



# ACTS

PUBLICATION OF THE  
BUFFALO-PITTSBURGH DIOCESE  
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER • NOVEMBER 2011

## Solemn Commemorations That We Celebrate



The Polish National Catholic Church includes in its liturgical calendar various holy days that are celebrated in the Catholic Church as well as some feast days that are observed particularly by our Church. Most feast days are ancient in their inception, while others are very recent, instituted by General Synods in the last century. We will mention those which are included in the Church

Calendar for this third quarter of September, October and November.

Major Feast days of our Lord and of the Blessed Virgin Mary are celebrated in white or gold vestments. Red vestments are specified by the Church for feasts of martyrs. The Gloria and Creed are also recited on these special holy days. Holy day celebrations are listed as Solemnities or as Feast Days that are of importance to the local parishes or dioceses, e.g. patron saint days, anniversaries or dedications.

The month of September features its own unique celebrations that include traditional holidays along with those instituted by the PNCC. The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is commemorated on the 8th; the PNCC Solemnity of Brotherly Love is always celebrated on the second Sunday of September, this year on the 11th; the Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the 14th; the Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle/Evangelist on the 21st and the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel on the 29th.

October also includes both traditional and PNCC Holy Days: The Feast of Guardian Angels is normally celebrated on October 2nd, however this year it will be held on Monday, October 3rd; the solemnity of Holy Mother of the Rosary is commemorated on the 7th, and the PNCC Solemnity of the Christian Family is always held on the second Sunday of October, this year being the 9th; the Feast of St. Luke, Apostle/Evangelist is celebrated on the 18th, the Feast of St. Raphael the Archangel is held on the 24th, with the Feast of Saints Simon and Jude Thaddeus, Apostles, concluding the month on the 28th.

November is a very special month because the Liturgical Year concludes on the closest Sunday to the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle. This year, it happens to be on Sunday, November 20th on the Solemnity of Christ the King. The

month begins with the Solemnity of All Saints on the 1st on which we include all the Souls who have been received into the Kingdom of Heaven and are considered Saints. November 2nd is another holy day called the Feast of All Souls on which day we pray for all departed souls who have not been received into Heaven. The Solemnity of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin is celebrated on November 21. The month ends with the commemoration of the Feast of St. Andrew, November 30th.

During these three months, there are other saints who are celebrated as commemorations, that is, their names are mentioned in the Canon or Eucharistic Prayers of the Mass and are celebrated as Feast Days only under special circumstances that pertain to special Parish celebrations.

These are other days during these three months that are non-liturgical but include special prayer and intentions during in the intercessions at Mass. They are a part of the social programs of the Church we need to be aware of and even involved in their outreach ministry to others. They include:

1. On the Feast of Brotherly Love, a special offering is taken for the support of the Manor at Waymart, our special Home for elderly member.

2. Spojnia Sunday honors the fraternal and charitable work of the Polish National Union, and is held always on the last Sunday of September with prayers and intentions at Mass. It is recommended that the local PNU Branches organized in all Parishes of the Church to sponsor coffee hours, programs and social events in the parish social events in the parish social centers on that day.

3. Veteran's Day is a civil holiday, on which special prayers are offered for both the living and departed Veterans, as well as for those who died in Battle. This is celebrated on November 11th.

4. Thanksgiving Day is a National Holiday of Thanksgiving, always commemorated on the last Thursday of November (this year on the 24th). A Mass of Thanksgiving is usually celebrated in all Parishes of our Church on the Vigil or on the holiday itself.

The liturgical and social events which have been mentioned in this article are encouraged and recommended by the General Synods of the Church. They should be incorporated in all Parishes of the Diocese and continue to be celebrated by our members of our Church.

*In humble service,*

*+ Thaddeus S. Peplowski*

*+ Thaddeus S. Peplowski, Bishop Ordinary*

# Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral Lancaster, New York

The Holy Mother of the Rosary Bowling League banquet and awards dinner was held on May 16 at Ditondo's Restaurant on Seneca Street. The bowlers are anxiously looking forward to next season.

Parishioners attended the 66th annual Y.M.S. of R. Bowling Tournament held on May 20 and 21 in Parma, Ohio. All had a great time and returned safe and sound. Winners from HMRC include Cindy Pecynski, Beverly Deinhart, Chris Giczkowski, Sharon Pawlowski, Dave Pecynski, Bob Giczkowski and Nick Barnes.

The Annual Spring Dance was held on May 21. As in recent years the dance was a sellout. The dance, chaired by Roger Papaj, was a complete success with everyone having a great time and with a net income to the parish of \$6,013.90.

Final SOCL (School of Christian Living) and Living Stones (adult bible study) were held on May 22. See you in the fall. You are never too young or too old to learn more about Christ and His teachings. The Living Stones, led by Paul Geary, ranged in age from 15 to over 80. Give

*continued on page 3*



*HMRC bowlers at YMSR Bowling Tournament*



*Vacation Bible School*



*New Admin Wing*



*Vacation Bible School*



*Parish Committee Meeting in New Conference Room*



*Vacation Bible School, Inside The "Whale"*

*continued from page 2*

it a try! Where else could you have seen a full length movie about the Prophet Jeremiah starring Patrick Dempsey?

