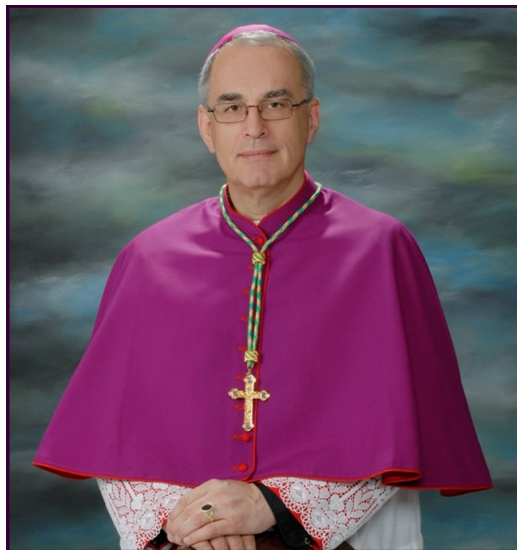


THE MESSENGER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Eastern Diocese
of the Polish National Catholic Church



Let Your “Yes” be “Yes”

My Dear
Eastern Diocesan Family:

In the Gospel of Matthew we read; “Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”(Matthew 5:37)

What a difference between the standard Jesus sets for us, and the standard of the world. A person can particularly notice this when they find themselves surrounded by all the sights and sounds of an election season. It just seems that we are being bombarded by political ads, speeches, rallies, cable and broadcast channel reporting that continues to share half-truths, mis-truths and all out lies. To paraphrase the Scripture quote above, the world says “Let your ‘Yes’ be *maybe, kinda* and your ‘No’ be *maybe, kinda*, it all comes from what you want to believe.” It’s like a quote from the book *Quo Vadis* “What is truth? The actual verse comes from John 18:38 where Pilate asks the question of Jesus: “*Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”*”

There is a darkness in the world that allows evil to hide in many places. Jesus said, “*For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed*” (John 3:20).

Saint Paul wrote in Romans, Chapter 13: “*Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; for it is God’s servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain*”

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It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, busy with this very thing. Pay to all what is due them—taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due. Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.”

So what do we do, as Christian and Catholic faithful who have to live in this world? Again Scripture tells us: *But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ* (Philippians 3:20). *See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves* (Matthew 10:16). *Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s* (Matthew 22:21b). *No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven* (John 5:15-16). *I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world* (John 16:33).

As we approach Election Day, Tuesday, November 5th, let us give unto Caesar that which is Caesar’s. Let us do so knowing that our first citizenship is to the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we always carry ourselves as Jesus’ disciples, faithful to His teachings and rule.

In just a few days we Polish National Catholics of the Eastern Diocese will exercise a form of representative democracy as we engage in holy synod. May the Holy Spirit be a part of our gathering and may His grace, wisdom and guidance impel the synod to manifest God’s will for the good work and building up of the Eastern Diocese.

Bishop Paul

Resolutions of the XXVI General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church



Whereas, we the delegates to the XXVI General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church—representatives of the holy People of God—have convened under the leadership of our Prime Bishop and Bishops in Scranton, Pennsylvania, from the 18th through the 21st days of October in the year 2022;

Whereas, we were strengthened, enlightened and sanctified by our Lord Jesus Christ, Himself, truly present in our very midst through Word and Sacrament during the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist, concelebrated by our Prime Bishop and Bishops at St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Cathedral, first parish of the Polish National Catholic Church, and as Eucharistic people, and proclaim it as the most beautiful and important aspect of the great work of these blessed days;

Whereas, all of the Bishops of the Union of Scranton—the Most Reverend Anthony Mikovsky, the Right Reverend John Mack, the Right Reverend Paul Sobiechowski, the Right Reverend Bernard Nowicki, the Right Reverend Jaroslaw Rafalko, the Most Reverend Robert Nemkovich, and the Most Reverend Roald Flemestad—were gathered around God’s altar to witness the Most Reverend Ottar Myrseth of the Nordic Catholic Church sign the Declaration of Scranton and to welcome him into the Union of Scranton;

Whereas, we offer our gratitude to the Central Diocese of the Church, under the leadership of the Right Reverend Bernard Nowicki, and all those who selflessly assumed and attentively carried out the responsibilities of planning and hosting this Holy Synod;

Whereas, the Polish National Catholic Church joyfully celebrates the 125th Anniversary of its Institution, and we offer our humble and sincere gratitude to God for Bishop Franciszek Hodur and the dedicated and faithful parishioners who, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, sacrificed much in working together to organize our beloved Church;

Whereas, we recognize the foundation that was laid at the XXIV and bolstered at the XXV General Synods of the Polish National Catholic Church regarding our Future Direction and acclaim the efforts made over the last eight years by the Future Direction Subcommittee, wishing to especially recognize the enthusiasm of the Very Reverend Robert Nemkovich, Jr., as he steps down from the chairmanship of the Subcommittee and praying that the Holy Spirit will guide another dedicated disciple in leading these endeavors in the coming years;

Whereas, we received an impassioned and enthusiastic report from the National United Youth Association as delivered by its president Jorge Hernandez Arjona, and now pledge our support to National United Youth endeavors, and are zealously committed to work for growth or establishment of youth groups within our parishes, and for increased attendance at the biennial National Youth Convocations for which the Polish National Union of America has announced its gracious establishment of scholarships to provide financial assistance to youth who wish to attend the Convocations;

Therefore, fervently praying that Almighty God, One in the Blessed Trinity, through the prayers of Our Lady, St. Stanislaus and all the Angels and Saints, will bring forth abundant fruit from the proceedings of this XXVI General Synod, and as we now prepare to return to our parishes and build up Christ’s Church by executing its work, we hereby resolve:

To continually draw our strength from the Most Holy Eucharist and the whole Sacramental life of the Church; to seek the true enlightenment that comes to us from the Sacred Scriptures and through the holy teachings of the Church; to selflessly embrace the sacrificial work that Christ has entrusted to our care by fulfilling His Two Great Commandments of Love; to faithfully walk the pathway of Christian discipleship as marked out by the pristine faith of the Undivided Church of the first millennium; and to plainly show the Polish National Catholic Church to be an integral part of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church founded by Christ and professed within the Creed, by the bold witness of our words, by the shining example of our compassion, mercy and charity, and by our own lives of true and abiding holiness.

Respectfully submitted on this 21st day of October in the year 2022, by the Resolution Committee of the XXVI General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church.

Liz Kaniewski
Western Diocese

Marilyn Folcik
Eastern Diocese

Jorge Hernandez Arjona
Central Diocese

Rev. Dr. Scott J. Lill
Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese

Resolutions of the XVI Eastern Diocese Synod October 10, 2020

Due to the Coronavirus and the inability to meet face to face, the XVI Synod of the Eastern Diocese convened virtually October 10, 2020. Hosted by Blessed Trinity Parish, Fall River MA the Synod was summoned under the authority of Right Rev Paul Sobiechowski, Bishop Ordinary of the Eastern Diocese and attended virtually by the Most Rev Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop of the PNCC. Very Rev Robert Nemkovich Jr served as the moderator for this virtual Synod. Additionally, Bishop Paul Hewitt, Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Holy Cross joined us and presented to the Synod.

The Synod began with a morning prayer which set the tone and inspiration for the proceedings of the day. Through our deliberations, we learned and discussed the following:

Whereas, we are thankful to Bishop Sobiechowski, our senior priests-Very Rev Joseph Krusienski, Very Rev Joseph Soltysiak and Very Rev Robert Nemkovich Jr for the planning and execution of a very successful virtual Synod; additional gratitude is extended to Very Rev Robert Nemkovich Jr for hosting and moderating this Synod.

Whereas we acknowledge the active participation of the delegates, guests, and clergy in fulfilling their discipleship role entrusted to them as members of our Holy Church and through their attendance and commitment in spreading God’s word throughout our communities, our diocese and our Church.

Whereas we as delegates, reflect upon the legacy of faith set forth upon us by our organizer, Bishop Francis Hodur, the clergy, and organizers of the Church.

Whereas, we continue to support the endeavors of Future Direction and the overall theme of Discipleship towards increasing growth and membership, lifelong learning and renewed Spirituality among all members; to expanding community engagement efforts; and to enabling joyful responses to God’s call to Sacred Vocations and service.

Whereas we acknowledge the work of the Eastern Diocese Strategic Planning Committee who over four years has worked diligently to:

a. increase the awareness of our church by enabling parishes to use more social media technologies, especially Facebook in promoting masses and special services, and various events and fund-raising activities.

b. encourage the expansion of community engagement efforts among our parishes as a way of exemplifying our Christian discipleship to help those in need, those in transition, and those organizations striving to assist others.

Whereas, the Eastern Diocese Strategic Planning Committee presented to this Synod body a four year strategic and action plan devoted to commitment and moving forward, to tradition and branding, to growth by expanding our digital efforts and community involvements, and to reporting our efforts that will measure our success and achievements.

We, therefore, seek the grace and strength from our Lord, Jesus Christ to embrace the work He has entrusted to our care, to be inspired to execute the proceedings of this Synod as we return to our parishes and to stay strong in our commitment and firm in our Catholic faith as members of the PNCC in spite of the everchanging and challenging environment around us. With truth, work, and struggle, we shall and will continue to succeed!

Respectfully Submitted, October 10, 2020 by the Resolution Committee of the XVI Eastern Diocese Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church

Shirley Mietlicki-Floyd (Central Seniorate); Laurel Curylo (Central Seniorate); Larry Gagnon (Northeast Seniorate); Tom Zarek (Northeast Seniorate) and Very Rev Joseph Krusienski (Southwest Seniorate)



THE EASTERN DIOCESE “KNOW YOUR FAITH-GROW IN CHRIST” ANNUAL PROGRAM 2024



In the year 2024, the Eastern Diocese is offering a program to help church members to better understand the faith they share and to feel comfortable sharing that faith with others.

Presented through the auspices of the Diocesan Mission and Evangelism Commission, the program focuses on the current crisis of Christian Identity, the sources of Christian strength, and the challenges the believers have to face living in the world.

Being Christians Today: Christian Identity, sources of strength, and challenges

The topics of the monthly presentations are:

- **January: Holy Scripture in the life of the faithful - Deacon Justin Daviault**
- **February: The Church and Christian Community - Fr. Sr. Joseph Krusienski**
- **March: Christian Family – Fr. Pawel Lukaszewicz**
- **April: Holy Mass – Fr. Pawel Dudek**
- **May: Prayer and Meditation – Fr. Krzysztof Rogalski**
- **June: The Seven Sacraments - Fr. Sr. Robert Nemkovich**
- **July: The Ten Commandments – Fr. Henryk Wos**
- **August: The Two Commandments of Love – Fr. Adam Czarnecki**
- **September: Christian Tradition (Fathers of the Church, Saints and Martyrs) – Fr. Robert Koerber**
- **October: Why Does God Let Us Suffer? Presence of evil, social injustice, wars - Fr. Thomas Walsh**
- **November: Present-day dangers for the Christian - Fr. Adam Piekarczywski**
- **December: Being Christian today – Fr. Andrew Tenus**

Each unit will have biblical texts as a starting point, lecture, meditation, discussion, and practical applications.

