



Official Publication of the Polish National Catholic Church

Volume 99

February 2021

Issue #2

## Great Lent

**Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop**

As we have now reached the middle of February we find ourselves at the beginning of the season of Great Lent. The time of preparation is now behind us and we find ourselves in the time of prayer, fasting and giving that are the hallmarks of the Lenten season.

On the first Sunday of Lent, in all three cycles of our lectionary, we read the Gospel passage regarding the "Temptation of Christ in the Wilderness." This year it's taken from the Gospel of Saint Mark. The Gospel reading is rather short and we quote it in its entirety: "And the Spirit immediately drove Him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on Him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'" (*Mark 1:12-15*)

Within this Gospel, unlike those of Matthew or Luke that are read in the other years, no specific temptations are mentioned, although they are certainly familiar to us from the other Gospels. In those Gospels we know that Jesus is tempted by Satan to turn stones into bread to satisfy His hunger after forty days of fasting. The second temptation is to throw Himself down from a tower in a spectacular example of His power and lastly He is tempted to possess all of the kingdoms of the world if only He engages in false worship. We can shorten these temptations to the very human concepts of hedonism (hunger satisfaction), egoism (spectacular power) and materialism (obtaining of goods and their worship). Even though St. Mark's Gospel doesn't mention the temptations specifically, we can image that they might have been very much the same. These temptations also contin-

ue to afflict us in our present day world, though the Gospel of Mark is silent about exactly the nature of Jesus' temptations. Mark only says to us that Jesus was "with the wild beasts." (*Mark 1:13*) Is this a remark to remind us that oftentimes our temptations can attack us like 'wild beasts' in our daily living?

Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan. In our reflection on this Gospel passage, this allows us to consider what other sorts of temptations Jesus might have faced in the situation of being in the wilderness, in the desert. And in this we must consider two aspects, the temptations themselves and the location of the wilderness.

The fact that the temptations are not listed allows us to consider that Jesus faced many of the same temptations that we do, each and every day in our Christian life and journey. In fact the Letter to the Hebrews speaks of this in saying: "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin." (*Hebrews 4:15*) Jesus is our High Priest Who offered Himself upon the Cross for our sanctification and salvation. And in going to the Cross and conquering death in the Resurrection He has conquered sin and death.

This allows us, in the contemplation of this Gospel reading, to know that Jesus has already conquered the sins that are afflicting us at this very moment. He has conquered the sins that will afflict us at any moment of our lives. The reading from Hebrews goes on to say: "Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need." (*Hebrews*

(Continued on Page 3.)

**Email Addresses  
for the  
P.N.C.C. Offices**

The email addresses for the staff of the National Church Center and *God’s Field* are:

Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky  
pbmikovsky@P.N.C.C..org

Secretary to Prime Bishop — Julie Orzell  
secretarytopb@PNCC.org

P.N.C.C. Treasurer — Joan Scheuneman  
treasurer@PNCC.org

*God’s Field - Rola Boża* Editor — Julie Orzell  
godsfild@PNCC.org

Questions or concerns? Call us at 570-346-9131 or 570-346-2125.

***God’s Field — Rola Boża*  
Publication Information**

**The deadline for article submissions is the 1st of the month;** online publication date is mid-month. Submissions received after the 1st will be included in the following month’s issue.

Email articles and photos to secretarytopb@PNCC.org and to godsfild@PNCC.org. If your submission was successfully delivered via email, you will receive an acknowledgement email stating that your submission was received. To ensure clarity of graphics, please send JPEG or TIFF formatted pictures with a resolution of at least 300 pixels per inch. **Please identify individuals in photographs or caption photographs.**

Typewritten articles and photographs may be submitted to:

God’s Field  
Polish National Catholic Church  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505-4109

**Identification Statement**

The Official Publication of the Polish National Catholic Church, **GOD’S FIELD - ROLA BOŻA**, is published monthly for the U.S. **\$48.00**; Canada **\$62.00**; Foreign **\$87.50 per subscription year** (March through February) by

**Polish National Catholic Church  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505-4109**

Individual issues of *God’s Field* are available for purchase from the National Church Center for \$2.00 each (pickup) or prepaid \$4.00 each (U.S.); \$5.25 each (Canada); \$7.30 (Foreign).

**Send payments and address changes to**

**GOD’S FIELD  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505-4109**

**CONTROLLER:**

Most Rev. Anthony A. Mikovsky  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505

Opinions expressed in various articles published in *God’s Field* do not necessarily reflect the doctrine of the P.N.C.C.

**Inside this Issue**

Great Lent - Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky ..... 1

Volunteer Me - Rev. Jim Konicki..... 4

Mark Your Calendars! - National Church Lenten Retreat - Future Direction Committee ..... 4

National United Choirs ..... 5

Notice to Parishes in Need of Financial Assistance ..... 5

The Polish Heritage in America by Irena Jasinski - History & Archives ..... 6

The Solemnity of the Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church..... 7

Stations of the Cross ..... 8

God’s Field Appeal for Easter Greetings..... 12

God’s Field Subscription Renewal for 2021-2022 ..... 13

Eastern Diocese ..... 14

In Honor of Bishop Franciszek Hodur..... 16

(Great Lent - Continued from Page 1.)