First Holy Communion was held at the 10:00am mass on Sunday, May 29. The First Holy Communion Class members were Ashton Drakulich, Natalie Jennings, Carson Kolb, and Robert Motz.

The Memorial Day Mass and ceremonies were held at the Parish Cemetery at 10:00am on May 29.

The Cathedral Bell and Chime Choir had its annual dinner on May 31 at the Italian Village Restaurant on Wehrle Drive. Director Jane Kubacki and choir members beautifully played at several special events over the past year. Remember, you don't need to read music or play a musical instrument to become a member. All you need is a little commitment and dedication.

The annual Rummage Sale was held at the Parish Center on June 4 from 9:00 am to 12 noon. This event was ably run by Chairperson Tina Crane. The fund-raiser made \$1,904.00.

On Pentecost, June 12, Confirmation was held at the 10:00AM Mass. The confirmed were Melissa Alexandrowicz, James Graczyk, Debra Lasek, Steven Nemeti, Leonard Woltz, and Kaela Zakrzewski.

On June 19, the Father's Day Breakfast was held in the Parish Center. A procession was held for the 10:00am mass with breakfast following in the Parish Center. The Cathedral Ladies Guild (Chairperson Marcia Zgoda) prepared an excellent breakfast as usual.

The Cathedral Youth Association (Chairperson Bob Giczowski) hosted a night at Coca-Cola Field to watch the Buffalo Bisons baseball game. The game was followed by fireworks and was open to all parishioners.

The Vacation Bible School was held on July 11 to July 15. This yearly event is enjoyed by all of the children and participating adults. The theme this year was Pandamania.

A Family Fun Night was held on July 27. The event included food, beverages, outdoor games, a campfire and most importantly fellowship.

The Annual Harvest Festival will be held on September 25. In preparation for that event cheese pierogi were made on July 19 and 21. Please find it in your heart to find some

*continued on page 4*



*Bowling Tournament Awards Ceremony. L-R: Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky, Cindy Pecynski, Beverly Pecynski, Elaine Pluskonka (Ohio)*



*Father's Day Breakfast*



*Cheese Pierogi Assembly Line*



*First Holy Communion. L-R: Robert Motz, Natalie Jennings, Ashton Drakulich, Carren Kolb*

*continued from page 3*

time to help out before the Festival and on September 25. Sauerkraut pierogi making was planned for August 3. Additional food preparation will be done before the Festival. Check your bulletins for information how and when you can help.

Recent events include the Grand Island three-hour cruise on August 7 hosted by the Cathedral Ladies Guild. Upcoming events include the annual Parish Picnic (August 14) and Annual Towel Bingo (November 6).

The new administration building is open for business. The new mailing address is 6298 Broadway, the same as the Cathedral. The new building will be blessed following the 10:00 AM mass that will be held under a tent on August 14, the day of the Parish Picnic.

Don't forget if you have photos that were taken at any HMRC event that you want to be considered for inclusion into ACTS then please send them to [makfamily@roadrunner.com](mailto:makfamily@roadrunner.com) or provide the author with a print. Provide them soon after the event so you don't forget!

*Submitted by Dennis Makowski*



*Confirmation. Back Row L-R: James Graczyk, Deacon Klusek, Bishop Peplowski, Leonard Woltz. Front Row L-R: Debra Lasek, Steven Nemeti, Melissa Alexandrowicz, Kaela Zakrzewski*



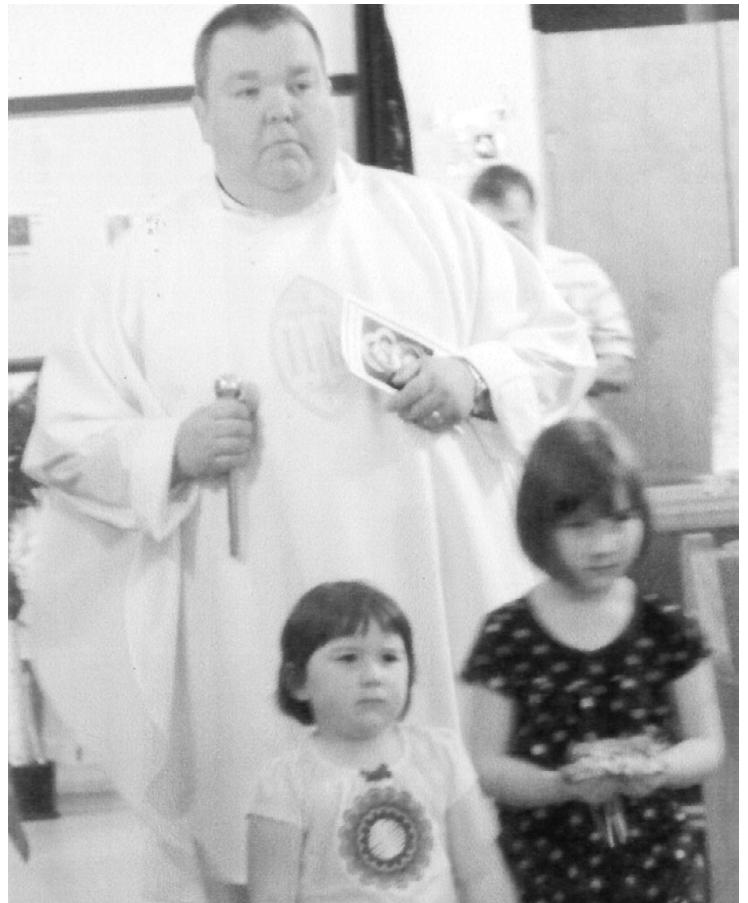
## Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Lilly, Pennsylvania

