



## 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 30, 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.**

**TODAY'S MASS  
INTENTION  
9 am**

In memory of  
**TONY MALAVÉ**  
(req. by Jacqueline  
Girouard)



**TODAY'S MASS  
INTENTION  
11 am**

Za rodziny naszej parafii,  
by Nowonarodzony bło-  
gostawił im każdego dnia  
nowego roku 2019.

**Solmenity of the HUMBLE SHEPHERDS**

**Contemporary Mass: Mass Book p.63**

**ENTRANCE HYMN - SILENT NIGHT (Cicha noc)**

**1)** Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
'Round yon virgin Mother and Child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

**2)** Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born!

**INTROIT**

C: For when peaceful stillness compassed everything and the night in its swift course was half spent, Your all-powerful Word from heaven's royal throne bounded, a fierce warrior, into the doomed land.

**R: Your throne stands firm from of old; You are from everlasting, Lord.**

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**

**12/30 THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered at this Christmas time in our church. Special thanks to Joseph, Maria & Robert Bednarz, Nancy McHugh, Georgie LaFranchise for cleaning and decorating our church and the church hall before Christmas Eve; thank you to Magda Piekarczywska & Maria Bednarz for preparing the snacks and sweets for our Shepherds' Mass on Dec 24; thank you to Mr. Neal Narkon who volunteered as an organist on Dec 25.

**1/6 (Sunday) SOLEMNITY - Epiphany of our Lord.** During the Mass we will bless the water, incense, charcoal & chalk. Holy water, incense and chalk will be available to take home after the Mass.

- We would like to remind you about the possibility to offer a Holy Mass in your own, particular intention. You can do it in two ways: stop by the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday Mass or take one of the envelopes from the back of our Church, fill it and return to Fr. Adam.



**"If I send my prayer as a text message,  
will I get a faster reply?"**

Let us go, then, to Bethlehem  
to see this thing that has taken place.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

We know the story. We encounter its basic elements every year, whether by reading the Bible, seeing a nativity play, hearing a homily, gazing at a glistening ornament on a tree, or catching the faint tones of familiar carols through a church door as you hurry past along a city street. Even unbelievers would be hard pressed during the season to escape entirely any reminder of it. And yet, the very familiarity of Christmas presents a problem for us – namely, the loss of the season’s power to move us.

We need to encounter a way that compels us to go beyond a passive annual re-acquaintance with the familiar – and at times, perhaps, even tedious – elements of the Christmas story. We need a way to interpret the story that allows us to enter into it, recognizing that “it happens not only once, in history, but also many times in each individual’s soul. Christ comes to the world — but he also comes to each of us. Advent happens over and over again.”

To be truly changed by this story – that is, to go beyond being mere recipients of information about the event of Jesus’ birth – we need to be able to see ourselves within it. The shepherds, who were the first to hear the news of this birth from the angelic messengers, offer us a precious entry point. As a group, they have no obvious qualifications for the distinction of being the first to know of the birth of the Savior. The shepherds were modest people; there is some historical evidence that they were even social outcasts, rough characters on the fringe of Jewish society. (That they were not allowed to give testimony in court is one indication of their low cultural status.) They are not the people that conventional wisdom would expect to be the first recipients of the good news of the Savior’s arrival. Yet their posture on that night, as Luke the Evangelist describes it – “keeping watch over their flocks at night” – suggests that their hearts may be especially disposed to this announcement.

## READING 1

IS 62:11-12

### A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The Lord has proclaimed  
to the ends of the earth:  
Say to daughter Zion,  
„See, your savior comes!  
See, his reward is with him,  
his recompense before him.”

They shall be called „The Holy People,”  
„The Redeemed of the Lord.”  
And you shall be called „Cared For,”  
„A City Not Forsaken.”

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*„A light will shine on us this day; The Lord is born for us.”*

## READING 2

TT 3:4-7

### A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus.

But when the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

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

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

When angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, „Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

**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 - SHEPHERDS HEARD THE ANGEL SAY (Anioł pasterzom mówił)**

**1)** Shepherds Heard the Angel say:  
„Christ is born to you this day.”  
Bethlehem is His lowly place of birth,  
Born so humbly to this earth,  
Lord, of all creation.

**3)** Thus the Lord through His great love,  
Came from heaven, up above.  
No great place, grand or costly, had He here,  
But a manger cold and drear,  
Lord of all creation.

**2)** Anioł pasterzom mówił:  
„Chrystus się wam narodził.”  
W Betlejem, nie bardzo podłym mieście.  
Narodził się w ubóstwie,  
Pan wszego stworzenia.

**4)** Chcąc się dowiedzieć tego  
poselstwa wesołego,  
bieżeli do Betlejem skwapliwie.  
Znaleźli dziecię w żłobie,  
Maryję z Józefem.

**COMMUNION SONG - LULAJŹE JEZUNIU (Lullaby Jesus)**

**1)** Lulajże Jezuniu, moja Peretko,  
Lulaj ulubione me Pieścidełko.

*Lulajże Jezuniu, lulaj, że lulaj  
A ty go matulu w płaczu utulaj /x2*

**3)** Lulajże, prześliczna oczom Gwiazdeczko.  
Lulaj najśliczniejsze świata Słoneczko.  
*Lulajże, Jezuniu...*

**2)** Zamknijże znużone płaczem powieczki,  
Utulże zemdlone łkaniem usteczki.

*Lulajże, Jezuniu...*

**FINAL HYMN - O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL**

**1)** O Come All Ye Faithful  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, Born the King of Angels;  
O come, let us adore Him, / x3  
Christ the Lord.

**3)** All Hail! Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
O Jesus! for evermore be Thy name adored.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;  
O come, let us adore Him, / x3 Christ the Lord.

**2)** O Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing all that hear in heaven God's holy word.  
Give to our Father glory in the Highest;  
O come, let us adore Him, / x3  
Christ the Lord.