



# GOD'S FIELD

Rola Boza

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Issue #10

## To Grow Our Christian Family — The XXV General Synod

Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky,  
Prime Bishop



As we find ourselves in the middle of the month of October we have just completed the celebration of the Solemnity of the Christian Family. Within that celebration we read the Gospel from St. Luke when Jesus was a child of twelve at the temple. When the Holy Family went together to Jerusalem to attend the feast of Passover, Jesus stayed behind and was found in the temple, “sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.” (Luke 2:46b) When Jesus was found by His parents who were searching for Him, Scripture tells us, “He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them.” (Luke 2: 51a)

Jesus here makes a priority of family life. If we would look solely at the mission of Jesus to announce the Good News, to bring salvation through a

renewed understanding of the covenant relationship between God and His people, we might think that it would have been a better thing for Jesus to have remained in Jerusalem at the temple. He could have continued to interact with the teachers and lawyers there. We could imagine that with this work He would have been better able to convince them later on when He began His ministry. But surely this is only mere speculation and misses an important aspect of the ministry of Jesus, the family.

Jesus rather prioritized the most sure way in which the heart and mind can be prepared to receive the Good News. Jesus prioritized the family. It was within this family life that we read concerning Jesus, “He advanced in wisdom and age and favor before

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### 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@pncc.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  
godsfield@pncc.org

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

### *God's Field* — Rola Boża Publication Information

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Typewritten articles and photographs may be submitted to:

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### CONTROLLER:

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

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God and man.” (Luke 2:52) Jesus reminds us here that it is within our family life that we encourage and strengthen one another. This is an aspect which should be true for every relationship within every family. It must be true of husbands and wives as they strive to build Christian homes and show forth an example of Christian living within our society. It must be true of parents and children as the parents are challenged to impart the faith to the next generation and children are challenged to follow Jesus in a world which is oftentimes hostile to belief in Christ. It must be true of brothers and sisters who seek to live out a supportive relationship as they navigate a world which increasingly isolates all individuals from each other.

Now within this framework we must also realize that our Lord desires that we extend this concept of a Christian Family ever outward. Jesus, through the Gospel, shows us what His true family is. In the Gospel of St. Matthew we read: “Someone told [Jesus] ‘Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, asking to speak with You.’ But He said in reply to the one who told Him, ‘Who is My mother? Who are My brothers?’ And stretching out His hand towards His disciples, He said, ‘Here are My mother and My brothers. For whoever does the will of My heavenly Father is My brother, and sister, and mother.’” (Matthew 12:47-50)

The concept of the Christian Family then is not merely one which is based on a bloodline, although it may be that as well, rather it is based on a covenant relationship to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. It is here in which we can look at the work of the XXV General Synod, and especially it’s looking forward within the Future Direction program as the work of a Christian Family within our society.

During the time of the Synod the delegates had an opportunity to examine the Future Direction program of the past four years and strive to set a program of work for the upcoming four year Synodal period. This work was all done within the framework of the 5 themes that were chosen in 2014. The five themes that were chosen in 2014 and reexamined at the past Synod were: Growth and Membership, Increased Spirituality, Lifelong Learning, Sacred Vocations and Community. As the XXV General Synod is now complete, over the next many weeks and months the Future Direction Subcommittee will be examining the data that was collected and they will set a plan and course of action for the next four years.

Now while this is of great importance to the work of the Church, each member of our Church family, in the spirituality of the Solemnity of the Christian Family, will need to take an active part and role. But if we take a moment to examine these five themes, we can also see that these are the exact things that each of our families are all involved in at every level.

Every family must be concerned with its growth and membership. At first we may think of the planning and preparation that comes with the birth of children and this is certainly a start, but it also goes much further. A family may also grow as children go out into the world and enter into the covenant relationship of matrimony with others and in another way extended families or family-like relationships can be created through the cultivating of friends. This reminds us that as we focus the attention of the Church on Growth and Membership, we are in fact seeking to incorporate others into our Christian Family. In this regard we must desire to accept others fully and share our lives fully with them. It’s not just a numbers game. I have heard from so many parishes a concern that “we need parishioners.” But we must ask in response to our seeking Growth and Membership, do we want only a large number count or are we looking to grow a family?