4:16) The knowledge that Jesus has conquered our sins allows us to approach our Lord in the various Lenten disciplines that we are called to take up. We are called to an increased life of prayer and attendance at Lenten Devotions. In these moments we are further united with the saving passion and death of our Lord and partake of the salvation that He offers to us in conquering sin and death. In increased giving we are called to focus our lives more intently on Jesus and His way of love and help for others rather than on the passing things of the world. Through our giving we realize that all the things that we have are given to us in trust, for us to use in the support of Christ's way in the world and to help our brothers and sisters. Lastly in our discipline of fasting, we also realize that the things of the world are but things to be used in our pursuit of the road of life shown us by Jesus. It also helps us to cast off our attachment to these things, allowing us to discipline ourselves in placing our spiritual needs before our physical ones.

But there is a second aspect to this Gospel reading as well, and it too ties into the verse from Hebrews. The Gospel passage of St. Mark takes place in the wilderness, or the desert, a deserted place. This too is an important aspect, especially in our busy world today. In the verse from Hebrews, the passage says that Jesus "in every respect has been tested, as we are, yet without sin." Both the word "tested" here and the word "tempted" in the Gospel of Mark are a translation of the same Greek word. The context must be drawn from the surrounding situation.

"Tempted" is a word that implies that we are somehow being drawn away from the right path. This is certainly the case in the Gospel of Mark since Jesus is tempted by Satan. In the wilderness, Satan desires to draw Jesus away from His mission. We know that Satan fails in regards to our Lord, but Satan also desires to do the exact same thing to us, oftentimes with more success. But in conquering sin, Jesus has also shown us that this situation can also be looked at in the aspect of 'testing.' Testing implies that in coming through this situation, we are strengthened in our resolve to follow the way of our Lord and commit ourselves to His path. And the setting of the wilderness or desert brings this into a heightened focus.

In the season of Lent, the disciplines of prayer, fasting and giving, allow us to create for ourselves a place apart from the rest of the world, as a place of testing where we can refocus our attention and resolve on the ways of Jesus and His life and mission.

Our world happens to be just so very busy. And this hasn't changed even with the current pandemic situation that we are in the middle of. While we may not be going out as much as we once were, still our lives are very busy. If we work from home we find ourselves having little opportunity to get away from our work. And for all people, we still have all sorts of distractions like our televisions or our mobile phones always right by us. Through all of it we have little time to be by ourselves, where we can focus on the spiritual aspects of our lives, focus on the disciplines of prayer, fasting and giving, focus our attention on Jesus. What we need is a little time in the wilderness, a little time in the desert.

My brothers and sisters, as we have now prepared ourselves in the season of Pre-Lent to assess the position in which we find ourselves, now is the time to enter the wilderness, the desert. Now is the time to focus our attention on the disciplines of prayer, fasting and giving. Certainly each of us is tempted by sinfulness within our own lives. Many things, although often small items, draw us away from the fullness of our spiritual lives and knowing Jesus. They draw us away from the fullness of our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. In and through the Lenten disciplines we are called to examine and confront the temptations that surround us and begin, with the mercy, help and strength of Jesus, to conquer them. It is the time for the testing of which we have spoken.

Let us spend this season of Lent, not only praying within our own homes, but also let's make a commitment to gather with our parish community in the celebration of Holy Mass and Lenten Devotions. Let us not only do a little extra giving to worthy causes, but also let's truly give to and help those with whom we share our daily lives and those who are members of our parish churches. Let us not only fast from one particular item of food or habit, but let us fast from all those things that draw us away from Jesus. Let's spend the desert time of Lent seeing how we can be more dedicated to the ways of Jesus Christ, following in His way, listening to His teaching and spreading His message that He died for our sins because He loves us.

My brothers and sisters, let's have a truly blessed and holy Lent; a Lent of love of the ways of our Lord; a Lent of increased devotion to Jesus; a Lent of discipline for ourselves and in following Jesus; a Lent of tested virtue; a Lent filled with the desire to love and follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to the Cross, and then beyond the Cross to eternal life.

## Volunteer Me

**Rev. Jim Konicki, Chair, P.N.C.C. Vocations Commission**

How did you get your job? Is it (oh no, he's going to say it) your vocation?

My vocation story began in school. I was sent to New York State Vocational Rehabilitation (an agency that's since been renamed a thousand times) for a vocational evaluation. I am not really sure why. I keep thinking that my teachers and guidance counselors thought something was wrong with me. That, or they just couldn't figure me out. Anyway, I took a test that was supposed to point to the best vocational direction for me.

