



## PARISH ORGANISATION

### ADMINISTRATOR (PASTOR)

- Rev. Adam Piekarczywski - fr.adam@mail.com

### PARISH COMMITTEE

**CHAIRMAN** - Joseph Bednarz

**SECRETARY** - Harriett Zawistowski

**TREASURER** - Georgianna LaFranchise

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** - Edwin Koski

### PARISH COMMITTEE

*meets normally every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.*

### PASTOR EMERITUS

- Rev. Henry Smolinski - henrysmoct@juno.com

## SACRAMENTS

- BAPTISMS:** must be arranged in person
- MARRIAGES:** 6 months prior arrangement
- CONFESSIONS:** by appointment
- SICK VISITS:** by appointment
- FUNERALS:** family should contact Fr. Adam as soon as possible

**If you have a family member or a friend in the hospital or sick at home wishing a pastoral visit, notify Fr. Adam as soon as possible to schedule a visit.**



# SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042

Official website: [www.saintjohnspncc.com](http://www.saintjohnspncc.com)

Facebook: [John the Baptist, Manchester CT](https://www.facebook.com/JohntheBaptistManchesterCT)

Rectory phone: 860-643-5906

ADMINISTRATOR - Rev. Adam Piekarczywski

December 2, 2018

# BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

## WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY!

**Saint John the Baptist Parish** of the Polish National Catholic Church has been an integral part of Manchester community for almost 90 years meeting the religious needs first for the Polish immigrants, and later for all residents of the Connecticut State.

**Consider joining us for Sunday Worship!** For more than two thousand years, the Sunday Eucharist has been at the very heart of the life of the Christian Church. There is no substitute for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass! Everything we are and everything we do flows into and out of this act of Divine Worship.

In addition, Catholics know that they must continually nourish their spiritual lives apart from Sunday Eucharist. Daily prayer, frequent reception of the sacraments, devotions, bible study, ongoing Christian formation and an active life of charity are the building blocks of what it means to be a CHRISTIAN-CATHOLIC. You will find all of these activities in our parish and we encourage your participation.

If you have questions or suggestions about the parish, you may contact us. Please feel free to stop by the Parish Office or to speak to one of the priests or lay members after Sunday Mass.

**You are very welcome to our community!**

*Fr. Adam Piekarczywski  
Administrator*



## HOLY MASS

**. 9.00 am**

- in English (po angielsku)

**. 11.00 am**

- in Polish (po polsku)

## MASS INTENTIONS

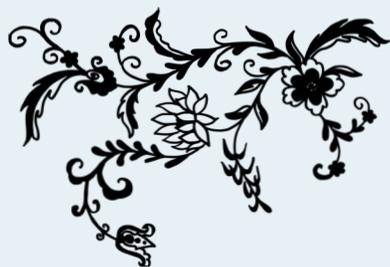
**If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention 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.**

## First Sunday of Advent

### TODAY'S MASS INTENTION 9 am

For a quick recovery  
from illness and return  
to our community for  
Fr. Henry Smolinski



### TODAY'S MASS INTENTION 11 am

Za naszą parafię, by roz-  
poczynający się Adwent  
był czasem duchowego  
odrodzenia.

### Contemporary Mass: Mass Book p.63

#### ENTRANCE HYMN - FROM HEAV'N A VOICE

From heav'n a voice comes down to earth;  
A star foretells the Savior's birth.  
It shines through darkness sin and grief,  
And brings to mankind's soul relief.

From Jesse's stem a flower springs,  
Which to the world salvation brings.  
God sent to us His Son, our Lord,  
Before the ages long adored.

Our fathers heard the tale of old;  
The prophet's words had long foretold  
That God would come so man might be  
Rescued from death eternally.

#### INTROIT

C: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to Your name, Most High.

**R: To proclaim Your love in the morning, Your faithfulness in the night.**

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.**

## COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

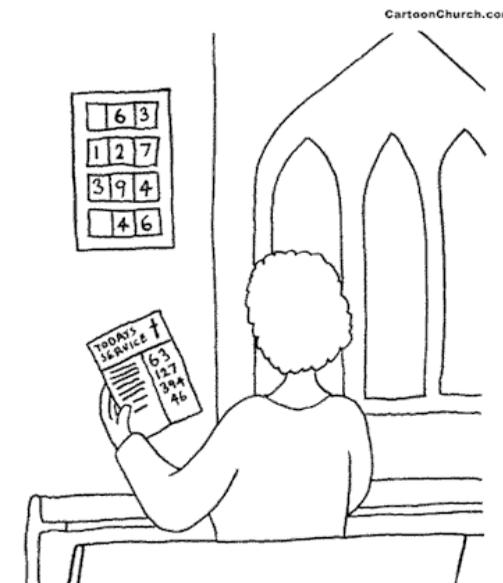
12/4 (Tuesday) Fr. Adam is going to participate in all-day clergy conference at the Cathedral in Manchester, NH, titled: "Boundaries and ethical conduct (sexual ethics)"

12/8 (Saturday) **Second PIEROGI WORKSHOP at 10 am. in the church hall.** Come and join us! If you cannot stay for the full workshop, please come for any amount of time you can spare. We want to prepare and freeze as many pierogies as we can for our CHRISTMAS BASKET TEACUP AUCTION & PIEROGI SALE which we'll hold on Dec 15, 2018 (10am—2pm).

