

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 12/14 (III Sunday of Advent) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the hall.
- 12/21 (IV Sunday of Advent) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the hall. *Mass Intention: For ++ JAN & KAROLINA STEPIEN.*
- 12/24 (Christmas Eve) **Christmas Dinner (Wigilia)** at 4.30pm followed by Solemn **Shepherds' Mass** at 6pm. *No MASS INTENTION so far!*
- 12/25 (Christmas Day) Solemn **Holy Mass** at 10am. No **Catechism Class** for kids. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the hall. *Mass Intention: For the families of St. John's Parish.*

- This year, we would like to invite everyone to join us for our traditional **Wigilia Dinner on Wednesday, December 24 (Christmas Vigil)**. The dinner will feature traditional Polish dishes and will take place just before the Vigil (Shepherds') Mass — so that after the meal, we can all celebrate together in the church.

A \$20 donation per adult will be collected at the dinner (children eat free).

If you are interested in participating, please add your name to the sign-up list located in the church vestibule. Let's share this beautiful tradition and the joy of Christmas Eve as one parish family!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarczyewski

December 14, 2025

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

III SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTION

For + JANE KONOPACKI (req. by Diane Makles).

INTROIT

C: Awake and sing, you who lie in the dust. For your dew is a dew of light, and the land of shades gives birth.

R: The lowly will ever find joy in the Lord, and the poor rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

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 the prophet Isaiah.

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you.

IS 35:1-6A, 10

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing.
Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

„ Lord, come and save us.”

PS 146

READING 2

A reading from the Letter of St. James.

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.

JAS 5:7-10

Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates.
Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL

MT 11:2-11

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory be to You, Lord.

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."
As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the Gospel today we see the Reign of GOD in transition. John the Baptist had proclaimed the immediacy of the Reign of GOD. He knew it was near at hand. He was dedicated to announcing its coming. And just as the Reign of GOD was beginning in the ministry of Jesus, John was imprisoned. John was the last of the Hebrew prophets – following in the footsteps of the prophets of old. When the Reign of GOD would begin and be established, John’s role would be over. And so he sends his followers to Jesus so they could see the transition from what was foretold by the former prophets to what is now taking place in and through Jesus. Jesus tells John’s followers that the prophecy of Isaiah, which we heard in the First Reading, is now being fulfilled. GOD’s Reign is starting, the disabled are being restored to full health, the barren and lifeless are being restored to life, and the GOoD News is being announced – the Reign of GOD has begun. Jesus then speaks about John the Baptist. He proclaims John’s role as a prophet who prepares the way for One Who is coming to establish the new Reign of GOD. He raises John the Baptist to the highest rank among the prophets of old.