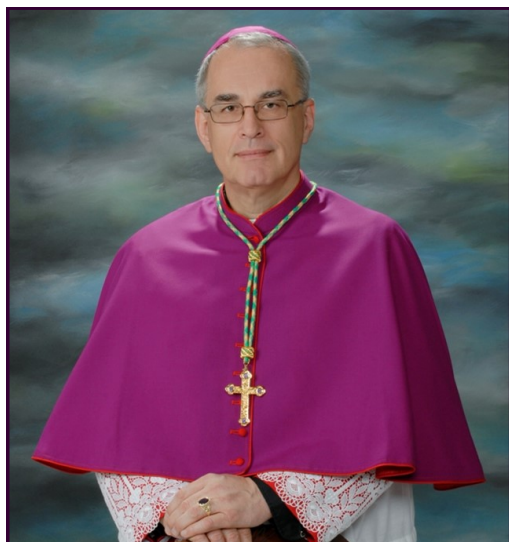


THE MESSENGER

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



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD A SYMBOL OF MEETING CHANGE

... “Not that I am referring to being in need, for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances, I have

learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, or having plenty and being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”

Philippians 4:11-13, NRSV.

As of this writing, we are 25 days from the Sixteenth Diocesan Synod of our Eastern Diocese. And because of the Covid-19 pandemic we will, for the first time in our history, hold a virtual synod on the Zoom platform. This is only the second time that we will host a one day synod. Our delegates will, for the most part, be in their homes and will participate in what has normally been a two or three day face-to-face gathering. In the past we were able to socialize, share meals together, participate in Holy Mass and share the Body and Blood of Christ together. Now we will begin with the Divine Office of Morning Prayer, socializing will be limited to private “chats” via the chat room, and we will not have those moments to exchange ideas during and outside of synodal sessions.

And yet, we will do the work of Holy Church. We will approve a plan for the strategic development of our Eastern Diocese. We will find new ways to share ideas, exchange opinions and, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, move forward for the building up of Christ’s Holy Church. Our synod indeed will set the tone for new means by which we carry forward Christ’s great command to “Go ... and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19, NRSV).

Cont. next page.

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In an article entitled Top 7 Bible Verses on Adapting or Adaptability at : <https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/top-7-bible-verses-on-adapting-or-adaptability/> , author Jack Wellman writes: “Jesus adopted His nature into that of being both God and Man, coming to be born of a virgin, and being born into the flesh so that He would be able to atone for the sins of those who God brings to repentance and trust in Christ. **If we can understand the purpose and nature of Jesus’ mission on earth (Mark 1:15), and that it required the greatest adaptability of anyone in human history, then we can see that whatever happens to us in life is designed to conform us into His own image.** That is His purpose; to seek a people for Himself that they might glorify Him in their lives, because He says, ‘I will be their God and they shall be my people’ (Jer 32:28), and those of us who are His people would be like He is, and if we want to see the supreme example of who God wants us to be, we need look no further than Jesus Christ.” *(Bold print is my emphasis.)*

Our principal charge is found in the quote from the Gospel of Matthew, above. We fulfill the Great Commandment by demonstrating to all our love of God and love of neighbor. In such love we must always be willing to adapt. Saint Paul also said : *“I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22).* This verse from Corinthians does not mean Paul was willing to do anything to reach the lost. Nor does it justify Christians living worldly lifestyles, as long as their goal is to “save” someone.

But it does mean that in maintaining a true discipleship of Christ, modeling our lives after Jesus, we must adapt to those situations the world imposes on us to find new means of parish and community and world evangelism. Without any organized plan, for example, look at how many of our diocesan parishes and pastors began to live stream and make video recordings of our Holy Masses. Our diocesan A.N.S. held its annual convention, but did it virtually for the first time, and successfully as well.

The Strategic Planning Committee has put forth a forceful program to use over the next eight to ten years, to help our parishes and diocese meet the challenges of this “new time of change” and to build up our parishes and diocese. In doing so we will continue to win souls for Christ and build the Kingdom.

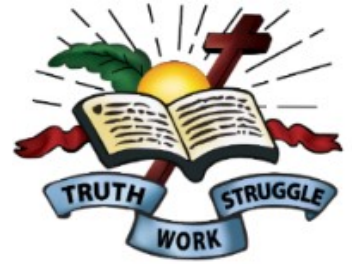
So let us “Lift High the Cross” as we walk into what Aldous Huxley called the “Brave New World.” It is a world that desperately needs Jesus’ Gospel and His Holy Church. And let us use all those means available to carry forward a Christian outreach to our communities. Jesus recognized the need for this when He said, *“...I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be as wise as serpents and innocent as doves”* (Matthew 10:16, NRSV).

The previously cited Jack Wellman also wrote in the same article, quote: “Whenever we live a life that is hard and strewn with difficulties, and yet we are contented, this is most pleasing to God. When we can adapt to circumstances and still give God praises and glory for His goodness, our God is well pleased, but when we are discontent with our circumstances, then we tell God, we are not satisfied with Him because He is sovereign over all that happens to us. Don’t let circumstances rob you of your joy because your joy (and mine) isn’t dependent upon what happens in life, good or bad, but by what Jesus Christ has done for us.”

I hope to see many of you at our diocesan Zoom Synod . Be of good cheer and be contented, even in the face of the circumstances the Church faces. It is an occasion for us to be used by Him to manifest His will for the Church and for our world. The psalmist proclaims: *“Be still, and know that I am God ! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.’ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge”* (Psalm 46:10-11, NRSV). May the Lord of hosts enlighten our minds, direct our speech and bless our Holy Synod

Bishop Paul

The Resolutions of the 25th General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church



Whereas, we the delegates to the 25th 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 at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine in Belleville, IL, from October 1 through October 3, 2018.

Whereas, we were strengthened, nourished and enlightened by our Lord Jesus Christ, truly present in our midst through Word and Sacrament at the Holy Mass concelebrated by our Prime Bishop, Bishops and Clergy, and understand it as the most important aspect of the great work of these days;

Whereas, we offer our gratitude to the Western Diocese of the Church, under the leadership of Bishop Bilinski, and those who assumed the responsibilities of planning and carrying out this Holy Synod;

Whereas, we acknowledge the courageous presence and active participation of the gathered delegates, as we proclaim that the Mission of the Church has been entrusted to her members of all ages, each called to pursue lives of holiness as Disciples of Jesus Christ and to invite others to do likewise;

Whereas, we recognize the foundation that was laid at the 24th General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church regarding our Future Direction and celebrate the many diligent efforts to build upon this within our Dioceses and Parishes over the last four years, in pursuing true Regeneration of spirit, mind and heart; by seeking to engender deeper Reverence for God and our neighbors; by willingly Recommitting ourselves to undertaking the work of the Church within our Parishes, and faithfully striving to welcome all of these virtues into the daily lives of our Families;

Whereas, we have again considered with renewed enthusiasm and rekindled creativity the Future Direction of our beloved Church by continuing to reflect upon the meaning of Growth with regard to its Membership, the continual need for Increased Spirituality and the value of Lifelong Learning for its members of all ages, the ongoing pursuit of personal holiness as the means of enabling joyful responses to God's call to Sacred Vocations, and the need to further enhance our Community Involvement and Presence;

We, therefore, resolve to fervently ask that God the Father, through the prayers of Our Lady of the Snows, may bring forth abundant fruit from the proceedings of this 25th General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church, to seek grace and strength from our Lord Jesus Christ to embrace the work he has entrusted to our care, and to knock so that the Holy Spirit will open and inflame our hearts so that we may return to our parishes inspired to execute the work of this Synod, firm in our Catholic faith, anchored by hope and motivated by charity, unwaveringly committed as members of the Polish National Catholic Church, charged to boldly proclaim the Gospel at all times, in all places and to all people through our words, our actions and our lives of holiness, and more certain than ever that "With truth, work and struggle, we shall succeed!"

Respectfully submitted this day, October 3, 2018, by the Resolution Committee of the 25th General Synod of Polish National Catholic Church.

Christopher Cremean (Western Diocese); Marilyn Folcik (Eastern Diocese); Rebecca Kotula (Central Diocese) and Rev. Dr. Scott J. Lill (Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese)

DISCIPLESHIP

2020

PNCC



DISCIPLESHIP: 2020

PNCC FUTURE DIRECTION - ACTION PLAN FOR PNCC PARISHES BASED ON THE EFFORTS OF THE 24TH & 25TH PNCC GENERAL SYNODS

Continue to develop and emphasize Discipleship through 2020: *Our purpose is to strengthen all members in their following of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This will give us a better sense of ourselves as the Church. During 2020 we will examine the lives of some of the early disciples of our Lord and their discipleship virtues to see what we can learn from them and apply to our daily living. Please see the monthly Future Direction messages regarding this effort with reflections for living this out daily.*

Questions for Reflection each month: Name a few important “discipleship qualities” that the figure(s) demonstrate? Which one would you personally like to better emulate? How can you begin to practically do so in your daily life?

These questions could also be used in the parish for a monthly adult reflection session on the figure(s) noted below.

JANUARY – JOHN THE BAPTIST: FORTITUDE, HUMILITY

Matthew 3:1-17; John 1:15-36, 3:22-30

Reflection Question: John the Baptist called others to repent and prepare for the Lord Jesus. How can you, as a disciple, help others take their relationship with our Lord more seriously?

Begin planning/implementation of the Parish Assessment

FEBRUARY – SIMEON AND ANNA IN THE TEMPLE: PIETY, COMPASSION

Luke 2:22-38

Reflection Question: Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as the promised Messiah and told others in the Temple about Him. Can you come up with 2 practical ways by which you can do the same?

Schedule Soup, Sandwich & Sermon or Wine and Cheese Gathering – Adult Education

MARCH – MARTHA AND MARY OF BETHANY: PRAYERFULNESS, SERVICE

Luke 10:38-42; John 11:1-45

Reflection Question: Martha and Mary together give us a balanced model of the aspects of our discipleship. Do you have this same balance of prayer and service in your daily life? What can you do to achieve it?

Schedule Mass for Healing

Schedule and conduct Lenten Retreat

APRIL – MARY MAGDALENE: FAITHFULNESS, FORTITUDE

Luke 8:1-3; Mark 15:33-47; John 20:1-18

Reflection Question: Mary Magdalene was faithful to our Lord even at the foot of the Cross and so Jesus rewarded her with being the first witness to his Resurrection. How can you better follow her example of unconditional faithfulness to Christ in your own life?

