Patti Temesi headed up the cleaning along with Cathy Avondet and Elaine Ploskonka. Thank you for your hard work.
- *Several people have commented on the state of the Polish flag displayed on our flagpole. It really suffered from the harsh winter weather. Gene Stepanik and Jim Boehnlein removed it and it will be replaced as soon as some necessary hardware procured.
- *A Spring Trunk Sale is planned for May – please keep an eye out for the date! It will be open to parishioners and the community. It will follow our previous late-summer trunk sale structure: Pay \$10 for two parking spots and bring anything you would sell at a garage/yard sale and sell "out of your trunk" or bring a table. We will be selling lunch, beverages and bakery.

Easter Lamb Cake – a traditional Eastern European Dessert representing Christ as the sacrificial Lamb of God.

I have a love-hate relationship with the Easter Lamb cake. I have my grandmother's cast iron lamb cake mold that must be 100 years old. She made a traditional pound cake with coconut frosting and green coconut grass. Growing up my siblings and I didn't like coconut and didn't eat the cake. She changed the frosting to buttercream. For the last 25-30 years I've been baking the Lamb Cake. The cake doesn't always get eaten as there are so many other things to eat. The years I don't have time to bake the cake or the cake simply doesn't cooperate are always the year when someone asks "Where's the Lamb cake?" Last year the cake stuck to the mold, it was really bad. Thankfully, I have a great husband who shakes his head, cleans the mold, seasons it (again) for next year's attempt.

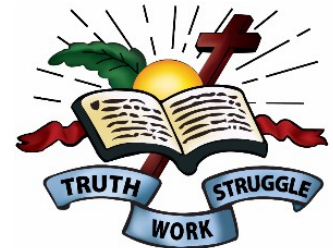
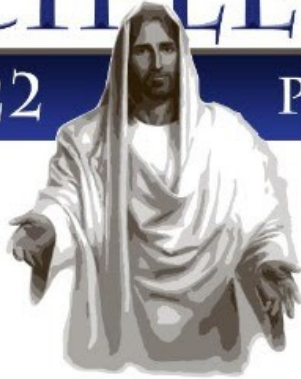
Do you or a loved one bake a Lamb cake? Before it's eaten, take a picture and text it to Susan (440-781-7912). Did the head fall off? Did you buy one? Send in the picture. Do you have a Lamb Cake story? Please share! We hope to post some of your best submissions in next month's newsletter



PNCC Future Directions Update

DISCIPLESHIP

2022 PNCC



April 2022 – The Last Supper: Do This in Remembrance of Me

During April as we celebrate the Paschal Triduum – the heart of our Christian Faith with our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Let us take some time to reflection on the amazing example our Lord gave us at the Last Supper by serving our Lord and showing our love for Him in the way we serve others

[Here is a short video reflection by Fr. Sr. Robert Nemkovich](#)

Scripture: John 13:1-15

Reflection & Action Items – On Holy or Maundy Thursday we hear about the Last Supper, the Passover Meal our Lord celebrated with His disciples from John's Gospel. What is important for us to realize in this most important passage of Holy Scripture is how Jesus yokes receiving His Presence in the Eucharist to a life of serving others. In God's Word we hear how during this most sacred meal during which the Holy Eucharist was instituted our Lord taught them to wash the feet of others. To serve and wash others feet is tied directly to receiving the Body and Blood of our Lord. Receiving Holy Communion should compel us to action as servants and disciples of our Lord – living as He commanded. "You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you."

Reflection & Action Item: Strengthened by receiving the Holy Eucharist, allow Christ to live in you by your works of love and mercy to others, especially those in need. During this month offer three



PNCC Future Dir. (Con't)

works of mercy or deeds of kindness for others in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Song Recommendation: The Servant Song [Click Here](#) or go to YouTube on your electronic device and type The Servant Song Servant of the Lion in the search bar for the song.

PNCC Future Direction on Facebook. Like, follow and share our reflections on Facebook. 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.

May God bless you; may our Lord calm the storms of life, may our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph intercede for us and the people of Ukraine. Let us use the approaching Passiontide to draw ourselves closer to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and become more faithful as His disciples washing each other's feet!