In many families the bonds that are shared are encouraged and strengthened by the actions that the families take together. I certainly know that some of the most meaningful times of my childhood were the times that family spent together and the same is true of my life today in my marriage. Now the action that is taken together as a Christian Family is the Spirituality of the Church. We, the Church as a family, gather together to celebrate the Eucharist. We gather to worship God in liturgical devotions and we put aside time to pray for and with one another. As we seek to build a Christian Family, it is exactly these family actions, this spirituality, that must be increased.

In a well-functioning family there is a desire to see that each member of the family is living to his or her full potential. And this is true not only for children in their youngest years, but for each of us at any age. It is in this way that Lifelong Learning is a true part of our family life. For the young this means a very structured system of school and homework, and so likewise within the Church we have catechetical and sacramental classes, but throughout life we each must

(Continued on bottom of Page 5.)



## Future Direction Work Evaluated and Continued at XXV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church



The XXV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church, meeting October 1-3, 2018, spent significant time evaluating the work of the Future Direction program over the past four years and moved forward to continue to implement the five themes developed by the XXIV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church in 2014: Growth and Membership, Increased Spirituality, Lifelong Learning, Sacred Vocations and Community Presence and Involvement.

Following is the resolution from the General Synod. The results from Holy Synod of moving the Future Direction program forward will begin to be implemented over the next months and years leading up to the Holy Synod of 2022.

### **The Resolutions of the XXV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church**

Whereas, we the delegates to the XXV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church - representatives of the holy People of God - have convened under the leadership of our Prime Bishop and Bishops at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine in Belleville, IL, from October 1 through October 3, 2018.

Whereas, we were strengthened, nourished and enlightened by our Lord, Jesus Christ, truly present in our midst through Word and Sacrament at the Holy Mass concelebrated by our Prime Bishop, Bishops and Clergy, and understand it as the most important aspect of the great work of these days;

Whereas, we offer our gratitude to the Western Diocese of the Church, under the leadership of Bishop Bilinski, and those who assumed the responsibilities of planning and carrying out this Holy Synod;

Whereas, we acknowledge the courageous presence and active participation of the gathered delegates, as we proclaim that the Mission of the Church has been entrusted to her members of all ages, each called to pursue lives of holiness as Disciples of Jesus Christ and to invite others to do likewise;

Whereas, we recognize the foundation that was laid at the XXIV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church regarding our Future Direction and celebrate the many diligent efforts to build upon this within our Dioceses and Parishes over the last four years, in pursuing true regeneration of spirit, mind and heart; by seeking to engender deeper reverence for God and our neighbors; by willingly recommitting ourselves to undertaking the work of the Church within our parishes, and faithfully striving to welcome all of these virtues into the daily lives of our families;

Whereas, we have again considered with renewed enthusiasm and rekindled creativity the Future Direction of our beloved Church by continuing to reflect upon the meaning of growth with regard to its membership, the continual need for increased spirituality and the value of lifelong learning for its members of all ages, the ongoing pursuit of personal holiness as the means of enabling joyful responses to God's call to Sacred Vocations,

and the need to further enhance our community involvement and presence;

We, therefore, resolve to fervently ask that God the Father, through the prayers of Our Lady of the Snows, may bring forth abundant fruit from the proceedings of this XXV General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church, to seek grace and strength from our Lord, Jesus Christ, to embrace the work He has entrusted to our care, and to knock so that the Holy Spirit will open and inflame our hearts so that we may return to our parishes inspired to execute the work of this Synod, firm in our Catholic faith, anchored by hope and motivated by charity, unwaveringly committed as members of the Polish National Catholic Church, charged to boldly proclaim the Gospel at all times, in all places and to all people through our words, our actions and our lives of holiness, and more certain than ever that “With truth, work and struggle, we shall succeed!”

Respectfully submitted this day, October 3, 2018, by the Resolution Committee of the XXV General Synod of Polish National Catholic Church.

*Christopher Cremean (Western Diocese); Marilyn Folcik (Eastern Diocese); Rebecca Kotula (Central Diocese) and Rev. Dr. Scott J. Lill (Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese)*

A special thank you to Dr. Shirley Mietlicki-Floyd for facilitating this effort during Holy Synod and to all those who served as facilitators and recorders for this undertaking.

May God bless continue to bless and guide this work for the building of His Holy Church.