MAY – ST. PETER: HUMILITY, TRUST

Luke 5:1-11; Matthew 26:31-35; John 21:1-19

Reflection Question: Peter did not feel worthy to accept the Lord's call and he was right. Yet, he followed and Jesus used him to boldly proclaim the Gospel to others and to give the greatest witness in his martyrdom. How can you overcome your own sense of unworthiness and embrace God's great plan for you?

Schedule Soup, Sandwich & Sermon or Wine and Cheese Gathering – Adult Education

JUNE – SAINTS JAMES AND JOHN: SONS OF THUNDER, APOSTLES OF LOVE

Mark 3:13-19; Luke 9:28-36; Matthew 20:20-28

Reflection Question: Jesus taught the "Sons of Thunder" that true honor and greatness come from putting the needs of others before your own and becoming a servant. Do you sometimes do things so that others will see you doing them instead of doing them out of love? How can you better learn the lesson that James and John learned as disciples of Jesus?

Remember Clergy Appreciation Weekend & Sacred Vocations Month

JULY – ST. PAUL: REPENTANCE, FORTITUDE AND SPIRITUAL ENDURANCE

Acts 8:1-3, 9:1-20; Romans 8:18-27; 2 Tim 4:1-8

Reflection Question: Paul understood the sacrifices that had to be made for the sake of the Gospel and he willingly made them. Have you ever been called to sacrifice something as a disciple of Jesus? How can you prepare this month to be able to give up things of the world for the sake of the Eternal Kingdom of God?

Schedule Mass for those Grieving

AUGUST – THE CANAANITE WOMAN: PERSISTENCE, HUMILITY

Matthew 15:21-31

Reflection Question: The Canaanite Woman persisted in her request for healing even when Jesus tested her faith. How do you respond when you petition the Lord through prayer but don't receive an immediate response?

SEPTEMBER – ST. BARNABAS: GENEROSITY, FORTITUDE

Acts 4:32-37, 9:22-27, 14:8-20, 15:1-29

Reflection Question: Barnabas was called "son of encouragement" by the Apostles. In what ways can you follow his example and encourage others this month on their own journeys as disciples of Jesus?

Schedule Soup, Sandwich & Sermon or Wine and Cheese Gathering – Adult Education

OCTOBER – THE HOLY THEOTOKOS: HUMILITY, GENTLENESS, COMPASSION AND EVERY VIRTUE

Luke 1:26-56, 2:1-19; John 19:25-30; Acts 1:13-14, 2:1-4

Reflection Question: The Mother of God is the first and greatest disciple of her Son, faithful from the Annunciation to the Ascension and then still prayerfully present with the Church at Pentecost. How can you better emulate her consistent faithfulness to God when faced with both great sorrows and times of joy?

NOVEMBER – ST. MATTHEW: SELF DISCIPLINE

Matthew 9:1-13, 10:1-42; Matthew 5:1-12, 25:31-46

Reflection Question: When Jesus called Matthew the tax collector to follow Him, he did so despite what others said about him. Have you ever been the one to deem someone else unworthy of being a disciple of Jesus in some way? How can you overcome such perceptions and instead help strengthen others in their discipleship?

Schedule Mass and Breakfast for those who serve

Schedule Soup, Sandwich & Sermon or Wine and Cheese Gathering – Adult Education

Report of the Parish Assessment

DECEMBER – ST. JOSEPH – PROTECTOR OF THE LORD: OBEDIENCE, TRUST, PATIENCE

Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-23; Luke 2:39-52

Reflection Question: St. Joseph was obedient to the will of the Father even when asked to do some very difficult things. Have you struggled to embrace God's will for your life in the past? How can you spiritually prepare to more fully surrender your life as a disciple of Jesus?

Schedule and conduct Advent Retreat/Penitential Service

PARISH ASSESSMENT – PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL

Steady and lasting *Growth* in “readiness” to reach out and welcome others to our Church and Parishes.

What and how will it be done: Focus on two project areas for parishes to systematically put their house in order both physically and spiritually. Some parishes are better maintained than others, but no parish is ever complete. Just as in our own spiritual lives there is always room for improvement, and we are never complete. We must keep moving forward in some way.

Phase 1: The outcomes of this phase would be twofold: first, the plan itself and then the actual execution of the plan resulting in improved grounds and church building.

Phase 2: The outcomes of this phase would also be twofold: first, the assessment and plan itself and then the actual execution of the plan resulting in improved (or at least confirmed satisfactory state of) the liturgical life of the parish.

Final outcome: Parishes with increased internal readiness that leads out to external growth in membership; feeling a sense of humble and grateful pride at what God had helped them accomplish and a growing sense of healthy confidence that they are truly ready to welcome others who are seeking a spiritual home.

This is really grounded in the observation that perhaps we are not as ready as we might think to welcome new growth in membership and the notion that every parish can and must continue to improve itself.

SPECIAL MASSES

Again have at least two Special Masses and open them to the community. This would be in addition to our Sunday Mass. During Lent have a Mass for Healing and invite all those who are ill, hurting spiritually or emotionally to attend and spend time in prayer, to hear God's Word and receive Christ in the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Anointing. Use the Mass for Healing during Lent – this will be emailed to all clergy as a reminder at the beginning of Lent.

In the fall (November) have a Mass to Salute those who Serve - for your first responders/those in military service and Veterans. This Mass could be followed by a meal to honor those who serve/who have served. You could also have a Mass in time of tragedy when the need may arise in your community or our nation. These could be followed by a time of fellowship and food at the parish.

You could also schedule a Mass for those grieving anytime during the Church Liturgical Year.

Welcome the community to these Masses by promoting them in your local media and newspaper, as well as fliers and social media. Invite other local groups to join you for these Masses.

CONTINUE THE BUSINESS FREE ZONE

For 10-15 minutes prior to the celebration of Holy Mass have a time where the pastor is unavailable for Church business and that no other things are being discussed but a focus on the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. This will continue to bring an enhanced spirituality and reverence for the Eucharist to our parishes. Encourage use of the introductory pages of the Mass booklet – *especially page 8* as well as prayers from our Prayer Book preparing for Holy Mass and Confession.

CONTINUE AND STRENGTHEN YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

Short two minutes messages by various members speaking to our Year of Discipleship on YouTube. Continue to post monthly messages to our Facebook page and videos to YouTube and ask our members to share them. We hope more will be reached and encouraged to participate in these efforts. Parishes should have a presence of Social Media to promote their Special Masses and events. Consider streaming Holy Mass live on the internet and use these tools to promote the work of the parish. Pastors are also encouraged to record and share their Masses and Para Liturgical Services.

ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION

WINE AND CHEESE CLUB OR SOUP, SANDWICH AND SERMON

Continue to gather for adult education and formation in our Christian Catholic faith. Perhaps you could use the questions for reflection from the monthly figures for 2020 above. This can be done via the Soup, Sandwich and Sermon Concept, Wine and Cheese Gatherings concept (based on the Pub Theology: Beer, Conversation and God), using a Book Club format or even via online.

TWO DAYS OF SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Lent and one other (Advent) Pick a day during the seasons of Lent and one other time in 2020 to spend in retreat and prayer. This can be done on either a parish or seniorate level. Ideas for the Retreat include: Mass of the Day, special Lenten/Advent service of Penance, Scripture Readings/Reflections and Meditations, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament; For Lent: Stations of the Cross, Sorrowful Lamentations, etc. This can be open and advertised to the local community.

COMPLETE AT LEAST SIX COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

It is important that the six projects be done in the local community of the parish so that these efforts will create a greater presence of the parish in the community.

Various options include but are not limited to: blood drives, a project to aid an assisted living facility, or other care facility i.e. nursing home, group home; volunteering for a special needs event; having a Mass or event for your local widow's group; aiding a family crisis center, food drives, serving a free meal for the community, providing a community breakfast/meal for First Responders – for Veterans; prayer blanket ministry, clothing drive for the community, sponsoring a local family in need, and/or responding to a particular need in the local community, etc.

The 5 Themes for the Future Direction of our Holy Church from the 24th PNCC General Synod and further expanded upon at the 25th PNCC General Synod

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| I. Growth and Membership | II. Increase Spirituality |
| III. Lifelong Learning | IV. Sacred Vocations |
| V. Community Involvement | |

RESOLUTIONS OF THE XV EASTERN DIOCESE SYNOD

OCTOBER 28-29, 2016

The XV Synod of Eastern Diocese convened October 28 -29, 2016 in Bristol, CT hosted by Holy Trinity Plantsville Ct by the authority of Right Rev Paul Sobiechowski, Bishop Ordinary of the Eastern Diocese and attended by the Most Rev Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop of the PNCC. The Synod began with Holy Mass at Holy Trinity Parish celebrated by Bishop Sobiechowski and concelebrated by the clergy of the Eastern Diocese. Through our deliberations, we learned and discussed the following:

Whereas, we commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Bishop Hodur by celebrating the Hodurian mass and receiving two presentations dedicated to the life and ideals of Bishop Hodur: the Convo2016 Video Presentation on the Life of Bishop Francis Hodur by the youth of the PNCC and the presentation on the life of Bishop Hodur by Prime Bishop Mikovsky and;

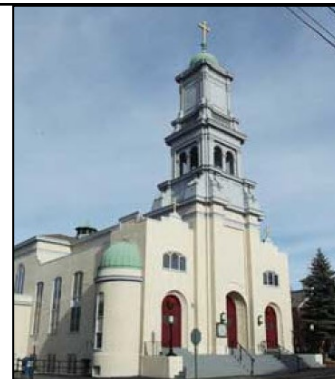
Whereas, we acknowledge the dedicated and ongoing work of the Future Direction Sub-Committee of the Supreme Council as they pursue the themes defined by the 14th General Synod: Growth and Membership, Increased Spirituality, Lifelong Learning, Sacred Vocations, and Community Involvement and Presence

Whereas, through the work of the Committee of Twenty and the small group discussions, the Synod body agreed to focus their attention on young adults between ages of 16 to 35 and to reach this audience through the following overarching goals:

- Increase awareness of our church through all social media outlets addressing
 - Our founding principles and beliefs
 - Bishop Hodur and his progressive ideas
 - The spiritual needs of these young adults
 - Provide clarity on our Catholic faith

From our Parishes:

**Holy Trinity Cathedral
Manchester, NH**



- With Covid still affecting how people attend church our numbers of parishioners attending mass is low. But we do have parishioners watching the mass via YouTube. Activities have been very limited.
- On September 13th we had a special parish meeting for approval for the painting of the exterior of the church. Parishioners who attended were social distancing plus we had a good number on Zoom.



