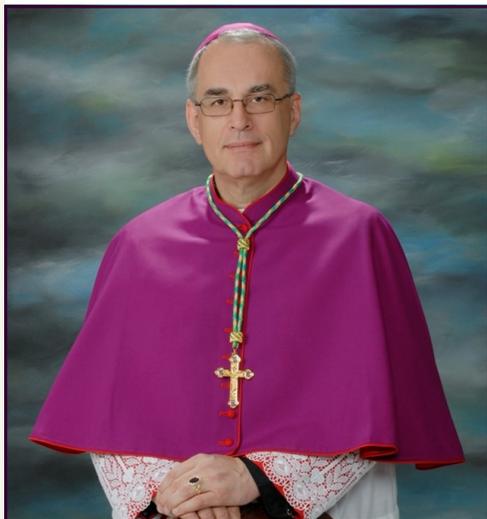
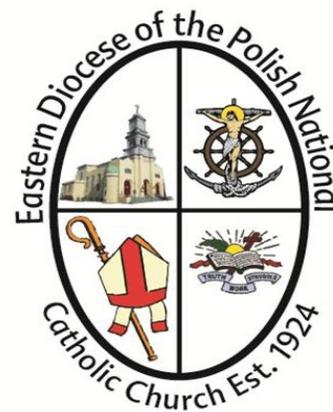


# THE MESSENGER

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



## “GOD — OUR ENTIRE POINT OF REFERENCE”

*“All of us, gazing with unveiled face on the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, as from the Lord who is the Spirit.”*

2 Corinthians 3:18, NAB

As of this writing, we are 13 days from the opening of the General Synod of our Church. Forty-seven report files have been received by delegates to review and prepare themselves for the discussions upcoming. This past Saturday our Eastern Diocese delegates met in Woonsocket, RI to prepare and I presented three areas for the delegates’ consideration: constitutional amendments, ecumenical developments, and the round table discussions through which the Church will discern the next steps God wants us to take to grown His Church.

Poised as we are for our Synod, I want to share, for your consideration and meditation, the words of our organizer and First Prime Bishop Francis Hodur. In 1913 Bishop Hodur authored a Pamphlet entitled Nasza Wiara. The United Maria Konopnicka Societies published an undated English translation of Nasza Wiara entitled Our Way of Life, Scranton, PA (undated) with the approval of the late Prime Bishop Leon Grochowski. Other translations were penned since then. But using this particular version, I have chosen to share this translation to guide our own synodal discussions and actions keeping in mind Bishop Hodur’s understanding of “spiritual rebirth.” As Polish National Catholics we need to ask ourselves if such a spiritual rebirth has taken place in our lives that we may indeed grow the Church by being God’s witnesses in our own civic and faith communities. Here are the words of Bishop Hodur, as translated from the original Polish:

*Cont. next page.*

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“Rebirth comes from a spiritual transformation which changes man into a new being. It begins with an understanding of our true relationship with God and moving into closer union with Him. This understanding and this union become sources of the great power which is needed to complete the transformation.

“This reborn individual becomes a completely different person. He has changed spiritually and morally. He has changed his attitude towards God, towards his fellow man, and towards his environment. Insofar as external or physical changes are concerned, these are limited to the extent that the effects of this new inner spiritual force can be perceived in his features. But, from a moral or behavioral standpoint, we have an entirely new person.

“If the reborn individual had previously been easy-going, then he will continue to be this way after his change. If he had a fiery disposition, he will continue to be lively and impulsive. If he was outspoken, he will continue to be so. If he was a father, then this certainly will not change. But his spiritual temper and his moral character will be completely changed.

“Above all else, he has a different way of thinking and a new understanding of God, the world, life, life's purpose, and his final destiny.

“The sophisticated modern man does not pay much attention to God nor to his own relationship with God. Although he professes to believe in God, and would become very indignant at any suggestion to the contrary, his daily life is not structured on a thorough comprehension of God. Nor is such comprehension a factor in his thoughts, words, or deeds.

“But the man who has been reborn acts in a very different way. God is his entire point of reference. He begins his work in God's name, he looks to God for a measure of its worth, and he finds his reward in God's approval of it. He lives with an instinctive awareness of the presence of God and the benefits of His grace.

“The reborn individual's basic attitudes towards life and towards his fellow human beings also change. The man who has not been reborn is often greedy, covetous, a seeker of sensual pleasures, and a pursuer of wealth and status. He desires recognition, accolades of applause and worldly fame. But the man who has been reborn does not care about any of these things. Neither wealth, nor fame, nor honors, nor fleshly indulgence have any significant or lasting value for him. He sees them as transient aspects of life, which are not worth the risk they entail to the spiritual treasures of the soul and to its share in eternity.

“This does not mean, however, that reborn man neglects his mundane affairs, becoming a poor citizen, worker, teacher, priest, or doctor. On the contrary, he carries out all of his responsibilities in a conscientious, honest, faithful and exact way. He does this because he believes that the fulfillment of his vocational obligations are essential for maintaining proper stability and order in human affairs, and because it represents a gradual realization of the conditions necessary to achieve the kingdom of God on this earth.

“However, the obligations of this earthly life do not totally absorb the reborn man. In this sense, he is much like a sailor, who, when he is at sea, does everything necessary to guarantee a successful trip. He does not ignore any safety precautions, and he calls upon all of the skills he has acquired through training and experience. But when he reaches his port, he leaves his navigational equipment on board, and he forgets about the trip's hardships, labors and dangers.

“Reborn man has the same attitude towards life and its responsibilities. He treats them as a transitory phase of his existence, which is the journey to a better and happier country. The reborn man does not scorn, nor neglect, nor make light of his earthly pilgrimage because he knows that each act in his life contributes something to his total achievement and brings him closer to his ultimate goal. But, at the same time, he does not attach excessive importance to its material by-products. He properly assesses their relative value as mere implements for the attainment of eternal happiness....”

“Among those who made such discoveries of life's true purpose, we find Paul of Tarsus, and Augustine of Tagasta. The former came to be known as the greatest apostle of Christianity, while the latter achieved fame as a writer, bishop and philosopher.

“They arrived at their understanding of life after much meditation, reflection and consideration of causality.

“In their early lives they pursued earthly goals, just as millions of people, rich and poor, educated and uneducated, had done before them and continued to do after them. They were ready to make any sacrifices necessary in order to win the success, fame, fortune, power and status they desired, but they did not find and enjoy real happiness. One of them, steeped in pride and vanity, searched for this happiness by catering to sensual lusts and passions. The other became an instrument of fanaticism, bitterness and hatred. But, neither folly nor licentiousness, nor self-righteous dedication to dogmatism soothed the tormented souls of Augustine and Paul. They found themselves, figuratively, on the brink of an abyss of torment and despair. A sense of hopelessness and a feeling of the insignificance of human life emanated from it.

“At such a moment in their lives, they met the Divine Teacher from Nazareth. This meeting determined their subsequent way of life and their entire futures. It became their rescue, deliverance, and rebirth.

Through this contact with Christ, their uncertainty vanished, their doubts disappeared, and they no longer heard the voices of despair. An energizing force flowed into their souls, and along with it came great perception, holy fervor, unbounded love of God, and the desire to dedicate their lives to the service of mankind.

“In the same strange and mysterious way that the joining of positive and negative poles creates the flow of electricity which gives us light and heat, so is the union of the human element with God. The act of dedicating ourselves to Him through Jesus Christ, produces a discharge of creative power in the human soul. It gives us strength we have never known before. Truths which date back to the beginnings of time become clear to us. We understand life's purpose both as individuals and as members of the human race.

“The man who had previously been selfish, apathetic and useless now becomes God's implement. He helps his fellow man. He is like a lamp which burns with a flame of love, enthusiasm and self-denial.

“Such a man is blessed a hundred times over!”

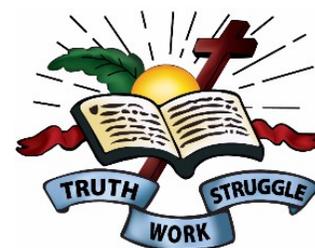
Such people build the Church of Christ on earth. I will see many of you at the General Synod very soon! May God bless our Fall months and protect those ravaged in the Southeastern United States and nearby in the towns of Lawrence, Andover and North Andover.

**Bishop Paul**

## FUTURE DIRECTION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

### Action Plan for PNCC Parishes in 2018

## “THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY”



#### I. Growth and Membership

#### II. Increase Spirituality

#### III. Lifelong Learning

#### IV. Sacred Vocations

#### V. Community Involvement

**1. Greater Understanding of Church Solemnities:** In 2018 we will focus on the Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds. Re-distribute the Humble Shepherds pamphlet. Perhaps a video presentation from our Prime Bishop on this Solemnity.

**2. Two Days of Retreat:** Lent and Advent Pick a day during the seasons of Lent and Advent in 2018 to spend in retreat and prayer. Maybe do this as a family activity. 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.

**3. Complete at least five community service projects:** One service project could be in conjunction with the Solemnity of Humble Shepherds and the other, selected by the local parish. It is important that the five 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: 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.

**4. Implementing the Year of the Family Component:** Develop and emphasize this theme through 2018. Our purpose is to strengthen all families in living out our Christian faith, virtues and values during this special year. Please see the monthly Future Direction emails regarding this effort with concrete actions.

- **January – The example of the Holy Family** - A blessing of families after Holy Mass on Sunday January 7th and a prayer card for all to take home.
- **February – The importance of unconditional Love in the family.**
- **March – Celebration of Lent as a Family** - Encourage various ways that the family can pray and meditate together during this Sacred season. Have the family prepare an Easter basket together or Easter table together for the blessing of the Church on Holy Saturday.
- **April – Living out our Easter Joy in the family and the parish** – the importance of regular attendance at Holy Mass.
- **May – The love of our Blessed Mother** – her submission to the will of God as an example for all.
- **June – Sacred Vocations Month** – The Guardianship of St. Joseph – his submission to the will of God as an example to all - Family Vocations event and prayer.