I remember the fun of this test. They showed me a whole page full of gears. If the first gear was rotated clockwise, what direction was the final gear going to turn? No, I did not end up with a recommendation to go into engineering. What they did tell me (and more importantly my mom) was that I was destined to be a social worker. I ended up as an accountant...

So much for tests and professional advice...

The one thing about my journey was that people in church kept coming up to me, since my earliest memory, and said, 'You should be a priest.' 'You would make a great priest.' Some couldn't even get my name right, they called me Joe or Bob, but they had insight. They didn't work for vocational rehab. They were not professional job counselors. But they had real insight given them by the Holy Spirit.

All of the faithful have a role in promoting volunteers to the front line, just like those people who volunteered me forward. They saw something in me that spoke to their hearts and they said something about it. The Holy Spirit was prompting them to say something to me. Perhaps they couldn't get my name right – but they made the right call. Do you see a future priest or deacon in someone at church? Perhaps in someone at home, your husband, uncle, son, cousin? Their age – it doesn't matter. Their regular nine-to-five, it doesn't matter. As the old adage goes, 'If you see something, say something.' Don't leave the Holy Spirit hanging.

For us who are volunteered, have been volunteered, or remember that kind man or woman in church who did say something, now is the time.

Our job is not our nine-to-five, it is not the office (or The Office), it is not the commute. Each of us is called to build the kingdom, that's our real job. The Holy Spirit has us in real jobs in the Kingdom Building business. We need people who intuit the Holy Spirit's call – to speak up, and we need the future fathers who are being volunteered and to respond.

See it in someone? Let us know who. Volunteered? Now is the time to go. Feel free to call or text me at 518-522-0944 or E-mail me at [frjim@holynamencc.org](mailto:frjim@holynamencc.org).

---

## Mark Your Calendars! National Church Lenten Retreat

**March 23, 2021**

We thank all who joined us for our National Church Discipleship Retreat "*We Will Trust in You*" on Wednesday, January 20th. Due to the significant feedback and requests, our Future Direction Committee is holding a P.N.C.C.-wide virtual Lenten Retreat on Tuesday, March 23rd beginning at 7:00 pm (EST).

Save the day and time!

More information regarding this virtual gathering will be forthcoming on our Facebook Page, [PNCC Future Direction](#), and on the Official P.N.C.C. Facebook Page, [PNCC1](#). An Email will also go out to all parishes and clergy of the Polish National Catholic Church. We hope you can join us!



## National United Choirs 2021 Music Scholarship Awards

Applications are now available! Are you currently taking paid music lessons for organ, piano, voice, or another instrument? Do you participate in the music ministry of your parish? If so, you may be eligible for a Music Scholarship from the National United Choirs.

All necessary criteria, instructions and forms can be downloaded from the scholarship website: [www.nucmusicsscholarship.weebly.com](http://www.nucmusicsscholarship.weebly.com)

Deadline for submission is May 1, 2021.

Pastors, Organists, and P.N.C.C. members: Please encourage those eligible in your parish to apply to this very rewarding program that has provided financial assistance to so many people in the P.N.C.C. over the past 54 years.

Any questions can be submitted to: Cathy A. Bilinski, Music Scholarship Administrator, [nucscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:nucscholarship@gmail.com)

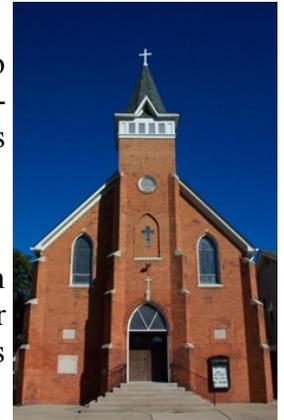
---

## National United Choirs Music Workshop News

After nearly a year of not singing in our normal choirs we are hopeful for being able to do so again in the near future. With that in mind, plans are being made to hold the 35<sup>th</sup> General Convention and the 27<sup>th</sup> Music Workshop and Concert this summer. The theme has been chosen:

***Prepare Ye Your Voice For The Lord!***

Our committee is preparing for your visit to Holy Cross Parish in Hamtramck, MI on Wednesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> - Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, with the Convention scheduled for Wednesday and the workshop scheduled for Thursday and Friday. Clear your calendars and plan on attending! More details will be available in the March issue of God's Field.




