

St. Mary's of Parma, OH Monthly Newsletter

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

June 2022

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and producing some literature featuring the Spirit.

All of those things were intertwined by thoughts of the Holy Spirit. I mean, how can you plan a SPIRITual Retreat without the Spirit?! But it was a little piece of paper that stuck in my craw the most.

For what is now 26 months straight, our parish has provided a weekly food ministry to anyone in need...with a focus to not try to stare and find out what his or her particular "need" might be. The Food Ministry board suggested weekly informational handouts, which I (usually) provide.

With the picture on the corner of this page, here is the info I wrote: "On Pentecost, those present were able to speak in entirely new languages (speaking in tongues) as well as a newfound ability to understand and proclaim the Word of God. The Spirit is noted as giving 7 gifts to believers, which Catholics note on the day of their Confirmation. They are: Wisdom (application of the learned), Understanding (grasp faith's mysteries), Counsel (decision making), Fortitude (strength), knowledge (ability to re-

tain), piety (desire to love and serve God), and Fear of the Lord (deep respect of God). "

What gift of the Spirit sticks out to you? Mine always has been Fear of the Lord. Amongst many memories of that deep respect, I will never forget the moment I first touched a Sacred Vessel. The PNCC continues traditional Catholic teaching that only hands that have been blessed can touch a chalice, ciborium, or intinctorium.

But one day, early on in seminary, the Prime Bishop at the time told me to retrieve a chalice and I froze. I wondered if it was a test of my Fear of the Lord, of church teaching, or what. He reminded me that if the bishop gives you liturgical permission to do something, you go do it right away! I approached that chalice, and I'd be lying if there was a small percentage of me that didn't think my fingers would sizzle upon touching it!

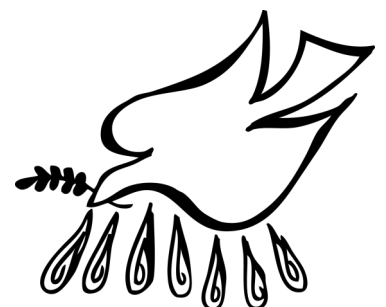
I always loved how the Church parlays the Solemnity of Pentecost, celebrating the 3rd Person of the Trinity,

Thinkin' About the Spirit

You know, every Pentecost I preach on the Holy Spirit, the power of the Spirit, the importance of the Holy Spirit...and after Mass is over, I vow to myself to preach about the Holy Spirit more often.

I do a pretty poor job of keeping those vows I make with myself holy and righteous I suppose. Besides what we pray for during the celebration of Holy Mass, besides the weekly Hymn to the Holy Spirit, besides that calling of the Spirit around extra Sacraments...I often fail it.

Since the Solemnity of Pentecost, the Spirit has been at the forefront of my mind. It was a busy week, where my life within the Church involved a number of personal meetings, planning a Spiritual Retreat, a study of the Word of God, planning for some parish meetings,



Fr. Jason's Article (con't)

into the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity one week later. There is no "Jesus Sunday" and there is no "God Sunday"...because, well, we can kinda sorta figure out why.

The Spirit is "forgettable" like I opened with because it is part of us. Blinking, swallowing, yawning...also kind of forgettable, things we don't think about.

St. Paul writes to us as he wrote in 1st Corinthians (6:19-20) "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body."

Upon our baptisms, the minister breathed on us the breath of God. On our day of baptism and reaffirmed on

our day of Confirmation, we promised and vowed a number of things, cementing our bodies as that temple St. Paul wrote about.

And once a temple and at an age and maturity to respect that temple, we take on responsibility. In addressing the Spirit, St. Paul wrote in his Letter to the Ephesians "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." He then goes on to write what this means—how living a life that is contrast to the promises of our sacraments is grieving the Spirit, that it offends the Spirit within us.

Lord knows once something starts going bad within us, it affects the

totality of "me". We notice when people "don't seem like themselves" and ask if they are feeling ok. Most replies will be a headache, allergies, bad night of sleep, or a sore back or something.

The Spirit has gifted us in many ways, and like anything in life, our job is to remain in harmony with it. If we haven't been right lately and we just can't put a finger as to why...maybe the Church is reminding us through worship and Scripture of what the 3rd person of God should mean to us: as One who keeps us in tune to those things beyond our body, as One that, though often forgotten, keeps us as God's chosen and holy ones, allowing us the ability to grow in faith.

Fr. Jason

Various Announcements

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER - For the month of June, we use the 3rd Eucharistic Prayer on p. 84, the Canon of St. Basil.

