

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 13, 2019 – Solemnity – **Baptism of our Lord**

• **9:30 AM Holy Mass**

† Anthony Volpe, Theresa Volpe – requested by Joe & Elaine Volpe)

Monday, January 14, 2018 – **Weekday**

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 – **Weekday**

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 – **Weekday**

Thursday, January 17, 2019 – **Weekday**

Friday, January 18, 2019 – **Weekday**

Saturday, January 19, 2019 – **Weekday**

Sunday, January 20, 2019 – **2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time**

• **9:30 AM Holy Mass**

† Arthur McKee, Stella Napierkowski, Benjamin Napierkowski – requested by Estelle McKee

FAITH SHARING

Jesus' baptism by John was a very important event in the life of Jesus. First it was a **moment of identification** with us sinners. Sinless, Jesus received the baptism of repentance to identify himself with his people who realized for the first time that they were sinners.



Second, it was a **moment of conviction** about his identity and mission: that He is the Son of God and His mission was to preach the Good News of God's love and salvation to Israel, and eventually to us, and to atone for our sins by becoming the "*suffering servant*." God the Father's words, "*This is my beloved Son,*" taken from Psalm 2:17, revealed Jesus' identity as God's Son, and the words "*with whom I am well pleased,*" from Isaiah 42:1 (referring to the "*suffering servant*"), pointed to

Jesus' mission of atoning for the sins of the world by His suffering and death on the cross.

Third, it was a **moment of equipment**. The Holy Spirit equipped Jesus by descending on him in the form of dove, giving him the power of preaching and healing.

Fourth, it was a **moment of decision** to begin public ministry at the most opportune time after receiving the approval of his Heavenly Father as

His *beloved Son*.

2019 MASS OFFERINGS ENVELOPES

Please pick up your 2019 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.

CEMETERY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. When you decorate the graves, please make sure that all items you put over there, especially artificial flowers, have no metal wires inside, even very thin. This kind of decorative items **are forbidden** in our cemetery. Metal wires destroy our lawn mower blades. Our caretaker will trash them as soon as he notice them inspecting the grave sides. We are sorry, but no exceptions. Only metal Veterans emblems with flag holder and emblems of faith and societies are allowed. All such items must be placed with the confines of the flowerbed and meet safety standards. **The following items are not permitted: ornamental fencing, plastic edging, bricks, bark nuggets, glass trinkets, plaster statues, stone dividers, any decorations with metal wires inside or similar items.** Flowerbeds, veterans and memorial emblems/flags and other approved items are not allowed at the foot of the grave; only at the head of the grave.



During the non-growing season (i.e. from November 15th to March 31st), artificial flowers and wreaths are permitted, only at the head of the grave, not more than 8 inches from headstone. These items must be removed each year before April 1st. Cemetery officials are not responsible for any item discarded after this date.

2. Many parishioners plant some live flowers in front of the tombstones. If you noticed they disappear very soon after. Then you complain that your plants have been cut by lawn mower. We assure you that they were not. We have a pretty big deer family living in our cemetery. They eat your flowers, shrubs etc., as soon as you plant them.

No new shrubbery is permitted at any grave. All existing shrubbery and oversized plants will be removed.

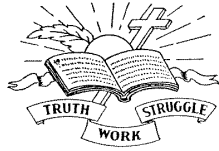
3. Some tombstones are leaning due to not deep enough foundation. Unfortunately, some stone companies put too low monument foundations than required by State law. Leaning tombstones are very heavy and we have no heavy duty equipment to take care of them. Please do not require from our caretaker to fix it. Moreover, please do not expect that one man can do it. However, if we can help Patrik on spring time, some of these grave stones can be moved to their proper position. Few, however, which are too heavy, have to be fixed by professionals, who will not do it for free. Some charges might be applied. You will be notified by phone or mail if your grave needs to be fixed.

The Parish reserves the right to install or contract out all foundations and cornerstones. Parishioners or family representatives are not authorized to install or contract out the installation of any foundation, cornerstone or marker.

CHRISTMAS HOUSE BLESSING

If you wish 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.





