

## HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Polish National Catholic Church

716 N. Tremont St Kewanee, IL 61443 Tel. (309) 853-4352

[www.kewaneepncc.com](http://www.kewaneepncc.com) E-mail: [holytrinity1928@yahoo.com](mailto:holytrinity1928@yahoo.com)

**Mr. Tom Greiner – Chairman - Tel: 319-863-3232**

Mr. Mike Alcaraz – Vice-chairman – Tel: 1-872-205-0577

**Father Jerry Rafalko – Pastor**

E-Mail address - [jerryraf@frontier.com](mailto:jerryraf@frontier.com)

**MARCH 2016**



Robert Rennick Jr.	03-05	Tessa J. Anderson	03-06
Kelly Duytschaver	03-08	Michelle Johnson	03-09
Alex Klimkewicz	03-12	Nana Verstraete	03-15
Carol Hankins	03-22	Stephen Potaczek MD	03-29
Brayden Kubinsky	03-30		

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

*Nancy & Robert Rennick SR - 03-21-1965*

*May God Bless You and grant you all a very happy birthday and anniversary !!!*

### OUR THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO OUR FINE SPONSORS.

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

## WELCOME TO THE HOLY TRINITY PARISH PNCC

"I have come that you may have life and have it in abundance"

*(St. John 10:10)*

I feel privileged to be the Pastor of the Holy Trinity Parish for over 25 years now and I also feel very honored to experience that abundant life Jesus speaks about.

Holy Trinity Parish, Polish National Catholic Church has been an integral part of Kewanee, IL for the past 87 years. We hope to continue our growth in service to God and community. This commitment manifests itself in a regular devotional and prayer life and our participation in the community activities.

You can join us at 9:00 or 11:00 A.M. Mass every Sunday.

Please call parish office for more information. We will introduce you to our parish family in all its wonderful aspects - a family whose real strength lies in our personal and real relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Our number: 309-853-4352

### SCHEDULE OF OUR REGULAR ACTIVITIES

*/Unless otherwise announced/*

**Parishioners Meeting** - Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> after the 9:00 Holy Mass

**Ladies Mission Soc. Meetings** - Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 P.M.  
This time during the meeting our St. Joseph Supper and Easter Brunch will be discussed.

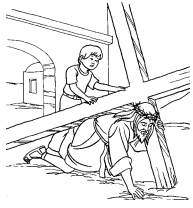
**Stations of the Cross–Fridays during Lent at 6:00P.M**

**St. Joseph Supper, Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> - 4:30 - 7:00 P.M.**

**Easter Brunch – Sunday after Easter April 3<sup>rd</sup> , at 10:30 A.M.**  
**Easter Eggs Hunt during the Brunch**

Please check out the official web site of our parish  
[www.kewaneepncc.com](http://www.kewaneepncc.com) or our Face Book page.

Questions? You can always ask, call or E-mail Father Jerry at: 309-853-4352; E-mail address: [jerryraf@frontier.com](mailto:jerryraf@frontier.com)



**LENTEN SERVICE**  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
*Fridays during Lent at*  
**6:00 P.M.**

**SPECIAL LENTEN OFFERING**  
**LENTEN SAVING BOOKS**



**Please take one book for yourself or one for the family.**

**KEWANEE FOOD PANTRY**



**During Lent we will collect food for the Kewanee Food Pantry. Collected goods will be delivered to the pantry before Easter.**

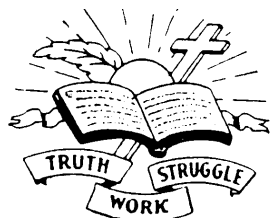
**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

**Children :** Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> before 9:00 A.M. Holy Mass

**Adults:** Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> during the Holy Mass.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF MARCH**

**MARCH 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**SOLEMNITY OF THE**  
**INSTITUTION**  
**OF THE POLISH NATIONAL**  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH**



**SUNDAY MASSES IN MARCH**  
**HOLY WEEK CELEBRATION**

**MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> – 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

**9:00 A.M. Holy Mass** + Mike Ptasnik, John & Helen Ptasnik, Glenn Ptasnik by Stella Ptasnik

**11:00 A.M. Holy Mass** for young families – Sunday School following the Mass

**MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT - PASSION SUNDAY**

Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church

**9:00 A.M. Holy Mass**+ Edward Klimkewicz by his wife (3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of his death)