- Whether as a church community or as individuals we continue to do charitable work. We collected 1,616 diapers which Bishop Paul and Karen brought to Our Place. This was in conjunction with the Downtown Manchester Rota-Club.



ry



- Jo-Ann O’Connell (on the left) continues to help prepare and serve food at the Kids Café which is part of our Salvation Army.

- The Manchester School Department in conjunction with Southern New Hampshire University distributes food to those in need. Nancy Reilly (on the right) helps give out the food on Saturday mornings.



By Nancy Reilly

From Our Parishes...

**Summer 2020 Discipleship
at Blessed Trinity in Fall River**



Summer was busy and eventful at Blessed Trinity as our parish resumed many of our activities, added now ones to adapt to the our environment and continued to open our doors for the good of our local community. Our parish youth participated in the diocesan Altar server retreat, enjoyed their annual pool party and cook out and had a blast as Blessed Trinity opened her doors to host our diocesan youth retreat.

Our community efforts continued as we hosted our in person neighborhood watch meetings, our annual neighborhood cookout where both our Mayor and Police Chief joined us, weekly AA meetings, Fall River Falcons registrations and served as voting precincts for the primary elections. Masks continued to be made (now nearly 3,000) and distributed and our June food drive was a much needed success. Our parish joined with our neighborhood group and other groups from the city to provide lunch to our Fall River Police Department showing our support and appreciation for all they do for us.

Parish hosts Neighborhood Watch Cookout with our Mayor and Police Chief I - 7/13/2020



Adapting to find a way for our parishioners to gather, enjoy time catching up and checking in - we held two parish tailgate gatherings where everyone had a great time and the kids did not want to go at all! A good sign for sure. On Youth Sunday backpacks were blessed as our youth are beginning a new school year in many different ways and the parish congratulated Peyton on being a recipient of the 2020 Youth Retreat Camp Spirit Award. We also congratulated Maks being awarded a NUC Scholarship as well.

2020 Parish Youth - PTA Pool Party & Cook Out - June 28, 2020 - Thanks Eric & Laurie!



Parish Family Tailgate Gathering III - June 19, 2020



Early Summer Discipleship Efforts - 2,500th Mask, Food & \$\$, AA and the Falcons (6/24/2020)



Our parish with four Fall River Neighborhoods Associations providing Lunch for our FRPD - July 16, 2020



Youth Sunday with blessing of Backpacks and Congratulations to Peyton I - Aug. 23, 2020

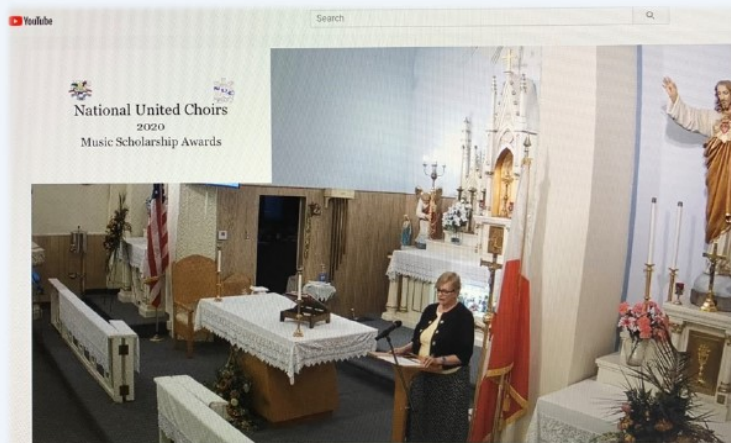


Zoom continued to be utilized as this summer Fr. Sr. Rob presented to the YMS of R Men's Spiritual Retreat and the Kurs encampment for youth. Kathy and Fr. Sr. Rob presented Future Direction, Vision and Community Outreach sessions to the Western Diocesan Synod as well. This will continue to be used as we have decided going forward this is how our parish committee will be meeting.

Our Second Parish Tailgate Gathering with face painting too - July 31, 2020

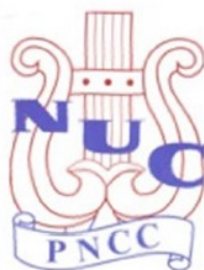


Congratulations Maks on receiving a 2020 National United Choirs Scholarship on YouTube live - 8/27/20



Maks Oliveira

*Blessed Trinity Parish
Fall River, MA*



\$100

*Junior Incentive Award
Nominated by
Kathy Nemkovich*

Another adaption was our very successful drive thru – walk up Golabki dinner and sale held on Friday August 14th. A big thank you to all who helped in this undertaking. This was just a warm up for Labor day weekend as we made over 500 dozen of potato and cheese pierogi for our Polish Food Fest coming October 23 and 24.

Cabbage Prep and Filling Fun for our Golabki Dinner - Thank you to our cabbage angels - 8/13/20



Drive-Thru Golabki Dinner & Sale - Thanks to all who supported this successful event! 8/14/20



**GOLABKI (STUFFED CABBAGE)
DRIVE-THRU DINNER & SALE**

 **Golabki Dinner
Take Out = \$10**
*Dinner includes 2 Golabki (stuffed cabbage rolls),
mashed potatoes, veggies and dessert!*

Golabki - 6 for \$15

Special limited availability:
Cabbage Pierogi 
\$13 dozen

Cash, Check or Venmo
 @Blessed-Trinity-Fall-River



Pierogi Filling Prep Day - Thanks to our great crew! 9/3/20



Polish Food Fest 2020

*** TAKE OUT ONLY ***

Friday – October 23rd 3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
 Saturday – October 24th 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Delicious Polish Food Available:



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



Blessed Trinity Parish
 1340 Plymouth Ave – Fall River, MA
 Pre-Orders Suggested: Email or Call
 Robnem21@aol.com or 508-672-4854
 facebook Blessed Trinity PNCC
 Cash, Check or Venmo accepted



Potato and Cheese Pierogi Making Fun - 507 dozen made Thank you - Sept 5-6, 2020





Our parish welcomed Bishop Sobiechowski to the parish for Confirmation on Saturday September 12th. May God bless Kaylana, Peyton, Poliker, Vick and Zack and may they remain faithful members of our Holy Church. On Sunday September 13th following Holy Mass our SOCL year began. Our students and teachers were blessed after Holy Mass and after some Confirmation Cake were off to class. This fall we are beginning monthly parish youth gatherings and our first will be pizza, pumpkin painting and game night on Friday September 25th. Looking forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for us this coming fall. To God be the Glory!

Submitted by,
Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich



From Our Parishes...

Holy Cross News – Central Falls, RI



Summer continued our discipleship and outreach to our immediate local communities of Pawtucket and Central Falls. We held Drive-Thru/Walk-Up Food drives on June 20 and August 8th. During June we were happy to welcome a native son back to the parish Fr. Bruce who celebrated Holy Mass on the 48th Anniversary of his First Mass - also celebrated at Holy Cross.



Central Falls / Pawtucket **COVID-19 RESPONSE**
Holy Cross Parish Drive-Thru Food Drive
Saturday June 20th 10- 11 am or until we run out



 Find us on Facebook

Holy Cross PNCC Central Falls RI

Fr. Bruce celebrates Holy Mass in his home parish of Holy Cross Central Falls - June 21, 2020



Holy Cross Drive-Thru Walk-Up Food Drive I - Aug. 8, 2020 - Thank you Cliff & Kathy



Youth Sunday with blessing of Backpacks and Congratulations to Zack - Aug. 23, 2020



DISCIPLESHIP
2020 PNCC

EASTERN
DIOCESE
YOUTH
RETREAT



BLESSED TRINITY PARISH - FALL RIVER, MA

14 years of worship, prayer and work together for our Lord and His Church at Holy Cross - 8/16/20



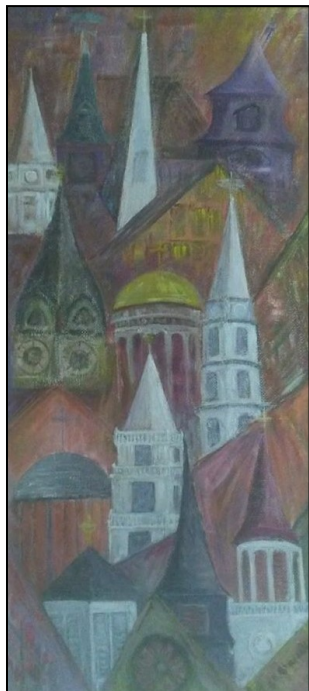
During August we celebrated Zack receiving the Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat Camp Spirit award and 14 years of Fr. Sr. Rob serving at Holy Cross.

This fall we look forward to preparing for and having our Polish Kitchen. It will be pre-order and Take Out only. We will be having our Operation Christmas Child, Thanksgiving Baskets and Winter Clothing Drives too!

Submitted by,
Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich

From our parishes...

Our Saviour's Parish, Woonsocket, RI



- **Ecumenical/Community Spirit.** Every year Our Saviour's Parish takes part in the Woonsocket Day of Prayer. Many Priests, Pastors and religious leaders, together with the Officials of the City of Woonsocket, and the people of Woonsocket gather together to pray to God for His blessing and protection for our city. Every year our community participate actively in this even. On behalf of Our Saviours' community Father Henryk offers prayers and intercessions . This year the event will take place on Saturday, October 10th, at 1:00 PM at River Island Park in Woonsocket. If ever there were a time to pray, it is now and we plan to be there.

- **Sunday Masses are celebrated regularly at 10:30** and are streamed Live and available on our Facebook Page: Our Saviours Parish PNCC.

- **Daily Masses.** The Holy Mass at Our Saviour's Parish is celebrated from Monday to Friday at 8:00 a.m. The Mass is streamed live on th parish Facebook Page. Fr. Henryk celebrates the Mass each day in a different language (English, Polish, Italian, German, and Spanish).



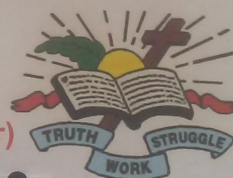
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

Our Saviour's Parish PNCC
Come and Join us for Worship!