The Eastern Diocese virtual Program study is led on the second Thursday of the month at 7 PM. To register email either revpauls@yahoo.com or ksobiechowski@yahoo.com

From our parishes...

Summer 2024 at Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish

During the month of June, the PNCC prays for vocations and expresses appreciation for its clergy. On Father's Day, Parish Chairman Ray Pieczarka presented Bishop Paul with a gift card and a cake which parishioners enjoyed during the fellowship hour.



Parishioners Nancy and Erin Reilly added some new flowers to brighten the area around our church sign.



We collected non-perishable food items and donated them to the food pantry of one of the local Roman Catholic churches in Manchester. They were grateful for the assistance.

Bishop Paul and a number of parishioners attended the annual service at the Cathedral of the Pines in beautiful Rindge, NH, on the weekend following July 4.



Thanks to the generous donation of Will, Wendy, and Amanda Thomas, the Cathedral now has a beautiful Kawai upright piano. It's a lovely addition to our music ministry.

One would think that our parishioners like cake! The organist's birthday in July was another excuse to enjoy a sweet treat.



Bishop Paul and Karen represented the Eastern Diocese at the PNCC Youth Convocation at Mercyhurst College in Erie, PA, July 22-26. Bishop Paul celebrated Mass on Thursday.



We are happy to welcome new parishioners Adam and Laura, who make the drive regularly all the way from Lebanon, NH, to attend Sunday Mass.



Pierogi production continues at the Cathedral as we prepare for our Frozen Food Sale later in the year.





During July and August we collected school supplies to benefit two of our teachers, Erin Reilly and Anna (O’Connell) Kerr, who work in Manchester schools.



On a sad note, this summer the parish lost two longtime members. +Nancy Reilly had recently completed radiation and chemotherapy as she battled cancer, but she passed away at home after suffering a heart attack in July, just days after her birthday. Nancy was the parish financial secretary, ANS treasurer, ED-ANS board member, secretary of the local branch of the Polish National Union, and a key person in outreach and prayer ministry.



In August, +Phyllis Piecuch passed away after a period of declining health followed by a stroke. She served for many years on the parish committee, as an auditor, and as financial secretary of the ANS. She was responsible for ordering and arranging flowers, preparing parish dinners with her ANS sisters, serving on the ED-ANS board, and helping at pierogi work sessions. Phyllis served with energy, grace, and dedication well into her eighties.

We will greatly miss these two wonderful ladies but trust that we will meet again in the presence of our Savior. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

By Karen Sobiechowski



FROM OUR PARISHES:

**BLESSED TRINITY PARISH
FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS**



PARISH CELEBRATES CONFIRMATION

CONFIRMATION AT BLESSED TRINITY - CONGRATULATIONS GABY, EMMY, DYLAN AND ZACK! - JUNE 15, 2024



CORPUS CHRISTI MASS AND PROCESSION AT BLESSED TRINITY - THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024



BLESSED TO PRAY WITH AND SERVE OUR VET WITH THE FALL RIVER VETERAN’S KITCHEN HONORING MANNY. MAY 29, 2024

Veterans Kitchen serves lunch

By DEBRA RYAN

Local veterans recently enjoyed lunch together at the Veterans’ Kitchen of Fall River, currently located at Blessed Trinity Parish at 1340 Plymouth Ave.

The group of dedicated volunteers, led by Dawn Trahan, serves lunch to local veterans each Wednesday. Doors open at 10 a.m. and food is served at 11.

Workers in the kitchen prepared a healthy, delicious meal, as another team of volunteers from Home Depot readied to serve it. The Bristol County Home Depot group sends a team once a month to assist with the meal and deliver some smiles.



One of the lucky ones

Manny Carvalho

WWII Army veteran Manny Carvalho agreed to share a little about his life and his service to his country in the early 1940s. “I was a Sherman tank driver in the Tank Corp under General Patton,” he said. “I served in North Africa, China, Burma and India.

“A ‘bad thing’ that happened during that time,” Carvalho said, “was when we were on a ship to India and while we were at the Port of Iran, the Germans came from Crete and bombed us. We were in the water three hours before another ship came by.

“There were 1600 guys on that ship,” Carvalho recalled. “Eight to nine hundred of them died. I was one of the lucky ones,” he said. “There were only 100 life jackets and I got one of them. I couldn’t swim, I was just bobbing up and down in the water.”

After pausing he said, “Those days are gone. Those are bad old memories.”

Having turned 99 in October, Carvalho said he lived in Westport with his wife Doris until she passed away in 1990. They had one son. The veteran proudly noted that he worked for the Fall River Housing Authority for 33 years prior to retiring.



CLERGY APPRECIATION WEEKEND ON CORPUS CHRISTI AT BLESSED TRINITY - THANK YOU! JUNE 2, 2024



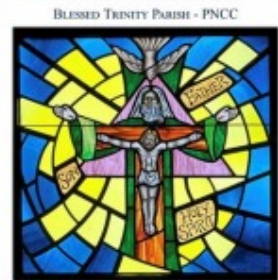
ANGELS ANONYMOUS 11,000 POUND FOOD OFFLOAD TO HELP OTHERS IN NEED - THANKS DAVE & JIM - JUNE 4, 2024



FALL RIVER'S D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY - BLESSED TO OFFER PRAYER & KEYNOTE ON MY GRANDFATHER'S D-DAY EXPERIENCE WITH THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION, MAYOR COOGAN, REP. FIOLA & COUNCILOR PEREIRA - JUNE 6, 2024



FEEDING OUR UNSHELTERED HEARTY LUNCHES - THANKS TO BEV, BRENDA & JOANNE AND TO ALL WHO DONATED! JUNE 8, 2024



BLESSED TRINITY PARISH - PNCC

FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS

CELEBRATING THE SOLEMNITY OF THE WORD OF GOD AT BLESSED TRINITY - JUNE 9, 2024



CONFIRMATION CLASS LEADING A KNOW YOUR SAINTS, CONFIRMATION & CATECHISM JEOPARDY GAME - WELL DONE! JUNE 9, 2024



Saint Anthony	Saint Anne	Saint Cecilia	Saint Isidore	Confirmation	Catechism
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

Why are candidates “slapped” during confirmation?

a. To slap some sense into you
 b. To prepare you to endure adversity in the name of Jesus
 c. Because you were bad
 d. Because the bishop just doesn't like you



100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR SAVIOR'S PARISH IN WOONSOCKET WITH PRIME BISHOP ANTHONY & BISHOP PAUL CONCELEBRATED HOLY MASS AND OFFERED THE INVOCATION AT THE ANNIVERSAY BANQUET- JUNE 9, 2024



COOKING AND CARVING TURKEYS FOR THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR OUR HOMELESS & FAMILIES IN NEED WITH CHRISTOPHER'S - JUNE 10, 2024

Christopher's
18h · 🌐

Been a busy day today and I think I've been all over the city! A very, very special thanks to father Rob at blessed Trinity for letting us mess up his entire kitchen and to Sandy who is a master at cooking and I'm learning so much. The turkey are cooked and carved and we can feel good knowing we accomplished a weeks worth of stuff in a day, thanks to blessed Trinity, father Rob and Mrs.Sandy.



THANKSGIVING TURKEY DINNER FOR THOSE IN NEED WITH CHRISTOPHER'S & MANY OTHERS @ FRIST BAPTIST CHURCH - JUNE 11, 2024



PRAYING WITH AND SERVING OUR VETERANS AT THE FALL RIVER VETERANS KITCHEN LUNCHEON WITH NEW VSO TALOS - JUNE 12, 2024



FR. ROB LEADS EASTERN DIOCESE MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY ON THE SACRAMENTS - JUNE 13, 2024



**DISCIPLESHIP 2024:
KNOW YOUR FAITH, GROW IN CHRIST**
The Eastern Diocese will focus on
**Being Christians Today: Christian Identity,
Sources of Strength, and Challenges.**
Please join us for the sixth in a series of virtual
"Know and Grow" presentations on
Thursday June 13, 2024, at 7:00 PM (EDT).



Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich, Jr., will help us to explore the topic,
The Seven Sacraments.
The PNCC Catechism tells us that "A sacrament is an outward and visible sign of God's inward and spiritual grace, instituted by Christ for our sanctification and salvation." What does this mean for us as Christians today? Learn how the Sacraments bring us into the Body of Christ, strengthening us to live the life God has intended for us.

COMMONWEALTH
Heroines
CLASS OF 2024

KATHY HONORED AS ONE OF THE 2024 COMMONWEALTH HEROINES AT THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE
WITH STATE REPS. SILVA AND FIOLA ON BEACON HILL - JUNE 14, 2024



CONFIRMATION AT BLESSED TRINITY - CONGRATULATIONS GABY, EMMY, DYLAN AND ZACK! - JUNE 15, 2024



CHICKEN, RIB & PULLED PORK BBQ - THANKS MIKE AND ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS - JUNE 22, 2024



CHICKEN, RIB & PULLED PORK BBQ - THANKS MIKE AND ALL our VOLUNTEERS - JUNE 22, 2024



CHICKEN, RIB & PULLED PORK BBQ - WITH our FRFD, FRPD, FREMS AND MAYOR COOGAN - JUNE 22, 2024



ALTAR SERVER REREAT COMMUNITY SERVICE FEEDING OUR VETERANS @ THE FALL RIVER VETERANS' KITCHEN - JUNE 26, 2024

 **The Veterans' Kitchen**
1h · 🌐

Today, our kitchen, was blessed with a fantastic group of young adults from Blessed Trinity Church. We had a bit of a difficult meal to serve today but they did a wonderful job under the great leadership of Father Rob.



Linda Pereira commented.

 **Andy Goddu**
1h · 🌐

WE GOT HELP TODAY AT THE VETERANS KITCHEN — THANKS FR. ROB AND YOUR GROUP 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸



👍❤️ 8 3 comments

👍 Like 💬 Comment 📧 Send

 Linda Pereira
Amazing youth ❤️

PARISH HALL PAINTING PARTY - THANKS TO CLIFF, DAVE, JOE, MATT, RYAN AND VASCO - WELL DONE! JUNE 26, 2024



LINDA AND LOU'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS AND BLESSING
JUNE 28, 2024



YOUTH BLOCK PARTY ON SOUTH MAIN STREET - THANK YOU CHRISTOPHER'S EATERY FOR TAKING THE LEAD! JUNE 29, 2024



👍❤️ 271 9 comments 4 shares



FALL RIVER VETERANS COOKOUT AT BLESSED TRINITY - JUNE 29, 2024 ROLLING THUNDER, VIETNAM VETS, MAYOR COOGAN & REP SHIVA



FALL RIVER VETERANS COOKOUT AT BLESSED TRINITY - JUNE 29, 2024 - ROLLING THUNDER DONATES A GRILL TO BTP!