Hello from Lilly, PA. As usual Our Lady of Mount Carmel has been very busy. Lent and Holy Week were very busy times for Father Scott Lill. Stations of the Cross were held on Tuesdays along with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Palm Sunday was April 16th and we celebrated with a procession around the church. Holy Thursday Mass was celebrated followed by a Procession to the Repository and the stripping of the altar. Good Friday Mass of the Pre-Sanctified was held along with the opening of the grave. Vigil Services were held at 3 pm on Holy Saturday for the blessing of the fire, water and baskets. Anyone bringing in a basket had the opportunity to have it blessed for their Easter dinner. Mass of the Resurrection was beautiful. Thanks to all who helped decorate the altar for this special time of the year.

On May 7th we celebrated Mother's Day and May crowning. Anna & Clare Lill were in the May Crowning procession; they needed a little help from Fr. Scott to place the crown on the Virgin Mary. Following Mass all mothers were presented flowers by Fr. Scott.

May 14th brought the Baptism of Raina Juliette Goughnour. Raina is the daughter of Donald and Christine Goughnour, sister of Revin & the granddaughter of Lorraine Castel, Donald Goughnour & Jean Goughnour. Her godparents were Casey Castel (uncle) and Regina Goughnour (aunt). Best wishes to all.



*May Crowning at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly. Fr. Scott, Clare and Anna Lill*

*continued on page 5*

continued from page 4



Baptism at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly, PA. Pictured L-R: Casey Castel & Regina Goughnour (Godparents, Fr. Scott Lill (Pastor), Christine, holding Raina Juliette, & Donald Goughnour (Parents)



Lilly Homecoming at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel- Patrons at the food tent enjoying the delicious Polish & American foods.



Joe Podrasky, Chairman of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly, presenting gifts & a "Working Together" plaque to Officers of Moose Lodge 131, Portage, PA



Lilly Homecoming at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel- Patrons at the pavilion enjoying the music of the Fabulous Flashbacks



Phyllis Podrasky, Bingo Manager of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly's "Kountry" bingo, presenting a gift & "Working Together" plaque to the Officers of the Women of the Moose, Portage, PA



Lilly Homecoming at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel- Jack Barlick is congratulating a Veteran of WWII. Jack is the author of "The Military Spirit of a Community". Jack was able to research over 2500 area Veterans in his book

continued on page 6

*continued from page 5*

Memorial Day services began at our cemetery at 8:45 am with the American Legion paying tribute to all the veterans buried there. They then proceeded to the other cemeteries in town and finished at the War Memorial Field for the town's service.

May 22nd: Roast beef dinner!! We served roast beef, potatoes, vegetable, dessert, soup, salad and drinks. The turnout was great. The cooks do an awesome job. Many thanks to all who volunteered on the day of the dinner to serve, clean or help in any way!

June 12th we held our Moneyrama at the pavilion with a nice turnout. We served breaded baked chicken with macaroni salad, baked beans, fruit salad & dessert. Drinks were plentiful all day. During the mid-afternoon, we presented a second meal with sandwiches, applesauce, pickles, pepperoncini, etc. Nobody leaves this event hungry. Our ticket sellers were busy all day. It was a nice day to listen to music and enjoy the day. Congrats to all the winners.

June 18th: Father's Day was celebrated with Mass and all fathers were presented with lottery tickets. Didn't hear of any big winners though! Also on June 18th, the church presented 3 graduates with cards and gifts. Olivia Guzik completed High School at Penn Cambria and will be attending UPJ in the fall, majoring in the medical field. Taylor Hershel graduated from Penn Cambria also and will be attending Slipper Rock majoring in Criminology. Brandi Hershel graduated from IUP where she majored in Criminology. She will be attending Mount Aloysius in the fall for her Masters in Criminal Justice Administration. Good luck to all the graduates and may they be successful in whatever they choose.

We have been having bingo for the last 15 years. The last 10 years have been spent twice weekly at the Moose hall in Portage. We celebrated the occasion by giving the patrons a meal, dessert and some token free pull tickets. We presented gifts and "Working Together" plaques to the Moose officers and the Women of the Moose. Here's to another 10 years.

