



PARISH ORGANISATION

ADMINISTRATOR (PASTOR)

- Rev. Adam Piekarczywski - fr.adam@mail.com

PARISH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN & SECRETARY - Joseph Bednarz

VICE CHAIRMAN - Maureen O. Johnson

TREASURER - Georgianna LaFranchise

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Edwin Koski

DIRECTORS - Stephen Lukas Jr., Nancy McHugh

PARISH COMMITTEE

meets normally once a month.

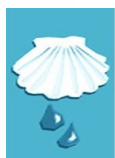
PASTOR EMERITUS

- Rev. Henry Smolinski - henrysmoct@juno.com

SACRAMENTS

- BAPTISMS:** must be arranged in person
- MARRIAGES:** 6 months prior arrangement
- CONFESSIONS:** by appointment
- SICK VISITS:** by appointment
- FUNERALS:** family should contact Fr. Adam as soon as possible

If you have a family member or a friend in the hospital or sick at home wishing a pastoral visit, notify Fr. Adam as soon as possible to schedule a visit.



SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042

Official website: www.saintjohnspncc.com

Facebook: [John the Baptist, Manchester CT](https://www.facebook.com/JohntheBaptistManchesterCT)

Rectory phone: 860-643-5906

ADMINISTRATOR - Rev. Adam Piekarczywski

(Ash Wednesday) March 6, 2019

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY!

Saint John the Baptist Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church has been an integral part of Manchester community for almost 90 years meeting the religious needs first for the Polish immigrants, and later for all residents of the Connecticut State.

Consider joining us for Sunday Worship! For more than two thousand years, the Sunday Eucharist has been at the very heart of the life of the Christian Church. There is no substitute for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass! Everything we are and everything we do flows into and out of this act of Divine Worship.

In addition, Catholics know that they must continually nourish their spiritual lives apart from Sunday Eucharist. Daily prayer, frequent reception of the sacraments, devotions, bible study, ongoing Christian formation and an active life of charity are the building blocks of what it means to be a CHRISTIAN-CATHOLIC. You will find all of these activities in our parish and we encourage your participation.

If you have questions or suggestions about the parish, you may contact us. Please feel free to stop by the Parish Office or to speak to one of the priests or lay members after Sunday Mass.

You are very welcome to our community!

*Fr. Adam Piekarczywski
Administrator*



HOLY MASS

. 5.00 pm

with the imposition
of ashes

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

We encourage you to offer a Mass on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special personal (family) need.

TODAY'S MASS INTENTION 5 pm

For our parish community that the Lent season may be a special time for each one of us!



Ash Wednesday

Contemporary Mass: Mass Book p.63

ENTRANCE HYMN - FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS

1 Forty days and forty nights
you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled.

2 Shall not we your sorrow share
and from worldly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing pray'r,
strong with you to suffer pain?

3 Then if Satan on us press,
flesh or spirit to assail,
victor in the wilderness,
grant that we not faint nor fail!

4 So shall we have peace divine:
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine,
such as served you faithfully.

5 Keep, O keep us, Savior dear,
ever constant by your side,
that with you we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

3/6 (Ash Wednesday) The season of Lent begins today!

3/8 (Friday) Stations of the Cross at 5pm. 5-6.30pm - Pierogi&Golabki Sale in our church hall.

3/10 (Sunday) Bitter Lamentations will be sung in our church every Sunday of Lent at 9.40am (in English) & 11.40am (in Polish). Come before the Mass to join this moving and very traditional Polish Lenten devotion.

- **POLISH DINNER on March 2, 2019 - summary:** dinners served = approx. 72. Dinner tickets income: \$1550; Dinner raffle income: \$226; Expenses: \$355,71. Total amount of **\$1421** goes to the FENCE FUND.
- **Community Project for 2019:** fence around the backyard of the rectory. A fundraising goal for this project is **\$5,000**. You will find "FENCE FUND" envelopes in the back of the church – you can mail it back to us with cash or check payable to: St. John the Baptist Church – Fence Fund. Even if you can't make a large gift, know that every little bit helps! **Thank you for your generosity! Up to now we've raised \$3,000.**
- **Lent is a very special time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.** We would like to remind you about the possibility to offer a Holy Mass in your own, particular intention. Take one of the envelopes from the back of the Church, write down your intention and return it to Fr. Adam or mail it to St. John's.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Our readings speak of ways of changing our directions (metanoia or repentance). It should be both a community response (First Reading) and an individual response (Gospel). We need to acknowledge our sinfulness, our missing the mark, our being a-theos (away from GOD). We also need to ask GOD to help us to re-orient ourselves to being ad-Deum (toward GOD). And we are reminded that now is the time to spend our energy and efforts on this change of direction.