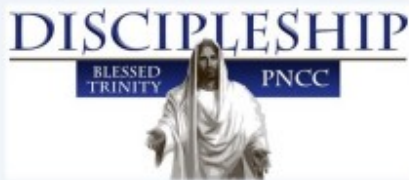
Wonderful Wednesday Discipleship - Prayer and Serving the Veterans Luncheon and Promoting the Get Steppin' Walk at Pulaski Park
July 17, 2024



Police Chaplain Ride Along with the Fall River Police Department - July 2024
One Picture with Corey who I coached in football and baseball many years ago - An Old Man Still Walking!



HOLY MASS AT WEST WARWICK MANOR AND FIVE BOXES OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATED! AUGUST 5, 2024



VETERANS COOKOUT AT THE VABC THANKS TO TEQUILA LIME CANTINA IN FALL RIVER - AUGUST 5, 2024



VETERAN APPRECIATION COOKOUT
Sponsored by Tequila Lime Cantina
Date: August 5th
Time: 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Location: VABC, 755 Pine St.
On the Menu: Cheese Burgers, Chicken, Pasta Salad, Corn on the Cob, Watermelon
THIS EVENT IS RESERVED FOR VETERANS ONLY



DORMITION/ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - BLESSING OF FLOWERS & HERBS - AUG. 15, 2024



DISCIPLESHIP DELIVERIES TO THRIVE AND THE FRPD - AUG. 15, 2024



THRIVE
Please help us in purchasing items that we are out of. The Dollar Store is a great place to buy necessities.
*mens deodorant
*men and women body spray
*foot powder
*nail clippers
*2xl men shirts
Thank you 🙏
#aboutthrive #housingforall #endhomelessness



SALT PORK AND ONION ANGELS - THANK YOU TO OUR GREAT CREW! AUG. 16, 2024



GOD'S BLESSINGS ON STEVE AND JULIE AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AUG. 18, 2024



BLESSING OF BACKPACKS ON YOUTH SUNDAY AT BLESSED TRINITY & CONGRATULATIONS MAKs (CAMP SPIRIT AWARD) AUG. 24, 2024



STAND OUT AGAINST STIGMA WITH RECOVER FALL RIVER - AUG. 27, 2024



International Overdose Awareness Day 2024

Stand Out Against Stigma



Honor your loved one
Educate your community



PIEROGI MAKING ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND - THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED US MAKE 500 DOZEN! AUG. 31 - SEPT. 1, 2024



INSTALLATION OF CHARLEY AS AN ALTAR SERVER - SEPT. 1, 2024



POLISH FOOD FEST 2024

@ BLESSED TRINITY * TAKE OUT ONLY *

Friday – October 25th 3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Saturday – October 26th 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Delicious Polish Food Available:



Polish Plate – a taste of it all
 Potato & Cheese Pierogi
 Cabbage Pierogi
 Gólabki
 Kielbasa
 Cabbage Soup
 Babka Breads
 Homemade Goodies



Blessed Trinity Parish
 1340 Plymouth Ave. - Fall River, MA
 Pre-Orders Suggested: Email, IM or Call
 BlessedTrinityPolishFood@gmail.com
 Facebook: Blessed Trinity PNCC
 508-672-4854
 Cash, Check or Venmo accepted

FALL 2024 DISCIPLESHIP
 40 LUNCHEAS FOR OUR UNSHELTERED
 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THRIVE



SEPT. 14
 OCT. 12
 NOV. 30
 DEC. 28



ITEMS NEEDED: LARGE GATORADE, PROTEIN BARS, FRUIT, CHIPS, CHOCOLATES

Upcoming Parish Events and Information

Sept. - Monthly Food Drive

Sept. 8 - School of Christian Living Classes begin

Sept. 26 & 28 - Cabbage Pierogi Making

Oct. 5 - Blessing of Animals

Oct. 17-18 - Golabki Making

Oct. 25 & 26 - Polish Food Fest

Nov. 17 - 30th Anniversary Mass and Brunch

Nov. 20 - Veterans Thanksgiving Luncheon

Nov. 23 - Guns for Groceries & Thanksgiving Dinner for Homeless

Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Brunch & Parcel Post Auction

Nov. 28 - Fall River Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner

Nov. 29 - Christmas Food and Toy Drive begin

Dec. 7 - Spaghetti Supper by Youth Group

Dec. 21 - Christmas Toy Drive Wrapping with FRPD

Dec. 22 - Living Nativity



**BLESSED TRINITY PARISH
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
SUNDAY HOLY MASS @ 8:30 AM**

**1340 Plymouth Ave.
Fall River, MA 02721**

Pastor: Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich

Phone: 508-672-4854

Email: RobNem21@aol.com

Mailing Address:

**37 Winthrop Street
Fall River, MA 02721**

Facebook: Blessed Trinity PNCC

Website: BlessedTrinityChurch.org

YouTube Page: Blessed Trinity PNCC

**Serving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His Holy Church
in the greater Fall River community since 1898**

From Our Parishes...

Holy Cross News – Central Falls, RI
Facebook: Holy Cross PNCC Central Falls RI
Website: HolyCrossChurchPNCC.org



An event filled summer at Holy Cross as Divine Worship and Discipleship abounded in many ways as we live our faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.

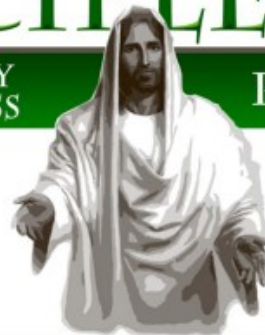
BLESSING OF HONEY FOR THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS AT HOLY CROSS ON CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY - JUNE 2, 2024



DISCIPLESHIP

**HOLY
CROSS**

PNCC



POLISH DINNER PREP AT HOLY CROSS - THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS! JUNE 7, 2024



POLISH DINNER AT HOLY CROSS - THANKS TO ALL WHO PREPARED, SERVED AND ATTENDED! JUNE 8, 2024



POLISH DINNER AT HOLY CROSS - THANKS TO ALL WHO PREPARED, SERVED AND ATTENDED! JUNE 8, 2024



SOLEMNITY OF THE WORD OF GOD AT HOLY CROSS - JUNE 9, 2024



BLESSING OF BREAD AND LILLIES IN HONOR OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA AT HOLY CROSS - THANK YOU MICHAEL & PAULA - JUNE 9, 2024



**CLERGY APPRECIATION HELD AT HOLY CROSS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS TO KATHY AND I - JUNE 9, 2024
WHAT WAS READ FOR THOSE WHO WEREN'T AT HOLY MASS SUNDAY**



THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT PASTORS

1. They love God and you a lot.
(Be mindful.)
2. They are painfully limited human beings.
(Be realistic.)
3. They probably have a pretty low view of their "performance".
(Be kind.)
4. They wish they were a better preacher.
(Be awake.)
5. They really do want God's best for you and your family.
(Be open-hearted.)
6. Their work knows no time or locational boundaries.
(Be patient.)

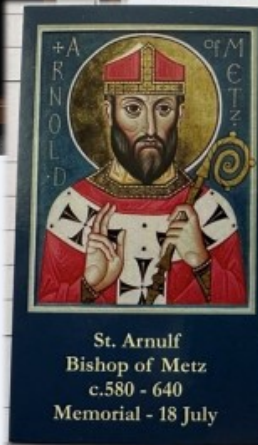
7. They hear much more negative information than positive.
(Be encouraging.)
8. They have chosen a vocation in which few remain.
(Be praying.)
9. They have chosen a highly leadership-intensive call.
(Be lead-able.)
10. They need help.
(Be available.)
11. Their God-given vision is bigger than themselves and the church.
(Be faith-filled.)
12. They want to personally meet all the needs, but know they can't.
(Be understanding.)
13. They are going to say some dumb things every now and then.
(Be forgiving.)

14. They are greatly encouraged by your faithfulness.
(Be there.)
15. They are passionate for God's Word to be made practical to you.
(Be hungry.)
16. They long for church to be your spiritual oasis.
(Be loving.)
17. They dream for your and your family's spiritual health.
(Be receptive.)
18. They need to hear that you pray for them.
(Be interceding.)
19. They are just regular people.
(Be real.)

HOLY CROSS COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION - THANKS BRENDA, LOIS, RACHEL & ZACK - JUNE 22, 2024



HONORING ST. ARNULF WITH THE BLESSING OF BEER - JULY 14, 2024



O Divine Master, God and Father of all, I ask today that You meet this most pressing need that I carry in my heart. Through the intercession of Your faithful bishop, St. Arnulf, I ask that You come to my assistance and grant my request. May his witness of prudence, wisdom and lively faith help me to confidently trust in Your loving providence and conform my life to Your will. By following his example, may I grow in grace and virtue and be found worthy to enter Your kingdom some day, where You live and reign with Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

St. Arnulf is the patron saint of Metz and of brewers; millers; music; and finding lost objects.

© 2010 www.CatholicPrayerCards.org 1-888-244-2788
email: orders@CatholicPrayerCards.org Card #234

2024 SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE AT HOLY CROSS - THANKS TO ALL WHO DONATED! AUGUST 11, 2024



18 YEARS SERVING WITH MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS AT HOLY CROSS CENTRAL FALLS - A BLESSED JOURNEY! AUGUST 11, 2024



**BLESSING OF HERBS, FLOWERS AND FIRST FRUITS IN HONOR OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER
THANKS YOU MICHAEL & PAULA!
AUGUST 11, 2024**



HOLY CROSS CENTRAL FALLS PAWTUCKET FOOD DISTRIBUTION - THANKS KAITLY, MICHAEL & ZACK FOR THE HELP! AUG. 24, 2024



DISCIPLESHIP
HOLY CROSS PNCC



BLESSING OF ROSES AS WE COMMEMORATE THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA - THANK YOU MICHAEL & PAULA AUG. 25, 2024



SCHOOL SUPPLIES DELIVERY TO CENTRAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS - THANKS BRENDA AND TO ALL WHO DONATED! AUG. 27, 2024



From our parishes...

Our Saviour's Parish, Woonsocket, RI

• Annual Golf Tournament

On Saturday, July 27, 2024 Our Saviour's Parish sponsored its 5th Golf Tournament. The event was held at New England Country Club in Bellingham with a shotgun start at 1:30 pm.

Included in the \$150 per golfer were a round of golf, cart, lunch at the turn and some free tickets for different raffles. Raffles, split the pot, and silent auction were waiting for players as well. This year we had over 60 players and the weather was excellent.

Thank you to all who helped to organize this 5th parish golf tournament, especially parish chairman, Gerry Ethier. Thank you to all who helped that day: Nancy Ethier, Carol Bibeault, Ed Surowiec, Kerri Ethier Allen, Edmund Fox, and Fr. Henryk, Thank you to all sponsors and golfers, especially from our parish: Gerry Ethier, Andre Bibeault, Michael Kuchar, Jacob Forbes, Jeff Ethier, Jeff Allen, and to all who helped to make this event a success.