- **July – The importance of Family Time/Vacation to the family.** Also remembering to continue the practice of daily prayer and worship during this time.
- **August – Importance of youth in the family** – raising children as an important ministry in the church – an event for the parish youth and prayers for parents and guardians.
- **September – Sharing our gifts and talents in the home and in the parish.** Create a fun exercise/game that lists one’s gifts and talents and then challenge them to share them at home as well as in the parish.
- **October – Clergy Appreciation Month** – On the Solemnity of the Christian Family. Have a sharing family event at the parish where troubles and joys are Shared; strengthening the bonds of our parish families.
- **November – Family Gratitude** – stress the importance of giving thanks and doing it as an individual and parish family. Thanksgiving Day prayer placemats. Helping those in need or alone on Thanksgiving.
- **December – Resources for the family to spiritually prepare for Christmas together,** a shared prayer when putting up their Christmas tree – small advent wreath for the home lit during the family meals. Recognizing and living the true meaning of Christmas as a family.

**5. Implement Lay Ministry Program in PNCC:** Our national and diocesan Lay Ministry chaplains begin this implement this program across our PNCC that will enhance, encourage and strengthen the role of the laity within our PNCC.

**6. Move forward with PNCC Office of News & Media Relations:** implement proposal accepted by the 2017 PNCC Supreme Council.

**7. Create a PNCC Future Direction Facebook Page** – by posting the monthly messages to this page and asking our members to share them, we hope more will be reached and encouraged to participate in these efforts.

**8. Constant Prayer to prepare for our October 2018 General Synod** – special intercessions for the month leading up to the synod – encourage a novena for this Holy Gathering.

If you know of parishioners or friends who are not a part of our monthly email updates – please have them email us at [FutureDirection@pncc.org](mailto:FutureDirection@pncc.org) to become a part of this important effort for our Holy Church. Please keep this church-wide undertaking in your daily prayers – asking God to bless this work and allow it to bear fruit for the building of His Kingdom through our Holy Church.

As we begin this Holy season of Advent may we use this time to spiritual prepare ourselves to again celebrate the Incarnation and be ready for His return in glory. May we show our thankfulness to God not just in our words, but more importantly buy our actions. May God bless you and your family during this Advent season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
**PNCC Supreme Council Future Direction Committee**  
Most Rev. Anthony A. Mikovsky, Prime Bishop  
Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Jr., Chairman

**We continue to implement the five themes the Synod determined for our future direction:**

- Growth and Membership
- Increase Spirituality
- Lifelong Learning
- Sacred Vocations
- Community Involvement and Presence

## **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 150<sup>th</sup> 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;

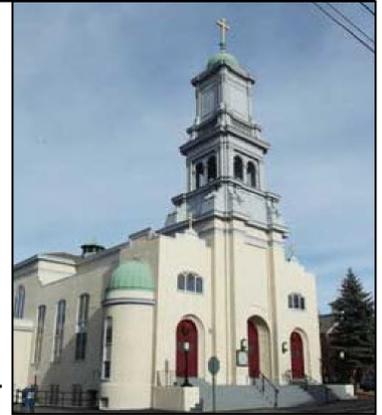
Whereas, we acknowledge the dedicated and ongoing work of the Future Direction Sub-Committee of the Supreme Council as they pursue the themes defined by the 14<sup>th</sup> General Synod: Growth and Membership, Increased Spirituality, Lifelong Learning, Sacred Vocations, and Community Involvement and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



In memory of her late husband, Frank A. Kaffel, Mrs. Dorothy G. Kaffel established a scholarship fund to benefit Holy Trinity Cathedral students pursuing higher education. The first Kaffel Scholarship was awarded in 2002, and a number of qualified applicants since then have benefited from the generosity of the Kaffel family. Mrs. Kaffel has since passed away, but her legacy lives on.



Nathan Duplessis is Holy Trinity Cathedral's most recent recipient of the Kaffel Scholarship. While at Manchester Central High School, Nate participated in varsity cross country, ice hockey, and track. He was a student ambassador and news writer for the Little Green Newspaper. Nathan graduated this year with a 3.90 GPA and made the honor roll, specifically principal's list and high honors, all 16 quarters of high school. Additionally, Nate remains active at a Holy Trinity Cathedral and considers serving at the altar one of his highest honors. He was confirmed at the Cathedral, participates in the weekly adult Bible study, is kind to all and ever ready to lend a hand.

On Sunday August 19, Scholarship Committee member Wendy Thomas presented Nate with the Kaffel Scholarship award in the amount of \$2,000. Additionally, because of his regular service at the altar and around the parish, Nate received a faith grant of \$3,000. These funds will aid him in the honors program at St. Anselm College, where he is studying mathematics and education. Parishioners at Holy Trinity Cathedral are proud of Nate and are happy that he is part of our parish family. We know that God has exciting plans for Nate and look forward to celebrating future achievements with him.

***By Karen Sobiechowski***

**From our Parishes:**

**A Blessed Summer at Blessed Trinity Parish,  
Fall River, MA**



As summer began our parking lot campaign goal was reached and after 13 years in our new Church facility our parking lot has finally been paved. Thanks to all who contributed. Thank you as well to those who replaced portions of our fence and took down some trees interfering with our power lines alongside the church drive-



way - a big difference for the beautification of our parish grounds. And as one campaign concluded a new one began for a new large commercial Hobart mixer. This goal was reached as well and on Youth Sunday our new mixer "R2-Dough2" was blessed with our youth and many others looking on in the parish kitchen.



Earlier in the summer some of our parish SOCL youth and teachers got together for a cook-out and pool party on June 24<sup>th</sup>. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all in and along side the pool with those in our family of faith. Two days later seven of our parish altar servers attended the diocesan Acolyte Retreat in Woonsocket. Fourteen from our parish participated in Youth Retreat 2018 and had a fabulous time - more youth are planning to attend in 2019!



We were excited to welcome a new Altar server – Maks for the summer months and in the middle of the summer on the last Sunday of July we had ten serving at the Altar of our Lord! Then Kingslee began serving at the Altar on the first Sunday of September! And a sacristy selfie for our Prime Bishop he requested at Church camp!



On Youth Sunday after Holy Mass we had the blessing of backpacks and prayers for a new school year. During the sermon on this Sunday Vicki read the PNCC Youth Pledge against Bullying that she and others from the parish have taken. Our Fall SOCL program began on September 9<sup>th</sup>. After Mass our Teachers and students were blessed as they

begin a new year of learning more about our Catholic and Apostolic faith.



Over the summer the community continued to be a part of our weekly activities with 30 events during these hot and humid days this year: Kitchen Table Conversations (suicide loss support), our neighborhood watch group met and in July had their annual cookout at our parish, weekly AA meetings, the Fall River Falcons had meetings, sign ups and a Pancake Breakfast, Polish Veterans meetings, our local NA group had a breakfast and painting event and our parish hall served as two voting precincts for our state primary elections.



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Our summer Clam Boil was another sell out and a wonderful time enjoyed by all. Congratulations to Sister Sabika who was the Golden Clam Sculpting Award winner. Thanks to all who supported, prepared for and served this boil which helps to raise funds so that we can do the work our Lord calls us to do. Along these

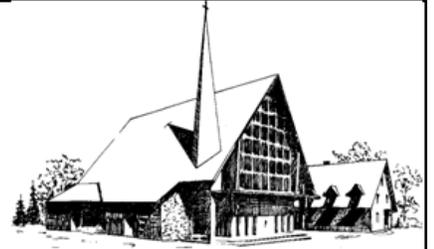
lines we have begun our Polish Food making for our annual Polish Food Fest on October 26 and 27. We thank all who helped us fry the 100 pounds of salt pork, sauté 250 pounds of onions and make over five hundred fifty dozen of potato and cheese pierogi on Labor Day weekend. To see more pictures and be informed of forthcoming events, please follow us on Facebook: Blessed Trinity PNCC.

*Fr. Sr. Rob*



From our parishes...

## Our Saviour's Parish, Woonsocket, RI



### Free Community Car Wash and Yard Sale

On August 4th, Our Saviour's held a Free Community Car Wash and Yard Sale. Unfortunately, it started pouring around 10am along with tornado watches in town, so we had to close up shop early.

This year we helped raise funds for New Beginnings Soup Kitchen, who not only provides meals, but also helps the whole person to be successful from mind, body, soul, heart, to stomach. We also raised funds to repair our cemetery altar. The stones are beginning to crumble, and power-washing may make it even worse.

We are happy to make this a yearly event to help folks in our community!

### Parish Picnic and Celebration

On Sunday, September 16th, Our Saviour's held their annual Parish Potluck Picnic. We advertised and invited the public to join us, and some new people joined us that day.

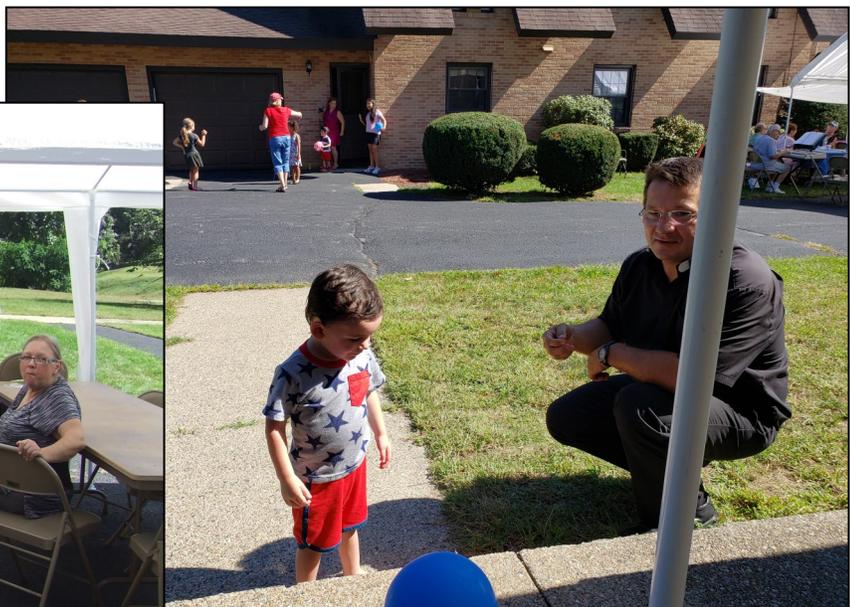
We were pleased they stayed and enjoyed the good meal and camaraderie. Lots of food was served, including bigos, kielbasa, ribs, stuffies, and a plethora of pasta dishes.

A special cake was presented to Father Henryk, Renata, and the girls in celebration on their receiving United States Citizenship. We are so proud of the entire family.



Awesome games for all ages were led by parishioner Brenda Dixon. There was something special for everyone. The kids also did face painting and played in a bouncy house. It was a great day, and we would love for more folks to join us in the future.