---

## NOTICE TO PARISHES

**If your parish is in need of financial assistance and you seek to request Clergy Aid from the Polish National Catholic Church, you must follow the procedures as outlined by the XIX General Synod.**

**All individual parish requests must be sent through the proper Diocesan Bishop as soon as possible before March 15, 2021, along with all of the required supporting financial documentation.**

**The Diocesan Bishops must forward all parish requests to the Office of the Prime Bishop no later than March 20, 2021.**

**(PLEASE NOTE: Only Canadian Diocese submissions can be sent to the Office of the Prime Bishop as he serves as acting Diocesan Bishop for this diocese.**

**Requests sent by other diocesan parishes directly to the Office of the Prime Bishop and not through the proper Diocesan Bishop will be returned to the parish. This may result in delayed paperwork and missed deadline submission.)**

## The Polish Heritage in America by Irena Jasinski

This booklet was published in 1992 by the Heritage Commission of the Central Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church (P.N.C.C.). It has 21 pages and was edited by Mrs. Donna Kuliczowski. The booklet was based on a presentation by the late Irena Jasinski. It lists famous Pole immigrants and Polish Americans in many fields. The Commission hoped that it would be useful for planners of heritage programs by parishes in the Central Diocese and the entire P.N.C.C.

The Heritage Commission members in 1992 were: Rt. Rev. Anthony M. Rysz (Bishop Ordinary of the Central Diocese), Very Rev. Casimir Grotnik (Chairman), Mrs. Anna Czop (Secretary-Treasurer), Mr. John Czop, Rev. Czesław Kuliczowski, Rev. Zbigniew Pastuszek, Mr. Thomas W. Smith, Mr. Robert Stankowski, and Dr. Joseph Wiczerzak.

The book is written as a presentation between two people. It starts with the sentence *“United States of America is a land of immigrants, immigrants who came to these shores for freedom and opportunity, immigrants who gave their talents and hard work to make her great, immigrants who bring with them the languages, the music, the customs and traditions of their past, immigrants who pass on their treasures and because of our pride who we are, we present this program about some contributions made to America and to the American way of life by Polish immigrants and their descendants.”*

The segments between the Master of Ceremonies and other Speakers has recommended song titles to be sung at the opening, such as *“This Land is My Land,”* and *“Ukochany Kraj,”* and closing *“God Bless America,”* and *“Boże coś Polskę.”* After extolling the virtues of the immigrant Poles, the rest of the booklet goes on to list the names of Poles and Polish Americans who performed incredible acts of courage and assistance to America. It begins with Jan of Kolno who led a fleet of ships to America while in the service of the King of Denmark in 1476. There is a paragraph describing the six Poles, Łowicki, Stefański, Mata, Bogdan, Zrenica and Sadowski who arrived in September 25, 1608 to build the first factory in the United States, a glass factory. They continued working and in three weeks, they built a soap factory and a saw mill as well. More Poles arrived a few years later. However, when the first elections were to be held,

they found that only English settlers were going to be allowed to vote. The Poles objected and said so. The vote was not extended to them, so they closed their factories. Poles conducted the first labor strike in America and won! The vote was subsequently given them.

Because of the reputations of these first Poles, Governor of New Amsterdam, Peter Stuyvesant asked for 25 to 30 Polish families to move there. In 1659, Alexander Kurczewki founded the second oldest school of higher learning after Harvard in the United States; in New Amsterdam (now New York City). The names of other Poles like Albert Zaborowski who shortened his name to Zabriskie and who became a judge in New Jersey is also mentioned. Casimir Theodore Groerck, a surveyor who participated in the French and Indian War as well as doing surveys for William Penn is another famous Pole. Anthony Sadowski began a trading post, which later became Sandusky, OH.

There are several paragraphs relating to the support given to the nascent United States by Tadeusz Kościuszko and Casimir Pułaski. Tadeusz Kościuszko, the military engineer who made the American victory at Saratoga possible, and who also designed the defense at West Point was awarded American Citizenship and made a Brigadier General by a grateful Congress. Casimir Pułaski is considered the father of American Cavalry. He saved General George Washington's life at the battle of Brandywine in 1777. He was mortally wounded at the battle of Savannah, GA on Oct. 9, 1779. Peter Stadnicki loaned money to the United States in 1783. Julian Niemcewicz in 1796, toured and wrote the United States and stayed as a guest of George Washington for several weeks.

The failed unsuccessful Polish revolt in 1831 led to many new immigrants in search of freedom. The US Congress voted to give 22,000 acres of land in Illinois for the new arrivals. Kazimierz Stanisław Gzowski went from Illinois to Canada where he became famous as the builder of the International Bridge over the Niagara River. Other Poles did extraordinary things, such as Stanisław Hernisz who was an interpreter for American diplomats in China, published the first English-Chinese dictionary, and Ernestine Louise Potowski who persuaded the New York Legislature to pass the first Married Women's Property Act in the United States.

Some Polish immigrants served in the 1836 Texas War of Independence; Lieutenant Felix Wardzinski is credited with capturing Mexican General Santa Ana. In the 1846 Mexican War, Captain Charles Radziński was the secretary to the Commission that decided the United States - Mexican boundary.

The town of Panna Maria was established in Texas by a group of 800 immigrants from Poland in 1854, who brought farm equipment, tools and even a large cross from their old parish church. Panna Maria saw the establishment of the first Polish church and Polish school. Further Polish immigrants saw the Polish population grow to almost 17,000 by 1906.