The following now serve on the P.N.C.C. Future Direction Committee: Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Rt. Rev. Stanley Bilinski, Rt. Rev. John Mack, Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki, Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski, Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich, Jr., *Chair*, Rev. Dr. Scott Lill, Rebecca Kotula, Michael Mietlicki, Dr. Shirley Mietlicki-Floyd, and Kathryn Nemkovich.

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(To Grow Our Christian Family- Continued from Page 3.)

find a way to continue to grow and learn. This is a concern of the Church family as well and it is for this reason that homilies are given each Sunday and we seek opportunities to continue to learn about and deepen our faith.

In an extension of living a fully fulfilled life we also know that God still calls men within the Church to serve Him in the special way of a Sacred Vocation. These Sacred Vocations are of great concern for the Christian family, since without them that family cannot fulfill one of its highest duties, the worship of God at the Holy Eucharist. At earlier times it was considered a great honor to have a priest or clergyman within a family. We need to ask ourselves if this is still the case. Do we encourage the men of our families to consider if God is calling them to a Sacred Vocation?

And lastly we know that our families cannot be insulated. We cannot just close our doors and live only within our family homes. We must go out into the world, to school, to work and to interact with those around us. The same is true of the Christian family, and in a way even more so. We are called, as a Christian family, to be a witness to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to everyone that we meet. We must share with others the love that Jesus Christ has

for us. In order to do this well and effectively, we actually must go out to meet people. We must have involvement and interaction with the community around us. In doing so we witness to the presence of Jesus Christ among us and we ask others to join in our Christian family so that they may know and serve Christ along with us.

So I encourage each and every member of the Christian family that is the Church to participate fully in the work of Future Direction within the Polish National Catholic Church. Many programs and initiatives will be forthcoming within the P.N.C.C. and I encourage each parish, each family and each person to be a part of them. The easiest way to get started is to make sure that you get the Future Direction emails by sending your email address to [FutureDirection@pncc.org](mailto:FutureDirection@pncc.org). Another great way is to follow the “PNCC Future Direction” Facebook page. But let’s remember that it is not really the work of others, this work of: Growth and Membership, Increased Spirituality, Lifelong Learning, Sacred Vocations and Community Involvement; it is the work that each and every one of us must do, in a functioning and faithful Christian family. We may already do these things in our own individual families, but let’s also make sure that they are a part of the Family of Faith, the Christian Family.

## Supreme Council Meets Following the XXV General Synod

**Michael R. Mietlicki, Secretary, Supreme Council, P.N.C.C.**

Following the adjournment of the XXV General Synod, the first meeting of the Supreme Council took place to reconstitute itself for the 2018 to 2022 term.

In addition to the Prime Bishop and the Diocesan Bishops, the following members were either elected by diocesan caucuses, appointed by the Prime Bishop or will serve on the Supreme Council based on the P.N.C.C. Constitution for the 2018 – 2022 term.

Most Rev. Anthony M. Mikovsky, PhD  
Prime Bishop

Bishop John Mack  
Vice Chair of the Supreme Council and Diocesan Bishop: Buffalo Pittsburg Diocese

Bishop Stanley Bilinski  
Diocesan Bishop: Western Diocese

Bishop Bernard Nowicki, DD  
Diocesan Bishop: Central Diocese

Bishop Paul Sobiechowski  
Diocesan Bishop: Eastern Diocese

Representing the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese  
Rev. Scott Lill, D. Min  
Diane E. Cheek  
Robert T. Giczkowski

Representing the Canadian Diocese  
Rev. Zbigniew Kozar  
Gemma Meharchand

Representing the Central Diocese  
Very Rev. Gregory Mludzik  
Paul Gorgol  
Becki Vivacqua

Representing the Eastern Diocese  
Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich Jr.  
Marilyn A. Folcik  
Raymond J. Pieczarka

Representing the Western Diocese  
Very Rev Jaroslaw Rafalko  
Cathy A. Bilinski  
Bruce S. Kaniewski

Representing the Polish National Union  
Irene Jugan, PNU CEO  
John Andrzejewski III, PNU CFO

Appointments of the Prime Bishop  
Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid – Vice Rector of Savonarola Theological Seminary  
David Petrosky – Laity Appointment  
Kathryn Nemkovich – Laity Appointment  
Joan Scheuneman – Treasurer of the P.N.C.C.  
Michael R. Mietlicki – Secretary, Supreme Council

During the meeting the following appointments or elections took place:

Prime Bishop reappointed Bishop John Mack as Vice Chair of the Supreme Council.