**By Sally Watson**



## Pre Synodal meeting at Our Saviour's

On Saturday, September 11, 2018 Delegates from the parishes of the Eastern Diocese to the XXV Synod of our Holy Church, meet on pre-synodal meeting at Our Saviour's Parish in Woonsocket, RI. Several reports from the diocesan and national organizations presented and some topics from the synodal agenda were discussed.

After discussion delicious lunch was served. Thank you to the parishioners of Our Saviour's for their hospitality.

The XXV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church will be held in October 1-3, 2018 in Belleville, IL.



Please keep all the synod delegates in your prayers that this Holy Gathering will bear abundant fruits for the glory of God and for our Holy Church.

**By Fr. Henryk Wos**

From our parishes...

**St. John the Baptist Parish, Manchester, CT**

**St. John's Parish Welcomes Change of Priests**



Fr. Adam Piekarczywski, [center above] congratulates Fr. Henry Smolinski at his retirement dinner in the hall of St. John's, Manchester, 8/14/18.



[far right] Parish Committee member Nancy McHugh talks to eldest parishioner honoring Fr. Henry, her mom Virginia Narkon. [3<sup>rd</sup> from right] Millie Koski was among members & friends there.

Parish chairman Joe Bednarz rests from all his work, organizing Fr. Henry's party, after a month's labor of extensive renovations of the rectory for Fr. Adam, his wife Magda & their infant Jasiu. Standing near is his tireless co-worker and wife Maria.



Sunday Sept.2 after the first 9am Sunday parish Mass that Fr. Adam celebrated, he smiles with concelebrating pastor-emeritus Fr. Henry Smolinski. At 11am a dozen local guests came for his 1<sup>st</sup> Mass in Polish.

## Father Piekarzewski Begins at St. John's PNC Church



Father Adam Piekarzewski, [since 9/1/2018] administrator of the Church of St. John the Baptist in Manchester, celebrated his second Sunday parish Mass on Sept.9,2018, in the presence of Bishop Paul and 7 other priests of our diocese. The photo above, taken after the 3pm Mass. Shows [left to right]: Fr. Andrzej Tenus of Lowell, Fr. Krzysztof Rogalski of Norwich, Fr. Sr. Joseph Krusienski of Plantsville, Fr. Adam Czarniecki of Northampton, Fr. Piekarzewski, Bp. Paul, Fr. Henry Smolinski [now pastor emeritus], Fr. Thomas Walsh of Stratford, Fr. Henryk Wos of Woonsocket, and cleric Justin Daviault of Plantsville.

The Mass was graced by the singing of choir members from Plantsville, led by organist Karen Sobiechowski. The bishop was greeted in church before Mass by St. John's parish chairman Joe Bednarz with the traditional Polish symbols of bread and salt. Bp. Paul read letters from Prime Bishop Anthony Mikowsky, documenting Fr. Adam's incardination in the PNCC and his completion of orientation at the Savonarola Seminary in Scranton, as well as his assignment to the Eastern Diocese under Bp. Paul. Fr. Sr. Krusienski read 2 letters from Bp. Paul: one to Fr. Smolinski, appointing him to the status of Reserve Priest in the diocese, and another to Fr. Piekarzewski, appointing him as administrator of St. John's.

***By Fr. Henry Smolinski***

From our parishes...

## Holy Trinity Parish, Plantsville, CT

On September 9, 2018, Holy Trinity/Church of the Transfiguration in Plantsville, held our annual Mass for First Responders. Members of the Southington Police Department and the Southington Fire Department were present. After the Mass, we were all treated to a delicious breakfast of eggs, bacon, hash browns, sausage and pancakes. The breakfast was a generous donation of parish member, Mrs. Sandy Wood, whose husband was a long time member of the Cheshire Fire Department.



Helping Sandy in the preparation of this meal were George and Diane Peck, along with their son, Billy.

**By Marilyn Folcik**

From our parishes...

## St. Valentine Parish, Northampton, MA

# WRITING A PERSONAL RULE

Most Catholics are familiar with a Rule for Life because every monastery follows just such a rule whether it is that of Saint Benedict, Saint Augustine, or some other renown saint of the monastic tradition.

A Rule is a set pattern of living for a given community which governs both its work and worship of God. It establishes times for labor, prayer, silence, meditation, and the Eucharistic celebration, and also addresses other factors which typically affect the order's corporate stability and communal relationship with God. Without a well-defined Rule to live by, a monastery would eventually disintegrate under the crushing weight of inevitable chaos.

But is a Rule of Life only for the "professionally" religious? What about lay folks like you and me? Does a Rule make sense for us? I believe so. After all, proximity to Christ does not automatically happen without any cooperation by us. The highway to heaven cannot be successfully traveled on cruise control with our hands off the wheel. No indeed; the spiritual life must be carefully navigated to ensure that we remain on the Gospel road, safely heading in the right direction.

And that is all a personal Rule really is: a plan for progress in our communion with God. So how do we, as ordinary people in the pews, write a Rule for ourselves?

**First off**, we have to be convinced of the necessity. A Rule is a way of self-governance. Unless the need for spiritual discipline is clearly seen and embraced, writing a Rule is pointless because it will be abandoned within days.

**Secondly**, a Rule must be realistic according to an honest evaluation of our capability. Hyper-enthusiasm leads to discouragement, laxity encourages apathy, and both result in giving up the practice altogether.

**Thirdly**, a Rule should be somewhat comprehensive by including elements that fall under the broad categories of loving God and loving our neighbor. Thus a good personal Rule would, at minimum, touch upon the matters of Scripture, prayer, church, public worship, and service to others. Let us look at those particulars a little more closely.

**\*Scripture:** Daily Bible reading should be a given for God's people. Unfortunately, however, it is not. Consequently I would suggest committing to one Old Testament chapter, one New Testament chapter, and one Psalm per day. Begin with Genesis, the Gospel of Matthew, and Psalm 1. Keep going until you reach the end of each Testament and have to start over. Then begin again! It takes around two or three weeks to develop a new habit. Allow no exceptions to your day by day reading during that period in order to establish steadfast continuance thereafter. As you search the Scriptures, should a passage especially catch your attention, spend awhile on that text see what the Lord may be saying to you from His Word.

**\*Prayer:** Praying for ourselves seems all too natural because we tend to be self-absorbed. Praying faithfully for the Kingdom, our neighbor, and the world at large can be a difficult problem. Making the Our Father an integral aspect of our Rule is an excellent way to pray because therein we are guided by Christ himself. We discover what to bring before the Throne of Grace by using each petition of His model prayer as a pattern for our own.

**\*Church:** Going to church never saved a single soul. Christ alone redeems us. However, the New Testament knows nothing of a Christian who absents him/herself from regular participation in a congregation. The true man or woman of God has an affectionate affinity for people of God and the worship of God. Faithful attendance to the services and activities of one's parish should constitute a solid aspect of our Rule.

**\*Public worship:** Worship is critical from God's perspective, and ought to register prominently in our Rule. Since we meet Jesus in the Eucharist, the Sunday Mass must not be missed unless we are providentially hindered somehow.

**\*Service to others:** Loving our neighbors is rarely convenient. Honoring the Lord in this effort means preparing for the inconvenience of unexpected opportunities and planning for deliberate involvement in known situations.

**Finally, write down the Rule . . .** not as a law to be obeyed, but as a guide to be followed. Flexibility in response to contingencies is important. Plus conciseness is key for the sake of not investing our devotional Rule with a complexity that becomes oppressive.



Here is an example:

**Sunday** ~ Go to Mass, pray, and read Scripture.

**Monday through Saturday mornings** ~ Read the daily Old Testament chapter, and pray a petition of the Our Father.

**Monday through Saturday afternoons** ~ Read the Psalm of the day, and pray another petition of the Our Father.

**Monday through Saturday evenings** ~ Read the daily New Testament chapter, and pray more of the Our Father.

**Wednesday (or whatever day)** ~ Visit someone in a nursing home, a sick friend, or whomever the Lord has laid upon your heart.

Although set times of prayer, faithful worship, and submission to Scripture are explicitly inculcated throughout the Bible, constructing a personal Rule is certainly not a command of Christ. I offer the method as discipline worth implementing only if one perceives the idea as potentially beneficial. However, I would love to hear about your experiences if you decide to go forward with my suggestion.

*Soli Deo gloria,*

**Perry Fuller**

## Coming Events/Classes

- ◆ **BIBLE STUDY** at St. Valentine's Parish — **Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm** — Parish Hall. Prayer & Discussion  
Leader: Rev. Adam Czarnecki, Pastor
- ◆ **POLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES** at St. Valentine's Church — **Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm** — Parish Hall.  
Instructor: Rev. Adam Czarnecki, Pastor
- ◆ **PULASKI DAY PARADE** - Monday, October 8, 2018 (Columbus Day) (Holy Mass at 10:00 am in Elizabeth Ann Seton Church; parade steps off at 11:15 am)
- ◆ **POLSKIE KOLEDY (Polish Christmas Carols) SING ALONG** - Sunday, January 6, 2018 at 2:00 pm

## PULASKI DAY PARADE

**Monday, October 8, 2018**

**St. Valentine's Parish will again participate!**

Holy Mass at 10 am at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.  
The parade will assemble after the Mass (around 11 am) on King Street, in front of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

**We need your participation  
and hope you will join us!**

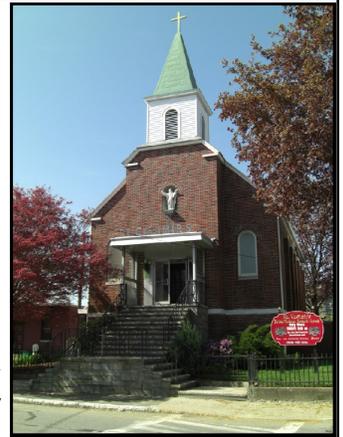


From our parishes...

## St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA

### Ties For Special Guys

During the month of June, parishioners at St. Casimir's remembered men in their lives who were special to them. Some people remembered a father, grandfather, godfather, uncle husband or beloved pastor by writing a name on a colorful tie and hanging it on the "clothesline" affixed to the church railing. Many individuals took part and made free-will offerings to benefit the Clergy Pension Fund. The activity proved successful and additional space to hang commemorative ties had to be added.



The clergy of the Polish National Catholic Church is hard-working and deserves to retire with dignity. This fact was stressed at Diocesan Council and St. Casimir's was glad to do its part. In addition, a second collection earmarked for the Clergy Pension Fund was taken on Father's Day.