Holy Mass Schedule

- Daily Mass (Mo-Fr) 8:00 am.
- Sunday 10:30 then Coffee Hour
- Sunday School 9:30 (school year)

Reverend Henryk Wos, Pastor
Contact Us 401-762-3072 or
www.oursavioursparishpncc.org



- Due to the Covid - 19 restrictions we had to cancel many of our fundraisers and outreach events. We also had to cancel the Annual Parish picnic and our Bazaar this year will also look different. Being able to host up to 15 people in our parish

hall, (RI Covid - 19 Regulations), we decided to have a *Drive -thru Polish Food Sale* on November 10, 2020. We hope it will work for us and for those who love our products.

Our Saviour's Polish Food Sale Menu

ALL FOOD IS COLD UNLESS SPECIFIED

Dinner for 2 \$22

- 2 Golambki
- 6 frozen pierogi (3 cabbage 3 potato)
- Small fried cabbage w/ kielbasa
- Rye bread
- Polish Apple Squares

Dinner for 4 \$42

- 4 Golambki
- 12 frozen pierogi (6 cabbage 6 potato)
- Quart fried cabbage w/ kielbasa
- Rye bread
- Polish Apple Squares

Dozen Frozen Pierogi \$12 or 5 dozen for \$55
(cabbage or potato)

Half Dozen Frozen Pierogi \$7
(cabbage or potato)

Golambki (2) \$6

Quart Fried Cabbage \$12

Quart Cabbage Soup \$9

Babka with Raisins \$5

Polish Food Sale

Cold and Frozen Food

Drive-Thru Only

Saturday, November 14, 2020

10am-1pm

Our Saviour's Parish

500 Smithfield Rd, Woonsocket, RI



**Pre-orders highly recommended
by October 10th**

To Pre-order

Email: Oursaviourspncc@gmail.com

Call: 401-305-3530

- We already started our preparations and we had two pierogi workshops. Below is the picture of our **Pierogi Team Workers** from the last pierogi workshop.



- Our Saviour's is also planning to reopen the church for the community. Next month we will be having our first **Community Drive Thru Lunch**. We are planning to have it once a month on the third Saturday of the month. We hope we can help those who are in need.

By Fr. Henryk Wos

From our parishes...

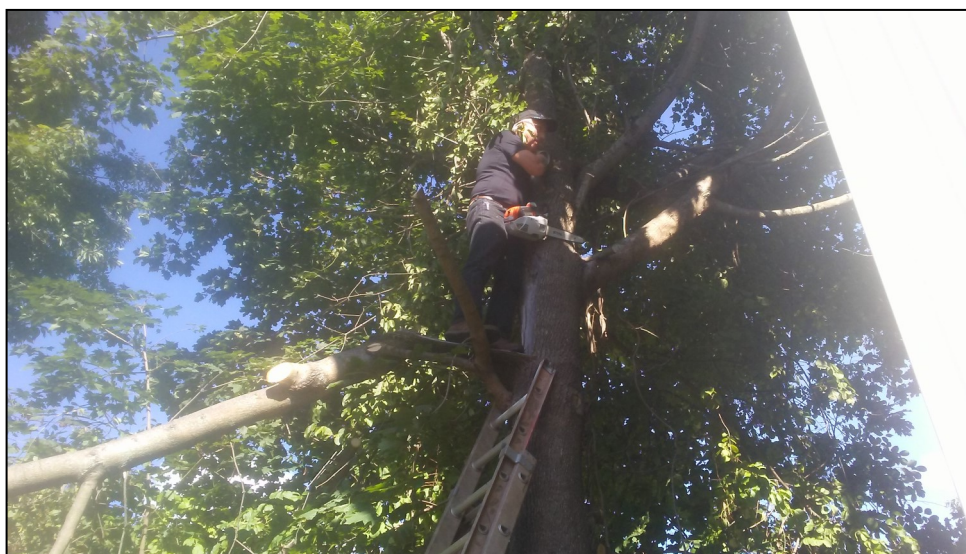
Holy Trinity Parish, Webster, MA

Holy Trinity Church in Webster is sad to say that not much was able to happen this spring and summer due to Covid-19. The one thing that has been changing is our rectory. We had a fire in our rectory on November 30th, 2019 and it's been a long, slow process to get it rebuilt. The fire was mostly contained to the attic area and the cause was determined to be electrical due to the old wiring in the house.



- The fire area was not very big, but due to the water damage most of the building had to be gutted and rebuilt. We are now in our final phase of the rebuild and hope to have our tenants back in soon.

- On September 12, our parish had a clean - up day. Most of our parishioners joined us this day for cleaning of the church and of the parish property. A lot of things were done and the church and parish hall look really good. Also some trees around the rectory were trimmed. Thank you to all for their marvelous job, especially Rita Ouellette, Nancy Duxbury, Cheryl Johnson, Carolyn Rocheleau, Frank and Janet Yurisc, and Father Henryk.



Frank Yurisc trimming trees around the rectory.

- Due to the Covid -19 pandemic our parish summer activities and events were cancelled or postponed. However, beginning with this month, we decided to open our parish hall and to restart our community monthly outreach breakfast. This was always very popular and good attended parish event. We expect our friends and parishioners to join us again for good meal and atmosphere on Saturday, September 20th.

Be safe and God Bless,

By Rita Ouellette, chairperson

Fr. Henryk Wos—Administrator

From our parishes...

St. Joseph's Parish, Stratford, CT



The last few months have been relatively quiet ones in this corner of the diocese. We have finally been able to resume indoor Mass, albeit with much reduced attendance and many restrictions – a step forward, to be sure. We continue to offer a parking lot Mass for those who prefer that level of physical distancing. Although, due to COVID concerns Communion is not distributed in Church, parishioners can schedule with Father Tom to have him come to their homes to offer Communion. The same protocols observed in Church will be observed during the home visits, physical distancing will be maintained, and masks will be worn.



If you notice in the pictures, our statuary is practicing physical distancing, not even present to maintain a minimum of six feet between them and worshippers. During this time of not being inside the church for Mass, the parish board decided it would be the perfect time to have needed repairs done. As of now, the crucifix has been re-installed over the altar. We're just waiting for Mary and Joseph to complete their restorative journey and return to us.



The much anticipated re-opening of the Colossal Kielbasa Stand took place in July, with a second date in August. Business was so good on both days that even though the stand was supposed to be open until 5:30, they had to close at 3:30 when they ran out of food. The YMS

of R is planning to double up on the food for their September 27th date. Hopefully the weather holds out to help make another successful event. If you're in the area, stop by!

Father Tom continues serving the patients at Yale-New Haven Hospital on a casual basis. Meanwhile, he also makes sure the weekly bulletins and the church website contain lessons on the various books of the Bible to keep up the spiritual learning of the congregation until in-person study groups and adult Catechism can resume. A book discussion group is underway, and the Confirmation preparation program will soon begin.

As with the rest of the country, local food banks and soup kitchens are experiencing a tremendous influx of people requiring assistance. Need well outdistances supply, causing many of these places to shut their doors early as their shelves quickly empty. To that end, we've stepped up our efforts to replenish their supplies. Our parishioners have been extremely generous on a weekly basis, both in groceries and in monetary donations. Many thanks to Joe and Jane Pelland for offering to deliver our donations each week!



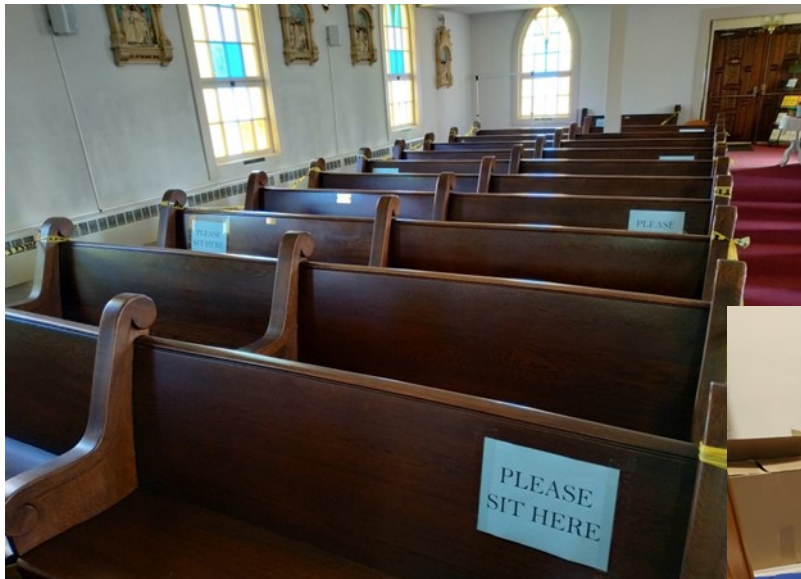
As summer turns to autumn, we begin to plan for the onset of cooler and possibly inclement weather. There will come a time when celebrating Mass in the parking lot will have to be discontinued. To prepare for this eventuality our Church has already begun celebrating Mass indoors and will soon resume Saturday evening Vigil Mass to accommodate our full congregation during this time.

By Lisa Vasas, Music Director

From our parishes...

St. John the Baptist Parish, Manchester, CT

- St. John's Church in Manchester, CT has reopened on the first Sunday of June 2020. Due to the church's capacity there are only 14 sitting places dedicated to a single person or a family. Since



then, we prayed the Spiritual Holy Communion prayer during the Mass. Last Sunday of August 2020 brought a significant change: we restored

the Holy Communion to the faithful during the Sunday Mass keeping all safety requirements and restrictions. Even though Fr. Adam mentioned it is for those who feel comfortable with it, all congregants came up to receive the Communion.



the Holy Communion to the faithful during the Sunday Mass keeping all safety requirements and restrictions. Even though Fr. Adam mentioned it is for those who feel comfortable with it, all congregants came up to receive the Communion.

- Step by step, we're trying to restore our normal church activities such as Polish Food Sales. After curbside pickup events now we are ready (and we've got a permit from the Townhall) to organize a "normal" sale on face-to-face basis (or rather: mask-to-mask)! We've also expanded our offer with red bell peppers stuffed with golabki meat, selection of Polish Soups and Handmade Polish Chocolate!

How about...

PEACE
With all the running around we do, we hardly get a moment for ourselves. That's one thing that going to church affords us a chance for quiet, a time to reflect on the deeper things of life. And... a chance for us to find peace through forgiveness.

WISDOM
We get advice from everywhere today, whether it's TV telling us how to cook or the internet promising to make us rich. Church offers us a different kind of wisdom - the wisdom of God - deep and powerful enough.