John Andrzejewski, III, was selected as the Supreme Council's representative to the Supreme Tribunal. The Prime Bishop serves as chair of this tribunal.

Joan Scheuneman and David Petrosky were selected to join the Prime Bishop as Trustees of the Polish National Catholic Church.

Joan Scheuneman and John Andrzejewski, III, were selected to join the Prime Bishop as Signatories of Authority for the financial and investment assets of the Church.

During the XXV General Synod delegates spent considerable time in small groups discussing the success of the Future Direction Subcommittee of the Supreme Council and set aggressive goals for the next four years. During this Supreme Council meeting, the Prime Bishop appointed the following individuals to the Future Direction Subcommittee: All Diocesan Bishops; Very Rev Robert Nemkovich, Jr.; Rev. Scott Lill, D. Min; Shirley Mietlicki-Floyd, Ed D; Rebecca Kotula, President of the United Youth Association and delegate to the XXV General Synod; Kathryn Nemkovich; and Michael R. Mietlicki. The Prime Bishop appointed Father Senior Robert Nemkovich, Jr. as chair.

### Clergy Pension Fund

Council members discussed the Clergy Pension Fund and the need for a detailed analysis to determine its proper funding. Detailed information and the fund description will be requested from the Principle Group, the company that manages the fund.

### Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council

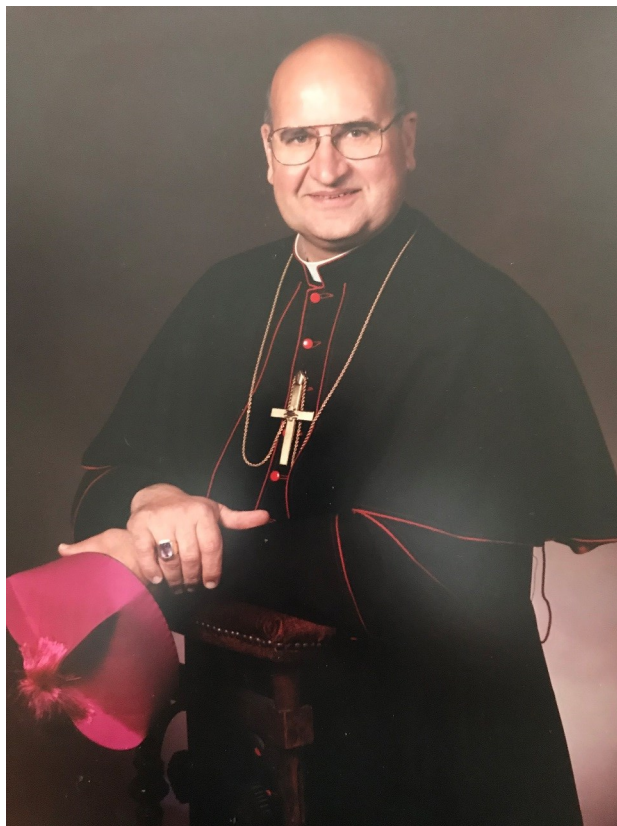
The next Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council will be conducted in Scranton, PA on April 30 and May 1.



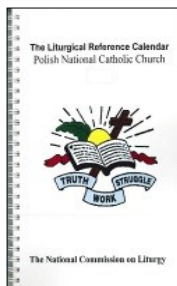
### Most Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Celebrates 25th Anniversary of Consecration

The Bishops, priests, deacons and faithful of the Polish National Catholic Church extend congratulations, prayers and best wishes to Most Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich, Prime Bishop Emeritus of the P.N.C.C., on his 25th Anniversary of Consecration as a Bishop in the Polish National Catholic Church on October 18, 2018.

May Almighty God continue to bless Prime Bishop Emeritus Nemkovich!