Girl Scout Troop 40493 sent a thank you along with a donation to the church. The troop has a great meeting place here and are very grateful to our Lady of Mount Carmel for their generosity. Thank you so much!!

Our church recently purchased an additional freezer and a commercial mixer for all of our many fundraisers. Jim Smith can now do mashed potatoes in a larger quantity! It was also a godsend in the preparation of our halupki and hamburgers for the Lilly Homecoming held July 3rd. This was a big weekend for Lilly and was held at our picnic grounds. All of the graduates of Lilly High and surrounding areas were invited to attend. It was also open to the public. All of the parking lots were packed. Mass Intentions were for the living and deceased graduates of Lilly High, Area Miners & Area Veterans. Our church provided the food and beer which kept our parishioners super busy all day. All of the other stands were manned



*Lilly Homecoming Program at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel - Pat Podrasky (Mayor) accepting an appreciation award for the Borough of Lilly in recognition of the substantial financial support to fund the activities of the Community Homecoming celebration, presented by James M. Salony, President of the Lilly Washington Historical Society, July 3, 2011*



*Post Homecoming Meeting & Pre-Picnic meeting at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly, Photographer Joe Podrasky*



*Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's picnic grounds - Lilly Community Homecoming July 3, 2011*

*continued on page 7*

*continued from page 6*

by the other non-profit organizations in town. We had our Polish menu (halupki, haluski, kielbasa & pierogies) along with American favorites (hamburgers, hot dogs, BBQ chicken, chicken fingers, hot sausage, French fries, funnel cakes & a bake sale). Many thanks to all who labored in the kitchen, food serving area, beer tent and all of the other necessary jobs, especially with the intense heat of the day. Fr. Scott Lill suffered in the food tent along with the other parishioners.

In addition to honoring the graduates, the following were also honored: Washington Township on its 180th Anniversary; Lilly American Legion on its 90th Anniversary; Lilly Community Fire Company on its 75th Anniversary & the Historical Society on its 10th anniversary. A Veterans Program was held to honor the Veterans of WWII. Twelve of the Veterans were able to attend and be presented certificates. The afternoon program then ended with the Honor Guard from Post 628 rendering a rifle salute and "Taps" in honor of all the deceased Lilly Area Veterans. Music followed the program and the grand finale of the day was the best display of fireworks ever!

Enjoy the rest of your summer! God's blessings to all.

*Em Hershel*

**Olivia Guzic** graduated from Penn Cambria in the class of 2011. She was a member of the Student Council, SADD, the Key Club, The Prom Committee and the Yearbook staff. Olivia participated in the American Legion of Lilly's Scholarship Essay Contest for Penn Cambria seniors living in Lilly & Washington Township. Her essay was about Marcellus Shale. She was the co-recipient of the 1st prize of \$5,000; her share being \$2,500. She presented her essay at the program held at the War Memorial on Memorial Day. Congratulations go out to Olivia.

Olivia has been accepted to UPJ for the fall semester where she plans to pursue a degree in the medical field. Olivia is the daughter of Joe & Annette Smychynsky & the granddaughter of Mary Guzic.



**Olivia Guzic**  
*Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly*

**Brandi Hershel**, daughter of William & Emily Hershel, graduated December 2010 from Indiana University of PA with honors. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology with a minor in Sociology. While at IUP she was a member of the Track team, Alpha Phi Sigma (Criminology Honors Association), Sigma Alpha Lambda (National Honors Association), Habitat for Humanity, Criminology Association, and even did an internship at the Cambria County Sheriff's office.

She currently is employed at Nulton Diagnostic and Treatment center as a Blended Case Manager. She will be attending Mount Aloysius College in the fall for her Masters Degree in Criminal Justice Administration and Management.



**Brandi Hershel**  
*Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly*

**Taylor Hershel**, daughter of William & Emily Hershel, graduated June 8th from Penn Cambria. While in High School, she participated in soccer and track, forensics, & the Pep Club. In the musical "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" she played the part of a scrub woman and sang in the chorus. In "Once Upon a Mattress" she played 2 parts, one of Lady Lucille & the other as a Lady in Waiting. Taylor received 2 cash awards at graduation; one for perfect attendance & the other from the Challenge Program. Following High School, she will be attending Slippery Rock, majoring in Criminology.



**Taylor Hershel**  
*Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lilly*

## First Holy Communion

On Saturday, April 30th and on Sunday, May 1st, four young men received two sacraments of the Church; the Sacrament of Penance and the Sacrament of the Eucharist for their first time, in Holy Family Parish, McKeesport, PA. The First Holy Communion Class comprised of Jack Foster, Jacob Ghetian, Benjamin Jackson and Jack Lazar.

Classes were taught by Mrs. Alexa Foster and Father Bruce Sleczkowski, preparing these young men for the Sacraments of the Church.