At the same time we'd like to thank all those who joined our yesterday's Pierogi workshop! We hope you'll join us also next Saturday! Thank you very much! God bless you!

12/22 (Saturday) **ALL DAY ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament.** This is our community commitment proposed as a spiritual preparation for Christmas. Feel free to choose your hour of "being with the Lord"! Put your name in one of the available slots on the list which is in the back of the church.

- **CHRISTMAS BASKET TEACUP AUCTION & PIEROGI SALE.** Please, keep bringing some items for our Christmas baskets - consider only NEW or BARELY USED goods. You can bring your items to the church hall on Sunday or to the rectory any time you wish... Thank you for your generosity! (Take a look at the list of items proposed by Mrs. Bednarz)



SHE COULD HARDLY BELIEVE SHE HAD  
WON ON HER FIRST VISIT TO CHURCH

Be vigilant at all times  
and pray that you have the strength...

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

We have arrived at the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and gratitude for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus, born to us as Savior and Brother. A season to prepare for His return at the end of time. It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgment day is coming, too — the moment when we will be called to give an account for all the love God has shown us and the gifts He has given us during our lifetime.

Our readings for the first week of Advent waste no time in calling our urgent attention to these themes of reflection and preparation. They seem to shout, “Wake up! Get ready!” and offer us some practical advice to make the most of this Season.

The Gospel, from Luke, warns, “Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life.” How easy it is to lose focus on our Lord either by too much indulgence in our lives or by too much worry about our lives. Both extremes are easy to fall prey to. To avoid these traps this we are told to “be vigilant” and “pray for strength to sustain us.” During Advent, we Christians must ask ourselves some hard questions. Am I staying faithful to my prayer life? Am I using my energy and skills to serve others? Am I overly concerned about material gain? Am I relying my “stuff” or my investments as my source of comfort or security? Am I living for the moment or for the coming of the Lord?

Our Second Reading, from Thessalonians, offers us a beautiful Advent prayer as we move through this season of reflection and preparation. Let us make it our prayer for each other: “May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all... so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen.”

## READING 1

JER 33:14-16

**A reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah.**

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot ; he shall do what is right and just in the land.

In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: “The LORD our justice.”

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 25

*„To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.”*

## READING 2

RV 1:5-8

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians.**

Brothers and sisters:  
May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen.

Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God and as you are conducting yourselves you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

*Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT - SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD**

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me! / x2  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me!  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me!

**OFFERTORY SONG - COME UNTO JESUS (PÓJDŹ DO JEZUSA)**

Come unto Jesus, come while you may;  
Hear how He calls you, come now this day.  
How he does love you, follow His way,  
Gently He calls you, Come!

Come O my child now, come heed His call,  
Give Him your heart, your love and your all.  
He shall uplift you, lest you should fall,  
Gently He calls you, Come!

**Ref:** Lo, the vision wondrous to behold!  
He would save us from this sinful world.  
To heaven's blessed glory untold,  
O dearest Lord we come!

**COMMUNION SONG - HALLOWED BE FOREVER (BĄDŹŹE POZDROWIONA)**

Hallowed be forever, Living Host Divine,  
In which Christ our Savior hidden is sublime.

**REF:** Hail Thou Jesus, Son of Mary,  
Thou art God eternal, Won'drous mystery.

Hallowed be forever, Thou Angelic Bread,  
Sacrament Most Holy, by which we are fed.

Hallowed be forever, Shepherd Crucified,  
For us Thou didst suffer, for us Thou hast died.

Hallowed be forever, ris'n in victory,  
In this Bread Most Holy we would worship Thee.

**FINAL HYMN - SEND FORTH, O HEAVENS (NIEBIOŚA ROŚĘ)**

Send forth, O Heavens, dew from the sky.  
Pour forth, O Clouds, the Just One most high.  
Hold back Your wrath, Lord; O hold back Your anger.  
Our sins forgive, Lord; save us from our languor.

Lonely is Zion, anguished and hollow,  
See Your Jerusalem drowning in sorrow.  
Once in Your temple hymns of glory sounded;  
Now is defiled the temple which was founded.

