

## HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church

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Mr. Mike VanHyfte – Vice-chairman – Tel. 309-852-5052

### Very Rev. Jerry Rafalko

E-Mail address – jerryraf@frontier.com



### JANUARY 2018

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Rose McGee	01-02	Wesley Ball	01-04
Lynn VanHyfte	01-05	Mike Kubinsky Jr.	01-12
Carolyn Cathelyn	01-14	Richard Kubiak	01-15
Ed Kubinsky	01-19	Bob Tomaso	01-19
Bette Dennison	01-20	Denise McDaniel	01-21
Joe Hankins	01-22	Fr. Senior Jerry Rafalko	01-24

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SPONSORS

Lu Rux 01-05 Clark Blair 01-10

*May God Bless You All on this happy day!!!*

### Epiphany Blessing of Homes



Starting on January 6, 2018 and extending through February 2, 2018 Father Senior Jerry will be blessing the homes of our faithful. If you have not had your home blessed in recent years, perhaps this will be a good time to renew this custom. If you have never practiced this custom in your home, this is an excellent opportunity to start this wonderful tradition within your household. Please schedule your visit at your convenient time .

### The Chalking of the Doors: An Epiphany visitation and blessing of the homes. Explanation of the tradition.

**You've probably seen it:** a mysterious series of letters and numbers, looking for all the world like an equation, inscribed in chalk over a doorway at your parish, or at the home of a friend. If you don't know what the chalk is all about, don't be ashamed. You're certainly not alone.

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, *Theophany*, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual is simple: take with any color of chalk visiting pastor or the father of the family write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C + M + B + 18**. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "18" at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice throughout the world, though it appears to be somewhat less well-known in the United States. It is, however, an easy tradition to adopt, and a great practice whereby we dedicate our year to God from its very outset, asking His blessing on our homes and on all who live, work, or visit them there.

### SUNDAY MASSES IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

#### January 14<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. Holy Mass + for the repose of the souls of all those from our parish members and friends whose anniversaries of death will be in January and February:

#### January 21<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 A.M. Holy Mass for the intention of Father Jerry on his Birthday  
by Leslie Rafalko

**January 28<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Septuagesima**  
9:00 A.M. Holy Mass + Leo Saey by his wife Harriet and children

**February 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sexagesima**  
9:00 A.M. Holy Mass + Glenn & Shirley Dennison, Edward & Caroline Weber by Connie Weber

**February 11<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Quinquagesima**  
9:00 A.M. Holy Mass + Mary, Edward, Anna Kazubowski by Daniluk Family

**February 14<sup>th</sup> - Ash Wednesday –Beginning of Holy Lent**  
**5:00 P.M. Holy Mass and imposition of ashes**

**February 18<sup>th</sup> - Sunday – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
9:00 A.M. Holy Mass + Walt Kubiak by his family

**February 25<sup>th</sup> –Sunday – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
9:00 A.M. Holy Mass+ Marriel Tellier by his family

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**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE IN THE NEW YEAR**

On the edge of a new year, Lord, teach us again to order our priorities and number our days and hours.

And teach us to trust – life, history, one another, You.

So that even in the gray gloomy days, when the ceiling is low, we may trust the star that enabled wise men of old to live in hope and proclaim the divine promises which call us on in Jesus Christ. Amen

--Deryl Flemins

**What awaits us?**

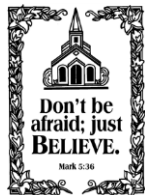
We're at the starting gate of a new year. What will it hold for us?

Only God knows. Yet if God knows, why not try to discover his plan for us each day? We should carry on a daily dialog with God. Following his lead is always interesting and challenging. And much of the time it's filled with wonder and joy. I remember the story of a small boy who prayed to God at the end of a fun, interesting Monday: "It's been a wonderful day, God.

What do you have in mind for Tuesday?"

What does God have in mind for you in 2016? Keep in touch with him, and you'll enjoy the trip around the sun.

—Charles Ferrell



**Our Events Calendar for 2018**

**March 10<sup>th</sup>**  
4:00 - 7:00 P.M.

**Saturday St. Joseph Supper –**  
Polish Sausage, Mashed potatoes, Pierogies, Kraut, Corn, Green Beans, Pies, Coffee  
Donation: Adults: \$10.00  
Children Age 10-4: \$ 4.00 Under 4: Free

**April 8<sup>th</sup>**  
10:30 A.M.

**Sunday Easter Brunch,**  
Polish Sausage, Ham, Potatoes, Eggs, Pies  
Easter Eggs Hunt for children  
Donation: Adults: \$10.00  
Children Age 10-4: \$ 4.00 Under 4: Free

**July 4<sup>th</sup> , Wednesday - Lunch with Polish Food in the church hall**

9:30 – 1:30 P.M.