- **Community Outreach**

Each third Saturday of the month Our Saviour’s serves Free Lunch to the local community from 11am-12:30pm.

This lunch is for everybody who stops by; no questions asked. In winter season we serve a delicious hot soup, prepared by our “master cook” Lonnie Watson, with crackers, snacks, and water. In summer we serve ham &cheese sandwiches, American chop suey, dynamite, and other food as well.

Each time we distribute around 65-75 lunches. There are many people in need of a hot meal in the nearby area. In winter, we also support Harvest Community Men’s Shelter in Woonsocket, where there are 30 men each night. Hot soup is delivered to them as well.

Other places where our lunches are distributed are Gerard J. Bouley Field and WW2 Veterans Park in Woonsocket. There are many homeless there who always enjoy our meal and other help as well.

Thank you to all parishioners for volunteering for this parish outreach. God bless you for your great heart and brotherly love for the less fortunate.



• **Parishioners making pierogi for the Polish Food Sale (November 9, 2024)**

Great team of nice people working together for the church. God bless you All!



- **Happy Birthday to our parishioner Eddie Nawrocki**

On Sunday, July 28th, 2024, we joyfully celebrated Mr. Edward Nawrocki's 95th birthday at Our Saviour's Parish, where he has been a cherished lifelong member. After a heartfelt Mass, parishioners and guests gathered for a delightful lunch, enjoying wonderful music as Eddie graciously played and sang a few lovely songs.

Wishing you, dear Eddie, countless blessings and much happiness in the years to come!



• Goodbye, Summer...Hello Fall!

Just like the seasons change and we prepare for the 2024 Holiday Season, Our Saviour's Parish did the same to prepare for our Fall Fundraiser, a "Meat Raffle and MORE" event. We decorated the church hall, we arranged the price tables and the kitchen crew made a complementary meal. Then we were ready for our guests.

Patricia Kaczorowski, Christine Kozlik, and Valerie Popek filled the 17 themed tables (Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's) with "treasures". The Penny Social Table and Special Raffle tables were loaded with prizes... Split-the-Pot, too.

Carol Bibeault, Gerry Ethier, and Ed Surowiec manned these tables. The greeter and chairlift operator was Joe Kozlik. Edmund Fox and Gail Surowiec sold the Meat Raffle passes (\$20.00) Sausage, White Bean, and Kale Soup were served by Lonnie Watson. Sally Watson was our official photographer, Chris Kozlik assisted with beverages and dessert. Philip Kaczorowski welcomed the attendees and explained the details of the raffle. Additional helpers were Valerie Popek (Mystery Envelopes), Olivia Solecki {Ticket Collector}, and Robert and Michael Watson (Prize Runners).

Everyone enjoyed the evening especially if you held the winning ticket number. Due to all the "Freebies" available on each table, everyone went home a "winner".



Good food, good, friends, and good fun filled the church hall with excitement and a sense of community, too.

Join us for our next Meat Raffle on January 31, 2025.

As chairperson of this event, I would like to wish you and your families LOVE, Peace, and Joy as you prepare for the upcoming Holiday season.

By Patricia Kaczorowski



- **Summer School supplies collection**



In alignment with the directives of the Eastern Diocese Mission and Evangelism Commission, Our Saviour’s Parish organized a collection of school supplies to support children in the Woonsocket area who may be unable to purchase necessary items for back-to-school.

Throughout July and August, our generous parishioners filled boxes in the church vestibule with an array of school supplies. These donations were delivered to Globe Park Elementary School in Woonsocket by Phil Kaczorowski. The school principal, Mrs. Nichelle Kennell, expressed her heartfelt gratitude for the generous contribution. Thank you to everyone who participated in this meaningful initiative!

We are happy to have a new altar server at our parish. Michael is already a great helper at the altar. Congratulations!



By Fr. Henryk Wos

From our parishes...

Holy Trinity Parish, Webster, MA

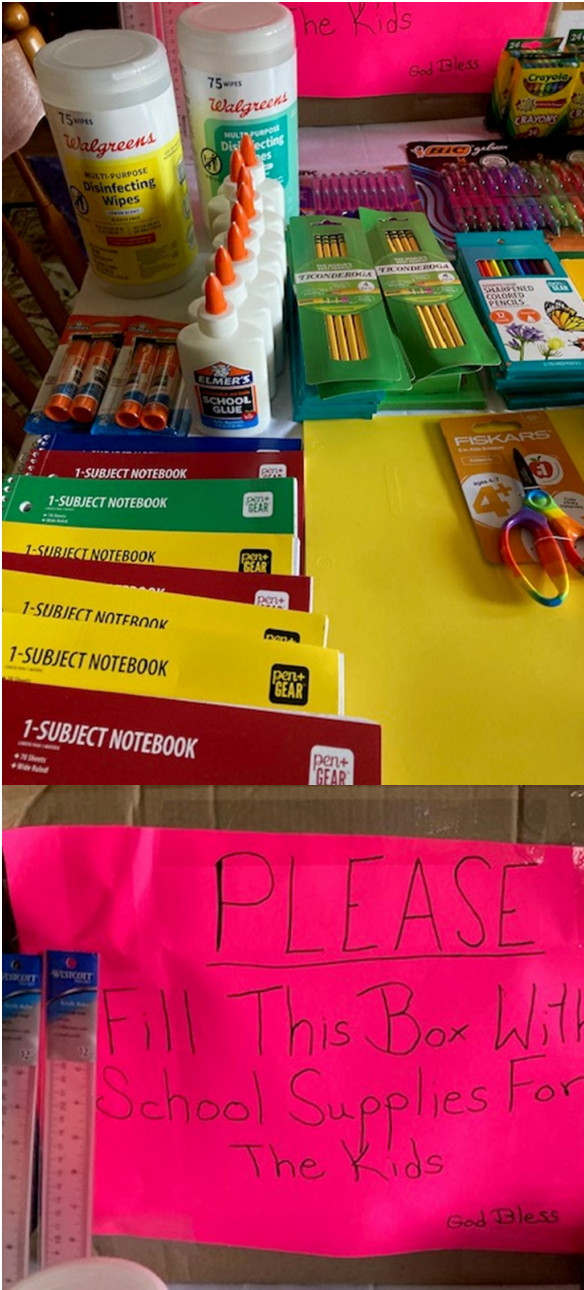
- **Monthly Veteran Breakfast**

We continue to do our prayer breakfast for the local veterans on the last Saturday of the month. They enjoy a good hearty breakfast and some conversation.

The event is always well attended. It's a great time for the veterans and their spouses to gather together to socialize.

Thank you to all parishioners for supporting these monthly outreach events. Serving others in their needs is a sign of their Christian care and brotherly love.

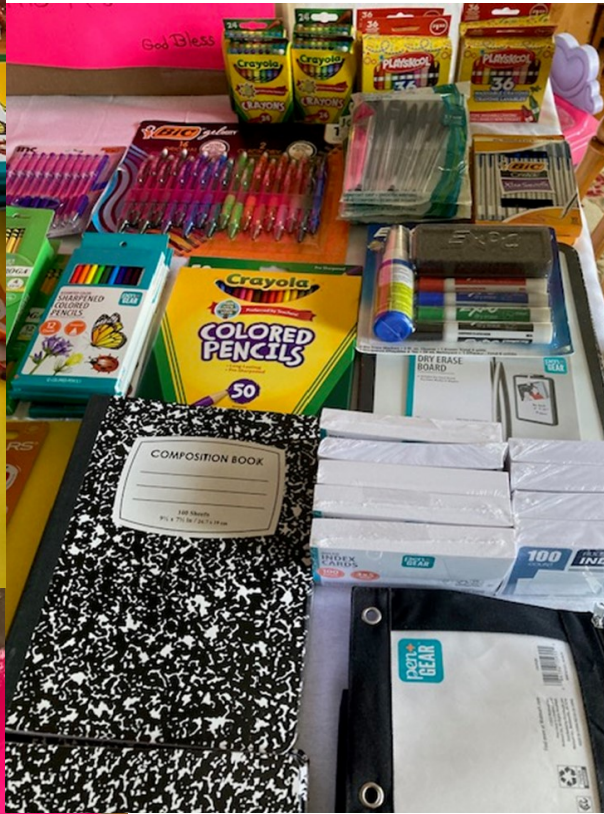




- **Summer School supplies collection**

Thank you to all our parishioners for your generous support of our school supplies collection this summer! We

collected a wonderful array of items, which were distributed to local elementary schools. Your kindness and generosity are truly appreciated. God bless you all!



- **Parish auction**

Twice a month Holy Trinity Parish rents the parish hall for an auction.

The ladies of the church run the kitchen serving food and drinks. We've made crafts which we get to sell at the auction also. And they run a 50/50 raffle with half of the proceeds going to Holy Trinity.

It's a great way for Holy Trinity to get our name out into the public more and we often go home with some great deals.

- **Restoration work**

Thank you to Bob for painting parish kitchen, to Jose for renewing 2 processional crosses in the church. for sponsoring the renovation of the bathroom in the parish hall. Job well done.

By Fr. Henryk Wos

From our parishes...

St. Valentine ‘s Parish, Northampton, MA




Events/Classes/Meetings

POLISH HERITAGE COMMITTEE OF NORTHAMPTON MEETINGS

at St. Valentine’s Church Parish Hall — every first Wednesday of the month at 6:15 pm



*Every Tuesday
from October 15
at 6:30 pm
Join us!!!
Contact:
Fr. Adam*



*Every Thursday from
October 17 at 6:30 pm
Join us!!!
Contact: Fr. Adam*

SAVE THE DATE!
PULASKI DAY PARADE
Monday, October 14, 2024
MEMORIAL MASS – 10 a.m.
 St. Valentine PNC Church
 127 King Street
 Northampton, MA

PARADE Kick-Off – 11:30 a.m.
 Runs through downtown Northampton
 to PULASKI PARK

PRESENTED BY:
 The Polish Heritage Committee of
 Northampton

*To volunteer or march
 contact the parade co-chairs*

Mary Ellen English
 413-320-9969
 missmarymae@aol.com

Robert Gibowicz
 413-224-1309
 bobtesgibo@aol.com



NE-425353



St. Joseph's Parish, Stratford, CT

A quiet summer all around with only a few things to mention. Now that it's Autumn, many of our cherished events and groups are back, promising a more active season.

Tai Chi class presents Father with gift



The Tai Chi (Qi Gong) class that meets on Friday mornings in our church hall presented Father Tom with a gift in appreciation for the church's hospitality. The beautiful porcelain Madonna bust nestled in a basket was blessed at Mass the following Sunday and now resides (minus the basket) in the display cabinet in the crying room for everyone to see and enjoy.

