

# The National Catholic Church of Holy Trinity and Saint Joseph

A Catholic Community that celebrates diversity and whose beliefs are based on the Holy Scripture, Christian Tradition, and Church Ecumenical Synods.



**pncc.org**  
"Through the years.."

*We welcome you and invite you to join our parish family.*

## Lent & Easter Liturgies Announced

Father Kość announced the following liturgies for Lent and Easter:

### February 14 - Ash Wednesday

7 pm - Holy Mass & Distribution of Ashes

### March 11

9 am - Lenten Reflections and Confessions followed by bagels and pastries in the parish center.

### March 25 - Palm Sunday

9 am - English Mass with Blessing of Palms

11 am - Polish Mass with Blessing of Palms

### March 29 - Holy Thursday

7 pm - Holy Thursday Liturgy

### March 30 - Good Friday

7 pm - Good Friday Liturgy

### March 31 - Holy Saturday

11 am - Holy Saturday Liturgy with Blessing of Food.

### April 1 - Easter

7 am - Resurrection Mass - Polish

9 am - Holy Mass - English

11 am - High Mass - Polish

During Lent Stations of the Cross will be celebrated following the 9 am mass. Bitter Lamentations will be sung following the 11 am mass.

## SUNDAY MASSES:

9:00 am - English

11:00 am - Polish

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Sundays at 10:00 am

## REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Please provide the pastor with your address to be placed on our mailing list

## MARRIAGES:

Please begin to make arrangements at least one year in advance with the pastor.

## BAPTISMS:

Please call the pastor's residence for information.

## SICK CALLS:

In emergency, at any time. Otherwise arrange with the pastor at least the day before.

## CONFESSIONS:

Please arrange with the pastor.

*Rev. Jan Kość*

*Pastor*

908-925-6537

908-925-6537

Parish Center

## ON THE WEB

[www.PNCCNJ.ORG](http://www.PNCCNJ.ORG)



Facebook

Praised Be The Name Of Our Lord  
Jesus Christ

## Parish Covered Dish Easter Dinner

The Parish Easter Dinner this year will take the form of a covered dish on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at noon. Members are invited to register their dish on the signup sheets in the parish center and church vestibule. If you can't bring your favorite item, a \$15 donation will be accepted. Please plan to attend.

## Donations Sought for Heating Expenses

Each winter we appeal to our members to consider a donation to help the parish meet its heating expenses. Your generosity last year was a tremendous help in meeting the heating bill. With this newsletter, we have included an envelope for this purpose. Your donation can be dropped into the Sunday Offering or mailed to our parish c/o Heat Fund.

February 2018

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## 2018 – Year of the Family

In 2018 the church invites us to the **Year of the Family** focusing on the Holy Family to strengthen our families to live by the Christian faith.



Each month will focus on a different component of the family:

- January - In January we focused on the example of the Holy Family. A daily family prayer you can use with your family can be found in the church vestibule. Please take as many as you wish.
- February - The importance of unconditional love in the family.
- March - Celebration of Lent as a family.
- April - Living out our Easter Joy as a family and parish family.
- May - The love of our Blessed Mother - her submission to the Will of God an example for all.
- June - Sacred Vocations Month - Our Commitment to Sacred Vocations.
- July - The important of family time and vacation.
- August - The importance of youth in the family.
- September - Sharing our gifts and talents in the home and parish.
- October - Clergy Appreciation Month
- November - Family gratitude.

### Upcoming Community Service Projects

#### Toiletries & Socks Drive

Parish members are currently collecting toiletries and socks for the homeless. These will be distributed through our partnership with Bridges Outreach in Summit, NJ. Drop off your donation in the parish center. The drive ends May 6.

#### Operation Gratitude

More information will be released as the service program is defined.

### Pierogi Making Party

Volunteers will meet on Saturday, February 10 to make pierogi. The party starts at 9 a.m. Experienced makers and those looking to learn are invited to lend a hand. Place your orders on the signup sheets in the church center and church vestibule.

### St. Joseph / Church Anniversary / Corned Beef Dinner Announced

The Annual Parish Corned Beef Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 18 following the 11 AM Mass. Tickets are \$15 per person and will be available at the door. No charge for children and youth 12 and under.

### Annual Parish Membership Meeting to Establish Programs for 2018

The Parish Council has set Sunday, March 4, for parish members to gather to discuss the mission, programs and finances of the parish. This annual meeting will begin at 10:30 AM. Please plan to attend and offer your ideas for enriching the programs of the parish.

### Parents / Family Appreciation Day Breakfast Scheduled

A combined breakfast to honor the mothers and fathers of the parish will be held on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the parish center. This year's breakfast will be a covered dish. A signup sheet registering your favorite dish will be posted in the parish center and church vestibule as the date gets closer. All parish members are invited to attend this breakfast.

## Sharing Time and Treasure

**Well Done Good and Faithful Steward ... Enter into the joy of your Lord**

– Matthew 25:21

**Time** is a most valuable commodity in our very busy lives. We all wish to have more of it. There are so many good things to do and accomplish. But to include a sharing of time for our parish and our faith is vital.

