## St. Francis Polish National Catholic Church



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# Sunday, June 24, 2018

## Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow. Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Hymn of Faith"

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READING 1 - Is 49:1-6

Hear me, O coastlands, listen, O distant peoples.

The LORD called me from birth, from my mother's womb he gave me my name. He made of me a sharp-edged sword and concealed me in the shadow of his arm. He made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me. You are my servant, he said to me, Israel, through whom I show my glory.

Though I thought I had toiled in vain, and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength, yet my reward is with the LORD, my recompense is with my God. For now the LORD has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb, that Jacob may be brought back to him and Israel gathered to him; and I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD, and my God is now my strength! It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel; I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15

#### R. I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.

O LORD, you have probed me, you know me: you know when I sit and when I stand; you understand my thoughts from afar.
My journeys and my rest you scrutinize, with all my ways you are familiar.

#### R. I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.

Truly you have formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made; wonderful are your works.

#### R. I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.

My soul also you knew full well;nor was my frame unknown to you When I was made in secret, when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth.

#### R. I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.

READING 2 - 2 Cor 5:14-17 Brothers and siActs 13:22-26 In those days, Paul said: "God raised up David as king; of him God testified, I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will carry out my every wish. From this man's descendants God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.'

"My brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those others among you who are God-fearing, to us this word of salvation has been sent." Alleluia

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

#### R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: You, child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.

#### R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

GOSPEL - Luke 1:57-66, 80

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." But they answered her, "There is no one among your relatives who has this name." So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be?" For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

#### R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Just As I Am"
COMMUNION HYMN - "The Cry of the Poor"
RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Center of My Life"

#### THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

His feast day is June 24. The birthday of John the Baptist, six months before the birth of Jesus, has been celebrated on June 24 from the earliest days of the Church. Jesus himself called John, who prepared the way for him by his preaching, the greatest of men. A "voice in the desert," John, as the final prophet of the Old Testament, told the people of his time that their Lord was near. The announcement of John's birth by the Angel Gabriel to Zachary, his father, was received with disbelief because Zachary's wife Elizabeth, was beyond childbearing age. Yet the angel insisted, "You shall call his name John for he will be great



before the Lord and filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb." In the wastelands of Judea, people from all ranks of society - soldiers and priests, tax collectors and workers - came to hear John and their hearts were moved by his call to repent. Many were baptized by him in the River Jordan as a sign of their conversion; some remained to live with him as his disciples. His denunciation of King Herod's immoral conduct shocked the king's court, and

John eventually suffered death for speaking truth to the powerful. Jesus began his own mission by being baptized by John. Recognizing the Son of God, whose "sandals he was not worthy to untie," John said, "He must increase, and I must decrease." John's life prepared for Jesus who was eternal life. Early commentators never failed to note that after June 24, the Feast of John the Baptist, the sun's light begins to decrease until December 25, the birth of Jesus, when the light of the sun increases again. His prayer, Lord, may you increase your life within us. Amen.

#### **SUMMER SOLSTICE**

Thursday, June 21st, was the first day of summer!

The longest day light of the year.

To all, have a great summer season!

### Just a "Thank You" shout-out...

to all who donated items for the yard sale, but especially to those who "manned" the fort.

#### **Monika & Father Andrew**

Debbie Scillia & John, great friends of the Parish Joni Blenn & Ann Klein-Siebuhr

Even Adam & Robert Koterba carried items from the basement to the yard on Thursday night! The set-up was Friday morning until afternoon. Saturday & Sunday were sunny and soooo hot, yet people came. Some donated, some bought.

Money was raised. Hooray!

Wonderful generous strangers made it successful.

## Thank you all

who helped in any way, shape or form!

#### **GARDEN BLOOMS**

The beauty of nature has great power to enrich our souls and spirit. We welcome any garden flower or floral gift to adorn our altars. It remains a faithful gift to honor and added prayer to our Lord! Vases are provided. God's Blessings!

#### THE SACRED HEART

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart.

CONSECRATION TO THE SACRED HEART

Lord Jesus Christ, we consecrate - ourselves to Your divine Heart, with all that we are and have. We give You our thoughts, words, actions, our joys and sufferings of each day. We renew our promise to live as good Christians ever mindful of Your merciful love. Heart of Jesus, we take You-as our security in whatever anxieties may assail us. Be our source of comfort and encouragement in every trial. Rule over us as King and Center of our hearts now and forever. Amen.

Take a moment out and pray...

Health Needs: Jesus, we ask you to bring peace and your healing touch to those who are ill, afraid or worried. Amen.
 Health Needs of: Richard Paczkoski, Thomas Kompa, Bill Piro, Iris Cafran, Frank Kompa, John Luis Vasquez, Sophia Kyriakakis, Gregory Klein, Jim Richards, Nancy Foley, Thomas Maloney, Linda Frysztacki, Lorri Russo,

Nancy Fernandez Petrozza, Susan Leach, Stella Silva, Michele Feudale, Linda Maloney, Lorraine Avitabile, Blanca Vasquez, Elena Guigui, Theresa Kasmark, Emma Zaradich, Joe Stewart, Constance Citrola, Elizabeth Zitzmann, Anne Grusell, Teresa Kay, Sidra Lewis, Billy Murphy, Con Boyle, John Blenn, Carla Calabrese, MaryAnn McEvoy, Gary P. Ribis,

Rosalie Drenckhahn, James Kostolni, Ann Klein-Siebuhr, Nina Dobrowolski, George Heyen, Eileen McChesney, Mickey Gagliano, Jenna Ipplito, Theresa Daquino, Nick Daquino & for all those who care for the sick and disabled.

Requiem Intentions: Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.