Donor leaf blessed

A new leaf has been added to the tree in our foyer. Dedicated to the memory of †Jean Lazowsky Hall who passed at the beginning of the year, Father Paul Dudek blessed it at Mass on 21 July prior to its installation.



Collections



Our summer collection of non-perishable food for kids was a great success. This food was given to Sterling House to distribute to children in the community who lost their only source of food when the schools went on summer

vacation. We will continue to collect food for the kids on the last Sunday of each month to assist Sterling House in providing weekend food for these children.

In August, historic flooding occurred in the Connecticut Valley during a period of heavy rains. Many people lost their homes and are having difficulty rebuilding and replacing their possessions. We donated 17 bags of clothing to relief efforts, which will be distributed directly to those who lost everything.



Weekly collections of food for the local food pantry also continue, and the bucket of pull-tabs for Ronald McDonald House gets a little fuller each week.



In Memoriam



Carol Morrison

In June, God called home to him another of our devoted parishioners, Carol Morrison, after a long illness. A very creative woman, her passions were painting and music. She was also very active in parish activities. She leaves behind her devoted husband, Ray, three children, six grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Our prayers and condolences go out to her family as they continue to cope with the loss of their loved one.

Upcoming Events

For further information on any of these events, please consult the website or contact the church office.

10 Sept 2024 – Tuesday yoga class resumes, 10:00 a.m. in the church hall

12 Sept 2024 – Thursday craft group resumes, 11:00 a.m. in the classrooms

26 Oct 2024 – Quarter Night, 6:00 p.m. in the church hall. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Reservations only, no walk-ins. Costumes encouraged, but not required

16 Nov 2024 – Polish Dinner, 6:00 p.m. in the church hall. Take-out available

7 Dec 2024 – Annual Christmas Fair, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the church hall

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Vasas, Music Director/Office Coordinator

From our parishes...

Saint Casimir’s Parish, Lowell, MA

• **Ladies of St. Casimir's Summer Solstice Afternoon Tea**

ANS Treasurer Paula Jones invited the ladies of St. Casimir's to a special summer afternoon tea party. Paula created a very special menu, which started off with mimosas, assorted teas, and appetizers of cheese and crackers, mini vegetable quiches and lemon blueberry scones with lemon curd.

The main entree featured curried turkey and apple on marble bread, smoked salmon with cream cheese and dill on pumpkinnickel, and mini BLTs on a biscuit. Tea cookies were served for dessert.

After we enjoyed the lovely food, Paula's husband David, an avid photographer who specializes in landscape photography, gave a presentation of award winning images taken by members on the Merrimack Valley Camera Club of North Andover MA.

Two lucky members of St. Casimir's won prints of David's photography. Janice Klimczak won a landscape taken in Acadia Park in Nova Scotia Canada. Elaine Holsberger won a black and white print of the interior of a control room of a ship.



Janice Klimczak displays her print



Joyce Normand and Beverly Runowicz enjoy mimosas



David Jones, photographer, and Elaine Holsberger with her print.



David Jones explains how he achieves special effects

• St. Casimir’s Summer Gardeners

This spring St. Casimir’s undertook a beautification project to improve the appearance of our exterior property. Bushes were trimmed, mulch was put down, weeds were attacked, new perennials were added and annuals were planted in containers.

A crew of volunteer gardeners worked to make sure the flowers were watered and cared for all summer. There was a schedule and each day the volunteer gardeners tended the plants.

Our dedicated summer garden crew included Deb, Beverly, Monica, Jacob and Jo Ann.



• The "Chasing Annie Powell" Project

Annie Powell (1859-1952) is a recently discovered street photographer who is likely responsible for 3,000 “anonymous” photos of Lowell, MA found in books, postcards and university libraries. Annie Powell took pictures of Lowell and its inhabitants at the beginning of the twentieth century. Included in her collection were various ethnic groups within their neighborhoods. When Annie passed away, her photographs were found in her home, some of which have been made into posters.

The "Chasing Annie Powell" Project celebrates Annie’s work in and around Lowell. From spring 2024–October 2025 the city of Lowell will distribute 100 posters to local businesses, nonprofits and government agencies that now occupy buildings or have addresses on streets that Annie photographed one-hundred years ago. The goal is to show how Lowell neighborhoods appeared in Annie’s time in relation to Lowell today.

St. Casimir's has been chosen to participate in the “Chasing Annie Powell Project”.

Annie Powell was a local photographer who took pictures of Lowell and its inhabitants at the beginning of the twentieth century. Included in her collection were various ethnic groups within their neighborhoods. When Annie passed away 3000 of her photographs were found in her home, some of which have been made into posters. Posters will be displayed close to where the photographs were taken throughout Lowell.

Poster #3 depicts a tenement with a group of children on Lakeview Avenue. St. Casimir's will display it on the interior surface of our parish hall exterior door enabling passersby to view it until or about November 2025 when the entire collection will be displayed downtown.



Lowell Folk Festival

St. Casimir's works very closely with the Lowell Polish Cultural Committee to prepare foods sold at the Lowell Folk Festival. The Cultural Committee, in collaboration with St. Casimir's and Holy Trinity RC Church, works to promote Polish culture outside of Poland. Pauline Golec of the committee said the LPCC has been involved in the local festivals since 1974.

Food preparations required the use of our kitchen. Volunteers, over the course of many hours, made crispy rosettes and kapusta.

Cooked pierogies were packaged and sealed to keep warm during transport to the Polish booth on Market St. in Lowell. Other foods include kielbasa and kapusta. For the first time, people at the festival could buy all of the booth's offerings together as "Polish Plate" for \$20.

It is a large effort with many volunteers cooking, moving food and other supplies to the festival grounds, selling food at the booth, and then bringing everything back to be cleaned and stored for next year. It is very satisfying to know people line up at the booth for these delicious Polish treats



Parade of Nations began the Lowell Folk Festival on Friday, July 26th.

• Pastor Appreciation Day

In June we celebrated Father Tenus with our annual Pastor Appreciation day event. Parishioners gathered during coffee hour to toast Father's dedication and work for our church.

We celebrated with a wonderful brunch type menu and gifts for Father Tenus from our ANS, Fryderyk Chopin Choir, and members of St. Casimir's.



Paula Jones presents gift



Janice Klimczak, Shirley Kourey, Father Tenus, Charlotte Stankiewicz.



Delicious breakfast buffet



Father and Agnes Tenus with parish co-chairperson, Bob Hunt.

• School supply donation

Our generous school supplies donation was received graciously by our partners at Project Wish. With our help, 3,000 backpacks will be distributed to Lowell school children. Thank you to all parishioners and friends for ensuring the children of our city will have wonderful new supplies to begin their school year. Also thank you to Phyllis, Jacob and JoAnn for delivery service.



• Quirbach-Guido Wedding

On August 7, 2024 Father Tenus performed the marriage ceremony of Rachel Quirbach and Mitchel Guido. The ceremony took place at the Mountain Top resort in Chittendon, Vermont.

Rachel is the daughter of Dr. Robert and Diane Quirbach and a long time parishioner of St. Casimir's. Mitch, a music teacher, is from New York. Mitch and Rachel met several years ago at an accordion festival where he was a guest jazz saxophonist. At the time, Rachel was a music therapy college student entering her junior year at Arizona State University.

The preparations for the marriage – the various events at the venue, the red tape to allow Father Tenus to do the ceremony in Vermont – resulted in a lovely celebration. Congratulations to the happy couple.



• Blessing of the Backpacks

Father Tenus held a special “blessing of the backpacks” for students heading back to school. Several children attended to have special prayers said over the back packs as they prepare for the new school year.

Before the blessing with holy water, Father Tenus commented that the backpacks will contain work to be done, work that's been returned, books to be studied, and tools to complete homework. Notebooks, pencils, pens, protractors, compasses, crayons, rules, scissors, glue sticks and other items used for school work will find their way in and out of these backpacks.

Some days, so much stuff will fill these backpacks that the student may find it difficult to walk. Other days, they will be light and nearly empty. But on each and every day, these backpacks represent work required of the students gathered here. And, as in every aspect of our life, we bring these before God for blessing at this time. “They (the students) stand here ready to receive your blessings and they commit themselves to study and learning in the school year ahead. We ask your blessing on each of them.”

Some days, so much stuff will fill these backpacks that the student may find it difficult to walk. Other days, they will be light and nearly empty. But on each and every day, these backpacks represent work required of the students gathered here. And, as in every aspect of our life, we bring these before God for blessing at this time. “They (the students) stand here ready to receive your blessings and they commit themselves to study and learning in the school year ahead. We ask your blessing on each of them.”



Pedro Gama stands among the backpacks to receive the blessing.



Sophie Kosidlo and Jimmy Kosidlo receive their blessing

From our parishes...

Holy Trinity Parish, Plantsville, CT

- **Happy Birthday Fr. Senior Joe!**

Father Senior Joseph Krusienski celebrated his 75th birthday on June 30th. At a “special meeting” after Mass, the parishioners of Holy Trinity surprised him with a cake to honor him on this occasion.



Father Senior Krusienski blows out the candles on his birthday cake.

**Submitted by
Marilyn Folcik**



- **Holy Trinity Parish Picnic**

On July 14th, 2024, Holy Trinity in Plantsville, CT held its first annual Parish Picnic. While the weather did not cooperate—we were in the midst of our second heat wave of the year with the “feels like” temperature near 100 degrees—everyone seemed to take things in stride. Attendees enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, macaroni salad and chips as well as fellowship and camaraderie. Thanks to George and Diane Peck for organizing this great parish family event.



George and Diane Peck



• Annual “Alms Box” collection

During the annual “Alms Box” collection this year, the parishioners of Holy Trinity in Plantsville, CT were discussing where the collected funds would be best utilized. It was brought to our attention that the veterans at the Rocky Hill Veterans Home and Hospital are always in need of toiletries and we decided to purchase items to be given to the vets. Items such as body wash, razors, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant and aftershave were purchased for both male and female veterans. The items were delivered to the hospital and were received with gratitude.

Parishioners stand behind the items purchased for our Veterans.



Submitted by Marilyn Folcik

National and Diocesan Events

ALTAR SERVER RETREAT - JUNE 26, 2024



ALTAR SERVER REREAT AT BLESSED TRINITY WITH SOME BOWLING TOO! - JUNE 26, 2024



ALTAR SERVER REREAT COMMUNITY SERVICE FEEDING OUR VETERANS @ THE FALL RIVER VETERANS' KITCHEN - JUNE 26, 2024

 **The Veterans' Kitchen**
1h · 🌐

Today, our kitchen, was blessed with a fantastic group of young adults from Blessed Trinity Church. We had a bit of a difficult meal to serve today but they did a wonderful job under the great leadership of Father Rob.



Linda Pereira commented.