The unsuccessful revolts of 1848 and 1863 led to more immigrants from Poland. By the time of the Civil War, there were about 30,000 Poles in the United States; 4,000 fought for the Union and 1,000 for the Confederacy. General Władzimirz Krzyżanowski was a prominent Union General. The names of the first Poles who died on each side are mentioned.

Prior to 1870, most Poles immigrated for political reasons and were educated, professional intellectuals. Afterwards, immigrant backgrounds changed, they were people who were being forced into poverty by the three countries which partitioned Poland in 1772. By 1900, there were more than a million Poles in the United States. These humble, poor immigrants took many low-paying jobs such as in the textile factories of New England, the railroads and lumber mills of

the Western states, the coal mines in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, the slaughter houses in Chicago, Illinois; the steel mills in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Youngstown, Ohio and the automobile plants in Detroit, Michigan. They opened potato and duck farms in Long Island, New York and New Jersey.

Many Polish parishes were started in the United States. However, they were not being welcomed by the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, who wanted to 'Americanize' them by having them give up their language, culture, customs, music and traditions. Polish parishes independent of Rome resulted. Father Franciszek Hodur led one of these, which became the P.N.C.C.

After World War Two, America again welcomed Polish immigrants; among these were Dr. Hillary Koprowski - virus researcher, Oscar Halecki - historian and Henry Arctowski - arctic explorer. Many Polish Americans volunteered to fight in both World Wars.

This booklet then continues by listing the names of Polish Americans in a variety of fields, from entertainment to music to sports, to business, to labor, to creative writing, and to government.

Polish immigrants have made many contributions to the United States and Canada from their beginnings. We should be proud of our Polish heritage.

P.N.C.C. Joseph Francis Seliga,  
Chair, P.N.C.C. Commission on History and Archives

---

## The Solemnity of the Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church

The Solemnity of the Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church is celebrated throughout the Polish National Catholic Church this year on Sunday, March 14, 2021.

We remind you that, for this celebration the Polish National Catholic Church has an online presentation on the history of the P.N.C.C. and the life of Bishop Franciszek Hodur. You can find this presentation on the P.N.C.C. Future Direction YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1zutKjZ6CU>.

Additionally, the P.N.C.C. is again offering to the parishes a full color brochure describing the Solemnity of the Institution and sharing some information on this unique feast of the Polish National Catholic Church. This is a perfect point of information to include in welcome packets or to have in bulletin racks.

25 brochures: \$8.50; 50 brochures: \$15.00; 75 brochures: \$21.50; 100 brochures: \$27.50

(All prices include shipping costs.)

Checks, payable to *P.N.C.C. Book Department*, should be sent to: P.N.C.C. Book Department, National Church Center, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505.

We hope that all parishes will help to spread the awareness of this important Solemnity of the Polish National Catholic Church by watching the presentation and sharing this information on the Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church.

## Stations of the Cross

*As we now enter the season of Great Lent, we give to the readers of God's Field these reflections on the Stations of the Cross. We encourage those who are not able to attend their parish churches or those who cannot join in the communal celebration of the Stations of the Cross to pray these reflections throughout the Lenten season.*

### Preparation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We gather, O Christ, to consider the greatness of the sacrifice which You have borne for us on the wood of the Cross. It was love for erring and suffering humanity that led You to death by crucifixion. You willed to die that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin. You desired to be lifted and stretched on the Cross that all would be drawn to You. Behold, O Christ, we are coming! Receive Your erring children gathered at the foot of the Cross and bestow on us a ray of Your life-giving grace that our hearts may be enkindled with fervent love toward You because of Your great love and sacrifice. And you, O Sorrowful Mother, permit us to stand with you under the Cross of your beloved Son to consider His bitter passion and your grief. Amen.

### The First Station – Jesus is Sentenced to Death by Crucifixion



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

Our dear Savior, I believe, that of all the pains which You have endured in this world, the greatest was when from the lips of those debased in sin and slavery fell the words: 'Crucify Him.' For these same people only a few days before welcomed You with a joyful 'Hosanna!' Grant, O Christ, that we may never let ourselves be broken by threats, persecution and suffering, but always firmly and faithfully profess Your holy faith. And when false human judgments pursue and wrong us, grant us the faith of the apostles and courage of the martyrs, that we may be capable to suffer and even die for You. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

### The Second Station – Jesus Takes Up His Cross



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

You dedicated Your life, O Christ, to save the world from suffering, degradation and transgressions. You passed through cities and villages proclaiming the Gospel of Peace. Today the very people who were the recipients of Your goodness, placed on Your shoulders a hard cross and are leading You to execution. My dear Savior, how many times have I also, with the weight of my sins, wounded Your divine heart? Turn Your holy eyes upon me, O Christ, that I may, with the repentant Peter, grieve and weep over my sins. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