### The 2019 Liturgical Reference Calendar



Orders for the 2019 Liturgical Reference Calendar – Ordo – are now being accepted. The cost of the Liturgical Calendar is \$12.75 per book for pickup-up orders or \$15.50 per book for mail orders to U.S.; \$22.75 USD per book for mail orders to Canada. To order, please fill out the order form, below, and make check or money order payable to ***The Polish National Catholic Church – LRC*** and send to:

***The Polish National Catholic Church – L R C, Attn: Secretary to Prime Bishop  
1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505-4109***

#### 2019 ORDO Order Form

Clergy/Parish Name and Shipping Address:

Description of Item	# of copies	Cost per Item	Subtotal
2019 Liturgical Reference Calendar (Ordo); Includes shipping cost: \$15.50 U.S.; \$22.75 Canada			
<b>2019 ORDO</b>			<b>Total Remitted</b>
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>			

**Please make check payable to: Polish National Catholic Church – LRC**

*Thank you for your payment.*

## 2019 Home Liturgical Calendars

The Polish National Catholic Church will have a *limited* number of full color 2019 home liturgical calendars for sale on a first-come, first-served basis later this year. This calendar with original photographs for each month includes information concerning P.N.C.C. holy days.

You can pre-order your calendars for your parish or yourself by using the chart below to calculate costs. Your order will be shipped as soon as the calendars become available (late November/early December). Thank you for your continued support of this Church-wide endeavor.

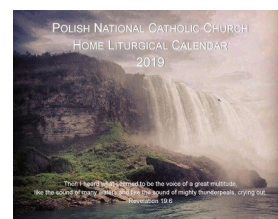
Quantity	Cost per Calendar	Calendar Cost Subtotal	U.S. Shipping	U.S. Total	Canada Shipping (USD)	Canada Total (USD)
1	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$2.00	\$5.50	\$3.50	\$7.00
2	\$3.50	\$7.00	\$2.75	\$9.75	\$5.00	\$12.00
3	\$3.50	\$10.50	\$2.75	\$13.25	\$7.00	\$17.50
4	\$3.50	\$14.00	\$3.25	\$17.25	\$8.00	\$22.00
5	\$3.50	\$17.50	\$3.25	\$20.75	\$9.00	\$26.50
6	\$3.50	\$21.00	\$3.25	\$24.25	\$10.00	\$31.00
7	\$3.50	\$24.50	\$3.75	\$28.25	\$12.00	\$36.50
8	\$3.50	\$28.00	\$3.75	\$31.75	\$13.00	\$41.00
9	\$3.50	\$31.50	\$3.75	\$35.25	\$14.25	\$45.75
10	\$3.25	\$32.50	\$4.25	\$36.75	\$15.25	\$47.75
11+	\$3.25	\$35.75+	*Depends on package weight & recipient's geographic location*		*Depends on package weight & recipient's geographic location*	

**\*An invoice for shipping costs will be included in your shipment.**

**PLEASE NOTE** that an additional \$30.00 is required for ad setup for a sponsor (quite often a funeral director) and specific parish information regarding Sunday services, telephone numbers, name of pastor, etc. Orders will not be customized if fee is not included.

Please place your order as soon as possible so that we can ship your calendars to you before the New Year. Total payment (including calculable shipping costs) must accompany order. If you pick up your order at the National Church Center, there will be no shipping charge.

**SEND PAYMENT AND ORDERS TO:**  
**Polish National Catholic Church**  
**Attn: Julie Orzell**  
**1006 Pittston Avenue**  
**Scranton, PA 18505-4109**



**Complete and send in order slip with your payment. Only pre-paid calendar orders will be shipped.**

**You will be invoiced for shipping costs if they must be calculated at the time of packing.**

### 2019 P.N.C.C. Calendar Order Form

<u>Shipping Information</u>	<u># of Calendars</u>	<u>Cost of Calendars</u>	<u>Ad Fee</u> (if applicable)	<u>Shipping Cost</u> (if calculable)*	<u>Total Enclosed</u>
Name					
Address					
City, State Zip Code					

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** We cannot predetermine the cost of shipping on orders of 11 or more calendars because this cost is calculated by weight and geographic location of recipient. You will be invoiced for this cost in your shipment.





## ***God's Field* Appeal for Christmas Greetings**

It is not too early to start thinking about publishing your Christmas greetings in the December issue of *God's Field*.

In past years your responses to our appeals have been very enthusiastic and we sincerely hope your generosity and support will continue this year.

The cost for publishing Christmas 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.

An online form can be found on the pncc.org website at: [pncc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/online\\_greeting\\_form\\_2018.pdf](http://pncc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/online_greeting_form_2018.pdf)

ALL GREETINGS, ACCOMPANIED BY PAYMENTS, MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 30, 2018 IN ORDER TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CHRISTMAS ISSUE.