CLERGY PENSION - On Father's Day, the PNCC offers prayer across the entire denomination for all fathers, lay and clergy, to express gratitude, remembrance, and love for all they have done for family and church. God's Field/Rola Boza, the official PNCC publication, will publish your name and the name of any father you wish to acknowledge or remember. For each, a minimum donation of \$25 is requested, payable to the Clergy Pension Fund PNCC at 1006 Pittston Ave, Scranton, PA 18505.

SACRED VOCATIONS - June is Sacred Vocations Month. Please consider donation to the Clergy Pension Fund to honor our clergy for their dedication to church and their parishioners. Pray for your priest, your bishop, and any other clergy in your life. Spend time in prayer for more vocations from within our Polish National Catholic Church.

CHOIR CONCERT - The United Choirs of

the Western Diocesan Concert and Convention takes place June 24-26, hosted by St. Mary's. A weekend of singing, fellowship, and worship takes place here. The convention takes place Friday evening with the concert (followed by live music and dancing) taking place Saturday evening.

CONVO 2022 - Is hosted by the Western Diocese of the PNCC this year and takes place Monday-Friday, July 18-22 at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, IN. The theme this year is "Live, Laugh, Love with God." Our parish will be helpful with any children (age 12-21) who may be interested in attending Convo. See Fr. Jason.

PROGRAM BOOK - A commemorative program book for the concert is being compiled. We hope that parishioners (and not just choir members) would support this as it is representative of St. Mary's. Packets available near the parish mailboxes with info on how to sponsor an advert. Please turn in your ad by June 13th.

NEW PEW BOOKS - Have been donated by our local Spojnia branch in loving memory of sp. Joan Spilka. They will be blessed later

this morning at our parish committee meeting and you will find them in the pews for next Sunday, June 19.

WORD OF GOD STUDY - The Western Diocese remains committed to honoring and dignifying the Sacrament of the Word of God throughout 2022. Continuing each Tuesday through June at 8pm, the diocese offers its second section of study on the Acts of the Apostles, led by Fr. Jason & Deacon Jim. Each study is about an hour and available via Zoom, with the link available via email or by asking Fr. Jason.

MEN'S RETREAT - The 5th Annual Men's Retreat takes place June 15-18 at Spojnia Farm in Waymart, PA. We would love to have more men of St. Mary's in attendance, as our retreat has been growing yearly. The theme this year is "Devotion & Fellowship". The cost is \$125 per person and covers food, room, & board. See Fr. Jason if interested in attending.

MASS TIME CHANGE - on Sunday, June 26, Holy Mass will be at 10am, celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Jerry Rafalko, Bishop-Ordinary of our PNCC Western Diocese. This will be the final day of the United Choir Concert event, and we look forward to welcoming our bishop.

Polish Constitution Day Parade

On Sunday May 1, the Polish Constitution Day Parade returned to Polish Village in Parma. We at St. Mary's made sure that we didn't miss a single step. 20 humans and 2 dogs marched with our group, and as is customary, we ran out of candy by

the end of the parade! Raindrops did not arrive until later in the day – a blessing for all to represent their beloved parish on a May afternoon. We were joined by a few guests as well, making our bunch that much merrier.



Clergy Conference & Retreat

Fr. Jason and Deacon Jim attended the annual Western Diocese Clergy Conference and Retreat in Mundelein, IL from May 2-4. We welcomed a guest priest who spoke on the Good Shepherd, we

performed the business portion of our clergy conference, we were witnesses to the incardination of a new priest for the PNCC, and we enjoyed each other's company. Unfortu-

nately, a healthy portion of us got Covid from this trip! Luckily, a month out it seems everyone is ok.



Applebee's Fundraiser

The second restaurant fundraiser of 2022 for St. Marys took place on Thursday, May 19 from 11am-Close at Applebee's on Rockside Road in Independ-

ence, OH. Thank you to all who patronized this event. Our goal is to have a few more of these throughout the 2022 year.



Bowling Tournament

After a 2 year hiatus because of Covid-19, the annual PNCC/YMSofR Bowling Tournament returned in action. 11 from St. Mary's & its bowling league attended the festivities, hosted by Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral.

Friday featured singles (3 games) and doubles (3 games). Saturday featured the team competition. Fr. Jason, Elaine, and Karen joined forces with two men

from Scranton, PA (one named Casper) to form "Casper and the Friendly G.O.A.T.S.", honoring the legendary and breathtaking Tom Brady with t-shirts and full hearts while doing a bit of wordplay on the old Casper and the Friendly Ghost cartoon.