### The Third Station – Jesus Falls the First Time



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

O my Jesus, You fell because of Your love for me, to deliver me from sin and degradation, and I fall into the pit of wickedness to my own condemnation. How many such falls could I count with shame and sorrow? And what am I to do? Seeing You suffering and falling, I confess my faults with sorrow and resolve to return

to them no more. Extend Your hand to raise me, that for the coming of Your Kingdom I may labor and suffer that I may die with You and live forever. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

#### **The Fourth Station – Jesus Meets His Mother**



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

O dear Savior, O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother! Beholding with spiritual eyes the pains of both your loving hearts, I fall upon my knees in the dust, and with tears I entreat God to awaken in my heart true grief for all of the transgressions of my wretched life. May this grief be the beginning of a sincere penance and the means of a spiritual rebirth and salvation. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

#### **The Fifth Station – Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry the Cross**



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

O God, Father of mercy! When I see human ingratitude, I tremble within myself, because I also am the same way. And how do I repay You for the goodness which You bestow upon me every hour of my life? With what do I show gratitude to my Savior for His love and sacrifice? I am a sinful and ungrateful person. O Lord, bestow upon me Your holy grace that by its miraculous working, I may become a Simon for every one of my suffering brothers and sisters. Grant me the spirit of piety that during the period of this holy Lent, I may hasten under the cross and in an act of love and gratitude lay my poor heart at the feet of my suffering Master. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

#### **The Sixth Station – Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus**



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

Lord Jesus Christ, stamp Your image upon my poor soul. May my eyes see only You, may my mind remember only You, may my reason know only You, may my will fulfill only Your will and may my heart love only You. Give me the courage and love of Veronica that I may always and everywhere cling to You and defend Your truths. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

#### **The Seventh Station – Jesus Falls the Second Time**



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

How difficult is the road over which You have passed, O Christ. For Your love and dedication the jealous servants of the old leaders put on Your shoulders the hard wood of the cross. You demand of us that we follow You. Behold, we are ready for Your commands, O Christ. Tell us where we are to go and what we are to do. We are Your servants, O Lord. Show us the hearts of those around us, whom You would have us confirm in goodness. Lead us to the misery which You would have us help. Increase our faith, give us dedicated hearts, that we may be capable of fulfilling Your will. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

(Continued on of Page 10.)

(Stations of the Cross - Continued from Page 9.)



### **The Eighth Station – Jesus Meets the Weeping Women**

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

Our Savior, You do not desire that we shed tears over Your humiliation and suffering, for You voluntarily go to Your crucifixion. Rather, You tell us to weep over the faults and failures of our poor lives. Therefore, we beg You for tears. Grant that with tearful sorrow and penance we may cleanse our souls and merit Your mercy. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.



### **The Ninth Station – Jesus Falls the Third Time**

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

When I look upon You, O Christ, exhausted and bleeding and behold Your efforts to rise from the dust to proceed to Golgotha and there die for me, sadness fills my heart. O my Lord and Savior, I confess that by my sins I have offended You and neglected my spiritual duties, Holy Mass and devotions during which faithful souls in humble prayer unite themselves with You. And so slowly I approach You with emptiness in my heart and discord in my conscience. Forgive me, O Lord, my neglect and help me that I may amend my life. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.



### **The Tenth Station – Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments**

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

O my Jesus and Savior, what a difference between me and you. You are covered with blood, wounds and bitter suffering, and I seek only the pleasures of this world with its delights and excesses. Alas, it is the wrong road that I follow. Grant therefore, O Lord, that I may change my life, so to season worldly pleasures with bitterness, that I may henceforth desire to live and act in You, because You are my life and resurrection. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.



### **The Eleventh Station – Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross**

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

O Mary, Mother of Sorrows! My sins were that sword which wounded your sacred heart. I pray that my penance could heal that wound. I holy Mary, I am prepared to turn away from everything but from you I will never again turn away, for whatever I leave because of you, I will find in you. For you I will forsake the world and in you I will find Jesus. The one who loves the world, longs for the world; the one who loves the cross longs for the cross; for on the cross is the Savior and beneath the cross is the Mother. Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.



### **The Twelfth Station – Jesus Dies on the Cross**

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

In Your hands, O Lord, I place my life and my whole being. All that I possess and all that I am. I give my mind that it may not drive me into the pit of error; I give my will that it may never rise against You; I give my

memory that it may not blunder in vain illusions. Should You put a cross upon me, with this cross I will follow You. Humble, persecuted and slandered, I will follow my poor, persecuted and slandered Lord; chastened by evil I will cling to Your cross. Grant that at the hour of my death I may call with You: “Father into Your hands I commend my spirit.” Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.