By JoAnn Menzia

### A Dual Celebration at St. Casimir

A dual celebration was held on Sunday, June 24, 2018 in St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA.

We were celebrating the blessing of our newly updated kitchen which was brought up to 2018 code specifications by the City of Lowell Code Department. This was accomplished by installing new appliances, sinks, and updating electrical and plumbing work. All this was made possible by a most generous and greatly appreciated bequest of \$119,000 from Walter Polchlopek and his mother Mary (Wasyлак) Polchlopek.

In addition we were also celebrating Father Andrzej and Agnes Tenus, our pastor and his wife, becoming citizens on June 6. They had studied for many months and passed their tests and the interview process with flying colors. They pledged allegiance to the United States of America at Lowell Memorial Auditorium, along with a class of 995 new citizens.



Our festivities began with Co-chairmen Robert Hunt and Dr. Robert Quirbach greeting guests and explaining the reason for our celebration. Beverly Runowicz also spoke about the Tenus children: Karina and Jonasz who are now citizens of our country through their parents, and Christopher and Amelia who were born in Lowell.

Also introduced was Helen (Wasyлак) Rogers, sister of Mary, who unveiled a portrait of Walter and Mary to be hung in our parish center.

Father Tenus then proceeded to bless the kitchen and the smorgasbord brunch provided by parishioners and friends which included hot and cold entrees, salads, finger sandwiches, desserts, hot and cold drinks.



The kitchen has already been put to good use in making pierogi and gołabki which are sold weekly to the public.

Our best wishes and love go to Father Andrzej, Agnes and their family. We hope God will bless them in their new country.

**By Janice Klimczak**

## Blueberry Pancake Breakfast at St. Casimir's

St. Casimir's Blueberry Pancake breakfast was held Sunday, August 19 following the 11 am Mass. Delicious pancakes with or without blueberries, bacon, sausages and muffins were served with maple syrup and blueberry syrup buffet style. Coffee and juice were also available.

Compliments to the chefs and kitchen crew for a job well done. Lovely raffle prizes were won by several attendees.

Two scholarships were awarded by our pastor, Father Andrzej Tenus assisted by co-chairmen Robert Hunt and Dr. Robert Quirbach. Scholarships winners were two active young people: James Bigelow and Ian Ford-Hunt.

James was awarded St. Casimir's Scholarship. James, entering his second year at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, New Hamp-



shire, is a dean's list student with a GPA of 3.8. He is the son of Tanya (Jaracz) and James Bigelow.

Ian was awarded the Dr. Walter



Twarog Scholarship. He will begin his freshman year at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, North Adams, MA. He was an honor student and All-Star soccer player at Lowell High School. His parents are Johanna (Hunt) and Dan Ford-Hunt.

Introduced at the breakfast was James Kosidlo, former scholarship recipient who graduated from University of Massachusetts/Dartmouth and is beginning his career at Fidelity Investment Company. Another former recipient, Rachel Quirbach, graduated summa cum laude from Arizona State University and is interning in Florida in preparation for a future position in music therapy. God's choicest blessings and our best wishes to our young people in their future endeavors.

**By Janice Klimczak**

## Annual Youth Mass

The fourth Annual Youth Mass was celebrated on August 26, 2018 in St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA by pastor Father Andrzej Tenus.

Children and Youth of the parish led the congregation in song as well as served as acolytes. Youngsters participating were Jonasz Tenus, Vesuvio Gauthier, Christopher Tenus, Preston Guida, Emma Ford-Hunt, Neaveah Guida and Amelia Tenus.

Hymns sung during the Traditional Mass were "Holy Spirit, Hear Us", "All Things



Bright and Beautiful", "I'll Be A Sunbeam", "Jesus Loves Me", "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus", and the "Butterfly Song" (accompanied by Father Tenus on guitar).

Following Mass children and their backpacks were blessed by Father Tenus with a prayer that children will have a safe and productive school year.

**By Janice Klimczak**

## Mama Mia Theater Performance Excursion

On Sunday August 26 a group of St. Casimir's ANS members and friends had an enjoyable afternoon when they traveled to the North Shore Music Theater in Beverly, MA to see the musical, Mama Mia. The live performance included singing, dancing and acting presented by a professional off-Broadway cast. Many in St. Casimir's group couldn't help but sing and clap along with the popular show tunes. Paula Jones was the coordinator of this summer event. The seats were terrific and attendees enjoyed the lovely landscaped grounds and the outdoor dining on this beautiful summer day.

A highlight of the afternoon was meeting Mama Mia cast members and taking photographs with the stars.

**By JoAnn Menzia**

## From Our Parishes...

### Divine Providence Parish, Norwich, CT



A long very hot and wet summer is coming to an end. We are beginning to feel the cooler days of the end of the season. For the last few weeks the weather has been beautiful. Maybe we will see a long Indian summer this year moving into the fall before winter hits. **Hurricanes?**

The **Divine Providence Parish** has been busy but quiet over the summer. Our regular church services have filled our spiritual needs. We also shared social and community events. We enjoyed **Mother's Day, Father's Day**, our annual outdoor **Parish Picnic**, the **Fourth of July**, the **Spirit of Greenville Day**, and **Labor Day** festivities. It has been a summer full. Our special **Healing Masses** continue and are well attended in our social hall every third Wednesday of the month at 11:00am and are looked forward to by those who are aging and those who have health issues and cannot climb the steps to attend regular Mass in our sanctuary. These Masses are an amazing way to receive **Christ through the Eucharist**. The **Healing Masses** are followed by a light lunch.

We continue to welcome new people into our church, and try to be living Christian examples to others. We attend Mass and join in Bible Study on Sundays. Our members are eager to help and to volunteer. We participate in parish activities such as our upcoming **Brotherly Love Fall Food Drive**, our monthly **Taste of Poland/Bingo Nights**, our **Polish Brunch**, and our **Harvest Festival and Flea Market**. And when we want to reach out to our community, we volunteer and participate with our neighbors in events such as our church neighborhood **Greeneville Revitalization Zone**.

### Annual Outdoor Parish Picnic

This year our annual outdoor **Parish Picnic** was well attended. It was organized by volunteers from our **Young Men's Club**. Naturally the specialties of the house were the grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, and kielbasa. Church members brought side dishes and desserts. There was lots of over-eating, good conversations, and laughter.





### Taste of Poland/Bingo Nights

Every second Friday of the month, our parish continues to draw a crowd for delicious Polish food at our **Taste of Poland** from 5:00pm to 7:00pm followed by Bingo at 7:00pm. The food is lovingly prepared by members of our **Culinary Society**.

During the summer the attendance is down a little, but after **Labor Day** attendance picks up.

Even our local **Fire Department** fire fighters drop buy for takeout orders. We have a good group of volunteers to man the **Polish Kitchen** and the **Bingo** and we have an artistic volunteer who has been working on a new sign.

Our **Cemetery Committee** has been mowing and trimming our cemetery grounds during the spring and summer. Memorial flags will be placed at all veterans' graves in time for **All Saints** and **All Souls Days** and **Veteran's Day**. A special memorial service will be held at the cemetery for **All Saints** and **All Souls Days**.



**By George Ververis**

## Diocesan Events and Programs: 2018 Eastern Diocese Acolyte Retreat

“To Serve following the Holy Family” was the theme of the seventh annual Eastern Diocese Acolyte Retreat. Twenty-five Altar servers, adults and clergy from seven diocesan parishes gathered at Our Saviour’s Parish in Woonsocket, Rhode Island on Tuesday, June 26, 2018. The retreat began with Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop



Paul Sobiechowski. Because this is the PNCC Year of the Family in 2018 the Mass for the Solemnity of the Holy Family was celebrated. Charles Vasas proclaimed the readings and Fr. Sr. Joe Soltysiak the Gospel. The homily was given by Fr. Sr. Joe where he spoke about the life of the Holy Family and how they fulfilled God’s will in their lives – he reminded all to be holy as Jesus, Mary and Joseph are holy. The Mass was concelebrated with Bishop Paul by Fr.

Srs. Nemkovich and Soltysiak and Fr. Koerber. Fr. Wos and some of the parish youth played the guitars and sang beautiful hymns during the Mass.



After a group picture was taken the servers and adults gathered for some refreshments in the parish hall. The first session was given by Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich on "Our Blessed Mother – The Theotokos". During this presentation the servers learned some Greek, why Mary is called "the Mother of God – The Theotokos" and how we need to follow her example in our lives by saying Yes to God. The servers already have said yes to God by serving at the Altar and were reminded to continue to say Yes to God by living as Jesus taught and lived. All gathered prayed the Magnificat together (Mary's song of praise) and were taught to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.



An activity for the servers led by Joanne Olivera taught them the importance of following the Christian values of the Holy Family in their everyday encounters. They were reminded to show kindness, respect, mercy, love, trustworthiness and responsibility in their interactions with family, friends and fellow students. This was done by using popsicle sticks and matching situations they will find themselves in at home, school, church and their social lives remembering always to say Yes to God!



responsibility in their interactions with family, friends and fellow students. This was done by using popsicle sticks and matching situations they will find themselves in at home, school, church and their social lives remembering always to say Yes to God!



Serving Christ at the Altar was the second presentation given by Fr. Robert Koerber. The importance of the Holy Sacrifice of Mass and their roles were highlighted. Fr. Robert reviewed the various parts of the Mass, the sacred vessels and vestments used and their responsibilities to assist the priest during the central act of our worship. The youth, adults and clergy then sang grace from our youth retreats to the hymn of the doxology and enjoyed some delicious local pizza.

The final session on St. Joseph was given by Fr. Henryk Wos. Fr. Henryk went through the various passages of Scripture about St. Joseph and reminded our servers how St. Joseph too said Yes to God and thus was the earthly father/guardian of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The servers were encouraged to seek the intercession of St. Joseph, our Blessed Mother and the saints in their daily lives. Bishop Paul then gave his Apostolic blessing to all gathered.



We traveled a bit down the road to Lincoln Woods park where our Altar servers enjoyed a beautiful summer afternoon by swimming in the lake and sharing fellowship on the beach. After some fun in the sun they all returned to their parishes and families strengthened in their service to God and His Holy Church.



We look forward to gathering again at Youth Retreat 2018 – August 19-23 at Camp Howe in Goshen, Massachusetts.

Let us always live the Christian values given to us through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, His Mother – the Theotokos and St. Joseph.