After two days of (painful) enjoyable bowling, Saturday night featured a banquet for all bowlers and guests. Our men's team from Parma took 1st Place in the Open Division Team Event. Natalie Soltysiak was part of the Women's team that took 1st Place in the Women's Team Event. Karen Colwell and Elaine



Ploskonka took First Place in Women's Doubles while Karen also took 1st Place in Women's High Game.



Liturgy Meetings

The PNCC National Commission on Liturgy met in Scranton, PA from May 23-25. Work was done for 3 days worth of meetings that will help further the liturgical practices of the Polish National Catholic Church. We were overjoyed to not only complete our agenda, but to celebrate the 75th birthday of the Bishop-Ordinary of the Central Diocese, the Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki.

First row: Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich, Jr.; Rt. Rev. Bernard J. Nowicki; Most Rev. Anthony A. Mikovsky; Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski;

Second row: Rev. Jason Soltysiak; Rev. Antulio A. Alvarado; Very Rev. John P. Kowalczyk, Jr.; Rev. Carmen Bolock



Marian Devotions

Eucharistic Devotions honoring the Blessed Mother of God, Mary, were scheduled to take place each week during the month of May. Unfortunately, a bit of illness and scheduling issues got in the way from our normal "7pm each May Wednesday evening" schedule.

Our first devotion took place on Friday at noon, May 6. After a week off due to

illness, they were held at 7pm on May 18 by Fr. Jason and on May 25 by Deacon Jim.

New Marian vestments were purchased and blessed for liturgical use here at St. Mary's. While they fit Deacon Jim like a glove (pictured at right), perhaps Fr. Jason needs to work on his shoulders a little bit more!



Last Day of SOCL

On Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, May 29, children and teachers enjoyed the last day of SOCL at St. Mary's for the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Natalie's class took a month's long walk through scripture and the church liturgical year while Mrs. Barb's class excitedly studied the A-Z's of the church.



Memorial Day Service

A traditional Memorial Day Liturgy of the Word was celebrated at 10am on a beautiful Monday morning, May 30 at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery on W. 54th Street.

Fr. Jason and Deacon Jim were joined by a group of St. Mary's parishioners and a few locals to offer remembrance on this solemn day of our nation. In his sermon, Fr. Jason recalled the history of how

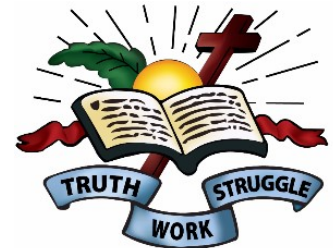
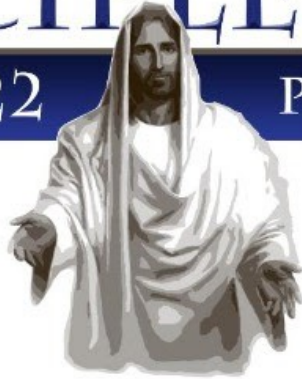
the church has celebrated Memorial Day in her liturgy. The graves of all veterans, marked by a flag or not, were blessed after the service by Deacon Jim and Fr. Jason.



PNCC Future Directions Update

DISCIPLESHIP

2022 PNCC



June 2022 – The Solemnity of Corpus Christi

During the month of June, we celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi – the Body of Christ. We also celebrate Sacred Vocations Month across our Holy Church and this coming weekend June 4th and 5th is Clergy Appreciation Weekend!

[Click Here to watch a video message by Fr. Mark Swoger](#)

Scripture: John 1:1-14; John 6:35-53; John 15:1-8; Matthew 26:18-20, 26-29

Reflection and Action Item: On Thursday after the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, the Catholic Churches around the world celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, also known as the Solemnity of the Most Precious Body and Blood of Christ. The Solemnity of Corpus Christi is a religious manifestation and confession of Christian and Catholic faith. By the presence and active participation in the liturgy Catholics publicly profess their faith in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This is a time when Catholics show their love for Christ by honoring Him in a public way and show their love for their neighbors by bringing the Lord and Savior closer to them.