COMMUNITY
Despite the way the world is moving upward by around many of us have become more connected, yet we somehow feel isolated. Church, it's more than just a crowd. At Church, you belong. Our Church was founded by Polish immigrants and for Polish immigrants. Our full name is the "Polish National Catholic Church," but today everyone is welcome to be a part of our community. We need to be Polish (or to join us).

Church is not a building. Church is a family. The family of Jesus.

NOURISHMENT
How can we cram ourselves with so much food and still feel empty? Are we eating the wrong kind of food... skipping the food that God wants to give us? Where else in the world can you have the assurance of union with God as you can with the holy communion? As a Catholic Church we have all the sacraments truly valid (same as the Roman Catholic Church and Orthodox Churches).

St. John the Baptist National Catholic Church
23 Golway St. Manchester, CT
Sharing the Word. Loving the People. Living for Jesus.

St. John's Cemetery
Jefferson St., Manchester, CT
Peaceful and sacred place... Enjoy peace of mind with pre-planning.
Burial plots for sale!
For details visit: www.saintjohnspccc.org or call us 860.643.5905

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- Thanks to the Diocesan Grant we were able to print a significant number of promotional items to advertise our existence, our events and most important: our mission! These months of lock down were really said because we couldn't worship our Lord physically together in the church but they were also months of blessing: we went through them united more than ever and we've experienced goodness of many people around us – just to mention a new AC system in the rectory, the church & the hall,

brand new freezers donated to the parish, many good comments about our church and the Polish food we serve!

By Fr. Adam Piekarczywski



From Our Parishes...

Divine Providence Parish, Norwich, CT



In our Divine Providence Parish we have Holy mass every Sunday at 9 o'clock. There are around 7-10 adults who participate in the Mass. We also resumed our events.

In May and June we had *Taste of Poland*, Polish Food Sale. The event was very successful. In June we reached 8,234 people on Facebook, and in September we reached 25,754 people. We were overwhelmed by the response for our event. We served over 150 people in 2 hours and we ran out of food. Our great and authentic Polish food is very famous. Finally we had our semi annual Parish meeting last Sunday.

By Elizabeth Chmielewski



  83

64 Comments 199 Shares 

 Like

 Comment

 Share

25,754 people reached >

Boost Post

From our parishes...

St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA



Sunday, September 6th was a very happy day for St. Casimir's Parish in Lowell. Our pastor, Father Tenus, had returned from his Chaplain Basic Officer Leadership Course for our Army Reserve at Ft. Jackson, SC. He had been gone for eight weeks during which time we were blessed with the presence of our Diocesan Bishop Paul Sobiechowski.

After Father Captain Andrew celebrated Mass, he blessed backpacks for students returning to school and presented scholarships to parish young people.

Students receiving scholarships included:

- James Bigelow. Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, senior year majoring in Marketing with a minor in Professional Sales;
- Justin Bigelow, Manchester Community College, Manchester, NH, freshman majoring in HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning);
- Ian Ford-Hunt, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, N. Adams, MA, junior year, majoring in Business Administration/Economics and Marketing.
- Joseph Grieve. University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA, sophomore year, majoring in Peace and Conflict Studies, progressing to Law
- Karina Tenus, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA, sophomore year, majoring in elementary education.



We wish them all God's choices blessings as they continue their education

By Janice Klimczak

Diocesan and National Events

DISCIPLESHIP @ 2020 Eastern Diocesan Altar Server Retreat in Person!



On a beautiful early summer day Altar Servers from four of our diocesan parishes gathered for our 9th annual Diocesan Altar Server Retreat at Our Saviour's Parish in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. Masks when social distancing was not possible from servers and adults from different parishes was in place. The theme of this retreat followed the ongoing efforts of the PNCC Future Direction committee and focused on Discipleship 2020 and specifically Saints Peter, Paul and Andrew.





Bishop Paul Sobiechowski celebrated Mass for the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul (June 29th) and Fr. Sr. Joe Soltysiak peached on 22 different candy bars, these Apostles and Jesus’ forgiveness that is there for you and I as well. Great job Fr. Sr. Joe as the kids were talking about this sermon on the way back to their home parishes.



After a group picture and an Altar Server staple - donuts we had a session on St. Peter by Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich. Fr. Sr. Rob shared the May Future Direction message with the servers from Karen Sobiechowski and encouraged them to look out for these monthly videos on social media. The Saddleback Kids followed, teaching about St. Peter and then a dramatic videos of St. Peter and Jesus walking on the water. Fr. Sr. Rob encouraged the servers to always follow our Lord and reminded them that Jesus is always there for us, He loves us and continues to forgive and strength us.



Joanne Olivera from Blessed Trinity led the servers in a discipleship activity of helping others based on the book she highlighted “Same Kind of Different as Me: Everybody can help Somebody”. After their discussion and overview of this book the servers from each parish created a bubble graphic illustrating ways they personally can help others - living as disciples of Jesus today.





Fr. Bob Koerber presented on St. Paul and how he changed from a persecutor of the early Christians to perhaps the greatest Christian missionary of the Church.





It was then time for some delicious local Woonsocket pizza - Thank you PNU District 3. Thanks to Brenda for serving everyone. After Lunch Fr. Henryk Was spoke on St. Andrew and how he is considered by many the First Disciple. He taught about the life of St. Andrew, his missionary efforts, martyrdom on the X cross and his great place in the Orthodox Church.





The Bishop gave us his Apostolic Blessing and it was off for swimming and a great time of fellowship, fun and catching up at Lincoln Woods Park! The servers had a great time and you know that the day went well when they didn't want to leave and are excited for next year and our 10th Annual Diocesan Altar Server retreat.

DISCIPLESHIP

2020

PNCC







A big thank you to Fr. Wos and Our Saviour’s Parish in Woonsocket for hosting this retreat! Thanks to the Altar Servers from Blessed Trinity in Fall River, Holy Cross in Central Falls, St. Joseph’s in Stratford and Our Saviour’s in Woonsocket for making the time to learn and grow in the Apostolic and Catholic Faith.

Our Diocesan Youth Retreat is next on the horizon and coming quickly. This will begin on either August 16 or 17 depending upon our location. Discipleship 2020 in action continues - let us be Jesus to all!

Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich Diocesan Youth Chaplain



G-4/PNCC ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE GROUP MEETING

On July 28th, 2020, the G-4/PNCC Ecumenical Dialogue Group met via Zoom. This took the place of the scheduled in person meeting that was to be held in Manchester, New Hampshire. Representing the Polish National Catholic Church were Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky, Bishops John Mack and Paul Sobiechowski, Father Senior Robert Nemkovich Jr., and Fathers John Kowalczyk, Scott Lill and Thomas Walsh. G-4 members included Bishops Paul Hewett (Diocese of the Holy Cross - DHC), Walter Grundorf (Anglican Province in America - APA), Chandler Jones (APA), and Brian Marsh (Anglican Church in Ameri-



ca - ACA), and Fathers Robert Bader (DHC), Jonathan Foggin (Anglican Catholic Church - ACC), and Christian Tutor (ACA). Bishop Sobiechowski served as the Dialogue Chairman for this meeting.

Updates were given by the various churches and the Union of Scranton about recent events within their respective communions and to how they have adapted to the ongoing Covid situation. The Churches spoke with a united voice about the marginalization of the Church by the media and various elected officials during this pandemic. The members participating were of one accord affirming that Church is absolutely essential for the faithful to live out their Catholic Faith and Sacramental lives: especially during this time of anxiety and pandemic. The dialogue also discussed various ways the Churches can continue to grow closer together and achieve the unity that our Lord prayed for His Catholic Church. The next meeting of the G4/PNCC Ecumenical Dialogue will take place in January of 2021 to be hosted by the G4 Churches.

“DISCIPLESHIP 2020” EASTERN DIOCESE YOUTH RETREAT @ BLESSED TRINITY FALL RIVER



2020 has been a year that no one could have imagined – the world has changed so drastically but yet our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ continues to be that constant in our lives. Since we could not gather as planned at Camp Howe in Goshen, Massachusetts, Blessed Trinity in Fall River opened their doors to host Youth Retreat 2020. “Discipleship 2020” was the theme and more than 30 youth, adults, and clergy from five parishes across the Eastern Diocese gathered for a



wonderful, inspiring, and faith filled retreat. We also had Charles join us virtually while in quarantine prior to resuming college. This was our 47th Annual Diocesan Youth Retreat and as one who has attended them all - the youth really needed this time in prayer, worship, fellowship, fun and faith to have some bit of normalcy in their lives as they prepare for who knows what in the upcoming school year.



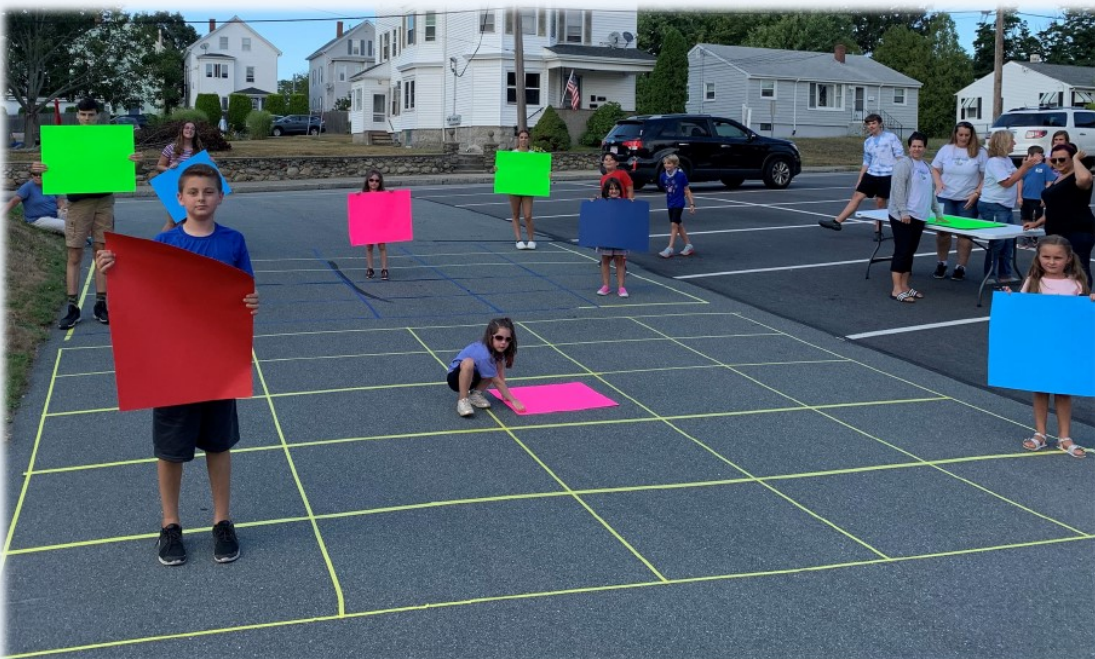
The retreat began with a prayer service on Monday, August 17, 2020. During this service, our diocesan youth retreat and PNCC flags were hung near the American flag in the air-conditioned parish hall. Everyone gathered for the opening session led by our diocesan youth chaplain, Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich. After a quick overview of the retreat with a review of the retreat/camp rules and logistics for our three days together, Joanne Oliveira and Kathy Nemkovich (our amazing activity leaders for the retreat) led the group with some fun and exciting Ice Breakers– the Freeze Dance and Water Fill!