In Christ Jesus our Lord,

*Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich*







## 2018 Eastern Diocesan Camporee

During the weekend of July 6-8th, Holy Name of Jesus PNC Church in South Deerfield, MA hosted the 5th Annual Eastern Diocesan Scouting Camporee. In keeping with the PNC Church's "Year of the Family", the theme for this year's camporee was "Our Family Tree." Participants began arriving Friday afternoon to set up their tents. Bishop Paul Sobiechowski and Father Adam Czarnecki, the chaplain of the Eastern Diocesan Commission on Scouting greeted the participants as they arrived along with Mr. Michael Kuchar, chairman of the Scouting Commission as well as Father Robert Koerber, host Pastor.



After the official greetings, the evening meal consisted of a barbecue with hot dogs and hamburgers, and all the fixings. Following our evening meal, evening prayers were conducted by the campfire by Father Robert Koerber. The rest of the evening was spent in fellowship under a beautiful sky.

In the morning, Father Adam Czarnecki led the group in morning prayers. Breakfast was prepared which consisted of French toast and sausage, as well as juice and coffee.

The first session was conducted by Mr. Michael Kuchar who gave an overview on the topic "genealogy". After a short break, Father Robert Koerber led the second session entitled "Genealogy in the Bible" which traced the roots of the genealogies of Adam, Noah, Abraham and Jesus and explained the importance of these genealogies. Again following a short break, Father Adam Czarnecki gave a wonderful presentation entitled "The Family in the Bible", where he emphasized the importance of the family from Holy Scripture. Each session presented gave different insights into this year's theme "Our Family Tree."

For lunch, baked lasagna was served. Following lunch, participants traveled to Historic Deerfield for a private tour of an active 18th century colonial village. We were entertained by a short video giving an introduction to the establishment of Deerfield and the importance that this village played in the development of our nation. We then had the opportunity to visit many of the buildings. One of the most impressive of our stops, was the school house where we were taken back in time to how a school in the 18th was conducted and actually reading from books of that period. Being on a tight schedule we only saw a portion of Historic Deerfield in the two hours we set aside for our tour. Returning to Holy Name of Jesus, the rest of the afternoon was spent swimming and enjoying a sunny and warm day.

For supper, Father Adam prepared a most delicious vegetable soup and hot dogs and hamburgers were again prepared on the grill. The evening was a quiet evening, with evening prayers and enjoying the time by the campfire. A special commemorative patch was created for this years camporee.

At this time, I wish to thank Bishop Paul Sobiechowski for his continued support of our Scouting Commission. To Michael Kuchar, who was instrumental in helping to set the schedule. To Father Adam Czarnecki, for his wonderful presentation and his delicious soup. And finally to the participants of this year's camporee. We look forward to next year's camporee.

***By Rev. Robert M. Koerber***

## PNCC Youth Convo 2018

I was privileged to attend (as a chaperone) the recent Youth Convocation held at the University of Scranton from July 22-27. Theme for the Convo was “**Anointed Lifeguard**,” a somewhat cryptic title which was fleshed out during the presentations and activities. One who is **anointed** is set apart for a special purpose. Participants were reminded that they are fearfully and wonderfully made by God and were urged to see themselves (and others) the way He sees them. A **lifeguard** has a mission - to save and rescue people. Training is required in order to do the job safely and well. This theme was spelled out in lessons from the life of Nehemiah, an Old Testament figure who was called by God to rebuild the broken walls of Jerusalem while most of his people were in exile. Nehemiah cared more about the needs of others than about his personal comfort, and he undertook the work, trusting in God to bring it to completion. He persisted in the face of opposition, and his perseverance gave strength and encouragement to others. As believers in Jesus, we are anointed lifeguards with a mission to speak truth and dispel illusions, to bring others to Him, and to care for their needs.

Convo participants had the opportunity to **work together** in a practical way, assembling backpacks filled with school supplies to benefit homeless and at-risk students at the NEPA Youth Shelter. Each backpack included a personal note of encouragement from a Convo participant. Additionally, Convo presenters spoke on relevant topics of self-image, appropriate use of social media, self-care and stress reduction through mindfulness, and the physical and spiritual benefits of lovingkindness.

There were plenty of highlights during the week: meeting the 20+ youth and chaperones who traveled from Denver, CO, for their first Convo; the illusionist/Christian speaker who inspired us, made us laugh, and got us thinking; daily worship with youth serving as lectors, music ministers, and altar servers; the visit to St. Stanislaus Cathedral with youth soloists and bell choir; the fun at Kalahari Water Park; the dance; the hospitality of the Central Diocese youth, parents, and YMSR; and much more.

The Youth of the Eastern Diocese, Bishop Paul and I are grateful to all the parishes who sent participants to attend Convo 2018. We appreciate your support and hope to live out the lessons we learned during our week with other PNC youth, adults, and clergy.

**By Karen Sobiechowski**



## “FAITH AND FAMILY” AT THE 2018 EASTERN DIOCESE YOUTH RETREAT

“Faith and Family” was the theme of the 45th annual Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat. Nearly 50 youth, adults and clergy from eleven parishes across the Eastern Diocese gathered at Camp Howe in Goshen, Massachusetts for a wonderful, inspiring, and faith filled retreat. We enjoyed beautiful cool crisp mountain air with very little humidity – another blessing after a hot and humid New England summer.



The retreat began with a prayer service on Sunday, August 19, 2018. The theme for the retreat was again done in conjunction with the Year of the Family across our entire Polish National Catholic Church. During the service the American, PNCC and youth retreat flags were raised. Everyone gathered in the rec hall for the opening session led by our diocesan youth chaplain, Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich. After a quick overview of the week and a review of the camp rules, Joanne Oliveira led the group with some fun and exciting Ice Breakers. The youth had many laughs as each told the group some fun and exciting facts about themselves, their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and their families. A special Penitential Service for youth with the Sacrament of Penance was celebrated by Fr. Sr. Rob – the theme for the service was set with the opening song “Forgiveness” by Matthew West. All of the youth and some of the adults went to private confession during this appropriate time of the service. After giving out the 2018 Youth Retreat T-shirts our camp movie night featured “The Ant Bully” and popcorn. This movie gave a great message not to bully and how if we all work together we can overcome. After evening prayer there was some time around the campfire and the card game “spoons”. The campers got to experience many creatures during the evening with several field mice looking for food and a few chipmunks finding their way into the cabins.





Monday began with the celebration of Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich. During the Mass + Jason Fairclough was remembered in prayer (it was fifteen years ago that he lost his life as he traveled home from our youth retreat). During his sermon – Fr. Sr. Rob encouraged the youth to serve as an example to others by the way they live their faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. After breakfast with ample bacon, the first session on our retreat theme was given by Bishop Paul Sobiechowski on Joseph and his brothers. Bishop first spoke about his 7,733-mile vaca-

tion and his encounter with wild donkeys, then to the story of Joseph from the book of Genesis and how mean his brothers were to him yet God used him to help those brothers later on in life. Bishop taught the youth never to give up on God and to also see the bigger picture of being family. The first activity was led by Bob and Doreen Bradbury and Joanne Olivera. The youth created tiles – one with the Children’s Prayer from our PNCC Prayer Book and others with various images of the Holy Family. All had 2018 Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat on them serving as great mementos from the retreat.



Our second session was presented by Kathy Nemkovich on “Jesus on the family”. Kathy had Dylan come forward and list the five people he loved the most and then list them in order of importance. Kathy made the point that Jesus had to come first – even before Mom and Dad as our Lord said “My mother and my brothers and sisters are those who hear the Word of God and do it.” The participants were then broken up into groups and given some yarn to put together to make something to keep our bishop warm in the cool Goshen mountains because no one really wanted him wearing his Steelers jacket. The groups on their own could not do much but when it was all added together then a beautiful blanket was able to be made for our diocesan shepherd.



After our group picture with our 2018 Youth Retreat shirts (great job Paul Gorgol!) Joanne Oliveira led the group in our second activity. The youth were broken up into five groups and had to match popsicle sticks with various messages. One group was on Christian Values - some of these were: "I should always practice .... the "two commandments of love"; "Always say.... Yes to God"; "I should always be ....kind, respectful, honest and trustworthy"; "My role model should be.... Jesus". Another group had the Holy Family – some were "We honor Mary for....her obedience to God's will"; "Theotokos means....Mother of God"; "The Holy Family has given us.....a model of Family life". The third group was on Church Family "On Sundays and Holy Days....I should go to Mass"; "During Mass I should....listen to the Gospel and sermon to live as Jesus wants us to"; "Altar Servers say....Yes to God". Home was the theme for the fourth group – a couple of those matched up were "Pray to God....by yourself and with your family Always!"; "Write little notes to....Mom and Dad thanking them for all they do"; "Before I go to bed....I say my prayers". The theme for the fifth group was Friends and School – a couple were: "I should treat everyone....with kindness and consideration"; "When we are wronged....we should forgive each other's faults"; "Don't hurt....other peoples feelings". Then all the groups shared these values to live by based on our Faith in Jesus.



After our camp lunch the participants enjoyed an afternoon of free time. There were many who ventured up the 45-foot-high climbing wall – great job to so many who made the wall look like climbing a ladder. There was time for swimming, kayaking, archery, arts and crafts, four-square and much more. The famous Country Store was opened for business and the youth enjoyed their snacks as always! During the afternoon Prime Bishop Mikovsky arrived at our retreat and the excitement spread throughout the camp with amazing speed as our youth welcomed their Prime Bishop.



Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich gave the evening session on The Holy Family. He spoke to the youth about Jesus, Mary and Joseph and how they all said "Yes to God" by doing his Holy Will in their lives: God tells us that Jesus is His beloved Son at his baptism and at the Transfiguration and that we should "listen to him". Joseph listening to the angel to take Mary as his wife, Mary saying to God "Here I am the servant of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said". The participants were reminded that our families should be modeled on the Holy Family. The presentation concluded with a beautiful song and video "The Holy Family" by Danielle Rose - this showed images of the Holy Family and of many Christian families throughout our world today. The song was then sung by our participants at the concluding retreat Mass of the Holy Family on Thursday.



Joanne led the group in a third activity where they were broken up into groups and had to put verse from the Holy Scriptures on the family into their own words: Colossians 3, John and others. For instance, Proverbs 6:20-23 the youth said “Your parents take care of you and are always with you. Don’t rebel against your parents. The Bible wants us listen to, be obedient and respectful of them.” The groups then shared their understanding of these important Scripture passages everyone.