Since our last newsletter, we acknowledge

- Attorney Ellyn Draikiwicz who continues to offer her legal talents to the parish and diocese unselfishly.
- Those who serve the many ministries of our parish: Acolytes, Lectors, Collectors, Choir Members, Votive Candle Care, Parish Maintenance, Sunday Social Hour and Parish Council.
- The many parish members who on two occasions offered their time and talent to make Pierogi.
- Wladyslawa Kosc, Irene Rejterada and Eleanor Shamy for making Stuffed Cabbage for a fund raiser.
- Those who cleaned and decorated the church for Christmas.
- Alyssa Steele for coordinating the Thanksgiving Pie Sale with the assistance of Carolyn Harchar and Ryan Steele.
- Wladyslawa Kosc and Irene Rejterada for leading the cooking effort for the Christmas dinner and those who assisted during the dinner.
- Warren Downey who watches over the maintenance needs of the parish.
- Those who continue to do special things for our parish that go unnoticed.

**Treasure** for many of us is the hardest gift of all to share, yet it can be the most rewarding when shared properly and when used wisely.

During the past few months, many parish members have shared their treasure with the parish. We especially acknowledge those who week after week contribute their fair share in the Sunday Offering. This month we especially acknowledge:

- Barbara Muccia for her donation of the poinsettias that were placed on the altars for Christmas. This donation was made in memory of her husband, Anthony Muccia, and father, John Sibilski.
- Those who donated toys to the parish Toy Drive.
- Those who supported the Thanksgiving Pie Sale.
- Those who donated the food for the Christmas Dinner.
- Those who re-evaluated and increased their weekly contribution to our parish.
- Those who support the Sunday Social Hour with their donations.
- Those who make financial contributions to our parish that go unnoticed.

### Life Events

We mourned with Lou Scerbo and the Scerbo and Czubowicz families on the death of Charlotte Scerbo. Charlotte was a life-long member of the parish and served on the Parish Council for many many years. May she rest in Peace.

### Parish Adoration Society [ANS] to Host Seniorate Corpus Christi Celebration

Parishes from New York and New Jersey will gather in our parish on Sunday, June 3rd at 4 pm to celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. Our Parish ANS will host those in attendance to cake and coffee following the liturgy. Please plan to attend.

### Favored Local Businesses That Deserve Our Support

We bring to your attention the generosity of the following businesses that have donated to our parish, offered their service to our parish free of charge or at extreme discounts:

- Atty. Ellyn Draikiwicz (our parish member) of the law firm Bourne, Noll & Kenyon - Summit NJ
- Dreyer Farms - Cranford, NJ

Please support these businesses at every opportunity.

February 2018

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## Lighting a Votive Candle

*This article was published in the January 2018 Newsletter of St. Mary's National Catholic Church in Parma Ohio. It was authored by Father Jason Soltysiak. Portions of that article are included here with the permission of the author.*



In general, candles have always been part of the church. Judaism featured what is familiar in our parishes, an eternal light, often in a lamp visual to all in the temple. That light exists in our parish church just above the Sacrificial Altar. Practically, candles had to be present; as Christianity grew in the shadows of the Roman Empire, early-form Mass was held secretly. It was often in basements, caves, river-sides, and other secluded venues.

A candle also symbolizes God's light, or, as Jesus said in John 8:12: "I am the Light of the world."

In the Middle Ages, the symbolism of the votive candles was elaborated. St. Radegund (d. 587) described a practice whereby a person would light a candle or several candles which equaled his own height; this was called "measuring to" such a saint. Although it may seem peculiar to us, this "measuring" actually reflects the idea of the candle representing the person in faith who has come into the light to offer his prayer."

Some Medieval spiritual writers expanded the imagery of the candle itself: beeswax symbolized the purity of Christ; the wick, the human soul of Christ; and the light, His divinity. Also, the burning candle symbolized a sacrifice, which is made in both the offering of the prayer and the acceptance of the Lord's will.

"Votive" comes from the Latin word "votum", meaning promise, dedication or simply "prayer." It reinforces the idea that the candles represent our prayers before God.

As humans, we are body and soul and our prayers often need to be expressed in a physical, tangible way. This helps our soul be at rest and is a way to deepen our spirituality. Similar to incense, the light of the candles is a physical reminder that points our souls to God.

With this history and understanding, we see votive candles are a connection from people to God. Any prayer can be offered, be it for the dead, for self, or for thanksgiving,

## Stay Informed & Connect with the Parish Through Email

If you aren't already receiving emails from the parish, please consider sharing your email with us so we can keep you updated on parish programs on a weekly basis. You can connect:

- By sending your email to the parish email address: [PNCCofHolyTrinityandStJoseph@gmail.com](mailto:PNCCofHolyTrinityandStJoseph@gmail.com)
- By submitting your email address through the **Get Connected** page of the parish website.
- Giving your email address to any member of the Parish Council.

## Are You Looking for a Parish Home?

You may be receiving this newsletter as a result of visiting our parish or supporting one of its events. We are a Catholic Community whose beliefs are based on Holy Scripture, Christian Tradition and Church Ecumenical Synods. We are Catholic. We celebrate diversity. If you are looking for a church home, please consider our parish. We strive to be a family to each other: a family whose members seek to see God's presence in their lives, who support each other in life's journey and who strive to reach out in Christ's Name offering love, acceptance and a place of joy to all. Please contact Father Kość for more information.

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