



Parish Tidings



Our Lord's Ascension Parish

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Blessing of Animals



Four dogs and one cat were blessed before Mass on Sunday, October 7. A first at Our Lord's Ascension, Joe and Barbara Jurnock's dog, Barkley and Walter and Nancy Poposki's cat Jasmine also attend the 9 o'clock service.

This custom is conducted in remembrance of Saint Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures.

Beginning of the School Year



Blessing of students, teachers and parents at the beginning of the school year.

Fund Raisers

Coopersburg Community Day –

This event was cancelled by the organizers due to the recent wet weather. Although we were unable to attend we did receive donations totaling \$175.00. Thanks to all who made both monetary and food donations.

Whitehall Fall Festival –



On Saturday, October 6 our church had a booth at the Whitehall Fall Festival. Although the weather was damp and overcast a profit of \$1,046.00 was made. Haluski, sausage sandwiches and pierogi were popular items. Kiffles and other baked items along with crafts were also available. Thanks to those who baked cookies, breads and pies; helped set-up, worked at the festival and helped dismantle the booth. Once again team work made this a successful day.

Bosco's Friends Helping Friends - Once again the members of the ANS sold shopping passes for Bosco's Friends Helping Friends Day. A total of \$285.00 was earned.

Fall Bazaar – The results of the Fall Bazaar will be in the December newsletter.

Ten Things to be Thankful For

In our life, we sometimes spend too much time complaining about the things we do not like or have. Today and every day we need to take time to be thankful for the blessings we do have. Take a look at this list of 10 things we are should be thankful for:

1. Be thankful for family that raised us
2. Be thankful for the families we have
3. Be thankful for friends
4. Be thankful for a roof over your head
5. Be thankful for laughter
6. Be thankful for a job
7. Be thankful for the freedoms you have
8. Be thankful for those who have made a positive impact in your life
9. Be thankful for nourishment
10. Be thankful for your health

Happy Birthday

On October 14, 2018 the ANS provided a birthday cake honoring the parishioners celebrating their October, November and December birthdays. Congratulations to Andrea Gritman, and Joe Bartone who celebrated October birthdays, Fran Anthony and Kara Josar who celebrate November birthdays, Mary Ann Bartone and Leslie Zavar who celebrate December birthdays.



Sto Lat!

Please inform any member of the ANS the month before your birthday.

Baptism

On a Sunday, September 2, 2018, Zolton Cruz Weller received the Holy Sacrament of Baptism.



Congratulations to the proud parents Evan and Ashley Weller and grandparents Bob and Cindi Weller.

November at a Glance

Sunday Mass at 9 AM

Coffee Social after Mass

Bingo every Wednesday at 7 PM

November 3 – Fall Bazaar

November 4 – Daylight Savings Time Ends – set your clocks back

November 4 – ANS Meeting

November 11 – Veterans Day

November 22 – Thanksgiving

Sigmond Novak

With deepest sorrow, we announce the passing of Sigmond (Ziggy) Novak, Sr. on September 9, 2018. Ziggy was a longtime parishioner and served our country faithfully in the US Army during the Korean War.

Ziggy will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his sons Joseph, Sigmond T., Jr. and Stephen and their families.

Around the Parish

- Volunteers are needed to lend a hand at bingo on Wednesday nights
- Sunday Breakfast - The YMS of R is the sponsor of the breakfast for the first Sunday of the month. The women's society is responsible for breakfast on the second Sunday of the month. The third, fourth and possibly fifth Sunday are set aside for the rest of the congregation to donate items for the coffee hour
- Remember to purchase your 2019 Lottery Calendar. You can play the daily number every day for just \$25.00. A Lottery Calendar makes a great Christmas present for the "hard to shop for person" on your gift list.



Photo by Walter Poposki

• Hank Kudzik was among the many veterans of World War II and other wars that were honored as part of Allentown's Queen City 75th anniversary celebration on Saturday, August 26.

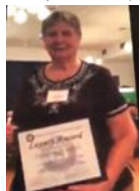


Photo by Marilyn Kovacs

• The Retired Senior Volunteer Program awarded Jackie Bayak the Legacy Award for her many years of volunteerism at a luncheon held at the Northampton Community Center.

The 25th General Synod



The 25th General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church met at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine in Belleville, IL, from October 1 through October 3, 2018. A significant time was spent 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 24th PNCC Synod in 2014: Growth and Membership, Increased Spirituality, Lifelong Learning, Sacred Vocations and Community Presence and Involvement.

Fall Fishing

Gerry and Frank Matla made their semi-annual fall fishing trip to Black Lake, NY in September. The lack of

rain and hot weather had affected the lake. The color was pea green from the algae caused by those conditions. The fishing was not affected. The bass (large and small mouth) were biting as usual with perch, dogfish and northern pike plentiful. Also caught was one walleye. What affected the lake most was the weather. Strong winds from the east caused two to three-foot waves which made fishing difficult. Three outings were cancelled due to those conditions. It looked like Branson, Missouri at the Duck Boat tragedy. However, a good trip overall and looking forward to our June 2019 expedition.

Frank Matla

Make sure you read the attached article about the trip to Poland.

Service

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the narthex of the church staring at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it.

The six-year-old had been staring at the plaque for a long time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, "Good morning Alex."

"Good morning Pastor," he replied, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor, what is this?" Alex inquired.