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 - Christmas Greetings

National Church Center

1006 Pittston Avenue

Scranton, PA 18505

Thank you for your continued support.



### **2014 Constitutions Available**

"The Constitution and Laws of the Polish National Catholic Church" booklet, as revised at the XXIV General Synod in Erie, PA, is available from the P.N.C.C. Book Department.

"The Constitution and Laws of the Polish National Catholic Church" should be in the hands of all members of the P.N.C.C. but above all by those who serve on the Parish Committees and other organizations.

Orders may be submitted via email to [secretarytopb@pncc.org](mailto:secretarytopb@pncc.org), by calling (570) 346-9131 or by writing to:

Book Department

P.N.C.C.

1006 Pittston Avenue

Scranton, PA 18505

The cost is \$3.00 per copy plus \$1.75 (US)/\$2.95 (Canada) postage and handling. Shipping costs for multiple copies will vary, depending on shipping method (USPS or UPS), weight and distance of shipment.

Downloadable and printable pdf versions of "The Constitution and Laws of the P.N.C.C." can be found on the website, [pncc.org](http://pncc.org), by selecting the *Beliefs and Principles* option from the *Who We Are* dropdown menu on the home page.

## Central Diocese

### Dożynki/ Harvest Festival

#### Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish, Dupont, PA

Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish held its 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Harvest Festival/Dożynki in Dupont, PA on September 9, 2018. It took many days and many people to prepare this event in order to continue this beautiful and meaningful Polish tradition. The Harvest Festival began with the blessing of the Harvest Wreath in the big tent by Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid, Pastor. Live music, provided by Joe Lastovica and the Polka Punch, kept everyone in a good mood on this rainy day. Regardless of the bad weather, many patrons came and supported our Dożynki. Homemade Polish and American food:

potato pancakes, pierogi, wimpies, haluski, clam chowder, gołąbki, kielbasa, chicken wings, french fries, funnel cakes, bake goods, home made pies, pastries, pączki drew many to our Festival and were sold out or almost sold out. Dożynki day featured many games and activities: Instant Bingo, Big Raffle, Chinese Auction, Jar Game; Bounce House, Face painting, Storytelling. We would like to thank all our patrons, corporate sponsors and mostly our hardworking volunteers for making this event successful.

Submitted by Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid



Festival volunteers in Polish Folk costumes



Parish children and adults at the Wreath Ceremony



## Lunches Provided to the Homeless

### The Polish National Catholic Church of Holy Trinity and St. Joseph, Linden, NJ

As part of the parish's Future Direction program focused on community service, the parish funded and prepared over 100 lunches for the needy and homeless of New York City, Newark and Irvington, NJ in collaboration with the [Bridges Outreach Organization](#) in Summit, NJ. This event took place in September.

The items for the lunches were purchased through the generous donations of parish members.

This is the second of four community service projects planned for 2018. In November and December, a local fund raiser will be sponsored for Veterans as well as a Christmas Toy Drive. This community event was sponsored by the Young Adult Group that was formed by the students of the 2015 Confirmation Class with a mission to take the Light of Jesus into the world. Kenneth E. Matz is Chairman of the Parish Committee. Father Jan Kosc is Pastor.

Submitted by Michael R. Mietlicki



Parish volunteers gather with Father Jan Kosc, Pastor, in front of over 100 brown bag lunches prepared for the homeless.



Bridges connects the housed and homeless to establish relationships that lead to greater acceptance and understanding, social and economic growth, and well-being.



## St. Stanislaus Cathedral UYA to Participate in Wreaths Across America Scranton, PA

Each year, millions of Americans come together to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and their families and teach the next generation about the value of freedom. This gathering of individuals and communities takes place in local and national cemeteries in all 50 states as part of National Wreaths Across America Day.

This December 15th at noon, St. Stanislaus Cathedral's UYA will be taking part at the Parish Cemetery on Kane Street in Scranton, PA. Everyone is welcome to participate, so keep the date open.

Prior to this date, the Cathedral UYA members will be conducting a survey of the cemetery to identify all

veterans' graves. If you have a deceased veteran buried in our cemetery and want to be sure they are recognized, you can submit their names and approximate location of the graves to a UYA member, drop it off in the Parish Office, or email it to [office@saintstanislauspncc.org](mailto:office@saintstanislauspncc.org).