Central Diocese
of the Polish National Catholic Church
515 East Locust Street
Scranton, PA 18505-1710
The Right Reverend Bernard J. Nowicki, DD, Bishop Ordinary
Chancery Office (570) 341-5150 Fax (570) 341-5151
Cathedral Parish Office (570) 961-9231

January, 2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of you in our Central Diocesan family, and welcome to the **Year of Discipleship** in our holy Church!

In the words of our national PNCC Future Direction Sub-Committee recently given to us.....*As our Lord said to His disciples "Follow Me" for His public ministry, He continues to call us to follow Him and wants our relationship with Him to grow and strengthen as the days, months and years goes by. Our PNCC is calling us to renew our Discipleship in our Lord this year and as we begin 2019....*

Soooo – let’s get a handle on this idea of discipleship, shall we?

Not too long ago I was watching a Netflix presentation about the Masons, with a focus on their place of origin, Freemasons' Hall in Great Queen Street, London. As I became drawn into the narrative of this society’s founding and growth, I was struck by how clearly they laid out the expectations of a mason. By contrast, I was struck by how often our Church is hesitant to name the expectations of discipleship for its members.

Our Future Directions Sub-Committee has begun laying out these expectations and will continue that effort throughout the year. I’d say, it all boils down to five basic opportunities to “grow and strengthen our relationship with Jesus.”

Worship – We worship God together, through his Son Jesus. Worshipping regularly is a part of who we are as Catholic Christians. The people of God join together in the house of God to worship and honor God (Psalm 150). Worship is about community: the Christian community gathers to worship, to pray together, and to continue its growth in the faith.

Grow – We become affiliated with a parish society, Bible study, the School of Christian Living to grow in faith and our walk with Jesus. Jesus went to the synagogue “as was His custom” (Luke 4:16). Synagogue for Jesus was a place of

discernment, learning scripture, and growing in the knowledge and love of God and neighbor. We join with other PNCC-ers here in order to grow together.

Mission – We are called to love our neighbors. We are encouraged to be involved in some mission emphasis. Jesus had a special place in His heart for the poor, marginalized, outcast, and lost. We are called to be the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus Christ in our world. We seek to love and serve others and believe this is vital in our Christian walk.

Talents and Abilities – All of us have talents and abilities that can be used for the glory of God. Some have the gift of teaching or leading. Others have the gift of administration, or may be gifted in finance and can help the church to be faithful stewards of the gifts offered for ministry and mission. Some have the gift of compassion, or love to send cards to those who are sick. Some feel called to reach out to the unchurched, while others have the gift of hospitality. Yes, all of us have some God-given gift, talent, or ability that we can use for the glory of God.

Proportional Giving – Stewardship is a spiritual discipline and an act of worship. Our offering is a recognition that everything we have and are is a gift to us from God. We are all blessed. We are all called by God to offer our first-fruits and our [portion] to God for the work of His kingdom (Leviticus 27:30-33; Deuteronomy 14:22-29). Our offering at a regular percentage of giving is an act of gratitude, an act of obedience, and an act of our covenantal agreement with God. Our offering is used, then, in ministry and mission on behalf of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So let’s take time to reflect on these five expectations as we undertake a life of Catholic Christian discipleship. After all, God proved he loves us so much by giving His only begotten Son *to live* among us, *to teach* us of God’s love and kingdom, *to die* that we might be forgiven, and *to rise* that we may have eternal life. God has promised to be with us always. Discipleship, then, is our faithful response to this God who “so loves the world” (John 3:16)

Peace and grace to all.

Bishop Bernard

OFFICE ITEMS DONATIONS

If you have some unwanted office supplies, such as paper, envelopes, post stamps, etc. and you would like to donate them or you could sponsor them for our Parish Office, please let us know. Even your tiny donation can be helpful to your Church.



ST. VALENTINE'S PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church

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

www.stvalentinespncc.org, stvalentinespncc@gmail.com

Sunday Mass: 9:30 AM (English)



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.



Baptism of our Lord

Chrzest Pański

January 13, 2019