Christian Olympics followed. Thanks to Joanne, Bob, Joanna and Brenda for leading these games of the 45th camp Olympiad: Chair basketball, Lemon roll, sack races, wheel barrow, dress up and others.

Fr. Adam Piekarszewski led the group in evening prayer and the younger campers were off to bed while the older ones gathered around the camp fire and spent some time star gazing on a crystal clear evening up in the Berkshire mountains.

Tuesday began with Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich celebrating Holy Mass for Vocations. He spoke about the importance of service for all in the Church but in a special way for those men who are called to serve as priests and deacons. Vocations fliers were made available to our young men and boys.

Community Service was the next morning effort as our youth gave back to 4-H Camp Howe. They did some much needed clean up after several severe storms went through the camp the past couple of weeks. What a great job they did. The youth gave of their time, giving back to the camp for all the camp has done for our diocesan youth program through the past 24 years. Once finished the youth enjoyed many team building activities teaching them the importance of depending on one another and being there for others. Thanks to the great Camp Howe staff for teaching





such important lessons of working together and depending upon one another to accomplish a given task. Some great life skills for our youth.

After lunch our youth were able to go out in God's creation and enjoy swimming,

kayaking, archery, arts and crafts, the adventure ropes course, four-square and more.

Brenda Richard presented the next session on St. Paul and the Family. Brenda gave an overview on the life and missionary journeys of St. Paul. She focused on the passage from Colossians 3:12-17 as an example for us to always live our Christian lives in this manner. After it was off to Williamsburg and the Greenhouse Ice Cream stand where our Youth Retreat participants and the Camp Howe staff enjoyed Ice Cream and time in fellowship and fun. Thank You to District 3 of the Polish National Union of America for sponsoring our annual ice cream social during the retreat.



When we got back up the mountain to Camp Howe Joanne led the evening activity. The youth were broken up into two groups and played a word search game. The words were all based on St. Paul writings for how we are to live as family of



faith: kindness, patience, faith, obedience, respect, gratitude, forgiveness, trust, humility, gentleness, thankful, sharing, charity and compassion. Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich led the annual candlelight service and with a weather front coming though the winds hit us from every direction. It was a challenge to keep all the candles lit but we did manage to do so with help from each other. The youth then enjoyed some time around the camp fire and of course playing "spoons" and they



even got Bishop Paul to play.

Prime Bishop Mikovsky celebrated Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Christian Family to begin Wednesday at Camp Howe. Bishop Paul and Fr. Sr. Rob concelebrated this Mass. Prime Bishop spoke to the participants reminding them that faith is much than mental ascent, it is our actions – it needs to be lived in our individual families and Church family. After Camp Howe breakfast sandwiches our next presentation was on Bishop Hodur and the Christian Family. Prime Bishop Mikovsky spoke about the Institution of the Solemnity of the Christian Family in 1914 and what Bishop Hodur said the importance of the family in Church life and in a lived Christian Catholic

faith. The youth were reminded of their responsibilities to the individual family, the church family and the great family of the communities in which they live.

It was then off to Spare Time Bowl for a couple of strings of bowling. The youth and adults had a wonderful time bowling and laughing and having great fun. Another big Thank You to District 3 of the Polish National Union



for sponsoring this bowling trip. There were many strikes made and our younger ones found creative ways to use the bumpers to get those scores up. The afternoon was spent in free time where the high ropes, swimming, canoeing, kayaking, archery, arts and crafts and foursquare were bustling. Our campers again assisted the Camp Howe Staff by bringing in the docks for the season—a sure sign the fall and football season is finally coming :)

After pizza, Fr. Sr. Joe Soltysiak gave the final session of Youth Retreat 2018: Living as a Christian Family today. Fr. Sr. Joe got their attention quickly with a bang and used bricks and various



animals to speak about how we need to live as family united in faith in Christ and His Holy Church each and every day of our lives.

Our cabins then gave their skits on a theme for the retreat. They were “Honor your Parents”; “Mary did you know”; “Jesus in the Temple” and “St. Paul’s rap”. The youth showed an understanding of these themes presented during the retreat. We hope and pray they live them faithfully.

Fr. Sr. Rob and Bishop Paul spoke to our youth and encouraged them to sign the “PNCC Youth Pledge against Bullying”. This was recommended in the August 2018 message from the PNCC Future Direction committee and it is a great way for our youth to live their faith in Christ in a concrete way and show their love for their family. Several of the participants signed this pledge. On the final evening of camp, we had our annual Bonfire. The Camp Howe staff did a great job with skits, songs and stories. The Moose, Beaver, repeat after me songs and other camp songs were quite a hit. S’mores and popcorn popped on the camp fire were then enjoyed with the Camp Howe Staff. At the end of the camp fire Charles Vasas personally thanked the camp Howe staff and gave them all a bracelet he made to show his appreciation.

Bishop Paul Sobiechowski began our final day of retreat celebrating Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Holy Family. This Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich, Fr. Paul Lukaszewicz and Fr. Adam Piekarszewski. Bishop in his sermon spoke about the importance of family life and being there for their families as he spoke of the care he was





privileged to give his own father in his later years. Thanks are given to Cleric Justin Davaiult who assisted at all the Retreat Masses and offered the second reading and to Bob Bradbury who is studying in our deacon program and proclaimed the first readings of the Mass. Thanks also to our Altar Servers: Dylan, Gaby, Jakeb, Zack, Vicki, Kaylana and Aiden.

At our last meal at Camp Howe for 2018 the participants sang their eleventh and final grace of the retreat to the tune of the doxology:

“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.”

After camp clean up, everyone gathered for our closing session, led by Fr. Sr. Rob. He thanked all the youth for attending, all the chaperones, session presenters and activity leaders for their work for the youth of our diocese. He reminded the youth to live their faith and share their experiences they had with their family, friends and parishes and invite others to join us next year.

The 2018 Camp Spirit Award (that is given each year in memory of Jason Fairclough remembering his camp spirit and looking out for others) was awarded to Jakeb Bradbury from Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River, MA. His name will be added to the plaque and will be remembered at future Youth Retreats. Congratulations Jakeb!

Thanks are given to Bishop Paul, the session presenters, our activity coordinator Joanne Oliveira, our country store manager – Brenda Richard, 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 2018 an outstanding success! Thanks to Natalie Chmielewska and Charles Vassas for their wonderful pictures.

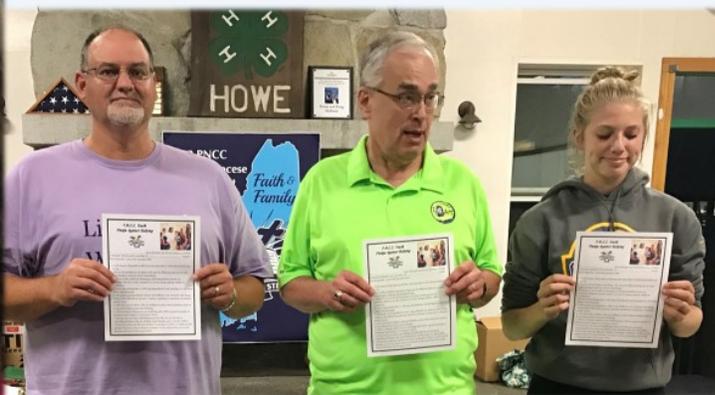
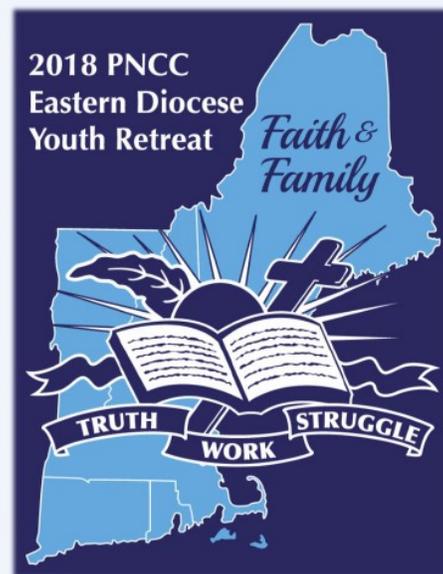


The retreat ended with a prayer service and the lowering of the American, PNCC and Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat flags. We are excited to announce that Youth Retreat 2019 will again be held at Camp Howe in Goshen, Massachusetts beginning on Sunday August 18, 2019 – this will be our 25<sup>th</sup> Retreat at Camp Howe and our 46<sup>th</sup> annual diocesan Youth Retreat. The countdown on a few smart phones to Youth Retreat next year has already begun! For more pictures of the retreat as it unfolded please see our Fa-

cebook page: **Eastern Diocese Youth**

We are excited to announce our next diocesan youth event will be our Winter Youth Gathering/Lock In - Friday, December 28<sup>th</sup> to Saturday December 29<sup>th</sup> at Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River, MA. We will begin Friday afternoon and lock ourselves in at Blessed Trinity and wrap up this winter retreat late Saturday morning. It should be a great time. God bless and we look forward to seeing you all again at Youth Retreat 2019.

*Fr. Sr. Rob Nembkovich - Diocesan Youth Chaplain*

















## Eastern Diocese United Choirs Meeting

A meeting of the Eastern Diocese United Choirs was held Saturday, September 8, 2018 at St. Casimir's Parish in Lowell, MA. Choir members from Manchester, NH, Chicopee, MA, S. Deerfield, MA, Plantsville, CT and Lowell, MA were in attendance.

An opening prayer was offered by Father Andrzej Tenus, pastor of St. Casimir's. Bishop Sobiechowski offered a blessing over the lunch we were served as the meeting proceeded.

Common problems were discussed including paucity of organists and singers willing to dedicate time and talent in rehearsal.



Officers were elected: Neal Narkon, chairman; Dave Curylo, vice-chairman; Karen Sobiechowski, secretary; Jim Grieve, treasurer; Eastern Diocese representative to National United Choirs (NUC) Board, Neal Narkon; NE

Seniorate representative, Janice Klimczak; SW Seniorate representative, Marilyn Folcik; Central Seniorate representative, Shirley Mietlicki-Floyd.

Bishop suggested the elected committee act as a steering committee to decide in which direction the united choirs should go.

The next meeting of the "steering committee" will be a teleconference on Thursday, October 12 at 7 pm.