Polish Sausage sandwich, Cabbage Rolls, Kraut, Pierogies

**Open House**

**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the parish - Sunday August 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Time will be announced

**Hog Days Parade Float – 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the parish**

**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - Saturday - September 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Time will be announced

Prime Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church Most Rev. Anthony Mikowsky and our Diocesan Bishop Stanley Bilinski will attend our celebration.

**October 13<sup>th</sup> ,**  
4:00 – 7:00 P.M.

**Saturday Polish Sausage Supper-**  
Polish Sausage, Potatoe & Cheddar  
Pierogies, Mashed potatoes, Kraut, Corn, Green Beans, Pies, Coffee  
Donation: Adults: \$10.00  
Children Age 10-4: \$ 4.00 Under 4: Free

**November 1<sup>st</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup> Holiday Sale of Polish food**

Time to order Polish Food

**December 1<sup>st</sup> , Saturday Polish Food Sale: Pick up day**

**10:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.**

Fresh Polish Sausage, Cabbage rolls  
pierogies.

Polish Sausage sandwich for lunch and

**Bake sale** – Ladies Adoration Soc.

**December – 5<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday -Christmas Party-** Ladies

Adoration Society

**December 14<sup>th</sup> - Saturday Parish Christmas Party**

**4:00 P.M**

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**FEBRUARY**

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Michael VanHyfte     | 02-02- |
| Donna Kubinsky       | 02-03  |
| Deb Rednour          | 02-03  |
| Allison L. Ensley    | 02-06  |
| Nancy Rennick        | 02-09  |
| Linda Duytschaver    | 02-20  |
| Michael Kubinsky SR. | 02-23  |
| Kathy Erdmann        | 02-27  |
| Elsie Tellier        | 02-28  |



|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Sandra Kay Kursock | 02-14 |
| Deb Kubinsky       | 02-21 |
| Rick Sundberg      | 02-23 |
| Jerni Tylor Warner | 02-27 |

**SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> First Sun. of the month  
SPECIAL ANNUAL MEETING WITH PARISH REPORTS**

**HOLY TRINITY PARISH COMMITTEE FOR 2018 ELECTED ON  
SUNDAY JANUARY 7<sup>th</sup>**

|                      |   |                 |
|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| Chairman             | - | Thomas Greiner  |
| Vice-Chairman        | - | Mike VanHyfte   |
| Treasurer            | - | Nana Verstraete |
| Vice-Treasurer:      |   | Sandra Kursock  |
| Financial Secretary  | - | Kathy Erdmann   |
| Recording Secretary  | - | Karen Ream      |
| Assistant secretary: |   | MaryJo Gibson   |

**Directors/ Auditors:**

Nancy Ball  
Rich Kubiak  
Paul Lamb

**Representatives to the Northcentral Seniorate**

Tom Greiner  
MaryJo Gibson  
Catherine Hughes

**Parish Tribunal**

Attorney Robert Rennick SR.  
Bert Erdmann

**Building advisory board:**

Mike Kubinsky SR – Chairman  
Bert Erdmann  
MaryJo Gibson  
Joe Warner  
Martin Gibson  
Paul Lamb  
Edward Sturtevant  
Mike VanHyfte

This new committee will be sworn in on Sunday February 4<sup>th</sup> this year.  
Thank you very much to all parish committee members and Building  
advisory committee for your dedication and work for our parish. May God  
bless you all.

**LADIES ADORATION SOCIETY OFFICERS FOR 2018**

President: Lynn VanHyfte  
Vice President: Lynne Lamb  
Treasurer: Nana Verstraete  
Recording Secretary: Kathy Erdmann

May God give the strength and knowledge to do the service as the  
new officers of the Ladies Adoration Society.

Thank you very much to MaryJo Gibson for your dedication  
great work as the President of the Ladies Adoration Society during the  
last two years. Thank you very much to Sandra Kursock for your great

job as the Treasurer of this society for the last two years. May God bless you for your dedication and well done job.

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**HOLY TRINITY PARISH – 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE**

Lynn VanHyfte  
Carol Entas  
Karen Ream  
MaryJo Gibson  
Nana Verstraete  
Laura Kubiak  
Lina Grady

**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Hog Days Parade Float Committee**

Tom Greiner  
Chuck Entas  
Charlie Harmes  
Mike VanHyfte

**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pictorial directory of the parish**

Rene Verstraete is responsible for the pictorial directory of our parish. Please follow up with his requests regarding pictures session.