### **The Thirteenth Station – The Body of Jesus is Taken from the Cross**

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

O Mary, our Mother, rightly the Church has called you the Queen of Martyrs because no one has ever borne so much anguish as you have suffered. But who caused you all this suffering, dear Mother? My sins and transgressions. O my Mother and guardian, behold Your Son speaks from the cross: “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.” Since He has forgiven His crucifiers so I also shall not be forsaken. Help me, most Holy Mother, that being cleansed with tears of sincere penance, I may, in the hour of death, hear this joyful assurance: “Today, you shall be with Me in paradise.” Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.



### **The Fourteenth Station – The Body of Jesus is Laid in the Tomb**

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You. – Because by Your Cross and Passion You have redeemed the world.

Although all have left You, O Christ, we shall never forsake You, nor Your holy Church by which You have commanded us to stand faithfully and build Your kingdom. Give us the spirit of courage and perseverance that we may boldly profess and confirm with deeds our faith in You. When we are insulted, wronged or persecuted, grant that we may not falter nor fear suffering for Your holy cause but rather, give us that courage which was possessed by the martyrs and saints. When the last hour strikes for us, the hour of death, receive our souls into eternal glory. Amen

Have mercy on us, O Lord. – Have mercy on us.

Lord, for us Your wounds were suffered. – O Christ Jesus, have mercy on us.

### **Closing Prayer**

God did not spare His own Son – But delivered Him up for all of us.

We beseech You, O God, to look graciously on us, Your faithful, for whom Jesus Christ did not refuse to be given over into the hands of sinners and undertake to suffer on the cross. Grant that we may become partakers of His redemption, by following Him in our lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

In every grief and sorrow – Come to our aid, O Blessed Virgin Mary.

Almighty and merciful God, our most gracious Father, Who did permit the Most Blessed Mother to suffer together with our Lord Jesus Christ, to the last moment of His earthly life, thereby give us an example of faithfulness and unbounded love. Grant that following her virtues in our temporal lives we may merit blissful eternity. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## *God's Field*

### **Appeal for Easter Greetings**

The deadline for submission and payment of Easter Greetings is **APRIL 1, 2021**.

The cost for publishing Easter greetings for individuals, parishes and organizations is \$20.00. Due to space constraints in the page setup of the *God's Field*, greetings are limited to up to three (3) lines of text.

Example greetings:

The Adoration Society of St. John's Parish, Everytown, USA  
Eve Adams, President  
We wish everyone a Blessed Easter!

---

St. John's Parish, Everytown, USA  
Rev. Adam Adams, Pastor  
Wesołego Alleluja!

ALL GREETINGS, ACCOMPANIED BY PAYMENTS, MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 1, 2021 IN ORDER TO BE INCLUDED IN THE APRIL ISSUE. We no longer publish greetings submitted without payment, so please be sure to send in your payment with your greeting or it will not be published.

Please send **3-line greetings**, along with payments in the form of check or money order payable to God's Field, to:

God's Field - Easter Greetings  
National Church Center  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505

---

### *2021 Easter Greetings for God's Field*

***Please send to the above address your greetings and payment before April 1, 2021.  
(U.S \$20.00 check or money order for each greeting, payable to God's Field)***

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3: \_\_\_\_\_



**Don't Forget to Renew Your *God's Field* Subscription for 2021 - 2022!**

The 2020 - 2021 *God's Field* subscription year ends after the February 2021 issue. March 2021 - February 2022 *God's Field* subscriptions are now available to individuals and parishes. Although printing and mailing costs have increased, the subscription rate is still \$48.00 per year for 12 issues to U.S and \$62.00 per year for 12 issues to Canada. Single issues of *God's Field* are still available for purchase from the National Church Center for the new rate of \$2.25 each (pickup) or prepaid \$4.00 each (shipped within the U.S.) and \$5.25 each (shipped to Canada). These rates will remain in effect until further notice.

Please note that the gratis online version of *God's Field* will continue to be available to everyone on our website at [pncc.org](http://pncc.org).

Despite what is posted on the [pncc.org](http://pncc.org) website, we are NOT accepting online subscription orders at this time since we currently cannot accept online payments. You must submit the form, below, along with payment to the God's Field address in order to obtain an annual subscription. Only paid subscriptions will be fulfilled.

Individuals and parishes who wish to start an annual subscription or who wish to continue to receive an annual subscription to *God's Field* must fill out the form, below, and send a check or money order in USD, payable to God's Field, along with current name and full mailing address. Please include zip+4 (U.S.) or postal code (Canada) to ensure delivery of your subscription; if you do not include a complete, valid mailing address including zip+4 or postal code we cannot guarantee delivery by the Post Office. Only prepaid subscriptions will be mailed, so please send in annual subscription payments prior to the end of the subscription year so that your subscription continues to be sent to you. If your annual subscription is not prepaid, you may experience a gap in monthly issues of *God's Field*. Parishes and individuals may copy and use the form, below, and send with payment to:

God's Field  
1006 Pittston Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18505

Thank you.

