

# COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 12/21 (IV Sunday of Advent) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the hall.
- 12/24 (Christmas Eve) **Christmas Dinner (Wigilia)** at 4.30pm followed by Solemn **Shepherds' Mass** at 6pm. *Mass Intention: For ++ JOHN & SOPHIE WROBEL.*
- 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.*

- Please remember that for Catholics, the **Christmas obligation** is fulfilled by participating in at least one Holy Mass on December 24 or December 25. If you are able, you are encouraged to attend both celebrations, but one Mass is sufficient to fulfill the obligation.
- A huge thank you to **Magda** for beautifully decorating our church for Christmas. (the Nativity scene will be placed in front of the altar later this week). We also extend our sincere gratitude to **Aurora** for generously sponsoring the additional decorations we needed to purchase this year.

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

at St. John's

**Christmas Eve (Dec 24)**  
**Shepherds' Mass at 6pm**

**Christmas Day (Dec 25)**  
**Solemn Mass at 10am**



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarczyewski

December 21, 2025

# BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

## IV SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### MASS INTENTION

For ++ JAN & KAROLINA STEPIEN (req. by Joseph Stepien).

### INTROIT

C: Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world.

R: Before the mountains were born, the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity You are God.

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 LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying:  
Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God;  
let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered,  
"I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!"  
Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David!  
Is it not enough for you to weary people,  
must you also weary my God?  
Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

IS 7:10-14

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*"Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory."*

PS 24

READING 2

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus,  
called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him we have received the grace

ROM 1:1-7

of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

GOSPEL

MT 1:18-24

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Glory be to You, Lord.*

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

As you continue your process of preparing for the First Coming (Advent) of Jesus in His human nature (Christmas), may you take the time to reflect on what it means that the Son of GOD has humbled Himself and taken on our nature, being born as an Infant, and living in the human condition.

It is so easy to get caught up in the externals of Christmas. Obviously they help to make this season so special. We enjoy the colored lights, the food, the cards, the Christmas carols, the presents, and the Christmas trees. It is important, however, to take the time to focus on what we are celebrating: GOD’s love manifested in the Son of GOD becoming human and sharing life with us, and for us. The Almighty and Eternal GOD has chosen to enter history and limit Himself in the person of Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary. It was a total absurdity for those to whom the event was first announced and proclaimed. We cannot take it for granted. We must try to comprehend how awesome the Incarnation of Jesus is.