*First Communicants and their Families*



## Mission and Evangelism Workshop “Avenues of Evangelism”

Holy Family Parish McKeesport, PA

The 11th Annual Mission & Evangelism Workshop was held May 13-15, 2011 in Holy Family Parish, McKeesport, PA. The workshop was opened with the celebration of Mass by the Rt. Rev. Thaddeus Peplowski, Bishop Ordinary of the Buffalo Pittsburgh Diocese. Over 65 Clergy and Lay People attended the Sessions throughout the weekend.

*continued on page 9*



*11th Annual Mission & Evangelism Workshop Participants*



*Fr. Ray Drada, Chairman of the National M. & E. Commission and Mr. David Kost, Chairman of Holy Family M. & E. Committee welcoming the workshop participants.*



*Bishop Peplowski giving his presentation, “Communicating the Message”*



*Holy Family Lajkoniki Dance Troupe performing after dinner for the M. & E. Workshop participants*



*continued from page 8*

The Presenters were Ron DeLuca of Howell N.J. whose topic was "My Life is a sermon, what am I teaching?"; David Kost of McKeesport, PA spoke upon "Life in the Church, what is it teaching?"; "Special Tool" given by Chuck Repede of Parma, Ohio; "Communicating the Message" by Bishop Thaddeus Peplowski; and "Our Blessed Advocates", stories on Angels through paintings by Kati Russell of Akron, Ohio. The Mission & Evangelism Workshop was concluded by a concelebrated Mass with Prime Bishop Mikovsky and clergy attending.

Here are scenes from the workshop and soon, the entire workshop will be online on the Holy Family Parish Website: [www.hfpncc.org](http://www.hfpncc.org)



*Clergy concelebrating the closing Mass of the 11th Annual Mission & Evangelism Workshop with Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky*



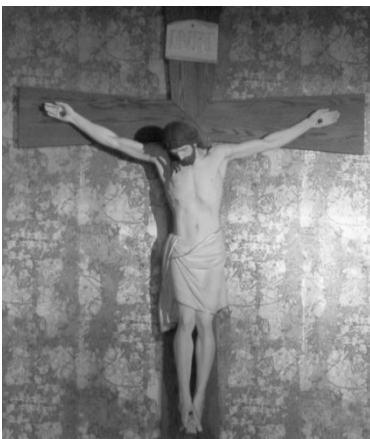
*Holy Family Parishioners and Workshop Participants listening to the final presentation "Our Blessed Advocates."*



## Holy Family

### North Java, NY

The Church of the Holy Family located in North Java, New York was the scene for the Episcopal Rite of Blessing of a Church. The ceremonies were conducted by Bishop Thaddeus Peplowski on June 11, 2011. On this day this historic edifice, with its inspiring steeple and beautiful interior, was returned to the faithful for the purpose of Catholic worship under the auspices and jurisdiction of the PNCC. The ceremonies began at the front entry way of the church, where the traditional gifts of welcome of bread and salt were blessed by the Bishop. A memorial plaque commemorating the occasion featuring a symbolic key was offered to Bishop Peplowski by Parish Committee Chairman, Corey Foegen. The front doors were then blessed and all entered the Church for Holy Mass. Special rites of blessing within the Church included the anointing and incensation of the altar of sacrifice, tabernacle and church walls, as well as the sprinkling of the entire church with holy water. Liturgical music for this festive Mass was provided by the Cathedral Choir of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese under the direction of Nelson Koeppel. Following the ceremonies, all were invited to an open air reception on the beautiful and spacious church grounds of the parish and a tour was given of parish buildings. Presently a Vigil Mass is offered at Holy Family on Saturday at 5:00pm while Sunday morning Mass is offered at 10:00am.



*Crucifix above the main altar*



*Celebration of mass by Bishop Peplowski assisted by Deacon Richard Golaszewski and Parish Chairman Corey Foegen*



*Dedication Dinner Buffet following the Blessing of the Church 6-11-11*

## Diocesan Youth Retreat

Come to Me... and I will give you rest. This verse from the Gospel of Matthew was the theme for this year's Diocesan Youth Retreat. A retreat should give its attendees refreshment, relaxation, encouragement, and food for thought. I believe that the days at Wesley Woods were well spent in achieving these goals.

This year's campers were given the opportunity to experience everything the retreat had to offer; horseback riding, games, presentations of our faith, swimming, religious services and fellowship. Past friendships were renewed and new friendships were made during the 5 days. A total of 35 youth, adult chaperones and clergy, came together to learn and profess what our Church teaches.

A brief 10 minute drizzle on Monday morning was the only "bad weather" we had. The rest of the week was filled with sunshine and warm temperatures which allowed us to have games, a talent show and a hayride with a campfire. The camp-staff controlled fireworks on July 4th was an added bonus.

After seeing Hanna playing for each Mass, our youth singing the hymns, many campers helping others when needed and a general feeling of unity with each other, I came away with a renewed sense of encouragement for the future of our Church. I hope the rest of the campers did too.

This poem was composed by 8 year old Ashley Drackovich during our recent Diocesan Youth Retreat.