**By Janice Klimczak**

## Upcoming Events:

**Jesus called and they followed.**

**He's still calling.**



**Do you know someone who might have a  
calling to the Priesthood or Diaconate?  
Encourage him today...and let us know!**

**Polish National Catholic Sacred Vocations Commission:**

**Most Rev. Anthony A. Mikovsky - Prime Bishop**

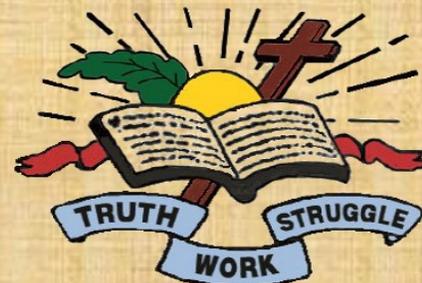
**National Contact: Rev Scott J. Lill - Chair**

**814-886-4904 · [scottjameslill@yahoo.com](mailto:scottjameslill@yahoo.com)**

**Eastern Diocese Contact:**

**Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich, Chair, Deacon Program**

**508-672-4854 · [robnem21@aol.com](mailto:robnem21@aol.com)**



# District 3 Polish National Union 2018 Thanksgiving Raffle



The PNU has been supporting our Polish National Catholic Church since its organization in 1908 and with your support will continue to do so.

The Thanksgiving Turkey Raffle will take place on Sunday, November 11, 2018 immediately following the 10:30 AM Holy Mass at Holy Cross Parish in Central Falls, RI. Four \$25.00 cash prizes are being awarded.

Tickets are \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00 and 13 for \$10.00. For tickets ask you Pastor. Your generous support of this District's 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.

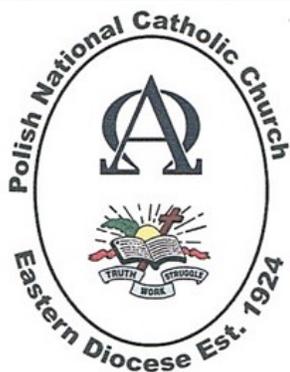
Thank you for your help in this fund raising effort for our District.

Fraternally yours on behalf of our District 3

Director Maryann Zarek,

*Fr. Sr. Rob*





## FROM THE CHANCERY OFFICE

### Assignments:

- Father Henry Smolinski was released from the pastorate of St. John the Baptist Parish of Manchester, CT and was designated a reserve priest of the Eastern Diocese as of September 1st, 2018.
- Father Adam Piekarczywski was accepted as a priest of the Eastern Diocese as of September 1, 2018.
- Father Adam Piekarczywski is appointed administrator of St. John the Baptist Parish, Manchester, CT as of September 1, 2018.

### Note:

- On Sunday, September 23 a special collection will be taken in all parishes of the Eastern Diocese to benefit the victims of Hurricane Florence. Parishes shall submit their offerings to the diocesan treasurer with checks made out to "Eastern Diocese" and designating "Hurricane Florence Relief" in the lower left hand corner note. Funds will be collected through October 7 and then will be forwarded to the "Church World Service."

### Bishop's Visits to Parishes:

- None scheduled

### Diocesan and National Meetings: (all times are Eastern)

- Monday, October 1 - Wednesday October 3 -Twenty-Fifth General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church, Our Lady of the Snows Retreat and Conference Center, Belleville, IL.
- Tuesday, November 13 - Wednesday, November 14 - Eastern Diocesan Clergy Retreat Mercy by the Sea Retreat Center, Madison, CT
- Monday, October 15 - Tuesday October 16 - National Liturgical Commission Meeting, National Church Center, Scranton, PA
- Monday, October 22 - Wednesday October 24 - National Mission and Evangelism Commission Meeting, Holy Trinity Parish, Washington, PA
- Tuesday, November 20— Eastern Diocese Liturgical Commission Meeting - Woonsocket, RI
- Tuesday, December 4 - Eastern Diocese Clergy Sexual Ethics Seminar- Holy Trinity Cathedral, Manchester, NH

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

- Friday, September 21— Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
- Saturday, September 29 - Feast of St. Michael, Archangel
- Tuesday, October 2 - Feast of Guardian Angels

- Thursday, October 4 - Blessing of Animals on Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi
- Monday, October 8 - Solemnity of Our Holy Mother of the Rosary (*translated*)
- Sunday, October 14 - Solemnity of the Christian Family
- Thursday, October 18 - Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist
- Wednesday, October 24 - Feast of St. Raphael, Archangel
- Monday, October 29 - Feast of SS. Simon & Jude, Apostles
- Thursday, November 1 - Solemnity of All Saints
- Friday, November 2 - Observance of All Souls
- Wednesday, November 21 - Solemnity of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sunday, November 25 - Solemnity of Christ the King
- Friday, November 30 - Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle
- Sunday, December 2 - First Sunday of Advent, Mass Proper Cycle "C" readings begin
- Saturday, December 8 - Solemnity of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Friday, December 21 - Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle
- Monday, December 24 - Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord
- Tuesday, December 25 - Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord
- Wednesday, December 26 - Feast of St. Stephen, Deacon, Proto-Martyr
- Thursday, December 27 - Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
- Friday, December 28 - Commemoration of the Holy Innocents
- Saturday, December 29 - Solemnity of the Holy Family
- Sunday, December 30 - Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds
- Sunday, December 16 - Northeast Seniorate Candlelight Liturgy Holy Cross Parish, Central Falls, RI - 4:00 PM

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

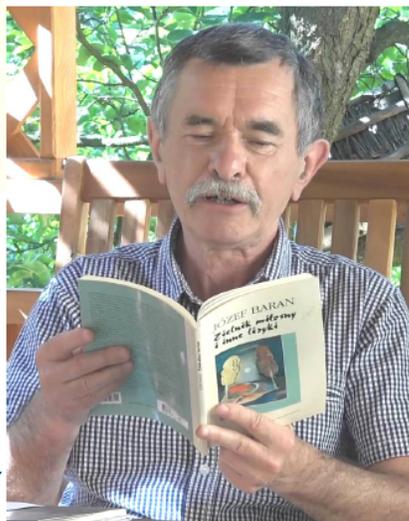
- Sunday, September 23 - Spojnia Sunday
- Monday, October 8 - Columbus Day, U.S.A. National Holiday
- Sunday, October 14 - Pulaski Day Polish Fest co-sponsored by Holy Trinity Cathedral PNCC and St. Hedwig RC parishes, Manchester, NH
- Sunday, November 4 - Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Tuesday, November 6 - Election Day, U.S.A.
- Monday, November 12 - Veteran's Day, U.S.A.
- Thursday, November 22 - Thanksgiving Day, U.S.A.
- Saturday October 20 - Polish Fest - St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA
- Saturday October 27 - Polish Fest - Holy Name of Jesus Parish, S. Deerfield, MA
- Sunday November 4 - Youth Group Dinner, St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA
- Saturday, December 1 - Homecoming Dinner - St. Casimir's Parish - Lowell, MA

# Polish Poetry



"Poetry comes nearer to vital truth than history." - Plato  
 „Prawdziwą, typową formą współżycia duchowego jest poezja.” - Karol Irzykowski

Józef Baran urodził się 17 stycznia 1947 r. w Borzęcinie (34 km na wschód od Krakowa). Ukończył studia podyplomowe na Filii Politechniki Wrocławskiej w Wałbrzychu oraz polonistykę na Uniwersytecie Pedagogicznym w Krakowie. Zadebiutował w 1969 roku w cotygodniowym almanachu "Życie Literackie". Artur Sandauer pisał o nim, że jego poezja dociera "wprost do serca zwykłych ludzi". Od 1975 był redaktorem naczelnym czasopisma "Wieści", później w Krakowie Dziennika Polskiego. Jego wiersze były częścią polskiego programu nauczania szkolnego. Jego teksty zostały opublikowane w wielu międzynarodowych antologiach. Wiele jego wierszy stało się szablonami piosenek, dla artystów takich jak Stare Dobre Małżeństwo, Elżbieta Adamiak, Hanna Banaszak, Krzysztof Myszkowski i Andrzej Zarycki. Jego wiersze zostały przetłumaczone na angielski, hebrajski, niemiecki, czeski, rosyjski, hiszpański i szwedzki.



## Józef Baran

Józef Baran was born January 17, 1947 in Borzęcin (34 miles east of Kraków). He graduated with degrees from the subsidiary of Wrocław University of Science and Technology in Wałbrzych and Polish philology at the Pedagogical University of Kraków. He debuted in 1969 in the weekly almanac "Życie Literackie". Artur Sandauer wrote about him that his poetry reaches "directly into the heart of ordinary people". Since 1975 he was chief editor of the journal "Wieści", later in Cracow Dziennik Polski. His poems were part of the Polish school material. His texts have been published in many international anthologies.

Many of his poems became templates for chansons, for artists including Stare Dobre Małżeństwo, Elżbieta Adamiak, Hanna Banaszak, Krzysztof Myszkowski and Andrzej Zarycki. His poems have been translated into English, Hebrew, German, Czech, Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

\*\*\*

piszę wiersze  
 coraz lżejsze  
 wyrzucając jak z balonu  
 balast rzeczywistości  
 by mogły się unosić  
 coraz wyżej i wyżej  
 przezroczyście  
 liryki czyste  
 napełnione  
 samą tylko  
 WIECZNOŚCIĄ

### Pochwała życia

wracaliśmy z pogrzebu  
 przed nami  
 jak okiem sięgnąć  
 rozciągało się życie  
 i zakwitowało w nim  
 milion  
 najpospolitszych pod słońcem  
 możliwości  
 które zgasły  
 pod powiekami zmarłego  
 odkrywane na nowo  
 mieniły się teraz  
 tęczowymi barwami  
 niepojęte jest  
 marnotrawstwo śmierci

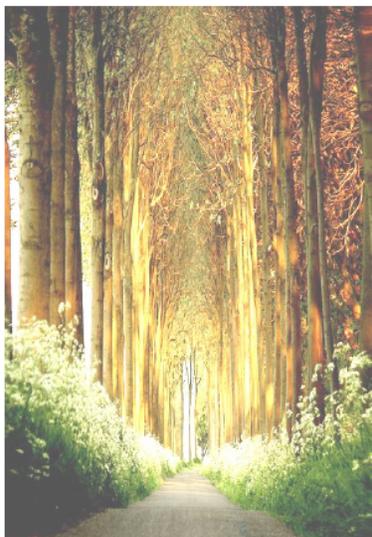


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I write  
 increasingly light  
 poems  
 casting off  
 the ballast of reality  
 as if from a balloon  
 to let them soar  
 higher and higher  
 the pure  
 transparent lyrics  
 filled only with ETERNITY

### In Praise Of Life

we were returning from a funeral  
 before us  
 as far as our eyes could see  
 life spread  
 and blossomed  
 with a million  
 possibilities  
 the most ordinary under the sun  
 which had faded  
 under the dead person's eyelids  
 now newly discovered  
 they sparkled  
 with the colors of the rainbow  
 how incomprehensible  
 is death's wastefulness



## Kobieta chora na raka

Dosiada się do stolika  
I płonie od stóp do głów  
A my siedzimy przy niej jakby nigdy nic  
Z pełną gębą niepotrzebnych słów

Ktoś odsunął się ciut – ciut  
Żeby nie zająć się płomieniem  
Ktoś inny w skorupę lodową się oblókł  
Udając że o niczym nie wie

A ona mówi mówi mówi  
Jakby chciała nieszczęście zagadać  
I nie wiadomo czy się z nią śmiać  
Czy nad nią płakać?

