

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 24, 2019 – **3rd Sunday of Lent**

- **9:30 AM Holy Mass with Lenten Lamentations**
 † Dorothy Karolkiewicz – requested by Joyce Paluszkiewicz

Monday, March 25, 2019 – **Solemnity – Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Tuesday, March 26, 2019 – **Lenten Weekday**
 Wednesday, March 27, 2019 – **Lenten Weekday**
 Thursday, March 28, 2019 – **Lenten Weekday**
 Friday, March 29, 2019 – **Lenten Weekday**

- **7:00 PM Stations of the Cross / Droga Krzyżowa**
- Saturday, March 30, 2019 – **Lenten Weekday**
 Sunday, March 31, 2019 – **4th Sunday of Lent**
- **9:30 AM Holy Mass**
 † Helen Misiewicz (99th Birthday) – requested by Marianne Woodland and Henry Jackowicz

SUNDAY MASS INTENSIONS:

- 4/07/2019 † Alfreda Day – requested by Alfreda Janczuk
- 4/14/2019 † Mabel Poposki (25th Anniversary of Death)
- 4/21/2019 Easter – For All Our Beloved Dead
- 4/28/2019 † Verna Lopatkiewicz – Memorial Mass
- 5/05/2019 † Alfreda Day – requestetd by Joyce Paluszkiewicz
- 5/12/2019 Mother’s Day – For All Our Beloved Mothers (Living and Dead)
- 5/19/2019 † Verna Lopatkiewicz – requested by Cliff & Julie Brown
- 5/26/2019 † Very Rev. Joseph Kleppner, Ph.D.
- 6/02/2019 † Irina Kurbat – requested by daughters & family

FAITH SHARING

All three of today’s readings speak of God’s mercy and compassion in disciplining His children by occasional punishment while giving them another chance despite their repeated sins. Although God’s love for us is constant and



consistent, He will not save us without our co-operation. That is why He invites us during Lent to repent of our sins and to renew our lives by producing fruits of love, compassion, forgiveness, and faithful service.

We need to live lives of repentance, because we never know when we will meet a tragedy of our own. Let us turn to Christ, acknowledge our faults and failings and receive from him mercy, forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. There is

no better way to take these words of Jesus to heart than to confess our sins, and there is no better time to repent than during Lent. Repentance helps us in life and in death. It helps us to live as forgiven people and helps us to face death without fear.

We need to be fruitful trees in God’s orchard. Lent is an ideal time “to dig around and manure” the tree of our life so that it may bring forth fruits of repentance, reconciliation, forgiveness and sensitivity to the feelings of others.

We need to make the best use of the “second chances” God gives us. Our merciful Father always gives us second chances. During Lent, too, we are given another chance to repent and return to our Heavenly Father’s love.

ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is the solemnity celebrated March 25. The fact of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is related in Luke 1:26-38. The Evangelist tells us that in the sixth month after the conception of St. John the Baptist by Elizabeth, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to the Virgin Mary, at Nazareth, a small town in the mountains of Galilee. Mary was of the house of David, and was espoused (i.e. married) to Joseph, of the same royal family. She had, however, not yet entered the household of her spouse, but was still in her mother’s house.



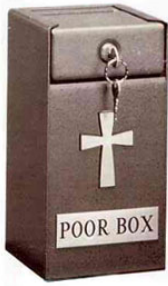
And the angel having taken the figure and the form of man, came into the house and said to her: "Hail, full of grace (to whom is given grace, favored one), the Lord is with thee." Mary having heard the greeting words did not speak; she was troubled in spirit, since she knew not the angel, nor the cause of his coming, nor the meaning of the salutation. And the angel continued and said: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,

and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end." The Virgin understood that there was question of the coming Redeemer. But, why should she be elected from amongst women for the splendid dignity of being the mother of the Messiah, having vowed her virginity to God? Therefore, not doubting the word of God, but filled with fear and astonishment, she said: "How shall this be done, because I know not man?"

The angel to remove Mary’s anxiety and to assure her that her virginity would be spared, answered: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." In token of the truth of his word he made known to her the conception of St. John, the miraculous pregnancy of her relative now old and sterile.

Mary may not yet have fully understood the meaning of the heavenly message and how the maternity might be reconciled with her vow of virginity, but clinging to the first words of the angel and trusting to the Omnipotence of God she said: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

LENTEN ALMSGIVING



It has been well said that if you want to know God, show love to your neighbor. The small sacrifices we make during Lent only have meaning if they increase love. Don't forget the most precious gift you can give is your time. So, over and above any material gift, give your time to those who need it. That visit to someone you have been putting off, that letter, email or text message you have been meaning to write, even the smile with which you greet the office bore, they are all forms of almsgiving which will enrich your life as well as that of others. In the back of our church you can also find the POOR BOX.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
on all Fridays during Lent, at 7.00PM



THE LENTEN LAMENTATIONS / GORZKIE ŻALE

Today, right after Mass there will be an exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and we will sing The Lenten Lamentations (Gorzkie Żale). This devotion can help us to understand how much our Lord suffered for us, only because He loves us. Benediction will conclude our service.



A NEW BLOWER – OUR GIFT FOR ST. VALENTINE’S CEMETERY

May God bless all who fundraised money for the new leaves blower for St. Valentine’s Cemetery.

We purchased brand new commercial quality blower for \$509.99.

Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH COMMITTEE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY AND MEETING

On Sunday, April 7, 2019 newly elected Parish Committee is invited to swearing-in ceremony during 9:30 AM Mass.

There will be a Parish Committee meeting after Mass.

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)



3rd Sunday of Lent

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (March 25)

3 Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

Zwiastowanie Pańskie (25 marca)

March 24, 2019