 **Andy Goddu**
1h · 👤

WE GOT HELP TODAY AT THE VETERANS KITCHEN — THANKS FR. ROB AND YOUR GROUP 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸



👍❤️ 8 3 comments

 Like  Comment  Send

 Linda Pereira
Amazing youth ❤️

“GOD’S WORD IS A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH” 51ST EASTERN DIOCESE YOUTH RETREAT @ CAMP BEREA, HEBRON, NH



God’s Holy and Sacred Word was the focus of our 51st Annual Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat that was held at beautiful Camp Berea in Hebron, New Hampshire from Monday August 19th thru Thursday August 22nd. Youth, adults and three clergy gathered for this inspirational time of prayer, worship, learning, fellowship and fun. After a delicious roast pork dinner, Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich, our diocesan Youth Chaplain, began the retreat in the Camp Lodge overlooking Newfound Lake with our opening prayer service and the presentation of the flags and retreat banner. Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky then prayed over and blessed Catholic Youth Bibles which were given to all participants in

memory of + Fr. Sr. Fryderyk Banas.



The new Bibles were immediately put to use in the activity “Journeying through God’s Word” led by Kathy Nemkovich and Joanne Oliveira. A Penance Service with confession was led by Fr. Sr. Rob during which Prime Bishop Anthony, Bishop Paul and Fr. Sr. heard private confessions of our youth. Game night followed where the kids had lots of laughs with various relay races and then an amazing Kathynyms game based on Scripture and the Church. Prime Bishop



Anthony concluded the evening by leading everyone in evening prayer. Tuesday began with morning prayer led by Bishop Paul on the deck overlooking beautiful Newfound Lake in gorgeous central New Hampshire. It was so moving as we prayed and sang in the absolute beauty of God's creation. Breakfast was like all the meals at Camp Berea "outstanding" –

we were blessed with the food served by the amazing Camp Berea staff! The first session of the retreat was given by Prime Bishop Anthony on The Word of God in the PNCC. Prime Bishop spoke about the history of the Word of God in our PNCC and why it continues to be so very important for all that we do as Polish National Catholics. The youth then role played various parables of Jesus learning more about God's Holy Word.

Fr. Sr. Rob gave our next session on Genesis, Created in God's Image and Church Teaching. The youth were reminded how they were created in God's Image, male and female and also about how Jesus taught this in the Gospels with man and woman to become one flesh for the purpose of love and precreation. Although some reject this in the world today we were reminded of Jesus' words that even though we are in the world we do not belong to the world! Our third activity followed as the youth again used their Holy Bibles learning more about God's Word. They also spent time drawing beautiful pictures about our retreat theme and God's Word and Creation on blank canvases.

Holy Mass of the Word of God celebrated by Prime Bishop Anthony followed. Bishop Paul and Fr. Sr. Rob concelebrated, and Deacon Justin assisted. During Mass we prayed for the healing of Bishop Mack, Fr. Sr. Soltysiak and Renata Wos. We also remembered in prayer some who have gone before us that were an important part of our diocesan youth program: + Bishop Thomas Gnat, Bishop Stanley Bilinski and Jason Fairclough.

A hearty Lunch prepared our youth for a great afternoon at the camp. The weather cooperated, and time was spent



swimming with many going down the slide, jumping off the docks and balancing on the movable huge rafts. The motorboat was then fired up for some amazing tubing across Newfound Lake. An annual retreat activity that the kids just loved! Some held on going over the waves and others did not! A blast in the lake for sure. The Climbing Wall and Archery finished off the afternoon and Fr. Rob was challenged and put every arrow on the target! A Thanksgiving Turkey dinner with all the fixings was enjoyed with beautiful lake views from the dining hall and some shopping at Berea Outfitters.



Deacon Justin gave our third session on How to Use God’s Word. The Deacon got the youth again into their Bibles as they continued to soak up God’s Word to us – His people. The youth then made care cards for Fr. Sr. Soltysiak and Renata Wos for healing and thinking of you cards for Zack Richard who is currently in Army Boot Camp preparing to serve our country.

Our annual Candlelight Service was led by Fr. Sr. Rob in the Lodge. The campers then enjoyed a campfire at the waterfront. Fun around the fire was enjoyed with s’mores, snacks and fun stories. Then it was back to the cabins for some much-needed rest.

God blessed us on Wednesday with yet another cooperating weather day where we again began in prayer at the deck over Newfound Lake in Hebron, NH. The morning prayer service was led by Deacon Justin. After breakfast overlooking the lake, it was off to the Lodge and our next session. Kathy Nemkovich presented on “The Word Became Flesh – Our Light and our Life” and that we need to BEE like Jesus. Kathy spoke about the importance of living like The Word Became Flesh - Jesus in our post Christian secular world today and how hard it will be to live our faith in our culture today but we need to live it! She emphasized the BEE-Attitudes and had help from Brenda and Tom – The Two Commandments of Love. The youth then enjoyed the parable activity where they wrote amazing parables giving great applications of God’s Word in our world today.

Holy Mass for Youth was celebrated by Fr. Sr. Rob as we prayed for the grace to be more faithful disciples of Jesus in our world today. During the Mass Fr. Rob blessed a special prayer blanket as all the youth prayed over it for our Bishop! After



lunch we enjoyed some more quality time swimming in the crystal-clear lake, tubing, kayaking, gaga ball and it was topped off with Team Building on the challenge course.

After a delicious roast beef dinner, Fr. Paul gave a session on the Letters of St. Paul: How to live as a Christian in a non-Christian world. He taught them from St. Paul “Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed” following and living God’s Holy Word. An Ice Cream Sundae party followed back in the dining hall – Thank you PNA Council 303! Then the youth just loved playing a great game of Bible Pictionary, and they were amazing at how quick they got almost all the people, places and events of Holy Scripture.

Thanks to Tom who then lit our final campfire of the retreat down at the waterfront. Again s’mores, snacks and many memories of the few days together were shared.

Our final day of Youth Retreat 2024 began with Bishop Paul Sobiechowski celebrating Holy Mass for Discipleship. Bishop gave an excellent homily challenging the youth to share their story about our retreat at camp, about Jesus and living God’s Holy Work. After Holy Mass the 2024

Camp Spirit Award (this is given each year in memory of Jason Fairclough remembering his camp spirit and looking out for others) was awarded to Maks Oliveira of Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River. His name will be added to the plaque and will be remembered at future diocesan Youth Retreats. Congratulations Maks - well done!

After breakfast Fr. Sr. Rob reflected on our theme of God’s Word is a Light Unto My Path! He thanked all for coming and making the time for Jesus, especially our Bishop and adult chaperones, presenters and activity leaders. Thanks were then extended to Fr. Sr. Rob for serving as chaplain for the retreat (now his 28th one as Chaplain).

Thanks are given to PNA Council 303 for providing the beautiful t-shirts and ice cream social for all who attended the retreat.

The youth were appreciative of the diocesan clergy who made an effort to be with them for time in prayer, learning, fellowship and fun – Thanks Bishop Paul, Fr. Sr. Rob, Fr. Paul and Subdeacon Justin for making the time to be with our youth!



We are excited to announce our 52nd Annual Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat in August of 2025 at Camp Bereа in Hebron, New Hampshire. Please see our Eastern Diocese Youth Facebook Page for many more pictures from the retreat! Praise God for His continued blessings that abounded at our retreat!

**Fr. Sr. Rob
Nemkovich**

**Eastern Diocese
PNCC Diocesan
Youth Chaplain**

THANKSGIVING RAFFLE FOR FRATERNALISM IN OUR EASTERN DIOCESE

PNA Council 303(District 3 PNU) Thanksgiving Raffle and Request for Your Support of our Youth and Diocesan Fraternalism

Our Council/District continues to support our diocese. This past Youth Retreat our District provided the retreat t-shirts and for the Altar Server Retreat covered the bowling cost. The council also supported the diocesan-wide school supply drive this past summer. Also, this November we will be helping one of our parishes sponsor a Thanksgiving Basket Drive to promote Fraternalism in our District/Council. Please consider supporting this endeavor as it benefits our youth and diocese with Fraternal Activities.

The Thanksgiving Raffle will take place on Sunday, November 24, 2024, immediately following the Thanksgiving Brunch at Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River. One \$50.00 and two \$25.00 cash prizes are being awarded.

Tickets are \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00 and 7 for \$10.00. Please ask your pastor for the tickets. Your generous support of our District 3 fundraiser is greatly appreciated.

Checks in payment for the Thanksgiving Raffle tickets should be made payable to “**District 3 PNU**”. Checks and ticket stubs should be returned to District 3 PNU c/o Blessed Trinity Parish, 37 Winthrop Street, Fall River, MA 02721.

Thank you for your help in this fund-raising effort for our District/Council.

Fraternally yours,

Brenda Richard

PNA Council 303 President

Name

Address

Phone

2024 THANKSGIVING RAFFLE
District 3 PNU (To be PNA Council 303)



1 - \$50.00 & 2 - \$25.00 cash prizes
Drawing Sunday, Nov. 24th
Donation - \$2.00 each; 3 for \$5.00; 7 for \$10.00



“Know Your Faith, Grow in Christ” Discipleship 2024



“The Eastern Diocese Mission and Evangelism Commission exists to inspire, encourage, and support the local parishes to grow spiritually (Internal mission) and to equip them to share the Good News in practical ways in their communities (external mission).” Growth happens as we learn more about our faith, spend time with Jesus in prayer and study, and then share the love of God with others in practical ways.

The EDME Commission provides monthly prayer calendars, special Wednesday prayers at noon, and a virtual “Know and Grow” gathering on the second Thursday of each month. In 2023 we were learning all about the PNCC Confession of Faith, penned by our founder and first Prime Bishop, Francis Hodur. In 2024 our program focuses on Christian Identity, the sources of Christian strength, and the challenges the believers have to face living in the world.

We invite you and your friends to participate, so we can all “Know and Grow” together.

Is your parish engaged in outreach to the community? If you need some ideas, the EDME suggests ways in which you can do so, with a different focus each quarter of the year.

The more we experience the light of Christ through learning, fellowship, prayer, and almsgiving, the more brightly our Church will shine and draw people back to the Lord. Skeptical? Give it a try and see what God will do for your Christian life and the life of your parish family.



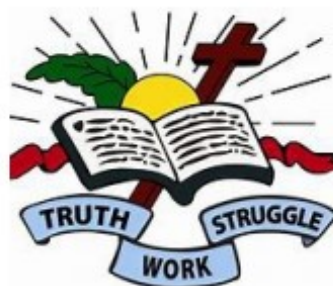
Eastern Diocese Fall 2024 Outreach - Support for Veterans

Here are some helpful ways to reach out to veterans in our communities,
suggested by nvf.org:



- Provide transportation to their appointments
 - Visit wounded vets in a VA facility
- Provide material help (food, warm clothing, socks) to vets facing or experiencing homelessness
- Perform home repairs or household chores for a vet in need
 - Donate your time to a veterans' organization
- Use your special skills to provide service to a vet in need
 - Spend time with a vet and take time to listen.
 - Thank a vet for his/her service.