Today is Ash Wednesday, a day when we are marked with an ashen cross on our foreheads to remind us to be people who live by the cross, individuals who are but ashes in the overall picture, but persons who can make a difference if we align ourselves with the all-mighty and ever-forgiving GOD. Ashes have been a sign of repentance for many millennia. They signify our insignificance and our ultimate destiny without GOD – returning to the dust of the earth. With GOD, however, there is a chance for new life, fuller life, eternal life.

So what does all this mean for us in a practical way? We are called to look at our lives and see where we are headed, not just in our daily living, but also in the ultimate view of the world. We need to look at our relationship with GOD and with others and see where we have missed the mark (sinned) and what we must do to get back on target (toward GOD). And this whole process must be done not in showy way so that people will say: “Oh, look, at that person, they are doing penance.” We must put into practice the acts of mortification spoken of in today’s Gospel: almsgiving, prayer, and fasting.

READING 1

A reading from the book of the prophet Joel.

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment. Perhaps he will again relent and leave behind him a blessing, Offerings and libations for the LORD, your God. Blow the trumpet in Zion! proclaim a fast, call an assembly; Gather the people, notify the congregation; Assemble the elders, gather the children and the infants at the breast; Let the bridegroom quit his room

JL 2:12-18

and the bride her chamber.
Between the porch and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep,
And say, "Spare, O LORD, your people,
and make not your heritage a reproach,
with the nations ruling over them!
Why should they say among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"
Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land
and took pity on his people.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 51

„Have mercy, O Lord, for we have sinned.”

READING 2

A reading from the second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters:
We are ambassadors for Christ,
as if God were appealing through us.
We implore you on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.
For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin,
so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.
Working together, then,
we appeal to you not to receive the grace of

2 COR 5:20-6:2

God in vain. For he says:
In an acceptable time I heard you,
and on the day of salvation I helped you.
Behold, now is a very acceptable time;
behold, now is the day of salvation.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory be to You, Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you. "When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

"When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT - HOLY SPIRIT COME TO US

Holy Spirit come to us.
Kindle in us the fire of your love.
Holy Spirit come to us.
Holy Spirit come to us.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES - JESUS REMEMBER ME

Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.



OFFERTORY SONG - O, MY JESUS

1 O, my Jesus, knelt in anguish
On that night of pain and grief.
Lo, an angel soothes Your sorrow,
Brings unto Your soul relief.

*Come, my Jesus, Come, my Jesus,
Come, my Jesus, hear my pray'r.
Grant me, Lord, Your grief to share.*

2 O, my Jesus, how You suffer,
From the piercing thorny crown.
Your most holy face is crimson
As your head in blood does drown.

3 O, my Jesus, they have tied You,
With such force to the flogging post.
Whipped and tortured, flagellated,
For our sins You became the Host.

COMMUNION SONG - HALLOWED BE FOREVER
(BAĐŹŹE POZDROWIONA)

Hallowed be forever, Living Host Divine,
In which Christ our Savior hidden is sublime.

Hallowed be forever, Shepherd Crucified,
For us Thou didst suffer, for us Thou hast died.

REF: Hail Thou Jesus, Son of Mary,
Thou art God eternal, Won'drous mystery.

Hallowed be forever, Thou Angelic Bread,
Sacrament Most Holy, by which we are fed.

FINAL HYMN - JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD AND SAVIOR

1 Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
Lamb of God so wont to suffer;
You did bear Your heavy cross in anguish,
For the sins in which all men would languish.

3. Then the Lord His last words speaking.
Slumped His head as life was leaving.
Mother, Mother for her son lamenting;
Barely living, standing there and grieving.

2 Weep, O man, for His sad station,
How He suffers degradation.
Jesus, Jesus on the cross is dying,
Sunlight's brilliance now in darkness lying.