Jesus is our Savior  
We all love him so  
He healed lots of people  
Even ones He didn't know

Jesus healed two blind men  
He healed a dying boy  
Jesus also healed a mute  
They were all filled with joy

Jesus is our Savior  
We all love him so  
He healed lots of people  
Even ones He didn't know

*Sincerley yours,  
Deacon Tom Klusek*



*Campers during a presentation*



*Horseback riding at Wesley Woods*



*Dining at Wesley Woods*



*Relaxing campers*

## Holy Trinity Parish

### Washington, PA

The Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at Holy Trinity Parish recently held a benefit for the Washington County Women's Shelter. The afternoon event began with the service of Corpus Christi celebrated by Father Felix Pyzowski and assisted by David Nichols, deaconate candidate. The procession to the four altars included society members from Holy Trinity Parish and our sisters from the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Canonsburg.

Following our church service, a presentation on the programs available to families in need was made by Samantha Lee, Education Director for Domestic Violence. She highlighted the many areas of support to those who find themselves in crisis situations.

Prior to the program, both parishes collected items for the shelter as well as apartments that are maintained for recovery. A van full of infant needs, personal care items, small appliances, paper products, dishes, utensils, towels, detergent, toys, and much more is seen in the photo.

Our appreciation is extended to everyone who donated to a very worthy cause. A light meal was served and we all enjoyed the fellowship that followed.



*L-R: Georgia Karnes, Bonnie Horency, Sandy Santoro and Samantha Lee holding her son*



## Lancaster, New York

### Golf Outings

July 15th & 16th saw a total of 40 golfers enjoying warm temperatures and sunny skies at the Second Annual, Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral Golf Championships.

The on-course winners came from Syracuse, NY as Dave Greenfield and Gary Segrue were 1/2 of the Friday Scramble winning team (along with Ron Klusek and Tom Sekerturski). Dave and Gary also won the Saturday 2-man event.

Following golf each day, the participants had a terrific meal served by Peggy Daehn at the Cathedral Parish Center. All proceeds from this annual event help support the intra-faith activities at the Cathedral parish.

My many thanks go out to all sponsors and golfers who helped make this another success, especially Bob Drzewiecki (my co-chairman) and Peggy Daehn (and her "crew").

I hope to see you and others next year.

*Sincerley,*

*Deacon Tom Klusek*

## Investiture of the Very Reverend Richard R. Seiler Jr. as Senior Priest of the Southern Seniorate

Congratulations to the Very Rev. Richard R. Seiler, Jr. pastor of All Saints PNC Church in Carnegie, PA who has been appointed to the position of Administrative Senior of the Southern Deanery of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese.

The Investiture Service and Mass of Thanksgiving was held on Friday, July 22, 2011 at 7pm at the parish where Fr. Sr. Rick and his wife Karen have served since 2000. The evening began with a procession of visiting clergy, Rick and Diocesan Bishop Thaddeus Peplowski. Bishop Peplowski was greeted at the front of the church by Chairman Jeffrey Hohn and Vice Chairman Kurt Niedzwiecki who presented him with the traditional gifts of bread and salt.

Next Bp. Thaddeus presided over the Investiture Service at the Communion rail wherein the cassock and biretta of the new senior priest were blessed and prayers were recited. Fr. Sr. Rick were excused to the sacristy where he dressed in his newly blessed vestments. He returned and was presented to the congregation.

Fr. Sr. Seiler then celebrated Holy Mass and Bp. Peplowski offered an informative and inspiring homily. During Mass, lectors were Louise Bugna and Deborah Ratajack, the cantor was Jeff Hohn, and songs chosen by Fr. Sr. Rick were sung by the St. Cecelia Choir under the direction of organist Madeline Fotovich. Before leaving the sanctuary, flowers were presented to Bp. Thaddeus by SOCL students, Sarah Dobbins and Abigail Hohn.

Following Mass a reception was held in the undercroft of the church where members of the Mission and Evangelism Committee and Parish Trustees served refreshments while Karen and Fr. Sr. Seiler greeted guests.

Words of appreciation and love are extended to Almighty God, our Diocesan Bishop Peplowski, the visiting clergy, guests and all who contributed to this special evening that was filled with fellowship and inspiration.

*Respectfully submitted by,  
Deborah Ratajack  
All Saints PNCC, Carnegie, PA*



# PNU Districts 5 & 12 Family Picnic

The annual PNU Districts 5 & 12 Family picnic was held on July 23rd at the Idlewild Amusement & Soak Zone Park, Ligonier, PA. The District 5 & 12 Picnic was opened with Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski, Pastor of Holy Family Parish, McKeesport, PA and Chaplain of PNU District 5. Mrs. Jan Gibala was Mass Lector and Fr. Senior John Rencewicz Jr., Chaplain District 12 led the hymn singing during the Holy Mass. After Mass, Mrs. Irene Jugan, President of the PNU and PNU CFO John Andrzejewski spoke to the participants about Spojnia and its benefits. District 5 Director Edwin Navrotsky thanked all the participants for attending. Following introductions, all went out into the park to enjoy the World's Best Children's Amusement Park and Water Park. A Picnic Buffet was served later in the afternoon. Special thanks to Mrs. Henrietta Kleckner, Branch 132 Secretary, assisted by husband Terry Kleckner for organizing this year's Family Picnic and Picnic Gifts for raffle, bingo and giveaways.