~Eastern Diocese Mission and Evangelism Commission





FROM THE CHANCERY OFFICE

A reminder

Our diocesan family is being asked to pray each Wednesday at 12 Noon for the intention of our parishes, our diocese, and our Polish National Catholic Church.



We also pray for healing and peace in our communities, nation and world.

Prayers for October, November and December will be announced via internet to all parishes of the Eastern Diocese.

We thank all parishes that participated in the collecting of school supplies in July and August to benefit the needy youth in our communities. Your efforts can be seen in this issue of The Messenger.

For the months of October and November, the Mission and Evangelism Commission of the Eastern Diocese is encouraging parishes to hold collections of clothing and other items to be given to veteran organizations in our communities who aid those who defended our nation and now need our respectful assistance.

Assignments:

- **No new assignments**

Deacon Daviault will be spending a period of three months in residence at Savonarola Theological Seminary, in Scranton PA. This is a part of his preparation to be ordained to the Holy Priesthood of the Church. The priests of the central seniorate will provide for the needs of Saint Joseph’s Parish in Westfield.

Father Senior Joseph Soltysiak continues to recover from his surgery and we wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

Bishop's Visits to Parishes:

- Monday, October 14- Bishop Paul will be in Saint Valentine’s Parish, Northampton, MA, to participate in the Pulaski Day celebration - Holy Mass and parade beginning at 10:00 AM.

Diocesan and National Meetings: (all times are Eastern)

- Monday, July 15 - Eastern Diocese Mission & Evangelism Commission Meeting - 6:30
- Tuesday, October 1 - Wednesday, October 2 - National Doctrine Commission Meeting - National Church Center, Scranton, PA. Saturday, October 5 - Eastern Diocese Zoom Synod begins at 10:00 AM.
- Tuesday, October 8 - P.N.C.C. Bishops’ Zoom Meeting - 1:00 PM.

- Wednesday, October 9 - Third Zoom meeting of the 2026 General Synod Planning Committee - 6:45 PM
- Monday, October 21 - Wednesday, October 23 - National Mission and Evangelism Commission Meeting - Holy Family Parish, McKeesport, PA.
- Monday October 28 - Wednesday, October 30 - National Liturgical Commission Meeting - National Church Center, Scranton, PA.
- Tuesday, November 5 - P.N.C.C. Bishops' Zoom Meeting - 1:00 PM.
- Monday, November 11 - Eastern Diocese Mission and Evangelism Commission Zoom Meeting - 7:00 PM.
- Tuesday, November 19 - P.N.C.C. Bishops' Zoom Meeting - 1:00 PM.
- Monday, December 9 - Eastern Diocese Mission and Evangelism Commission Zoom Meeting - 7:00 PM.
- Tuesday, December 10- P.N.C.C. Bishops' Zoom Meeting - 1:00 PM.

Diocesan and National Liturgical Celebrations: (all times are Eastern)

- Wednesday, October 3 - Feast of the Guardian Angels - translated
- Friday, October 4 - Commemoration - Saint Francis of Assisi (blessing of animals)
sp. Bishop Joseph Tomczyk (1995)
- Sunday, October 6 - Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday, October 7 - Solemnity of our Holy Mother of the Rosary
- Sunday, October 13 - Solemnity of the Christian Family
- Monday, October 14 - Columbus Day Federal Holiday
- Friday, October 18 - Feast of Saint Luke, Evangelist
- Saturday, October 19 - sp. Bishop Walter Slowakiewicz (1978), sp. Eugene Magyar (1968)
- Thursday, October 24 - Feast of Saint Raphael, Archangel
- Sunday, October 20 - Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Heritage Sunday observed
- Sunday, October 27 - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday, October 28 - Feast of Saints Simon & Jude, Apostles
- Friday, November 1 - Solemnity of All Saints
- Saturday, November 2 - Observance of All Souls
-sp. Bishop Stanley Bilinski (2018)
- Sunday, November 3 - Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Daylight Savings Time ends
- Tuesday, November 5 - Election Day - U.S.A.
- Sunday, November 10 - Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday, November 11 - Veterans Day Federal Holiday
- Sunday, November 17 - Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Thursday, November 21 - Solemnity of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Sunday, November 24 - Solemnity of Christ the King
- Thursday, November 28 - Thanksgiving Day Federal Holiday
- Saturday, November 30 - Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle
- Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent (Cycle “C” and Year I readings begin)
- Wednesday, December 4 - Rorate Mass may be celebrated
- Sunday, December 8 - Second Sunday in Advent
- Monday, December 9 - Solemnity of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (translated)
sp. Bishop Casimir Grotnik (2005)
- Thursday, December 12 - Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Wednesday, December 11- Rorate Mass may be celebrated
- Sunday, December 15 - Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete Sunday)
- Wednesday, December 18- Rorate Mass may be celebrated
- Saturday, December 21 - Feast of Saint Thomas, Apostle
- Sunday, December 22 - Fourth Sunday in Advent
- Tuesday, December 24 - Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord
- Wednesday, December 25- Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord
- Thursday, December 26 - Feast of Saint Stephen, Deacon & Proto-Martyr
- Friday, December 27 - Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
- Saturday, December 28 - Solemnity of the Holy Family
sp. Bishop John Gritenas (1928)
- Sunday, December 29 - Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds

Diocesan and National Event Schedule: (all times are Eastern)

- Thursday, October 10 - Eastern Diocese-wide Zoom Study of Know Your Faith - Grow in Christ, “Why Does God Allow Suffering?” led by Father Thomas Walsh - 7:00 PM
- Thursday, November 14 - Eastern Diocese-wide Zoom Study of Know Your Faith - Grow in Christ, “Present Day Dangers for Christians” led by Father Adam Piekarszewski- 7:00 PM
- Sunday, November 24 - PNA Council 303 Thanksgiving Raffle Drawing (benefiting youth programs of the Eastern Diocese - Holy Cross Parish, Central Falls, RI - 10:00 AM
- Tuesday, December 03 - Thursday, December 05 - Eastern Diocese Clergy Retreat, Mercy by the Sea Retreat Center, Madison, CT
- Thursday, December 12 - Eastern Diocese-wide Zoom Study of Know Your Faith - Grow in Christ, “Being Christian Today” led by Father Andrew Tenus - 7:00 PM
- Sunday, December 22 - Northeast Seniorate Candle Lighting Service - Blessed Trinity Parish, Fall River, MA - 4:00 PM

Polish Poetry



"Poetry comes nearer to vital truth than history." - Plato

„Prawdziwą, typową formą współżycia duchowego jest poezja.” - Karol Irzykowski



Wisława Szymborska

"Let the people who never find true love keep saying that there's no such thing. Their faith will make it easier for them to live and die."

Wisława Szymborska urodziła się 2 lipca 1923 na Prowencie (dzisiejszy Brnin, będący częścią Kórnika) jako córka Wincentego i Anny. Jej rodzina przeniosła się w 1931 roku do Krakowa, gdzie mieszkała i pracowała aż do śmierci na początku 2012 roku. Po wybuchu II wojny światowej w 1939 roku, kontynuowała naukę w tajnym nauczaniu.

W 1945 roku podjęła studia z literatury i języka polskiego, które wkrótce zmieniła na socjologię na Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim w Krakowie. Tam poznała i była pod wpływem Czesława Miłosza. W marcu 1945 opublikowała swój pierwszy wiersz „Szukam słowa” w codziennej gazecie Dziennik Polski; od tego czasu przez szereg lat jej wiersze były publikowane w różnych gazetach i periodykach. W 1948 roku porzuciła studia, z powodu trudnej sytuacji finansowej; w tym samym roku poślubiła poetę Adama Włodek, z którym rozwiódła się w 1954 r.

Jej pierwsza książka miała ukazać się w 1949 r. jednak cenzura nie pozwoliła, gdyż „nie spełniała wymogów socjalistycznych”. Mimo to Szymborska pozostała wierna ideologii PRL-u, podpisując polityczne petycje (m.in. niesławną petycję z 8 lutego 1953 r. potępiającą polskich księży oskarżonych o zdradę w pokazowym procesie) oraz wychwalając Józefa Stalina, Włodzimierza Lenina i realia socjalizmu. Jest to widoczne w jej debiutanckim zbiorze „Dlatego żyjemy” z wierszami „Lenin” i „Młodzieży budującej Nową Hutę”. Stała się też członkiem Polskiej Zjednoczonej Partii Robotniczej. Wkrótce jednak w Szymborskiej zaczęła narastać niechęć od ideologii socjalistycznej i wyrzekła się swojej wcześniejszej pracy politycznej. Chociaż oficjalnie nie opuściła partii aż do 1966 r., zaczęła kontakty z opozycjonistami. W 1957 roku zaprzyjaźniła się z Jerzym Giedroycem, redaktorem naczelnym wpływowego emigracyjnego dziennika wydawanego w Paryżu „Kultura”, do którego zaczęła pisać. W 1964 sprzeciwiła się wspieranemu przez komunistów protestowi do „The Times” przeciwko niezależnym intelektualistom, i domagała się wolności słowa.

W 1953 roku dołączyła do redakcji czasopisma przeglądu literackiego „Życie Literackie” a od 1968 roku prowadziła w nim własną kolumnę recenzji książek pt. „Lektury Nadobowiązkowe”. W latach 1981-1983 była redaktorem miesięcznika „Pismo”. W latach osiemdziesiątych zintensyfikowała swoją działalność opozycyjną.

Szymborska zaczęła być rozpoznawalną na arenie międzynarodowej, gdy w 1996 roku zdobyła nagrodę Nobla w dziedzinie literatury. Podczas przyznawania nagrody Akademia pochwaliła jej „poezję, umożliwiającą z ironiczną precyzją ukazanie kontekstu historycznego i biologicznego we fragmentach ludzkiej rzeczywistości”.

Wisława Szymborska zmarła 1 lutego 2012 w domu w Krakowie.

Wisława Szymborska was born on 2 July 1923 in Prowent, Poland (present-day Brnin, Kórnik, Poland), the daughter of Wincenty and Anna. Her family moved to Kraków in 1931 where she lived and worked until her death in early 2012. When World War II broke out in 1939, she continued her education in underground classes.

In 1945, Szymborska took up studies of Polish language and literature before switching to sociology at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. There she met and was influenced by Czesław Miłosz. In March 1945, she published her first poem “Szukam słowa” (“Looking for a word”) in the daily paper Dziennik Polski; her poems continued to be published in various newspapers and periodicals for a number of years. In 1948 she quit her studies without a degree, due to her poor financial circumstances; the same year, she married poet Adam Włodek, whom she divorced in 1954.