The pastor said, "Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service." Soberly, they just stood there staring quietly at the plaque.

Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, "Which service, the 8:30 or the 10:45?"

HERBATA GÓRALSKA POLISH HIGHLANDER TEA

Tea leaves with vodka from the Polish Zakapone Tera Mountains

Makes 2 quarts

INGREDIENTS

- 4 cups boiling water
- 8 black tea bags
- 6 tablespoons raspberry syrup
- 4 cups vodka
- 1/2 cup rum
- 1/2 cup sugar
- Juice of one lemon



INSTRUCTIONS

- Add tea bags to boiling water
- Steep 10 minutes before removing the tea bags
- Add raspberry syrup, vodka, rum, sugar, and lemon juice
- Stir until sugar dissolves
- Bottle and store for two months (this is from the Polish recipe, we enjoyed the same day)
- Serve warm

Na Zdrowie!

Thanks to Leslie Zavar for sharing this delicious tea recipe obtained on the Poland trip.

Holiday in Poland



Photo by Barbara Frisch

On Sunday, August 19, 2018 eighteen people left from Our Lord's Ascension Church's parking lot on a bus headed for JFK Airport in New York City to begin our trip to Poland. Our plane left JFK about 11:30 PM. It was a 7 ½ hour flight to Poland via a Boeing 787 Dreamliner airplane. We had a nice flight.

We arrived in Warsaw on Monday, August 20 in the afternoon, their time. They are 6 hours ahead of us. Fr. Bogdan greeted us at the airport as he was already in Poland visiting family. We also met our tour guide, Christopher, who was with us the rest of the trip. We boarded our tour bus and went to our hotel to rest and get ready for our dinner in a local restaurant in old Warsaw. Dinner was a typical Polish meal with vodka.

I just want to state that all our breakfasts and dinners were top shelf. The variety of food we had to pick from was out of this world. I would compare it to that of a top cruise ship.

After breakfast on Tuesday morning we went on a sight-seeing tour of old Warsaw. This city was rebuilt after World War II. It had been leveled by the Germans during the war. We saw the Royal Castle, seat of the Polish Kings. We drove by the Warsaw Ghetto in route to the beautiful Lazienki Park. There we had a coffee break and a taste of the famous Polish doughnuts "paczki." The rest of the day we had free time. Some of us went back to the bar at the hotel for drinks. The Polish beer was excellent, the best I ever drank.

Wednesday, after breakfast, we left for Czestochowa, the pilgrimage center of Poland. Here our tour started at the Jasna Gora Monastery and the Black Madonna Shrine. We had a monk give us a guided tour. If you ever go to Poland, you must see this place. Ninety percent of the people who go there are either Polish or of Polish descent. After the tour, Fr. Bogdan reserved a chapel at the monastery and had mass for our group. It

was a very moving experience. At the end of mass, we all sang "Serdeczna Matko." It sounded so nice. After lunch we continued to the resort of Zakopane at the foot of the Tatra Mountains. It was my favorite place that we visited. Driving through the little towns and villages and looking at the rolling hills was really breath-taking. Poland is a truly beautiful country.

Early Thursday morning Leslie and I went for a walk around the resort and saw the beautiful architecture of the homes. After breakfast we all went on a sight-seeing tour of Zakopane and visited the sanctuary of "Our Lady of Fatima" built by the local "gorale" as a votive for saving the life of Pope John Paul II after an assassination attempt on his life.

We admired the views of the Tatras from the top of the Gubalowka Mountains. We shopped for souvenirs and crafts at a local bazaar. In the afternoon we drove to Pieniny National Park where we went on a boat ride down the Dunajec River. The sights were awesome. That night we had a typical highland dinner with "Gorale" folk entertainment.

Friday after breakfast we departed for Krakow. On the way we stopped in Wieliczka, the oldest salt mine in Europe. We toured the underground chambers, sculptures carved by many generations of miners. After lunch at a local restaurant we continued to our destination in Krakow.

Saturday, we toured the Wawel Castle and Cathedral where Polish Kings were crowned and buried. Then we spent time in the market square where they have outside dining, vendors and music. This market square is often pictured on the news when they feature Krakow.

On Sunday we drove to Auschwitz and Bierkanow, the former concentration camps and now a museum. It was a very sad place. Many people were crying and adding to the misery was a rain that continued all day. It is difficult to imagine what those inmates went through.

We returned to Krakow via Wodowice. This is the birthplace of Karol Wojtyla (St. John Paul II.) We saw his house and the church where he was baptized. This is also the city where my grandparents came from. I felt like I came home. This is where it all started for my family. Someday I would like to return. We had coffee and pastries at a local Polish bakery.

Our farewell dinner was at the oldest Krakow restaurant which served kings throughout the years. They put on a folklore show for us plus some of us joined in the dancing. Don't believe what they say about me in Poland. "What happens in Poland, stays in Poland." We all sang "Jak Szybko Mijaja Chwile." How swiftly time passes. It was a great week!

Monday, after breakfast, we were transported to the airport, said good-bye to our tour guide and boarded our plane for our flight back to America. We gained six hours back in time and arrived about 11:30 PM in the church parking lot.

This was the best trip I was ever on. If you ever get a chance to visit Poland, GO! We are planning to go back to Poland in 2020 and do the northern tour of this beautiful country.

Gerry Matla