

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 03/23 (III Sunday in Lent) Holy Mass at 10 am. [Catechism class](#) for children. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) follows the Mass. No Mass Intention so far!
- 03/24 (Monday) Church Hall repainting at 4pm. Big THANK YOU to all volunteers.
- 03/29 (Saturday) Lenten Retreat in Plantsville at 10am.
- 03/30 (IV Sunday in Lent) Holy Mass at 10 am. [Catechism class](#) for children. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) follows the Mass.

- FREE FOOD PANTRY in the Church Hall.

ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY NEWS

- Recent project: **renovation of the choir space (catechism classroom)**: additional heating and security camera, windows' sealing and painting, wall painting, monitor for catechism classes...
- Upcoming birthdays & anniversaries: JEAN PASTORE (03/24), VIRGINIA NARKON (03/29). Happy birthday!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarczyewski

March 23, 2025

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

III SUNDAY IN LENT

MASS INTENTION - 10am

For the benefactors of St. John's Church—both living and deceased.

INTROIT

C: For though the fig tree blossom not, nor fruit be on the vines, yet will I rejoice in the Lord and exult in my saving God.

R: Happy the just, for it will be well with them, the fruit of their works they will eat.

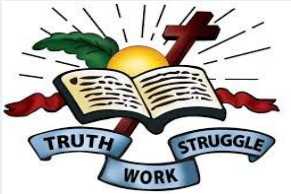
C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



HOLY MASS

. 10.00 am



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.

READING 1

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, “I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned.” When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, “Moses! Moses!” He answered, “Here I am.” God said, “Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers, “ he continued, “the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.” Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the LORD said,

EX 3:1-8A, 13-15

“I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey.” Moses said to God, “But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ if they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what am I to tell them?” God replied, “I am who am.” Then he added, “This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you.” God spoke further to Moses, “Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. “This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations.”

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

„The Lord is kind and merciful.”

PS 103

READING 2

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

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and all of them were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert.

1 COR 10:1-6, 10-12

These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

LK 13:1-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory be to You, Lord.

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them— do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!”

And he told them this parable: “There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?’ He said to him in reply, ‘Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the Gospel, Jesus address His disciples with messages of GOD’s universal mercy in two ways: relating “news” items of the day, and telling a story (parable). First, He recalls events that were in the present consciousness of His listeners. Only in Luke’s Gospel do we hear of the two dramatic events that are presented in today’s pericope: Pilate’s mixing human blood with the blood of sacrifice and the deaths of people by the tumbling tower of Siloam. Jesus uses these tragic events to say that GOD did not cause these events to punish sinners. Obviously if GOD was going to punish sinners, a lot more people (in fact all the people) would have had to undergo similar experiences because all mortals are sinners (with Jesus and His mother excepted). Jesus emphasizes the fact that GOD does not cause terrible things to happen as a result of the sinfulness of individuals. GOD does not seek to punish evil doers in this life-time, but desires that all repent and turn back. Jesus urges His disciples to repent (metanoia – turn back to GOD [ad Deum]). The ultimate punishment after death will be a worse than the fate experienced by those who went through the tragic events which Jesus reported earlier.