The Staff and Management of *God's Field*—*Rola Boza*

**God's Field Annual Subscription Form March 2021 - February 2022**

Name:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Make check/money order payable to God's Field. Return form & payment to: God's Field 1006 Pittston Avenue Scranton, PA 18505	
Street Address:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>		
City:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>		
State/Province:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>		
Postal Code:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Renewal or Subscription (Circle One)	
(Zip+4)	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Check No. and Amt: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	
		\$48.00 U.S./ \$62.00 Canada	

## Eastern Diocese

### Blessed Trinity Parish Holds Drives to Help the Local Homeless Fall River, MA

On Sunday, January 10, 2021, Blessed Trinity Parish in Fall River, MA, ended their weeks-long drive of collecting hand sanitizer for the Kind Hearts Clean Hands drive to help the city's homeless. The drive was sponsored by the Fall River Police Department and Bristol Superior Court Probation to help the local homeless population. Over 500 containers were collected at the parish during this drive! Thanks to all who supported this effort- especially our parish youth who wrote some messages on the bottles. Discipleship 2021!



On Sunday, January 24, 2021, the parish wrapped up its Sock Drive to help the local homeless and those in need, supporting the annual effort of MA State Representative, Alan Silvia and the Warm Feet Program. Rep. Silvia addressed the faithful of the parish after Holy Mass. Just over 400 pairs of new socks were collected for this drive! The socks will be distributed to those in need. Thanks to all who supported this endeavor.

Let us be Jesus to others and as His disciples let us Be Kind and Be Nice to all - bring healing and change our world one person at a time. Discipleship 2021!



## Supporting Local First Responders

### Blessed Trinity Parish, Fall River, MA

On Saturday, January 30, 2021, the Fall River Police Department and Police Chief Jeff Cardoza were welcomed at Blessed Trinity Parish, Fall, River, MA, for another Guns for Groceries event. Approximately 28 guns and assorted ammunition were turned in as the parish continued the program, established in 1995 by Rev. Robert Lawrence, after Fall River PD Officer Thomas Giunta was shot and killed in the line of duty. The program is held annually to honor Rev. Lawrence, whose wife, Elizabeth Duffy joined with the parish and the Police Department as they honored Rev. Lawrence's memory and made the local community safer.

Also in attendance at this event were Fall River Mayor, Paul Coogan; State Representatives Alan Silvia and Carole Fiola, Tom Pasternak and Matt Roy (UMASSD).

Thanks to many local businesses who made this event possible and to all who turned in guns and made this another successful event to keep guns off the streets to keep them out of the hands of criminals and children.

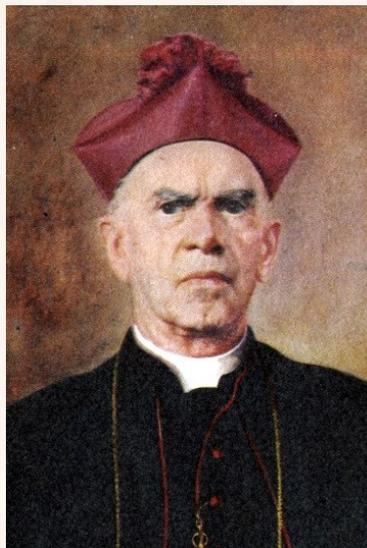


**Tom Pasternak; Chief Jeff Cardoza; State Rep Carole Fiola; Fall River, MA, Mayor Paul Coogan; State Rep Alan Silvia; Elizabeth Duffy; and Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich, Jr.**

Following Holy Mass on Septuagesima Sunday, January 31st, a delicious Pancake Breakfast to benefit the Parish Scholarship Fund was held. Ten pancake breakfasts were later dropped off to the First Responders at the Niagara Fire Station. The breakfasts were given to show gratitude, love and support to the Fall River Firefighters who were very grateful for the continuing support of the parish.



**Very Rev. Nemkovich delivered breakfast for the dedicated Fall River Fire Department.**



## In Honor of Bishop Franciszek Hodur

From “Ode To Great Men and Great Things in Poetry and Prose”

Rev. Walter A. Hyszko

### His Voice Shall Never Cease

*(On the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bishop Hodur's Death)*

Each year, his voice louder, more strong  
 Thunders the words of our Church Song –  
 “So many years, O Lord, we did faithfully serve.”  
 He pleads Grace for those who believed ... blessings deserve.

Since his passing, now will come the hardest trial –  
 He asks to forgive the selfish, those who defile  
 Their sacred oath to give their best  
 To the Church – often – fail the test.

Many voices, to his memory will be raised –  
 Prime Bishop Hodur, in high glory, shall be praised ...  
 They'll all praise his great deeds, the best he gave to the Lord ...  
 Yet, some will forget the true meaning of his word.

“Dear bishop – what your last breath whispered to be done ...  
 Of the vict'ry you sought on earth – is not yet won;  
 Thy faithful – giving their best, with tears in their eyes  
 Pray, that all who vowed – uplift their hearts to the skies.