On that day, after celebrating the Eucharist the faithful go in a solemn procession with the Blessed Sacrament to four altars. The Solemnity of Corpus Christi has been solemnly celebrated in parishes of the Polish National Catholic Church since her organization. It was adapted from Western Catholic tradition and is strongly connected with our faith in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The procession associated with the feast day may be performed on the feast day itself, the Sunday within the octave, or any day throughout the octave. The Sequence within the Mass is said for the octave of this feast. Processions held within the octave are often combined parish and/or seniorate celebrations. They usually incorporate the local branches of the United Women's Societies for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

PNCC Future Dir. (Con't)

Action Item: Attend the Parish or Seniorate Corpus Christi Mass and Procession giving thanks and praise to God for His precious gift of the presence of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Remember Clergy Appreciation Weekend & Sacred Vocations Month, pray that the Lord Jesus will send more priests and deacons to his Church, and be sure to show your gratitude to your parish clergy by some meaningful gestures of appreciation.

Prayer for the Clergy – 2010 PNCC Prayer Book

Lord Jesus, Great High Priest and Eternal Shepherd, for the building and expansion of Your Kingdom You have called forth men to apostolic orders to serve in Your Church. By the grace of the Holy Spirit strengthen the prime bishop, bishops, priests and deacons. Endue them with the gifts of wisdom, understanding and knowledge, guide them with Your counsel, give them strength to fulfill their ministry. Fill them with the spirit of piety and the fear of the Lord so they can be true witnesses of Your Gospel. When the time should come for them to cross the threshold of life, receive them into Your heavenly kingdom. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Vocations – 2006 PNCC Missal

Almighty and Eternal God, in Your plan for our salvation You provide priests as shepherds for Your people. Raise up worthy servants for Your altars and ardent but gentle servants of the gospel. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

June 5– Joan Spilka (Wedding Anv.) of. by husband John

June 12 – Frank A. Kronen & Theresa A. Kronen of. by Frank W. Kronen

June 19– Gene Mora of. by daughter Cherie Kugler

June 26 – Departed and present members of the National United Choirs (NUC)

July 3— Elaine Tiffe of. by son Jeffery

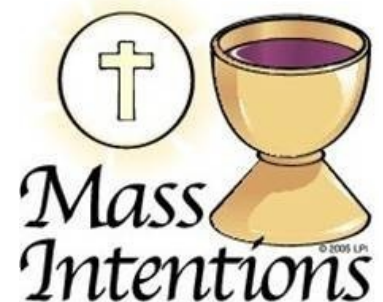
July 10– Timothy M. McGinty of. by Cheryl Repko

July 17– Margaret Sobocinski of. by husband Clarence

July 24– Margaret Sobocinski of. by husband Clarence

July 31 – Dale Tracy of. by brother Randy Tracy

**Please reach out to Fr. Jason to schedule Masses – Open 6 month upcoming dates:
August 14, 21, 28, Sep. 11, Sep 25, Oct. 16 & 23, Nov 6 & 27, Dec 11 & 18.**



June Days of Note



June Birthdays

- 3rd — Wiler Ploskonka
- 2nd — Nicole Michalczyk
- 6th — Bridgette Dotson
- 7th — Mitch Ploskonka
- 7th — Darleen Janke
- 12th — Madi Ference
- 16th — Elizabeth Starnawski
- 26th — Mary Ann Kasperczyk
- 27th — June Zaun



June Anniversaries

- 2nd — Mark & Cathy Avondet
- 7th — John & Eileen Kasperczyk
- 12th — Bill & Pat Glatzer
- 18th — Mitch and Sarah Ploskonka
- 22nd — Bill & Wendy Zychowski
- 25th — Fr. Jason & Natalie Soltysiak
- 27th — Bruce & Barbara Bogzevitz

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"Holy Trinity & Us"

Out of the love immense and bright
That from the two had thus begun,
Words of ineffable delight
The Father spoke unto the Son:

Words of so infinite a rapture
Their drift by none could be explained:
Only the Son their sense could capture
That only to Himself pertained.

What of them we can sense the clear-
est
Was in this manner said and thought:
Out of Your company, my Dearest,
I can be satisfied by nought.

But if aught please me, I as duly
In You, Yourself, the cause construe.
The one who satisfies Me truly
Is him who most resembles You.

He who in nought resembles You
Shall find of Me no trace or sign,
Life of My Life! for only through
Your own can I rejoice in Mine.

You are the brilliance of My light
My wisdom and My power divine,
The figure of My substance bright
In whom I am well pleased to shine!

The man who loves You, O my Son,
To him Myself I will belong.
The love that in Yourself I won
I'll plant in him and root it strong,
Because he loved the very one
I loved so deeply and so long

By St. John of the Cross

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
Gerl 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	Claudette Lukas
Mike Pescitelli	Kathy Robertson
Mary Cawley	Richard & Edna Samelson
Jim Giles	Tammy Teubl
Bill Zychowski	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.