Because we must purchase all the wreaths, we will be doing some fund-raising and asking for contributions. More information will follow in the months to come.

You can find out more information on Wreaths Across America online at [wreathsassamerica.org](http://wreathsassamerica.org).



God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, look kindly on Your departed veterans who gave their lives in the service of their country. Grant that through the passion, death, and resurrection of Your Son they may share in the joy of Your heavenly kingdom and rejoice in You with Your saints forever. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

## Eastern Diocese

### Father Piekarzewski Appointed to St. John the Baptist Parish Manchester, CT

Father Adam Piekarzewski, newly-appointed administrator of St. John the Baptist Parish in Manchester, CT, celebrated his second Sunday parish Mass at 3:00 P.M. on September 9th in the presence of Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski and seven other Eastern Diocesan priests. The Mass was graced by the singing of choir members from Holy Trinity Parish in Plantsville, CT, led by organist Karen Sobiechowski.

The bishop was greeted in church before Mass with the traditional Polish symbols of bread and salt by St. John's parish chair, Joe Bednarz. Rt. Rev. Sobiechowski read letters from Most Rev. Anthony

Mikovsky, Prime Bishop of the P.N.C.C.. The letters documented Rev. Piekarzewski's incardination into the Polish National Catholic Church and his completion of orientation at the Savonarola Seminary in Scranton, PA, as well as his assignment to the Eastern Diocese under Bishop Sobiechowski.

Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski, Administrative Senior of the SW Seniorate of the Eastern Diocese, read two letters from Bishop Sobiechowski: one to Rev. Smolinski, appointing him to the status of Reserve Priest in the diocese, and another to Rev. Piekarzewski, appointing him as administrator of St. John the Baptist Parish, Manchester, CT.

Submitted by Rev. Henry Smolinski



Left to right: Rev. Andrzej Tenus, pastor of St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA; Rev. Krzysztof Rogalski, pastor of Divine Providence Parish, Norwich, CT; Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski, pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, Plantsville, CT; Rev. Adam Czarnecki, pastor of St. Valentine's Parish, Northampton, MA; Rev. Piekarzewski; Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski; Rev. Henry Smolinski; Rev. Thomas Walsh, pastor of St. Joseph's of Stratford Parish, Stratford, CT; Rev. Henryk Wos, pastor of Our Saviour Parish, Woonsocket, RI; and Cleric Justin Daviault of Plantsville, CT.





## † śp. Wanda (Dymkowski) Mercier



We sadly note the passing of Wanda (Dymkowski) Mercier of New Britain, CT, who joined her heavenly family on Tuesday, March 27, 2018, after a courageous battle with a terminal illness. Surrounding Wanda at the time of her passing were her brother, Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski, and cousins Valerie Altgilbers and Donna Welch, who were caring for her.

Wanda, known as “June” by family and close friends, was born September 15, 1940 to John and Wanda Dymkowski. She was educated in the New Britain, CT schools, graduating from New Britain Sr. High School. She then entered the New Britain General Hospital School of Nursing, graduating as a registered nurse. Shortly after nursing school she did post graduate studies at Western Connecticut State University of Danbury, CT, earning a Master’s Degree in nursing. She was employed by the Hospital of Central Connecticut, New Britain, Campus. Wanda also was a nursing educator, teaching at the N.B. School of Nursing.

Wanda was a dedicated, lifelong, third generation member of the P.N.C.C. of Transfiguration, in New Britain, faithfully attending, singing in the parish choir, serving on the parish committee as an officer and in the A.N.S. Society as an officer. She also cared for and decorated the church interior for Holy Day observances. She was a delegate to Eastern Diocesan Synods and many General Synods of the P.N.C.C. since 1963. Wanda also was elected to and served a term on the Supreme Council of the P.N.C.C., as well as a diocesan Council member, Eastern Diocese United A.N.S. Society officer and National A.N.S. Society. Beyond her participation in the Polish National Catholic Church, she was also a representative to the New Britain Area Council of Churches.

Wanda belonged to the New Britain Polish American Business and Professional Association and was a ge-

nealogist with the Polish Genealogy Society of Connecticut and Northeast. She was proud of her Polish ancestry and a dedicated “soldier” of the P.N.C.C. Wanda was deeply devoted to family and relatives in Poland, where she visited many times.