PNCC Supreme Council Future Direction Committee

Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop

Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Jr., Chairman



Scheduled Mass Intentions at St. Mary's

April 3– Raymond J. Kovach of. by Cheryl Repko

April 10 – Rose, Walter, & Edward Franczak of. by John Spilka

April 17– *Easter Sunday—No intentions taken*

April 24 – Bob Hunek of. by wife Claire

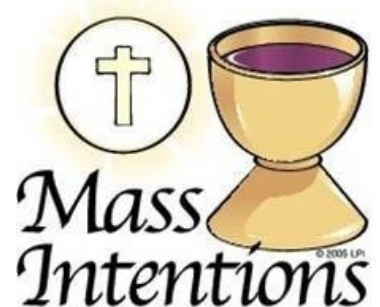
May 1— Len Pryer (1st Anv.) of. by daughter Evonne

May 8– Ruth Dobrowolski of. by daughter Patti Dotson

May 15– Stanley & Yolanta Kwiatak of. by John Spilka

May 22– John P. Repko (51st Anv.) of. by daughter Cheryl Repko

May 29 – Dorothy Tracy of. by Randy Tracy



Please reach out to Fr. Jason to schedule Masses – Open 6 month upcoming dates:
All August Sundays, Sep. 11, Sep 25, Oct. 16 & 23.

April Days of Note



April Birthdays

7 th	– Helen Wankowski
12 th	– Michael Oleniacz
14 th	– Karen Barnes
20 th	– Sheri Ference
22 nd	– Julie Koehler
27 th	– Natalie Kasperczyk
29 th	– Nick Sivik
30 th	– Sue Bengala



April Anniversaries

1 st	– Tom & Karen Bedocs
28 th	– Zbigniew & Elizabeth Staranowski

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"Prayer for Holy Thursday"

Prayer the church's banquet,
angel's age,
God's breath in man
returning to his birth,
The soul in paraphrase,
heart in pilgrimage,
The Christian plummet
sounding heav'n and earth
Engine against th' Almighty,
sinner's tow'r,
Reversed thunder,
Christ-side-piercing spear,
The six-days world
transposing in an hour,
A kind of tune,
which all things hear and fear;
Softness, and peace,
and joy, and love, and bliss,
Exalted manna,
gladness of the best,
Heaven in ordinary, man well drest,
The milky way,
the bird of Paradise,
Church-bells beyond the stars heard,
the soul's blood,
The land of spices;
something understood.

By George Herbert

Our Prayer List

Praying for St. Mary's Parishioners & Friends

Bill & Pat Glatzer	Bob Kaczmarek
Bill Kastak	Anna Dawidziuk
George & Linda Makovicka	John Spilka
Johanna Markiewicz	Mary Ann Loschelder
Ralph & June Zaun	Julie L.
Marty Bengela	Tom Putynski
Polly Gajda	Millie Dominik
Kathleen Beres	Joseph Bischoff
David Micka	Carol Hreha
Chester Warzala	Tom Petrie
Amy Dreger	Patti Dotson
Elizabeth Starnawski	Jack Spilka
Elaine Repede	David Vaden
Wanda Clark	Beth Chihill
Michael Cosevin	Helen Cummings
Laina Dachtal	Mike Matis
Jay Grabowsky	Pam Chesar
Cecelia Hall	Caroline Kunes
Linda Marks	Thomas Lill
John & Anne Nemetz	Rhonda Smith
Al Piniecki	Carol Boesch
Joanie True	Daniel Rinella
Fr. Tom Sheha	Tom Slomka
Geri S.	Ben Soltis
Pam Tropiano	Linda Vect
Dennis and Sue Vect	Marcus Vaughn, Jr.
Bryson Dzuroff	Fr. Sr. Joseph Soltysiak
Kelly B	Jane Hunter
Dennis Thome	The Finnie Family
Carlene Fliss	Jim Fliss Jr.
John Wisniewski	Cathy Pieciak
Nan Cramer	Bp. John Mack
Mike Pescitelli	Kathy Robertson
Mary Cawley	Richard & Edna Samelson
Jim Giles	Tammy Teubl
Wanda Heffner	Loretta Baldwin
Donna Kidd	Paulette Lilli
Azriel G.	Joseph Zubel
Marilyn Girard	Courtney Austin
Stephanie Milla	Shannon Alberino
Jayden Pieciak	Sophie Mae
Jeremy Steinbrick	Katie Stallbaum
Marcia Klein	Kim Penney
Barbara B.	Patrick Kmitt
Michael McGivern	Daniel Morgan
Barb & Jim Lukas	Renee Lukas
Jeff Lukas	Sauna Smullen

WE ALSO REMEMBER

ALL ACTIVE & RETIRED CLERGY
ALL SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN
Bless them, O Lord.



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