I nie wiadomo jak jej pomóc  
Gdy jest cała w ognistej obręczy  
I próbuje z niej uciekać  
Na próżno do innego człowieka

Bo ziemia pali się jej pod nogami  
Bo niebo pali się jej nad głową  
Bo słowa palą się jej w ustach  
Bo jej cały świat płonie

Bo chciałaby wyskoczyć z płonącego ciała  
I nie umie

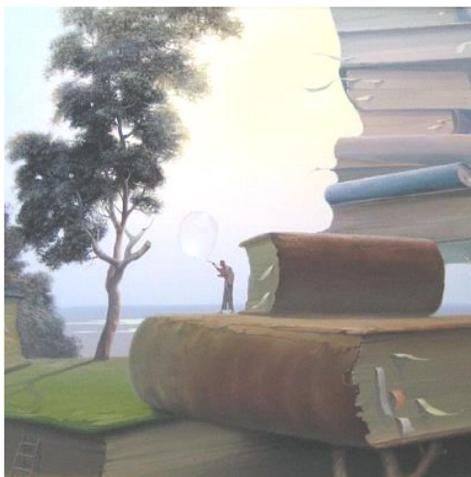
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a najbardziej jestem poetą  
ludzi nieśmiałych  
tych z osikowym liściem uśmiechu  
przylepionym do warg i drżącym  
za każdym silniejszym  
podmuchem słów

tych ubogich krewnych duńskiego  
królewicza hamleta  
którzy mają złą dykcję  
i choć za każdym krokiem mówią  
być albo nie być  
czynią to tak po cichu i niepewnie  
że żaden szekspir z tego  
nie zrobił jeszcze tragedii

ho ho kto tam wie  
co w nich małych drzemie  
i na świat  
nigdy gęby  
nie otworzy

jacy zakłęci śpiący rycerze  
czekają w nich na odgłos trąbki  
aby spaść z furkotem orlich  
skrzydeł  
i wyzwolić okupowane  
od urodzenia przez wrogie straże  
bramy ust



## Woman With Cancer

She joins us at the table  
And she burns from head to toe  
But we sit next to her as if nothing had happened  
With mouths full of unnecessary words

Someone pulls back a tiny bit  
To stay clear of the fire  
Someone else puts on an ice shell  
Pretending not to know

She talks and talks and talks  
As if she wanted to talk down her ill fortune  
And we don't know if we should laugh with her  
Or cry over her

We don't know how to help her  
When she is all in a fiery hoop  
Trying in vain to escape  
To another person

The earth burns under her feet  
The sky burns over her head  
The words burn in her mouth  
Her whole world is on fire

She'd like to jump out of her burning body  
But she doesn't know how

\*\*\*

I am foremost a poet  
of shy people  
those with the aspen leaf of a smile  
stuck to their lips and quaking  
at every stronger  
flurry of words

those poor relatives of the danish  
prince hamlet  
who have poor diction  
and even if with each step they say  
to be or not to be  
they do it so quietly and hesitantly  
that no shakespeare  
has made a tragedy of it

ho ho but who can tell  
what lies dormant in those small ones  
and never opens  
its mouth  
to the world

what enchanted sleeping warriors  
wait inside them for the sound of the trumpet  
to advance with the flutter of eagle wings  
and free the gates of lips  
occupied since birth  
by enemy guards

By Fr. Adam Czarnecki

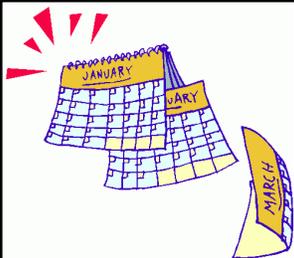
All translations by Ewa Hryniewicz-Yarbrough

## 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	Church of the Transfiguration 8 Concord St., New Britain, CT 06053-2904 Rev. Paul Dudek, Administrator (860)229-2693
Holy Cross Parish 320 High St, Central Falls, RI 02863-3108 Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich, Jr, Administrator (401)722-5130	Divine Providence Parish 11 Silver St., Norwich, CT 06360-4731 Rev. Christopher Rogalski, Pastor (860)887-2812
Our Saviour's Parish 500 Smithfield Rd., Woonsocket, RI 02895-6285 Rev. Henryk Vos, Pastor (401)762-3072	Holy Saviour Parish 118 Prospect St., Naugatuck, CT 06770-3056 Rev. Paul Dudek, Pastor (203)729-4035
Holy Cross Parish 723 Enfield St., Enfield, CT 06082-2903 Very Rev. Joseph Soltysiak, Administrator (860)745-5066	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 Very Rev. Fryderyk Banas, Pastor (413)967-5233	St. Casimir Parish 240 Quinnipiac St., Wallingford, CT 01850-2313 Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski, Administrator (203)294-8888
Holy Mother of the Rosary Parish 26 Bell St., Chicopee, MA 01013-3002 Rev. Pawel Lukaszewicz, Pastor (413)592-2032	St. John the Baptist Parish 23 Golway St., Manchester, CT 06042-2016 Rev. Adam Piekarczywski-Administrator (860)643-5906
Holy Name of Jesus Parish 15 Thayer St., South Deerfield, MA 01373-1136 Rev. Robert Koerber, Administrator (413)665-2129 / (413)530-8575	St. Joseph's Parish 1300 Stratford Rd., Stratford, CT 06615-7639 Rev. Thomas Walsh, Administrator (203)923-2424
Holy Trinity Parish 68 Lake St., Webster, MA 01570-2160 Rev. Henryk Vos, Administrator (508)-943-0608 / (401)-762-3072	

## Diocesan Chaplains

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



**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS:**  
*If you are in the neighborhood we welcome you to join us  
for upcoming event*

**Divine Providence Parish, Norwich, CT**

- **SUNDAY SERVICES:** Mass at 9:00am and 12:00pm every Sunday
- **DAILY WEEKDAY SERVICES** - Mass at 8:00am
- **HEALING SERVICES with LIGHT LUNCH-** Mass at 11:00am every third Wednesday of the month in the church social hall
- **BIBLE STUDY** -After Sunday 9:00am Mass in the Social Hall
- **FIRST SUNDAY BREAKFASTS** Breakfast follows every First Sunday 9:00am Mass in the social Hall
- **SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR-** Coffee and snacks after 9:00am Mass every Sunday except the first Sunday
- **September 30, Sunday** -Polish Brunch and ANS Bake Sale, after 9:00am Mass, 10:00am to 2:00pm
- **October Sundays** -Rosary after Masses
- **October 14, Sunday** -Christian Family Sunday, Election of Parish Officers, after Social Hour after 9:00am Mass
- **October 29, Sunday** - All Saints and All Souls Service at Cemetery at 2:00pm
- **November 1 and 2** -All Saints and All Souls Days
- **November 3, Saturday** -Harvest Festival & Flea Market, 8:00am to 2:00pm
- **November 12, Saturday** - Veterans' Day
- **November 18, Sunday** - Parish Thanksgiving Dinner, 1:00pm
- **November 22, Thursday** - Thanksgiving Day
- **December Sundays** - Advent Services
- **December 15, Saturday** -Wreathes Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony at Cemetery, 2:00pm
- **December 16 and 17** - Services at 4:00pm
- **December 24, Monday** - Christmas Eve Service, Pasterka, at 10:00pm
- **December 25, Tuesday** - Christmas Day, Mass at 9:00am
- **January 1, Tuesday** - New Year's Day
- **January 6, Sunday** - Service of Readings and Carols, 1:00pm and Christmas Dinner, 2:00pm
- **Taste of Poland/BINGO Nights** - Every second Friday of the month from 5:00pm to 7:00pm,
- **Bingo** at 7:00pm in the Social Hall

## St Valentine Parish, Northampton, MA

- **PULASKI DAY PARADE** - Monday, October 8, 2018 (Columbus Day) (Holy Mass at 10:00 am in Elizabeth Ann Seton Church; parade steps off at 11:15 am)
- **HARVEST DINNER** - Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 12 noon
- **POLSKIE KOLEDY (Polish Christmas Carols) SING ALONG** - Sunday, January 6, 2018 at 2:00 pm

## St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA

- Saturday, September 8, 11 am, re-organizational meeting of Eastern Diocese United Choirs.
- Saturday, October 20, Polish Food Festival, 10 am-3 pm, parish center
- Sunday, October 28, All Souls Service, 1 pm, parish cemetery, Pulpit Rock Road, Pelham, NH.
- Sunday, November 4, 12:30 p.m Annual Youth Group Dinner/Program, parish center.

## Our Saviour's Parish, Woonsocket, RI

- **Saturday, October 6th- Blessing of the Animals.** At 5pm, Father Henryk will hold a Blessing of the Animals service in front of the church.
- **Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> - Meat Raffle.** Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. A free light supper, including beverages and dessert will be served. Join us for a great night of fun!
- **Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> - Annual Bazaar**– Great food! Games! Silent Auction! Pastries! Kid's games and fun!
- **Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at 4pm**

**THE MESSENGER-Quarterly Newsletter**  
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Editor: Rev. Henryk Wos, PhD

Corrections: Mrs. Karen Sobiechowski

Controller: Rt. Rev. Bp. Paul Sobiechowski

- 2018 THE MESSENGER deadline for articles:

**Fall issue:**

**Winter issue: November 23**

**The e-mail address to send articles is:**

**woshenryk@gmail.com**

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!