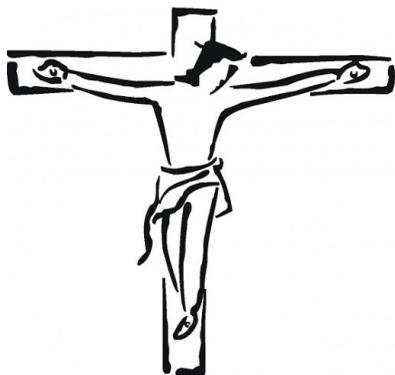


COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 02/28 (Today) Bitter Lamentations at 9.40am. Holy Mass at 10am. Reading of the Catechism. Regular COFFEE HOUR in the church hall.
- 03/04 (Thursday) DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT 6.30-8pm. via ZOOM.
- 03/05 (Friday) Stations of the Cross at 5pm.
- 03/06 (Saturday) Polish Food Sale 9am-12pm.
- 03/07 (Sunday) Bitter Lamentations at 9.40am. Holy Mass at 10am. Mass Intention: "For + BARBARA STEPIEN"

- Bishop Paul invites us to participate in 2021 Eastern Diocese Lenten Retreat on Thursday, March 4th, 6.30pm to 8pm via ZOOM. To register for the retreat and get the ZOOM link, please, email Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich: robnem21@aol.com
- We would like to remind you about the possibility to offer a Holy Mass in your own, particular intention! Take one of the envelopes from the back of the Church, write down your intention and return it to Fr. Adam. **Have a blessed week!**



LENTEN DEVOTIONS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Fridays of Lent at 5pm.

BITTER LAMENTATIONS
Sundays of Lent at 9.40am.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042

Official website: www.saintjohnspncc.org

Facebook: John the Baptist, Manchester CT

Rectory phone: 860-643-5906

PASTOR - Rev. Adam Piekarzewski

February 28, 2021

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

II SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS INTENTION - 10am

For + STEPHEN MCCARTHY (req. by Fr. Henry)

INTROIT

C: The Lord, our God, has indeed let us see His glory and His majesty! We have heard His voice from the midst of the fire and have found out today that a man can still live after God has spoken with him.

R: Lord, my God, You are great indeed! You are clothed with majesty and glory, robed in light as with a cloak.

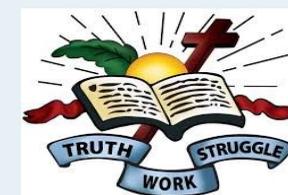
C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

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 Genesis.

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from

GN 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18

me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing— all this because you obeyed my command." **This is the Word of the Lord.**
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 116

„I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.“

READING 2

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

Brothers and sisters:
If God is for us, who can be against us?
He who did not spare his own Son
but handed him over for us all,
how will he not also give us everything
else along with him?

ROM 8:31B-34

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?
It is God who acquits us, who will condemn?
Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—
who also is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.

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

GOSPEL

MK 9:2-10

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory be to You, Lord.

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Jesus takes His three trusted disciples (Peter, James, and John) up a mountain. There He is transfigured to His rightful state of glory, a state He will receive once again after His death and resurrection. He is pictured as radiating light. He converses with Moses and Elijah, the key figures of the Old Covenant through the law and the prophets, thus Jesus is the fulfillment of all the covenants and promises which have been. The disciples are enamored by the manifestation. The voice of GOD the Abba resonates over the mountain top, showing the divine favor placed in Jesus. After the glorious happening, Jesus tells His chosen three not to tell others until after His death and resurrection, thus linking His glorification to His sacrificial death, all of which are too incomprehensible to His disciples at this point in their relationship with Jesus.

I am once again left in awe. GOD continually manifests the divine relationship which is ours, if we but accept the covenant which GOD is offering to us. This special covenant which GOD is offering to us does demand sacrifice. Yet, the key sacrifice is not to be done by us, but has already been done by the Son of GOD through His life, ministry, death, and resurrection. The sacrifice we are called to offer is that of giving GOD glory and praise and thanks for the sacrifice which Jesus has performed. (Remember that word "sacrifice" literally means "to make holy.")