The First Session on St. Joseph: Protector of the Lord – Obedience, Trust and Patience was given by Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich. Fr. Sr. Rob spoke about how St. Joseph accepted God’s will in his life and was the guardian and protector of the Lord – we are not sure who enjoyed the Saddleback kids video more – the youth or the chaperones. The session concluded with the song “Christ in Me” and reminded us to follow the example of St. Joseph “that is it not I but Christ in Me!”





Human Bingo was the next activity where spaces were filled with our youth when the correct answers were given to discipleship questions, questions about our Lord, His Church and our precious Catholic and Apostolic faith. This activity will become a permanent one going forward! Judge Julie had some tough calls with the bell ringers. Our retreat participants then enjoyed a Pizza Party from a local legendary establishment and in true Eastern Diocese Retreat tradition all the meat pizzas were the first to go!!



Time at a local beach was our first excursion of the retreat – once we all gathered at Grinnell’s beach Fr. Sr. Rob spoke to the youth about Jesus walking along the sea and calling his first disciples – the fishermen. What





was striking during this sacred time is that besides our retreat group there was no one else on the beach except for just 5 or 6 fishermen. The youth then enjoyed walking the beach and of course climbing on the rocks out into the water and sitting in the lifeguard's chair.



DISCIPLESHIP

2020

PNCC

EASTERN
DIOCESE
YOUTH
RETREAT



BLESSED TRINITY PARISH - FALL RIVER, MA



We all returned to the parish to see the “Moo Mobile Ice Cream Truck”. Our ice cream social was sponsored by District 3 of the PNU. We were happy to have our District 3 Director Maryann Zarek and Vice Director Mike Zarek join us; the



PNU was well represented as our Vice President Kathy Nemkovich and PNU Board member Fr. Sr. Rob were a part of the planning of this retreat. Kathy and Fr. Sr. Rob also gave all the youth participants a discipleship themed backpack for their afternoon at the beach.





Our next excursion took us to some woods and a campfire with s'mores. Thanks to Matt and Jill for hosting us. After s'mores and time around the campfire Eric Nemkovich led the youth in several Classic Camp "Repeat after Me and Do as I Do" songs. And yes, the youth were all social distanced and outside – we of course heard from our SMCP as we always do when we gather in Jesus' name at Blessed Trinity even though we are outside! We then retired for the evening – some youth at their homes and others at a local hotel.



We also celebrated two birthdays during our Retreat - A Happy and Blessed Birthday to both Dylan and Dave who spent them with their Church Family!

Tuesday began with the celebration of Holy Mass for Youth celebrated by Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich. During the Mass + Jason Fairclough was remembered in prayer (it was seventeen years ago that Jason lost his life as he traveled home from our youth retreat). We also prayed for Katherine Gnat as she is recovering from surgery (as Bishop's wife she was a part of our youth retreat program for 33 years and gave legendary sessions). During his sermon – Fr. Sr. Rob encouraged the youth to serve as an example of discipleship for others by the way they live their faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. After Mass we took our group picture with our 2020 Youth Retreat shirts (great job Paul Gorgol)!



Thanks to the amazing parents and grandparents at Blessed Trinity for providing so many of our meals for us during the retreat. For breakfast we enjoyed bacon, eggs, fruits, homemade muffins and more bacon. It was also wonderful to have good coffee during the retreat as well!

Kathy Nemkovich gave an amazing session on Mary and Martha of Bethany. Another instant classic of showing Martha and her interaction with Jesus distracted by so many things thus missing the most important one - Him. It was the first time many of us had seen curlers in her hair! The youth learned about the importance of Prayerfulness and Service and





this was reinforced with the activity that followed – the Priority Jar. We were reminded to prioritize the most important things in life and always make room for those, namely: Jesus, Faith, Family, Church, Love, Health and Friends to name a few.

The Canaanite Woman, the Gospel from this past Sunday and the theme for August in the Future Direction PNCC 2020 Program, was given by Cleric Justin Daviault. The Cleric spoke about the humility, persistence and perseverance of this woman and the great faith that she had. The youth then played a game “two truths and an untruth”. The questions were based on



discipleship, the Holy Scriptures and a confirmation review as many of the 2020 Blessed Trinity/Holy Cross class were present. We had two categories: the confirmation level and first communion level – what was great is how many of our younger youth took the harder questions and got them right! To God be the Glory as they are absolutely listening during Holy Mass, SOCL and at home!

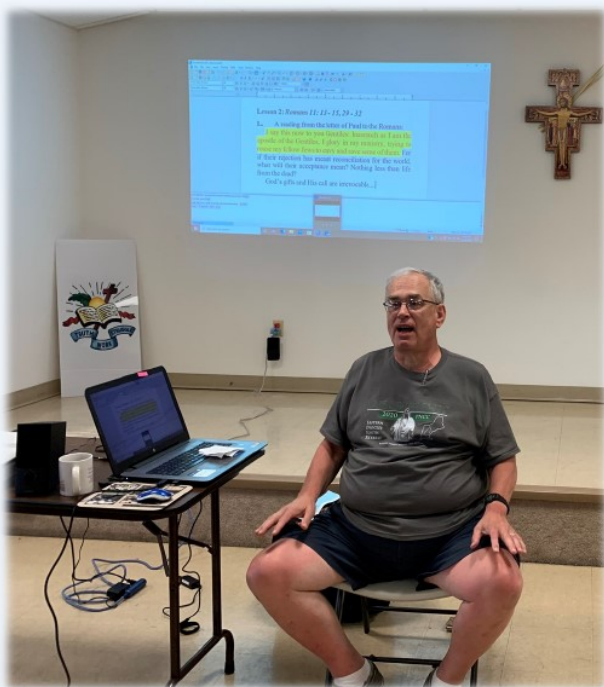
After some great Jersey Mike’s subs for lunch, it was off for our excursion for the day to Horseneck beach. What a great afternoon we had where with the wind and earlier passing storms the waves were great and some of the kids were in the water the entire time. The sharks stayed away from us (about one mile or so as per local reports) as none of us looked very much like a seal!



After a few hours in the sun and waves we gathered back at Blessed Trinity for a great cookout of hot dogs, hamburgers and kielbasa. Thanks to our three great grill masters: Carrie, Eric and Matt! The homemade desserts were just delicious as well.



St. Paul was the final session of the day given by Bishop Paul. Bishop spoke to Paul's conversion and his great missionary efforts giving his life to Christ - exemplifying Repentance, Fortitude and Spiritual Endurance. The youth then painted rocks, some with great messages about our Lord and Discipleship. The day concluded with move night where we enjoyed the Little Rascals and plenty of popcorn.

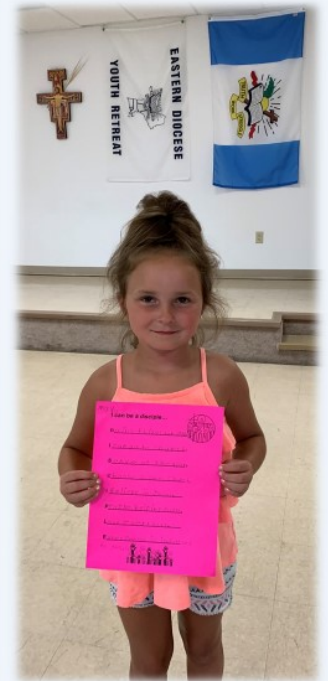
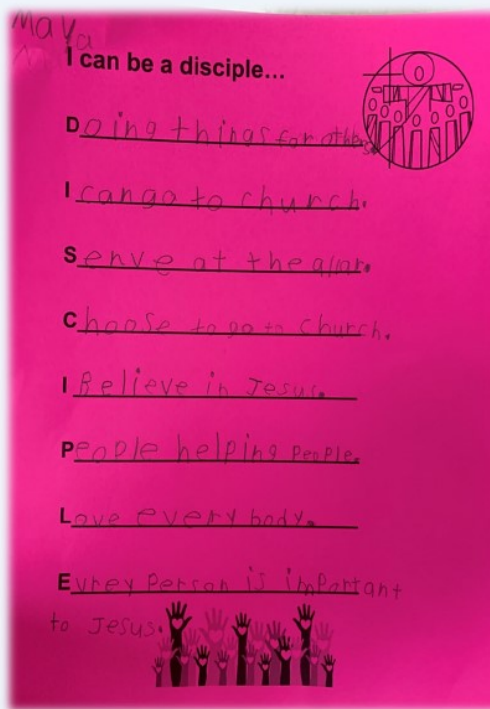
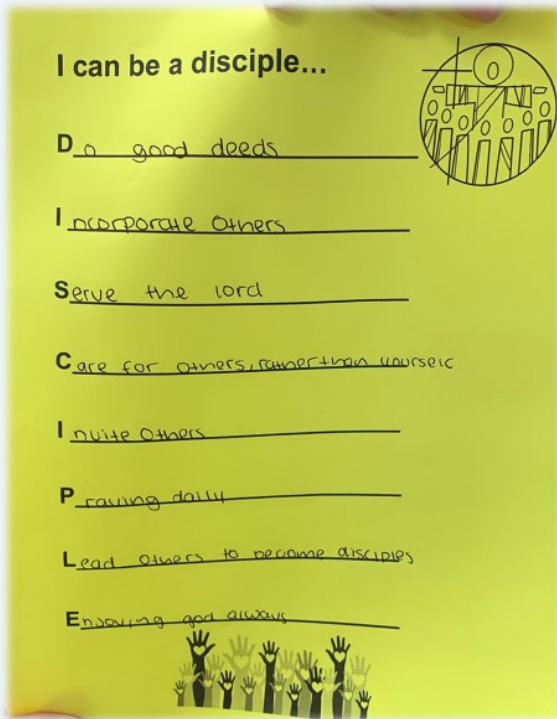




Our third and final day of Youth Retreat 2020 began with Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich celebrating Holy Mass of the Day. Thanks to Cleric Justin for proclaiming the readings during the Retreat Masses and the Blessed Trinity Altar Servers for serving “Camp style” – that is not vested.