Preceding her in death were her parents John and Wanda (Filipek) Dymkowski, aunts, uncles and cousins and former husband, Roland Mercier. Wanda will live in the hearts and memories of friends, family and relatives; brother, Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski, and wife, Gloria, of Wilkes-Barre, PA; niece Lea B. Sypniewski and husband, Thomas, of Huntingdon Valley, PA; nephew Thad Dymkowski and wife, Amy, grand nephew Anthony and grandniece Alexandra of Willington, CT; niece Sarette Dymkowski of New Britain, CT; and cousins in Connecticut, Arizona and other states, as well as in Poland.

Wake services were held with Very Rev. Joseph Krusinski at the Burritt Hill Funeral Home. The funeral and Mass of Christian Burial was offered Tuesday, April 3d, at the Church of the Transfiguration, New Britain, CT. The Celebrant was Very Rev. Joseph Krusinski, assisted by Rev. Henry Smolinski and Rev. Paul Dudek. The church was filled to capacity with parishioners, relatives and friends. Burial followed at the parish cemetery.

The family of Wanda Mercier extends thanks and gratitude to friends far and near, Most Rev. Prime Bishop Anthony and Carol Mikovsky, diocesan bishops and priests who sent expressions of sympathy to the family and offered Masses.

Memorial contributions in memory of Wanda Mercier may be made to the P.N.C.C. Clergy Pension Fund.

Wieczny odpoczynek racz jej dać Panie, may she rest in peace.

Submitted by Very Rev. Thaddeus Dymkowski



## Western Diocese

### A Busy Season at St. Mary Parish

#### South Bend, IN

The summer months were very active at St. Mary Parish in South Bend, IN. Our first summer rummage sale was held in July and was a success.

The St. Joseph Men's Club has been extremely busy. They sealed the foundation on two sides of the hall to prevent leakage. They repaired a glass block window in the lower hall, cleaned the gutters, repaired flashing on the church roof and patched a pothole in the alley. The men also washed and then painted the floor in the lower hall. Our grateful "thank you" to the men who accomplished all of this repair work.

Our Youth Group sponsored a fun mini-golf outing at Putt Putt Golf Course. On the first Sunday of September we blessed the students and teachers in our parish. We said prayers of thanks for all teachers and asked God's Blessings on them for the love and compassion they have for their students. We prayed that this be a year of learning and growing for all students.

Our Annual Fall Rummage Sale took place on October 5 and 6 and again on October 12 and 13. The hall was filled with clothing, housewares, books, DVDs, toys, tools, floral items, jewelry, glassware and seasonal items. Many of our customers are repeat customers who come each year. Our mission is to

provide clothing and other items at very reasonable prices to help those who may be less fortunate.

On October 12th our parish sponsored Christian/Country singer and songwriter Jaime Bradley. The audience had a opportunity to meet Jaime after the concert.

On Sunday, October 21, we celebrate Heritage Sunday. After Church services, a pot luck meal is held at the Church hall. Parishioners bring ethnic food and desserts in addition to other food items. A new flag, recognizing the efforts of Hungarians, alongside of Poles, in the organizing of our parish, was introduced. Our Annual Food Drive has just begun to support a nearby food pantry which assists the homeless. Canned goods, non-perishable food, paper products and other items are collected during the drive, showing Brotherly Love to our community!

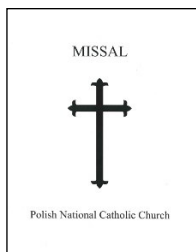
Plans are now underway for Christmas decorating of the Church. Several members have volunteered to oversee specific areas of decorating. While this is a large endeavor, the volunteers enjoy adding beautiful decorations for the Christmas season.

We at St. Mary Parish wish all of you a wonderful Fall season!

Submitted by Fran Lemanski, Parish Correspondent



## P.N.C.C. Missal Now Available in Electronic Format



The electronic version of the P.N.C.C. Missal is now available for purchase by P.N.C.C. parishes or clergy from the P.N.C. C. Book Department. The cost is \$75.00 for the complete Missal on a USB Flash Drive.

To order, please send a check or money order for \$75.00 (plus \$3.50 s/h U.S.; \$10.00 s/h Canada) payable to P.N.C.C. Book Department to: P.N.C.C. Book Department, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505

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