**11:00 A.M. Holy Mass** for the intention of our Bishops and our Polish National Catholic Church

**MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> PALM SUNDAY**

**9:00 A.M. Holy Mass** + Edward Kubinsky by his Family (Fifth anniversary of his death)

**11:00 A.M. Holy Mass** for health of all listed on our prayer list

**HOLY WEEK**

**March 22<sup>nd</sup> - Holy Tuesday** – All Saints Cathedral Chicago

11:00 A.M. Holy Mass of Chrism

The oils, Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens and Holy Oil of Chrism will be blessed during the Holy Mass by the Diocesan Bishop Stanley Bilinski and the clergy of the Western Diocese.

**MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup> HOLY THURSDAY** - The Feast of the institution of the Holy Eucharist and Priesthood.

6:00 P.M. Holy Mass for the intention of Fr. Jerry by his wife Leslie

**MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup> GOOD FRIDAY** – Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

**6:00 P.M. Solemn Service** of the Lord's Passion and Death

**MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup> HOLY SATURDAY** – **Easter Vigil**

6:00 P.M. Easter Vigil Service - Blessing of new fire, Paschal  
Candle & water. Blessing of Easter Food Basket.

**MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> – EASTER SUNDAY**

**7:00 A.M. Resurrection Procession and the Holy Mass**

For the intention of our parish

**11:00 A.M. Holy Mass + Stefan Czaban by Leslie Rafalko**

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**OUR FUND RAISING EVENT IN MARCH**

**ST. JOSEPH SUPPER**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Two sittings:**

# 1. 4:30 - 5:45p.m.

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

**Our menu:**

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

**Carry-outs available and we start serving it 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.

**For the tickets please call: Nana Verstraete Tel: 852-3103,  
Sandra Kursock 856-7621, or ask parish members.**

**You can also call parish office: 853-4352 or order on line:  
holytrinitykewanee@yahoo.com**

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**The Oil of the Sick.**

This sacred oil, called in Latin "Oleum Infirmorum," is the "matter" or necessary substance for the Sacrament of the sick formerly known as Extreme Unction... or the Last rite. As regards the use of this oil in The Sacrament of the Sick, we know that it was employed in Apostolic times practically in the same manner as now. St. James, in his Epistle, thus instructs the faithful of the early Church: "Is any man sick among you? Let him bring in the priests of the Church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick man, and the Lord shall raise him up. And if he be in sins, they shall be forgiven him." James 5:14-15,

**The Oil of Catechumens.**

This kind of sacred oil is used in the ceremonies of Baptism, and derives its name from that fact -- a catechumen being an instructed convert who is about to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

**The Holy Chrism.**

"The Chrism is generally held to be the matter or essential substance for the administration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is applied by the Bishop in the form of a cross on the forehead of the person confirmed. It is used also in the ceremonies of Baptism, an unction an anointing being made with it on the crown of the head immediately after the pouring of the water. Its use is required also in the consecration of a Bishop, and the ordination of a priest. Baptism makes us sharers in the priesthood of Christ. Chrism, which is also used in ordination, brings forward this truth. All those who share in Christ's priesthood, share with him, each at their own level, Christ's role in teaching, sanctifying and leading his people.]  
The use of balsam in the Chrism dates from about the sixth century. Balsam is a resinous substance which is procured from terebinth trees, which grow in Judea and Arabia; and similar substances of even greater excellence are obtained from various plants in the West Indies

and tropical countries. In some Oriental rites, a great variety of sweet-smelling spices and perfumes are used in addition to the balsam. The mixing of this fragrant material with the sacred oil gives the latter the name of Chrism, which signifies a scented ointment. As oil typifies the fullness of grace imparted through the Sacrament, so balsam expresses freedom from corruption and the sweet odor of virtue."

"The anointing with sacred chrism, perfumed OIL consecrated by the bishop, signifies the gift of the HOLY Spirit to the newly baptized, who has become a Christian, that is, one 'anointed' by the HOLY Spirit, incorporated into Christ who is anointed priest, prophet, and king."