The 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and the Parade Float Committee accept all suggestions and ideas in regard to preparation for the celebration of our parish anniversary celebration.

**The first meeting of the Anniversary Committee will be on Sunday Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> after the Holy Mass.**



Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> - Celebrating  
Valentine's Day

**BIRTHDAY PARTY AND BRUNCH AFTER THE HOLY MASS.**

All members and friends of the parish are invited.

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**OUR FUND RAISER IN MARCH**

**St. JOSEPH SUPPER**

*Pierogies and Sausage Supper*



**Saturday; March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Two sittings: # 1. 4:00 - 5:45p.m.

# 2. 5:45 - 7:00 p.m.

Polish Sausage, Pierogies, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Kraut, Corn,  
Green Beans, Coffee, Pies.

Carry-outs available. We will start serving carry-outs at 4:00 p.m.  
50/50 tickets at the door 1 for \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00



**Donation for the meal:** Adults \$.10.00, Children  
6-10 -\$.4.00,  
Under 4. free

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**SPECIAL THANKS AND APPRECIATION  
TO OUR FINE SPONSORS**



**Without their support our Bulletin would not be possible. Why not thank them by your patronage.**

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**OUR WISH LIST FOR THE YEAR 2018**

1. More members
  2. Vinyl fence in front of the church
  3. LED programmable outside sign for the church
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## The meaning of Epiphany

Epiphany begins on January 6 each year. It gets its name from the Greek word Epiphaneia, meaning 'to appear, to show or to manifest.'

The ending date of the Epiphany season is determined by Ash Wednesday, which is determined by the date of Easter.

Traditionally, Epiphany Day marks the coming of the Magi to worship the infant Jesus. The significance of Epiphany for Christians is that it symbolizes the first recognition of Christ by non-Jews.

The season of Epiphany emphasizes the divine nature of Jesus - a truth that justifies his perfection as the model of real life.

The color of Epiphany is green to symbolize life, growth, hope and eternity, which are all characteristics of the Epiphany emphasis.

## When the new year begins for us

In 46 B.C., Roman emperor Julius Caesar first chose January 1 as the date of the new year. Six hundred years later, the Roman church proclaimed that the new year would henceforth be March 25, the date of the Feast of the Annunciation (when the angel spoke to Mary).

March 25 was the accepted New Year's Day for almost 1,000 years. In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII moved it back to January 1.

## Thinking of Christian unity

January is the month when many Christians think about and pray for Christian unity. One of our Lord's last prayers included his petition "that all of them may be one ... that the world may believe ..." (John 17:21). Our Lord knew that if Christians were fiercely divided, those outside the Christian faith would not likely want to be followers of Christ. Sincere loving Christians will work and pray for Christian unity.

## + Christian Symbols + Fish

The first letters in the Greek phrase "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior" spell ICHTHUS, or fish. Early Christians used the sign to convey their faith and avoid persecution. In the gospels, fish are part of several miracles. They also represent people who need to be

"caught" for Christ. Today, a fish bumper sticker is a popular indicator of Christian faith.

## Spiritual nourishment

Someone, feeling spiritually unfed, wrote a letter to a newspaper, saying that after some 30 years of attending church, he couldn't remember one sermon. The letter writer said he'd probably wasted his time, and preachers were wasting theirs, as well.

A few days later, someone else wrote a rebuttal. This writer said he'd been married for 30 years but couldn't recall the entire menu of any one of the thousands of meals his wife had fixed. Yet he knew those meals were nourishing and gave him strength to do his work. He also said that without eating those meals, his body would have been long dead. Without going to worship, he added, he'd be spiritually dead, too.

## Encouraging words

- I am made in God's image, and he doesn't make any junk. God loves me and wants me to live a fulfilled life.
- Communing with God constantly brings light, direction and blessings from him.
- Life is astonishingly wonderful. Even the rough spots often turn out to be pluses. Hard lessons make me wiser, kinder and more fruitful.

## An early start to spring cleaning

Although Lent starts early this year, before spring appears in many areas, it's an appropriate time for spring cleaning. Indeed, *Lent* comes from old German and English words for "spring." So, while it might be too soon to open windows or hang clothes on the line, now is ideal for some *spiritual* spring cleaning.

Lent calls us to examine our beliefs, confess and dispose of old grudges and selfish habits, dust off our Bibles for a new routine of study and prayer, air out our hearts and brighten up our attitudes. "Lent cleaning" lets the Holy Spirit freshen our faith — and it's never too early for that.