

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 31, 2017

- **9:30 AM Holy Mass: Solemnity - Holy Family, Solemnity – Humble Shepherds**

Monday, January 1, 2018

- **9:30 AM Holy Mass: Solemnity – Circumcision of our Lord**

Tuesday, January 2, 2018– **Feast – St. Stephen, Martyr**

Wednesday, January 3, 2018– **Feast – St. John – Apostle and Evangelist**

Thursday, January 4, 2018– **Within the Octave of the Nativity**

Friday, January 5, 2018– **Within the Octave of the Nativity**

Saturday, January 6, 2018

- **9:30 AM Holy Mass: Solemnity – Epiphany of our Lord**

Sunday, January 7, 2018

- **9:30 AM Holy Mass: Solemnity – Baptism of our Lord**

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### FAITH SHARING

On the last Sunday of the year, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. We are here to offer all the members of our own families on the altar for God's blessing. The Gospel describes how Joseph, as the head of the Holy Family of Nazareth, presented Mary and the Baby Jesus in the Temple of God for the mother's purification and the Child's "redemption." The Mosaic Law (Numbers 18:15) taught that since every Jewish firstborn male child belonged to Yahweh, the parents had to "buy back"(*redeem*), the child by offering a lamb or turtledoves as a sacrifice in the Temple. In addition (Leviticus 12:2-8), every mother had to be purified after childbirth by prayers and an offering made to God in the Temple. Joseph kept these laws as an act of obedience to God.

By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the old, pious and Spirit-filled Simeon and Anna had been waiting in the Temple for the revelation of God's salvation. 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 the light of revelation to the Gentiles. While he blessed Mary, he warned her that her child would be "*a sign of contradiction*," and that she would be "*pierced with a sword*." Simeon was prophesying both the universal salvation that would be proclaimed by Jesus and the necessity of suffering in the mission of the Messiah.



### CANCER, HEART DISEASE AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIP

A few years ago, a study was undertaken to find the U.S. city with the lowest incidence of cancer and heart disease. The winner was Rosetto, Pennsylvania. Soon experts descended upon the city expecting to see a town populated by non-smokers, people who ate the correct food, took regular exercise and kept close track of their cholesterol. To their great surprise, however, the researchers discovered that none of the above was true. They found instead that the city's good health was tied to the close family bonds that prevailed within the community. This suggests that there is much to be said for a close and loving family relationship.

### CHRISTMAS HOUSE BLESSING

If you wish your priest to come and bless your house, please schedule an appointment. He will come to your home at the most convenient time for you. Please call Parish Office at (215) 535-4978.



### 2018 MASS OFFERINGS ENVELOPES

Please pick up your 2018 Mass offerings envelopes. There are located in the back of the church. Please take them also for your relatives and friends who are not coming regularly for Sunday worship.

In case you can't pick them up for some reason we can mail them to you. Please call Parish office.

**Happy, peaceful  
and blessed  
New Year  
2018**

**Fr. Mariusz and Parish Committee**

## CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

### Sunday, December 31, 2017

- 9:30 AM Holy Mass: Solemnity - Holy Family, Solemnity – Humble Shepherds

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### Saturday, January 6, 2018

- 9:30 AM Holy Mass: Solemnity – Epiphany of our Lord

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- 9:30 AM Holy Mass: Solemnity – Baptism of our Lord

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### MASS INTENTION REQUEST FORM

Mass for \_\_\_\_\_

Date Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mail this form and Mass stipend to: St. Valentine's PNCC, 2330 Margaret St, Philadelphia, PA 19137 or call parish office at (215) 535-4978.*

# ST. VALENTINE'S PARISH

## Polish National Catholic Church

2330 Margaret St, Philadelphia, PA 19137, (215) 535-4978

[www.stvalentinespncc.org](http://www.stvalentinespncc.org), [stvalentinespncc@gmail.com](mailto:stvalentinespncc@gmail.com)



## Holy Family

## Uroczystość Świętej Rodziny

## December 31, 2017