*Irene Jugan and John Andrzejewski among picnickers enjoying lunch.*



*Spojnia President Irene Jugan and Spojnia CFO John Andrzejewski speaking to the Family Picnic participants after Mass.*



*Shelley Lill and Children enjoying Idlewild Park.*



*Lunch was delicious*



*Marian Sleczkowski & Jan Gibala at the end of the Log Jammer ride*



*Participants at the 2011 Family Picnic*

## Nordic Catholic Church

The Nordic Catholic Church commemorated the blessing of their Cathedral Church in Oslo, Norway on Friday, August 5, 2011 by Bishop Peplowski. First Bishop Most Rev. Roald Flemestad was consecrated on Monday, July 25th in St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, Pennsylvania by Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky and all of the Bishops of the Polish National Catholic Church as co-consecrators. Bishop Flemestad was installed as the first Bishop of the Nordic Catholic Church on Saturday, August 6, 2011 in St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Oslo, Norway.

A meeting of various former Old Catholic bodies in Germany, Sweden, and other European nations was held on Monday, August 8th in Oslo, Norway. These groups of churches desire to become members of the Union of Scranton and the International Conference of Bishops. Such meetings present encouraging signs for the potential growth of the Union of Scranton in Europe. Presently the Polish National Catholic Church of America and Canada, along with the Nordic Catholic Church of Norway are member Churches in the Union of Scranton.

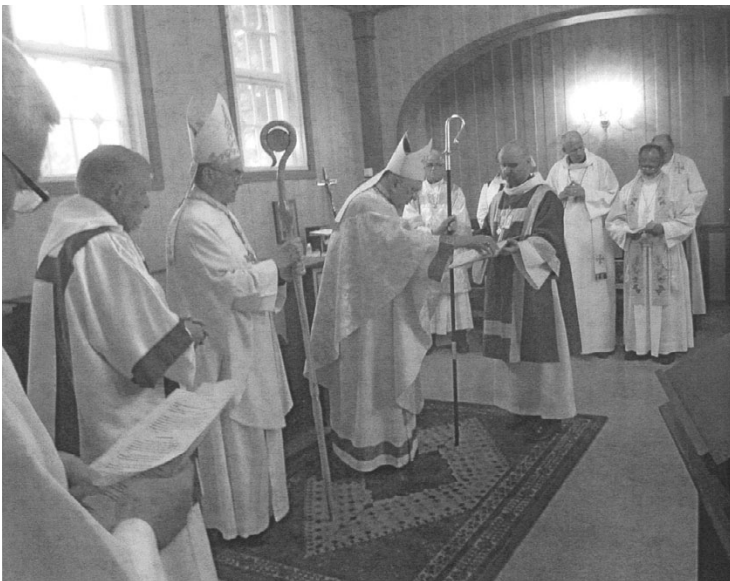
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*Nordic Catholic Clergy at the blessing of St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Oslo, Norway by Bishop Peplowski*



*Ordination of two deacons to the priesthood by Bishop Roald Flemestad at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Oslo, Norway Saturday, August 6, 2011*



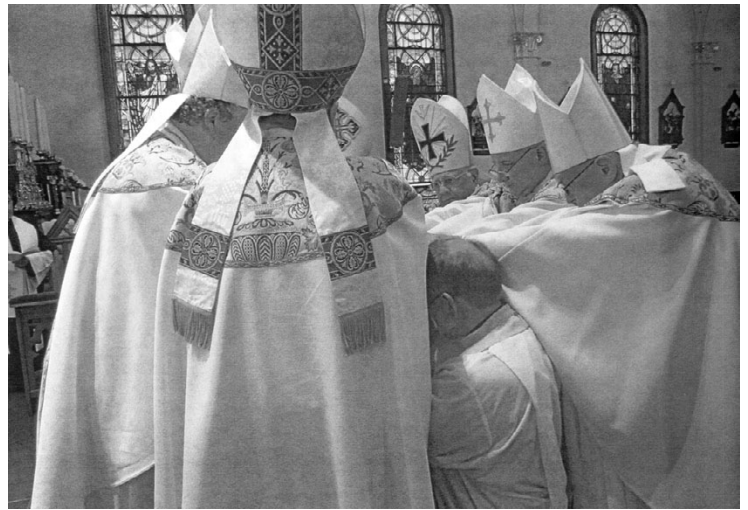
*Dedication of St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Oslo, Norway—Friday, August 5, 2011*



*Consecration of Bishop Roald Flemestad in Scranton, St. Stanislaus Cathedral July 25, 2011*

*continued from page 14*

The Polish National Catholic Church was represented by Bishop Thaddeaus S. Peplowski and our National Ecumencial Officer, Rev. Father Robert Nemkovich at the events held this past August in the Nordic Catholic Church of Norway. We ask for your prayers for the continued growth of the Union of Scranton.