After a great breakfast of Pancakes, sausage, bacon and some fruit, Julie McLean gave a great session with some from the confirmation class – Kaylana and Peyton. They gave a series of ten questions on Mary Magdalene; on her life and how she followed of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The youth received some special Jesus pencils and all got some great cross candy too! Great work Julie as you taught about Fortitude and Faithfulness!





The Discipleship Acrostic Activity was next – this again reinforced the entire theme for our youth participants. The youth took this very seriously and just did an amazing job. Our hope and prayer is that this is lived faithfully throughout their lives. Community Service was the next morning effort as our youth gave back to the city of Fall River that hosted this retreat. We cleaned up Father Kelly Park as well as islands on Plymouth Avenue. It was good to be a part of Fall River Mayor Paul Coogan’s City Wide Clean Up Program and make the city where we gathered for retreat better because we were here.





The 2020 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 both Peyton Oliveira of Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River and Zachary Richard from Holy Cross Parish in Central Falls. Their names will be added to the plaque and will be remembered at future diocesan Youth Retreats. Congratulations Peyton and Zack - well done!

At our last meal at Youth Retreat 2020 (Taco’s) the participants recited the retreat grace as we did before each meal “For food and health and happy days - accept our gratitude and praise - in serving others Lord may we - repay our debt of love to Thee. Amen.” Due to the ongoing covid situation we missed singing grace as we were inside. Bishop Paul gave his Apostolic Blessing to us as we departed Blessed Trinity for the last time.





The retreat ended with a trip to Battleship Cove in Fall River. Again, thanks to PNU District 3 for sponsoring this afternoon on the battleship where the kids enjoyed their time and had a blast even without firing the guns on the ships.





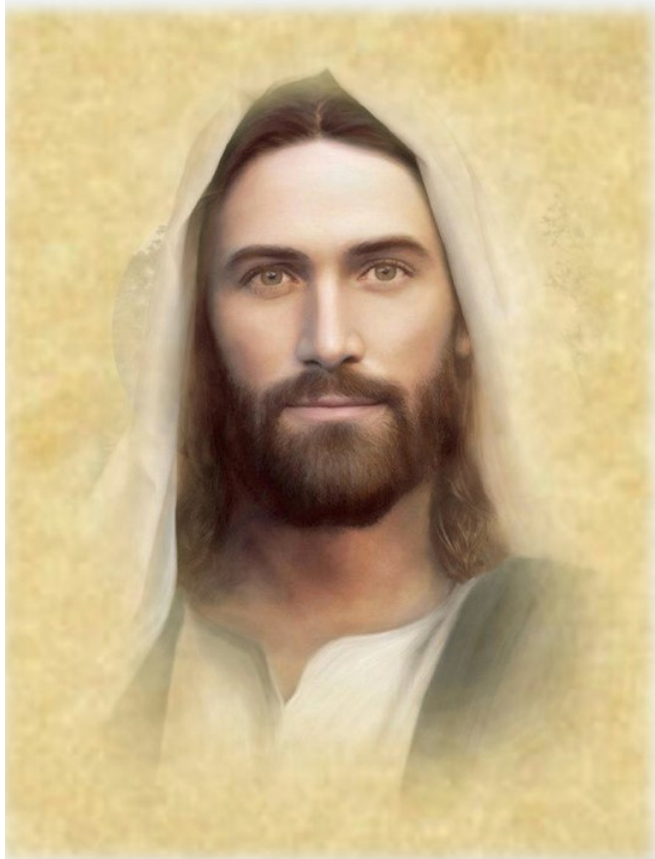
Thank you
PNU District 3

Thanks are given to Bishop Paul, the session presenters: Kathy, Cleric Justin, Julie and Fr. Sr. Rob , our activity coordinators Joanne Oliveira and Kathy Nemkovich, to our Eastern Diocese Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament Society for their generous annual donation to our retreat, to District 3 of the Polish National Union and to all the chaperones who gave of their time to make Youth Retreat 2020 an outstanding success. 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 and Cleric Justin.

A special and heartfelt Thank You goes to the parents, grandparents and some parishioners of Blessed Trinity for their amazing support to help with the logistics, food and expenses making the retreat so amazing: Thank You Joanne, Kathy, Julie, Bev, Joanna and Ryan, Nancy and Dave, Jill and Matt, Laurie and Eric, Carrie, Eric and Tom. On a personal Blessed Trinity note as your pastor it brings tears to my eyes and warmth to my heart to see your love and support for the youth of our parish and diocese – true discipleship in action. May God bless you all!

We are excited to announce our next diocesan youth event will be our Winter Youth Gathering that will begin on Monday afternoon, December 28 and end on Tuesday afternoon December 29th at Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River, MA. God bless, live as faithful disciples and we look forward to seeing you all again at Youth Retreat 2021 either at Camp Howe or Blessed Trinity.

In Christ, Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich - Diocesan Youth Chaplain



CONSECRATION OF BISHOP JAROSLAW RAFALKO EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – SEPT. 14, 2020



CONSECRATION OF BISHOP JAROSLAW RAFALKO EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – SEPT. 14, 2020



CONSECRATION OF BISHOP JAROSLAW RAFALKO EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – SEPT. 14, 2020



Polish National Catholic Church consecrates new bishop



The Polish National Catholic Church consecrates its newest bishop Monday at St. Stanislaus Cathedral on East Locust Street in Scranton. The Very Rev. Jaroslaw Rafalko will lead the PNCC's Western Diocese in Chicago. Headquartered in Scranton, the 123-parish, approximately 22,000- to 25,000-member Polish church has consecrated the overwhelming majority of its bishops in the city for the past 120 years. The church has five dioceses across the country. Rafalko will be installed Oct. 3 in Chicago.

JASON FARMER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Upcoming Events:

2020 EASTERN DIOCESE PNCC WINTER YOUTH GATHERING

When: Monday - Tuesday - Dec. 28 & 29, 2020

begins at 2:00 pm Monday and ends Tuesday afternoon

Where: Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River, MA

Be ready for some fun!!



Cost - \$25.00 per person - To register please contact:

Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich - Robnem21@aol.com

Come see your friends in Christ over the Christmas Vacation





FROM THE CHANCERY OFFICE

Note: all outlying events should be considered tentative due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Events will be adjusted as to face-to-face or on a Zoom platform as we draw near the event.

Congratulations and best wishes

to Bishop Jaroslaw Rafalko who was consecrated a Bishop for the Western Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church on Monday, September 14, 2020 at St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr Cathedral in Scranton, PA. May God bless the good bishop and his wife Leslie as they continue to serve in His vineyard.

Assignments:

- Father Andrzej Tenus has completed chaplaincy school and is, once again, at St. Casimir's Parish in Lowell, MA.

Bishop's Visits to Parishes:

- None scheduled

Diocesan and National Meetings: (all times are Eastern)

- Tuesday, September 22, PNCC Bishop's Zoom Meeting - 01:00 PM
- Monday, September 28- Eastern Diocese Strategic Planning Zoom meeting and practice for the upcoming diocesan synod
- October- St. Joseph's Parish, Westfield, MA is observing its 100th anniversary, previously planned celebrations were cancelled due to the Covid 19 virus. We extend our prayers and best wishes to the St. Joseph Parish family .
- Saturday, October 3, Installation of Bishop Jaroslaw Rafalko as Bishop of the Western Diocese at All Saints Cathedral, Chicago, IL
- Tuesday, October 6, Eastern Diocese Zoom Practice Session for Synod participants 07:00 - 08:00 PM
- Saturday, October 10, Sixteenth Eastern Diocese Zoom Synod (all day)
- Monday, October 26 - Wednesday October 28, National Liturgical Commission Meeting, National Church Center, Scranton, PA
- Tuesday, November 10 - Wednesday, November 11, Doctrine Commission Meeting, National Church Center, Scranton, PA
- Wednesday, November 18 - Thursday, November 19, Eastern Diocesan Clergy Retreat Mercy by the Sea Retreat Center, Madison, CT

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

- Monday, September 21, Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
- Tuesday, September 29, Feast of St. Michael, Archangel
- Friday, October 2, Feast of Guardian Angels
- Sunday, October 4, Blessing of Animals on Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi
- Wednesday, October 7, Solemnity of Our Holy Mother of the Rosary
- Sunday, October 11, Solemnity of the Christian Family
- Monday, October 19, Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist (translated)
- Saturday, October 24, Feast of St. Raphael, Archangel
- Wednesday, October 28, Feast of SS. Simon & Jude, Apostles
- Sunday, November 1, Solemnity of All Saints
- Monday, November 2, Commemoration of All Souls
- Saturday, November 21, Solemnity of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sunday, November 22, Solemnity of Christ the King
- Sunday, November 29, First Sunday of Advent, Mass Proper Cycle “B” readings begin
- Monday, November 30, Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle, Year I daily readings begins
- Tuesday, December 8, Solemnity of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Saturday, December 12, Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Sunday, December 13, Northeast Seniorate Candlelight Liturgy - Tentative Holy Cross Parish, Central Falls, RI - 4:00 PM
- Monday, December 21, Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle
- Thursday, December 24, Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord
- Friday, December 25, Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord
- Saturday, December 26, Feast of St. Stephen, Deacon, Proto-Martyr
- Sunday, December 27, Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds, (Remembrance of the Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist)
- Monday, December 28, Commemoration of the Holy Innocents
- Friday, January 1, 2021, Solemnity of the Circumcision of Our Lord
- Saturday, January 2, Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus
- Sunday, January 3, Solemnity of the Holy Family
- Wednesday, January 6, Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord

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

- Sunday, September 26, Spojnia Sunday
- Monday, October 12, Columbus Day, U.S.A. National Holiday
- Sunday, October 18, Heritage Day in the Polish National Catholic Church
- Saturday October 31, Vigil of All Saints (Halloween - U.S.A.)
- Sunday, November 1, Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Tuesday, November 3, Election Day, U.S.A.
- Wednesday, November 11, Veterans Day, U.S.A.
- Sunday, November 22, District 3 P.N.U. of A. Thanksgiving Raffle Drawing Day
- Thursday, November 26, Thanksgiving Day, U.S.A.
- Tuesday, December 1, District 3 P.N.U. of A. Zoom Meeting - 07:00 PM
- Monday December 28, Tuesday, December 29, Eastern Diocese Overnight Winter Retreat - Blessed Trinity Parish, Fall River, MA

Polish Poetry



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

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

Tadeusz Różewicz

Tadeusz Różewicz był polskim poetą, dramaturgiem i scenarzystą. Urodził się 9 października 1921 r. w Radomsku koło Łodzi jako syn Stefanii i Władysława Różewicza. Jego matka z domu Gelbard, będąc Żydówką przeszła na katolicyzm. W czasie II wojny światowej, podobnie jak jego brat Janusz (także poeta), był żołnierzem polskiego podziemia AK. Jego drugi brat Stanisław był znanym reżyserem. W przeciwieństwie do swojego starszego brata Janusza, który został stracony przez gestapo w 1944 r. z powodu przynależności do ruchu oporu, Tadeusz przeżył wojnę.