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## Good St. Patrick

*On March 17, many churches, especially those with a large Irish population, will celebrate the life of St. Patrick. He grew up in a Christian home in Britain, but wasn't very religious until a major event changed his life. As a teen, he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, but escaped to Gaul (France) after six years. The years of enslavement strengthened his faith. He later wrote, "In that strange land [Ireland], the Lord opened my unbelieving eyes." He was led by God's voice to return to Ireland where he converted people to Christianity tribe by tribe.*

*Because Ireland is called the Emerald Isle, those who celebrate St. Patrick's Day will wear something green. Some Christians will even color food or drink green. Many Christians will also eat corned beef and cabbage and decorate tables with shamrocks. Shamrocks are actually three-leaf (not four-leaf) clover plants. Legend has it that St. Patrick used the three leaves to teach about the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

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## Maundy Thursday

The day before Good Friday is called Maundy Thursday. The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means "commandment." In the gospel of John, Jesus makes this statement during the Last Supper: "I am with you only a little longer. ... I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" Maundy Thursday should always be a time of sharing with others, showing loving concern for one another, and partaking of Holy

Communion. That is what the Lord asked of his disciples and asks of us.

## The breathing of the soul

Prayer is one of the most powerful things we can do in life. The Lord's Prayer was so special in the early church that only the confirmed members could pray it. They figured that spectators and inquirers weren't ready for the power and mystery of the prayer. It was called the "believer's prayer." Even today in the liturgy of the Greek and Russian Orthodox Church, the praying of the Lord's Prayer is a moment of awe and mystery as a priest says at the introduction: "And make us worthy, O Lord, that we joyously and without presumption may make bold to invoke thee, the heavenly God, as Father and to say, 'Our Father, ...' "

Jesus does not want us just to say the Lord's Prayer. Jesus wants us to become the Lord's prayer. REAL praying is God moving in us through the Spirit. Real praying is the Spirit of God praying in and through us, making us into the likeness of Christ. In the words of François Fénelon: "Lord, teach me to pray. Pray thyself in me." Prayer is the breathing of the soul.

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## Why Palm Sunday?

Palm branches are mentioned in only one of the four Gospels (see John 12:12-15). So why do we call the first day of Holy Week Palm Sunday?

Tradition plays an important part in church history. During Jesus' time, Rome was the world's leading power. Whenever the Romans were victorious in battle, citizens traditionally threw palm branches in the returning heroes' path.

This was the accepted custom of reception. So when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, it was appropriate that he receive a hero's welcome. One week later, he would be victorious over death.

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## + Christian Symbols +

### Ashes

On Ash Wednesday, as Lent begins, worshipers' foreheads are often marked with ashes in the sign of the cross. The ashes traditionally

come from burning palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. In Old Testament days, ashes were a sign of mourning and repentance. Today, some worshipers wipe off the ashes before leaving church, to symbolize being cleansed from sin by Jesus' death; others wear the ashes the rest of the day, carrying the cross of Christ into the world. The speaking of Genesis 3:19 often accompanies the placement of ashes: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

### **A sign of spring**

In *The Story of the Easter Robin* (Zonderkidz), Dandi Daley Mackall retells an old Pennsylvania Dutch tale of the robin's compassion as he witnessed Jesus' death.

On Good Friday, a plain brown robin flying over Jerusalem was curious about the "nest" atop Jesus' head. When the bird realized it was a crown of thorns, he tried to dislodge it. As the robin pulled out a long thorn from Jesus' forehead, a drop of blood landed on the bird's breast, staining it red. Now the robin's red breast is a symbol of Jesus' loving sacrifice, and the robin's early-spring song is a reminder of Jesus' joyful resurrection.

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### **Easter is timeless**

Easter is a moveable feast, falling any time between March 22 and April 25 on the Gregorian calendar. At a meeting of bishops in 325 A.D., Easter Sunday was set as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the northern hemisphere's vernal equinox. (Though the equinox can fall on March 19, 20 or 21, the church fixed March 21 as this date.)

Over the years, branches of the church differed on the precise date for Easter, finally reaching agreement in the late 700s. Since 1582, however, when the Western Church adopted the Gregorian calendar while the Eastern Church retained the Julian one, the timing of Easter has sometimes varied between the two.

Such computations are interesting but pale in light of the ultimate assurance that for Christians, every day is truly Easter. Christ's tomb is empty! Jesus defeated death! Whenever we worship, we celebrate

resurrection. Date-bound by earthly calendars, the Feast of the Resurrection, by heaven's rendering, is eternal.