*Laying on of hands by PNCC Bishops upon Bishop Roald Flemestad, First Bishop of the Nordic Catholic Church on July 25, 2011. St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA*



## SOCL Awards & Graduates

During the Baccalaureate Mass at Holy Family, the parish honored the recent college and high school graduates of the parish and the closing of the School of Christian Living for the 2010-2011 Semester. Our graduates were: Ms. Kristen Korenoski receiving her Master's Degree in Reading Education from Slippery Rock University; Liz Contrella with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from Mercyhurst College; Mr. Joel Parknavy with a Bachelor Degree in Marketing from St. Vincent College. Our High School Graduates are Ms. Chelsea Griffiths from Serra Catholic High School and Mr. Matthew Kijowski from Penn-Trafford High School. Excellent Attendance Awards will be presented to Kaylee Gibala, Jack Foster, Abby Foster, Hannah Jobes, John Trumpe, Cathy Trumpe, Millie Toppi and Marian Sleczkowski. We thank the SOCL Staff of the 2010-2011 Semesters: Mrs. Deborah Parknavy, SOCL Superintendent; Mr. David Kost, Mrs. Rosemary Pociask, Mrs. Alexa Foster, Mrs. Deanna Nemec, Ms. Kristen Korenoski, Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski and substitute teachers; Mrs. Karen Bongiorno and Ms. Chelsea Griffiths.

Also a special presentation to Acolyte Matthew Kijowski for his years serving as an acolyte and being promoted to a parish sacristan.



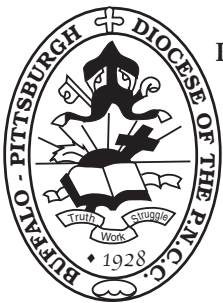
*SOCL Awards winners*



*High School & College Graduates and Families; Matthew Kijowski, Kirsten Korenoski & Chelsea Griffiths. Missing Joel Parknavy and Liz Contrella*



*Matthew Kijowski receiving a Cross for his years of Acolyte Services from Fr. Bruce*



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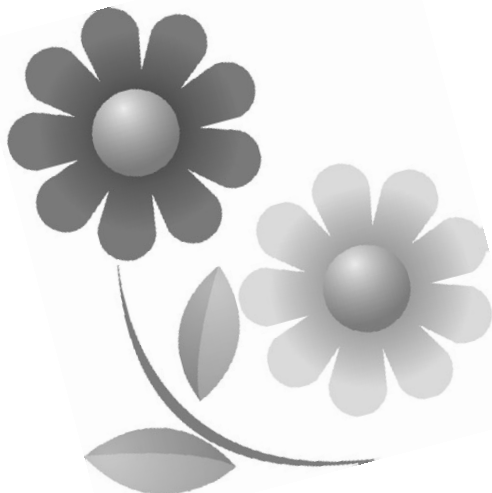
**DECEMBER - JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2012**

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE EDITOR**

**NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

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- 1) **Articles relating to current events**
- 2) **Articles regarding events in your parish**
- 3) **Editorial Articles**
- 4) **Calendar of Events**
- 5) **Deanery Activities and Meetings**
- 6) **Societies of the Church Information**  
ie. Y.M.S. of R., S.A.M.B.S. (A.N.S.),  
U.Y.A. (Youth Club), Senior Citizens, etc.



## From the Office of the Bishop

The Rev. Father Alfred Garcia has been suspended as a priest of the Polish National Catholic Church effective July 12, 2011.

The Very Rev. Francis M. Kadryna has been appointed Pastor of the Parish of our Lady in Brant, NY, effective July 17, 2011. He will continue to serve the St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Niagara Falls, NY as its Administrator, also effective same date.

The Rev. Father Mark Swoger has been appointed Administrator of Holy Trinity Parish, Washington, PA, effective September 1, 2011.

A warrant has been issued for the establishment of a new parish in Dallas, Texas - Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. It was organized on Saturday, July 2, 2011, and the parish committee was elected and approved by the bishop on that same day. Administrator of the Mission Parish will be the Rev. Father Oscar Castillo.

The Feast of Brotherly Love will be celebrated on Sunday, September 11, 2011 with a special offering for the Spojnia Manor.

Spojnja Sunday is commemorated this year on Sunday, September 25th and their 29th General Convention being held during the week of September 25th.

The Feast of the Christian Family is celebrated on Sunday, October 9, 2011.

The consecration of Bishop-elect Paul Sobiechowski will take place on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 3pm in St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA. Prime Bishop Anthony Milkovsky will be the Consecrator with the assistance of all of the PNCC Bishops as co-consecrators.

The commemoration of All Saints and All Souls will be celebrated in all parishes of the diocese on November 1st and 2nd. Check your local parish bulletin for the time masses will be celebrated.

The new ecclesial church year will begin on Sunday, November 27th with the First Sunday of Advent.