Po ukończeniu liceum, rozpoczął studia na Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim w Krakowie, a następnie pod koniec lat 40-tych przeniósł się do Gliwic, gdzie żył przez następne trzydzieści lat. W 1968 r. przeniósł się do Wrocławia, gdzie mieszkał do końca życia.

Pierwsze wiersze Różewicza zostały opublikowane w 1938 r. zaś jego literacki debiut jako wysoce innowacyjnego dramaturga miał miejsce w 1960 r. wraz z *Kartoteką*, gdy był już autorem piętnastu cenionych tomów poezji, które ukazały się od 1944 r. Napisał kilkanaście sztuk i kilka scenariuszy. Erupcji dramaturgicznej energii towarzyszyły również tomy poezji i prozy. Niektóre jego dzieła zostały przetłumaczone na 49 języków.

Różewicz zmarł we Wrocławiu 24 kwietnia 2014 r.



Tadeusz Różewicz was a Polish poet, dramatist and writer. He was born October 9, 1921 in Radomsko near Łódź as the son of Stefania and Władysław Różewicz. His mother née Gelbard, being a Jewish convert to Catholicism. During the Second World War, like his brother Janusz (also a poet), he was a soldier of the Polish underground Home Army. His other brother Stanisław was a noted film director. Unlike his elder brother Janusz, who was executed by the Gestapo in 1944 for serving in the Resistance, Tadeusz survived the war.

On finishing high-school, he enrolled at the Jagiellonian University of Kraków, and then in the late 1940s moved to Gliwice where he lived for the next thirty years. In 1968 he moved to Wrocław where he lived for the rest of his life.

His first poems were published in 1938, but his literary debut as a highly innovative playwright began in 1960 with *The Card Index*, by which time he was already the author of fifteen acclaimed volumes of poetry published since 1944.

He had written over a dozen plays and several screenplays. The eruption of dramaturgical energy was also accompanied by volumes of poetry and prose. Some of his works were translated into 49 languages.

Różewicz died in Wrocław on April 24, 2014.

*** (z tomiku "Wyjście")

Dostojewski mówił
że gdyby mu kazano wybierać
między prawdą a Jezusem
wybrałby Jezusa

zaczynam rozumieć
Dostojewskiego

narodziny życie i śmierć
zmartwychwstanie Jezusa
są wielkim skandalem
we wszechświecie

bez Jezusa
nasza ziemia
jest pozbawiona wagi

ten Człowiek
syn boży
jeśli umarł

zmartwychwstaje
o świcie każdego dnia
w każdym
kto go naśladuje



*** (from volume "Exit")

Dostoyevsky said
that if he was told to choose
between truth and Jesus
he'd choose Jesus

at the end I'm beginning to understand
Dostoyevsky

birth life death
the resurrection of Jesus
are a great scandal
in the universe

without Jesus
our small earth
is stripped of importance

that Man
son of God
if he did die

comes to life again
at dawn every day
in everyone
in his footsteps

Translated by Ryszard J. Reisner

Ocalony

Mam dwadzieścia cztery lata
ocalałem
prowadzony na rzeź.

To są nazwy puste i jednoznaczne:
człowiek i zwierzę
miłość i nienawiść
wróg i przyjaciel
ciemność i światło.

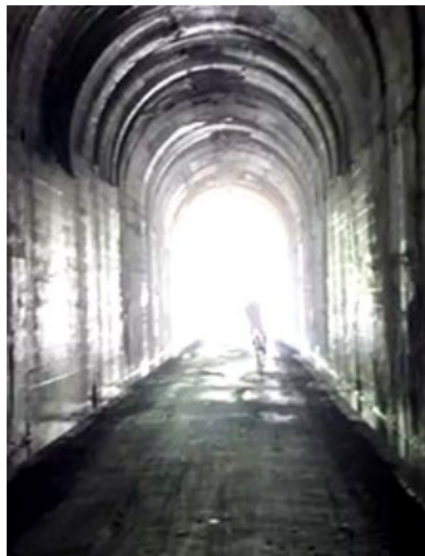
Człowieka tak się zabija jak zwierzę
widziałem:
furgony porąbanych ludzi
którzy nie zostaną zbawieni.

Pojęcia są tylko wyrazami:
cnota i występki
prawda i kłamstwo
piękno i brzydota
męstwo i tchórzostwo.

Jednako waży cnota i występki
widziałem:
człowieka który był jeden
występny i cnotliwy.

Szukam nauczyciela i mistrza
niech przywróci mi wzrok słuch i mowę
niech jeszcze raz nazwie rzeczy i pojęcia
niech oddzieli światło od ciemności.

Mam dwadzieścia cztery lata
ocalałem
prowadzony na rzeź.



Powrót

Nagle otworzy się okno
i matka mnie zawoła
już czas wracać

rozstąpi się ściana
wejdę do nieba w zabłoconych butach

usiądę przy stole i opryskliwie
będę odpowiadał na pytania

nic mi nie jest dajcie
mi spokój. Z głową w dłoniach
tak siedzę i siedzę. Jakże im
opowiem o tej długiej
i splątanej drodze.

Tu w niebie matki robią
zielone szaliki na drutach

brzęczą muchy

ojciec drzemie pod piecem
po sześciu dniach pracy.

Nie - przecież nie mogę im
powiedzieć że człowiek człowiekowi
skacze do gardła.



The Survivor

I am twenty-four
led to slaughter
I survived.

The following are empty synonyms:
man and beast
love and hate
friend and foe
darkness and light.

The way of killing men and beasts is the same
I've seen it:
truckfuls of chopped-up men
who will not be saved.

Ideas are mere words:
virtue and crime
truth and lies
beauty and ugliness
courage and cowardice.

Virtue and crime weigh the same
I've seen it:
in a man who was both
criminal and virtuous

I seek a teacher and a master
may he restore my sight hearing and speech
may he again name objects and ideas
may he separate darkness from light.

I am twenty-four
led to slaughter
I survived.

The Return

Suddenly the window will open
and Mother will call
it's time to come in

the wall will part
I will enter heaven in muddy shoes

I will come to the table
and answer questions rudely

I am all right leave me
alone. Head in hand I
sit and sit. How can I tell them
about that long
and tangled way.

Here in heaven mothers
knit green scarves

flies buzz

Father dozes by the stove
after six days' labour.

No--surely I can't tell them
that people are at each
other's throats.

The Survivor and The Return translated by Adam Czerniawski

By Fr. Adam Czarnecki

Parishes of the Eastern Diocese

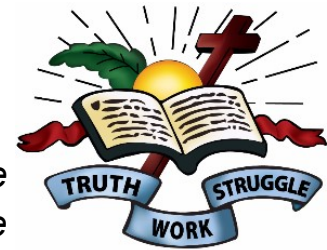
Holy Trinity Cathedral 166 Pearl St., Manchester, NH-03104-4236 Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski, Pastor (603)622-4524	St. Joseph's Parish 73 Main St., Westfield, MA 01085-3189 Very Rev. Joseph Soltysiak, Pastor (413)562-4403
Blessed Trinity Parish 37 Winthrop St., Fall River, MA 02721—2541 Very Rev. Robert 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 723 Enfield St., Enfield, CT 06082-2903 Very Rev. Joseph Soltysiak, Administrator (860)745-5066	St. Casimir Parish 240 Quinnipiac St., Wallingford, CT 01850-2313 Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski, Administrator (203)294-8888
Holy Cross Parish 61 Maple St., Ware, MA 01082-1545 Very Rev. Fryderyk Banas, Pastor (413)967-5233	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)923-2424
Holy Name of Jesus Parish 15 Thayer St., South Deerfield, MA 01373-1136 Rev. Robert Koerber, Pastor (413)665-2129 / (413)530-8575	Holy Trinity Parish 68 Lake St., Webster, MA 01570-2160 Rev. Henryk Wos, Administrator (508)-943-0608 / (401)-762-3072

Diocesan Chaplains

Diocesan Newsletter Editor Rev. Henryk Wos	Scouting Commission Rev. Adam Czarnecki
Ladies Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament Very Rev. Joseph Soltysiak	United Choirs Rev. Krzysztof Rogalski/Rev. Pawel Lukaszewicz
Polish National Union of America (Spojnia) District 3 Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich	Youth Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich
School of Christian Living Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski	Deacon Program Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich
Young Men's Society of the Resurrection Rev. Thomas Walsh	Lay Ministries Rev. Adam Czarnecki



Pray For Unity In The Church.



“I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:1-3)

Dear God,

We are so incredibly in need of your power and your strength. We ask that you would fill us with your Spirit of love and unity among believers all around our world. We ask for your help to set aside our differences and look to the greater cause, the cause of Christ.

Please help us to truly live out a life of love. We know that this is only possible through the power of your Spirit, so we ask that you would move across our land in miraculous ways, with fresh filling and awareness, turning your people back to you, drawing others to come to know you.

We need your unity and your love to stir our hearts and give direction to our days. We need your wisdom to guide us, we need your Spirit to lead us, to live out godly lives that would bring honor first to you. We thank you that you are always with us; and give us great purpose and hope. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Taken from: <https://www.ibelieve.com/slideshows/10-powerful-prayers-to-pray-for-the-church.html>

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- 2020 THE MESSENGER deadline for articles:

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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!