Her first book was to be published in 1949, but did not pass censorship as it “did not meet socialist requirements”. However, Szymborska remained loyal to the PRL official ideology, signing political petitions (i.a. an infamous political petition from February 8, 1953, condemning Polish priests accused of treason in a show trial) and praising Joseph Stalin, Vladimir Lenin and the realities of socialism. This is seen in her debut collection “Dlatego żyjemy” (That is what we are living for), with the poems “Lenin” and “Młodzieży budującej Nową Hutę” (“For the Youth who are building Nowa Huta”). She became a member of the ruling Polish United Workers’ Party. Soon, however, Szymborska gradually grew estranged from socialist ideology and renounced her earlier political work. Although she did not officially leave the party until 1966, she began to establish contacts with dissidents. In 1957, she befriended Jerzy Giedroyc, the editor of the influential Paris-based émigré journal “Kultura”, to which she also contributed. In 1964, she opposed a Communist-backed protest to “The Times” against independent intellectuals, demanding freedom of speech instead.

In 1953, she joined the staff of the literary review magazine “Życie Literackie” (Literary Life) and from 1968 ran her own book review column entitled “Lektury Nadobowiązkowe” (Non-compulsory Reading). From 1981 to 1983, Szymborska was an editor of the monthly periodical, “Pismo”. During the 1980s, she intensified her oppositional activities.

Szymborska received international recognition when she won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1996. In awarding the prize, the Academy praised her “poetry that with ironic precision allows the historical and biological context to come to light in fragments of human reality.”

Wisława Szymborska died 1 February 2012 at home in Kraków.

Trzy słowa najdziwniejsze

Kiedy wymawiam słowo Przyszłość,
pierwsza sylaba odchodzi już do przeszłości.

Kiedy wymawiam słowo Cisza,
niszczę ją.

Kiedy wymawiam słowo Nic,
stwarzam coś, co nie mieści się w żadnym niebycie.

Trzy słowa najdziwniejsze

Kiedy wymawiam słowo Przyszłość,

pierwsza sylaba odchodzi już do przeszłości.

Kiedy wymawiam słowo Cisza,

niszczę ją.

Kiedy wymawiam słowo Nic,

stwarzam coś, co nie mieści się

w żadnym niebyciu.

When I pronounce the word Future,

Three Oddest Words

When I pronounce the word Future,
the first syllable already belongs to the past.

When I pronounce the word Silence,
I destroy it.

When I pronounce the word Nothing,
I make something no nonbeing can hold.

Radość pisania

Dokąd biegnie ta napisana sama przez napisany las?
Czy z napisanej wody pić,
która jej pyszczek odbije jak kalka?
Dlaczego łeb podnosi, czy coś słyszy?
Na pożyczonych z prawdy czterech nóżkach wsparta
spod moich palców uchem strzyże.
Cisza - ten wyraz też szeleści po papierze
i rozgarnia
spowodowane słowem las gałęzie.

Nad białą kartką czają się do skoku
litery, które mogą ułożyć się źle,
zdania osaczające,
przed którymi nie będzie ratunku.

Jest w kropli atramentu spory zapas
myśliwych z przymrużonym okiem,
gotowych zbiec po stromym piórze w dół,
otoczyć samę, złożyć się do strzału.

Zapominają, że tu nie jest życie.
Inne, czarno na białym, panują tu prawa.
Okamgnienie trwać będzie tak długo, jak zechcę,
pozwoli się podzielić na małe wieczności
pełne wstrzymanych w locie kul.
Na zawsze, jeśli każę, nic się tu nie stanie.
Bez mojej woli nawet liść nie spadnie
ani źdźbło się nie ugnie pod kropką kopytka.

Jest więc taki świat,
nad którym los sprawuję niezależny?
Czas, który wiąże łańcuchami znaków?
Istnienie na mój rozkaz nieustanne?

Radość pisania.
Możność utrwalania.
Zemsta ręki śmiertelnej.



The Joy of Writing

Why does this written doe bound through these written woods?
For a drink of written water from a spring
whose surface will xerox her soft muzzle?
Why does she lift her head; does she hear something?
Perched on four slim legs borrowed from the truth,
she pricks up her ears beneath my fingertips.
Silence - this word also rustles across the page
and parts the boughs
that have sprouted from the word "woods."

Lying in wait, set to pounce on the blank page,
are letters up to no good,
clutches of clauses so subordinate
they'll never let her get away.

Each drop of ink contains a fair supply
of hunters, equipped with squinting eyes behind their sights,
prepared to swarm the sloping pen at any moment,
surround the doe, and slowly aim their guns.

They forget that what's here isn't life.
Other laws, black on white, obtain.
The twinkling of an eye will take as long as I say,
and will, if I wish, divide into tiny eternities,
full of bullets stopped in mid-flight.
Not a thing will ever happen unless I say so.
Without my blessing, not a leaf will fall,
not a blade of grass will bend beneath that little hoof's full stop.

Is there then a world
where I rule absolutely on fate?
A time I bind with chains of signs?
An existence become endless at my bidding?

The joy of writing.
The power of preserving.
Revenge of a mortal hand.

Utopia

Wyspa na której wszystko się wyjaśnia.
Tu można stanąć na gruncie dowodów.
Nie ma dróg innych oprócz drogi dojścia.
Krzaki aż uginają się od odpowiedzi.

Rośnie tu drzewo Słusznego Domysłu
o rozwikłanych wiecznie gałęziach.

Olśniewająco proste drzewo Zrozumienia
przy źródle, co się zwie Ach Więc To Tak.

Im dalej w las, tym szerzej się otwiera
Dolina Oczywistości.

Jeśli jakieś zwątpienie, to wiatr je rozwiewa.

Echo bez wywołania głos zabiera
i wyjaśnia ochoczo tajemnice światów.

W prawo jaskinia, w której leży sens.

W lewo jezioro Głębokiego Przekonania.
Z dna odrywa się prawda i lekko na wierzch wypływa.

Góruje nad doliną Pewność Niewzruszona.
Ze szczytu jej roztacza się Istota Rzeczy.

Mimo powabów wyspa jest bezludna,
a widoczne po brzegach drobne ślady stóp
bez wyjątku zwrócone są w kierunku morza.
Jak gdyby tylko odchodzono stąd
i bezpowrotnie zanurzano się w topieli.

W życiu nie do pojęcia.

Utopia

Island where all becomes clear.
Solid ground beneath your feet.
The only roads are those that offer access.
Bushes bend beneath the weight of proofs.

The Tree of Valid Supposition grows here
with branches disentangled since time immemorial.

The Tree of Understanding, dazzling straight and simple,
sprouts by the spring called Now I Get It.

The thicker the woods, the vaster the vista:
the Valley of Obviously.

If any doubts arise, the wind dispels them instantly.

Echoes stir unsummoned
and eagerly explain all the secrets of the worlds.

On the right a cave where Meaning lies.

On the left the Lake of Deep Conviction.
Truth breaks from the bottom and bobs to the surface.

Unshakable Confidence towers over the valley.
Its peak offers an excellent view of the Essence of Things.

For all its charms, the island is uninhabited,
and the faint footprints scattered on its beaches
turn without exception to the sea.
As if all you can do here is leave
and plunge, never to return, into the depths.

Into unfathomable life.



By Fr. Adam Czarnecki

All trans. by Stanislaw Barańczak and Clare Cavanagh

Parishes of the Eastern Diocese

Holy Trinity Cathedral 166 Pearl St., Manchester, NH-03104-4236 Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski, Pastor (603)622-4524	St. Joseph's Parish 73 Main St., Westfield, MA 01085-3189 Very Rev. Joseph Soltysiak, Pastor (413)562-4403
Blessed Trinity Parish 37 Winthrop St., Fall River, MA 02721—2541 Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich, Jr, Pastor (508)672-4854	St. Valentine's Parish 127 King St., Northampton, MA 01060-3234 Rev. Adam Czarnecki, Pastor (413)584-0133
St. Casimir's Parish 268 Lakeview Avenue, Lowell, MA 01850-2313 Rev. Andrzej Tenus, Pastor (978)453-0742	Divine Providence Parish 11 Silver St., Norwich, CT 06360-4731 Rev. Christopher Rogalski, Pastor (860)887-2812
Holy Cross Parish 320 High St, Central Falls, RI 02863-3108 Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich, Jr, Administrator (401)722-5130	Holy Saviour Parish 118 Prospect St., Naugatuck, CT 06770-3056 Rev. Paul Dudek, Pastor (203)729-4035
Our Saviour's Parish 500 Smithfield Rd., Woonsocket, RI 02895-6285 Rev. Henryk Wos, Pastor (401)762-3072	Holy Trinity Parish 200 Summer St., Plantsville, CT 06479-1119 Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski, Pastor (860)628-0736
Holy Cross Parish 61 Maple St., Ware, MA 01082-1545 Rev. ,Pawel Lukaszewicz, Administrator (413)967-5233	St. Casimir Parish 240 Quinnipiac St., Wallingford, CT 01850-2313 Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski, Administrator (203)294-8888
Holy Trinity Parish 68 Lake St., Webster, MA 01570-2160 Rev. Henryk Wos, Administrator (508)-943-0608 / (401)-762-3072	St. John the Baptist Parish 23 Golway St., Manchester, CT 06042-2016 Rev. Adam Piekarczywski-Pastor (860)643-5906
Holy Mother of the Rosary Parish 26 Bell St., Chicopee, MA 01013-3002 Rev. Pawel Lukaszewicz, Pastor (413)592-2032	St. Joseph's Parish 1300 Stratford Rd., Stratford, CT 06615-7639 Rev. Thomas Walsh, Pastor (203 377-9901)
Holy Name of Jesus Parish 15 Thayer St., South Deerfield, MA 01373-1136 Rev. Robert Koerber, Pastor (413)665-2129 / (413)530-8575	

Diocesan Chaplains

Mission & Evangelism Commission Rev. Robert Koerber	Scouting Commission Rev. Adam Czarnecki
Ladies Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament Very Rev. Joseph Soltysiak	United Choirs Rev. Pawel Lukaszewicz
Polish National Union of America (Spojnia) District 3 Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich	Youth Commission Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich
School of Christian Living Very Rev. Joseph Soltysiak	Deacon Program Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich
Young Men's Society of the Resurrection Rev. Thomas Walsh	Lay Ministries Rev. Adam Czarnecki



Our diocesan family is being asked to pray the “prayer selected for the month” and the “Our Father” prayer found in the in the PNCC Prayer Book each Wednesday at 12 Noon.



During the month of October let us pray that God may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and help those who suffer because of poverty, falsehood, hunger and disease.

Almighty and eternal God, our Merciful Father, give strength to the weary and new courage to all who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call upon You in any trouble that they may have the joy of receiving Your grace in their need. May we become instruments of Your love and mercy in this world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Prayers for the following months will be announced via internet
(PNCC Eastern Diocese Mission and Evangelism Commission)

THE MESSENGER-Quarterly Newsletter
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- 2024 THE MESSENGER deadline for articles:

Winter issue: November 23

The e-mail address to send articles is:
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All issues of THE MESSENGER are available on diocesan website:

<http://www.easterndiocesepncc.org>, or through the smart phone app “Eastern Diocese PNCC.”

The quality and style of this newsletter depends upon your cooperation. It is also a great way to let others know about our church, parishes and people. We look forward to your contributions!