

ANSWERS TO SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS

Our church is made up of members with many ethnic backgrounds. Although our Church has its roots in the 19th Century Polish immigration, today the church is made up of members with many ethnic backgrounds. Mass, the sermon and services are celebrated in English (Polish and Spanish).

CAN A DIVORCED PERSON REMARRY IN THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Each Diocese has a commission, which studies each request for marriage by persons who have been divorced. Under certain conditions marriages may be annulled or dissolved and permission granted for Sacramental marriage. Each case is treated on an individual basis. The Church tries to be as understanding and helpful as possible.

BIRTH CONTROL - WHAT DOES OUR CHURCH SAY ABOUT IT?

The position of the Church regarding birth control: It is a personal matter between husband and wife.

I AM PREVIOUSLY DIVORCED. CAN I RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

No one is denied the freedom to worship. Those who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

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WHAT WE BELIEVE

The National Catholic Church of Holy Trinity and Saint Joseph

407 Ziegler Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036



Our Church Symbol

TRUTH

WORK

STRUGGLE

The symbol of the (Polish) National Catholic Church summarizes in its outward form the substance of Christianity.

THE BOOK – represents the revealed Word of God.

THE SUN – is the sign of religious freedom and fervor.

THE CROSS – is the mark of suffering and consecration for others.

THE PALM – is the symbol of well-earned peace.

We are to incorporate these Christian principles in our lives by “Truth, Work and Struggle.”

What is the National Catholic Church?

It is a Catholic and Apostolic Church, preserving the faith of the Apostles and having apostolic succession with an unbroken line of bishops from the Apostles of Jesus Christ, to the present day bishops and priests.

IT IS A CATHOLIC CHURCH – rooted in Scripture, based on tradition and accepting the decisions of the first Seven Councils of the undivided Church.

IT IS AN APOSTOLIC CHURCH – preserving the Apostolic Succession and teachings of the Apostles.

IT IS A SACRAMENTAL CHURCH – which acknowledges Seven Sacraments: Baptism and Confirmation, The Word of God, Penance, Holy Eucharist, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony.

WHAT IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Although we have the apostolic succession from the first apostles, we have differences of belief from the Roman Catholic Church. Our Prime Bishop and bishops are elected by the church members and clergy meeting in synod. In other words, we have a democratic process where the members (congregations) have a voice and vote in the material church matters.

CAN PRIESTS IN THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH MARRY?

Our priests can marry. The Holy Scriptures states that many of the Apostles were married including St. Peter. We believe our priests should be able to enjoy married life and raising a family.

HOW DOES THE CHURCH WORSHIP?

The central act of our worship is Holy Mass celebrated in the language of the people. Mass is the Sacrifice of the New Testament offered by the priest in which bread and wine are consecrated as the mystical Body and Blood of Christ. Mass is the perpetual commemoration of Christ's Sacrifice upon the Cross, offered once for all time. Contemporary services, Vespers, Stations of the Cross, lamentations, devotions, morning and evening prayer and litanies are also a part of the liturgical practice of the Church during the appropriate seasons.

HOW DO I RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE?

Two forms of penance are administered by the Church. General confession is given during the Penitential Rite of each Mass. You are expected to have made an examination of conscience prior to Mass. At the appropriate time, you confess your sins silently to God, then the priest will administer absolution.

Private confession is given to anyone requesting it and to young people from the time of their first penance until they are 16 years of age. Advent and Lenten Penitential Services are held during the respective seasons.

THE EUCHARIST HOW IS IT ADMINISTERED?

Holy Communion is given under two forms: Consecrated Bread and Wine, which is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The Eucharist is given by Intinction,

