

WELCOME TO

Annunciation of The Blessed Virgin Mary Polish National Catholic Church

December 29, 2024

Feast of the Humble Shepherds

Mass Schedule

English Mass.....11:00 AM

Clergy

Pastor: Rev. Senior Mark Raya – (310) 505-1047

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Marcus R. Tinajero. PH.D – (210) 825 - 0160

Mr. Robert Grizzell – (559) 718 - 3427

About Our Church

Annunciation of The Blessed Virgin Mary Polish National Catholic Church is a parish of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church, established in 1897 by Bishop Francis Hodur for Polish nationals and became known as the Polish National Catholic Church. We invite all Catholics to receive communion that are sacramentally prepared and ready to receive.

1501 Tampico St. San Antonio, TX 78207

Phone: (310) 505-1047

E-mail: mraya5@icloud.com

Church website: <http://www.smsrpnc.com/>



Announcements & Events

Readings for Mass:

First Reading: Is 62:11-12 or Jer 31:10-14

Responsorial Psalm: **A Light will shine on us this day; The Lord is born for us.**

Second Reading: Titus 3:4-7 or Gal 4:1-7

Gospel: Lk 2:15-20

New Year's Day Liturgy- Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord.

Begin the New Year of 2025 by joining us for Mass. Mass will be held at St. Martin and St. Rose Polish National Catholic Church.

- New Year's Day Mass Wednesday, January 1, 2025 @ 10:30 AM Bilingual
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New Mass Schedule Effective January 5, 2025

- English Mass— 10:00 AM
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*Proposed Rosary— 30 minutes before Mass

- Mysteries

- Sundays of Advent and Christmas JOYFUL
 - Sundays of Lent SORROWFUL
 - Other Sundays GLORIOUS
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Recurring Announcements

Liturgical Ministers

We are always looking for parishioners to volunteer to help with liturgical functions for the liturgy. These include **Altar Servers, Readers, Ushers, Greeters, and Sacristans.** If you are interested in any of these functions, please notify Fr. Mark before or after the weekend liturgy or call or text our number @ (310) 505-1047

Church Cleaning

Please help us clean our sanctuary by putting trash in the trash bin. If you would like to help clean the church, please notify Fr. Mark Raya @ (310) 505-1047 to arrange a day and time you would like to assist in keeping our clean church.

Readings for Liturgy



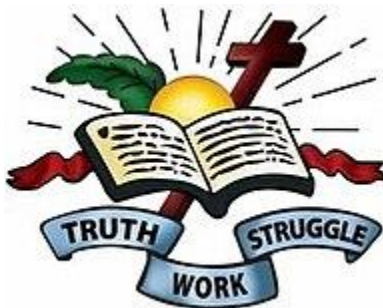
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Instructions:

1. **Open the iBreviary app:** Launch the iBreviary app on your mobile device.
2. **Navigate to the "Download" section:** Find the "Download" option within the app's menu.
3. **Select the date:** Choose the date you want to download the texts.
4. **Choose your language:** Select the language you want the text displayed.
5. **Initiate download:** Click the "Download" button to download the liturgical texts for the selected day.
6. *** The Readings are located by tapping on the “Pray” tab, then tap the “Readings” tab for the readings for the mass.***



Reflection

In 1906, a Special Holy Synod of our Church was convened, and one of its actions was to declare the Sunday after Christmas the Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds.

As the faithful of the Polish National Catholic Church, we annually celebrate the example of humble working people represented by the Bethlehem shepherds, the ones chosen by God in Luke's Gospel to hear the first announcement of Jesus's birth.

God had exalted these often shunned and discriminated individuals. God honored their honest and humble work as He sent His Son into the world in such an extraordinarily ordinary circumstance.

This Solemnity was meant to encourage the predominantly immigrant, working-class, and poor Church members of that day.

Those hard-working and under-appreciated first parishioners were spiritually strengthened to maintain the good fight for a democratic, people's Catholic church by remembering the example of the Humble Shepherds. They fully understood the humble shepherds who, when prompted by God, went to meet the newborn savior: *"Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."* Then, having seen the fulfillment, they acted and made the good news known: *And when they saw it, they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child.*

This Solemnity reminds us to maintain our focus. We must listen to God's word and then we must act. We must continue to fight against meaningless parades of pomp for the sake of glorifying clergy in carrying out our faith life. Ours is a humble Church, built by the humble and led by humble shepherds who love Jesus and their people. This is a model of Christian faith, practiced in the Polish National Catholic Church (PNCC) for over 100 years, which other Churches are beginning to find.

On this Solemnity, we also particularly remember and pray for our shepherds- the priests and bishops who lead us with love and humility. They listened to the prompting of God and acted, standing before us to make God's Word known so that we might act. Let us ask God to bless our clergy and to call forth to Sacred Vocations those called by Christ to be the humble shepherds of our congregations. May they hear, listen, and act.

-Fr. Jim Konicki Holy Name PNCC 29 December 2013

<https://www.holynamencc.org/2013/12/reflection-solemnity-humble-shepherds/>

About The Polish National Catholic Church (PNCC)

- The Polish National Catholic Church(PNCC) adopted a “Joint Declaration on Unity” with the Roman Catholic Church through which both bodies agreed to a limited communion arrangement.
 - We are in Dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church
 - The Polish National Catholic Church(PNCC) permits **divorced people** to participate fully in the Mass and to receive the Eucharist. The church does not recognize civil divorce and requires an annulment before parishioners can remarry.
 - The Polish National Catholic Church(PNCC) is governed by its Constitution and Laws. The legislative authority of the Church is vested in the General Synod, the Special Synod, the Diocesan Synod, and the Parish Meeting. In financial and administrative matters, the Parishioners possess administrative authority. Representatives elected at the Annual Parish Meeting and confirmed by the Diocesan Bishop exercise their constitutional authority.
 - The hierarchy is as follows:
 - Prime Bishop: Rt. Rev. Anthony Mikovsky
Diocesan Bishop of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese:
Rt. Rev. John E. Mack
 - Diocese website: <https://buffalopittsburghdiocese.org/>
 - The Polish National Catholic Church (PNCC) is not under the authority of the Pope (Bishop) of Rome.
 - The Polish National Catholic Church (PNCC) observes the seven sacraments, and they are as follows:
 - 1. Baptism and Confirmation
 - 2. The Word of God
 - 3. Penance
 - 4. Eucharist
 - 5. Holy Unction (Anointing for Health)
 - 6. Holy Orders
 - 7. Matrimony
 - All Polish National Catholic Church (PNCC) sacraments are valid and licit.
 - The Polish National Catholic Church (PNCC) clergy are permitted to marry.
 - If you are interested in registering for sacraments or want to learn more about the Polish National Catholic Church (PNCC), please get in touch with our line at (210) 825 – 0160 or email us at fathermarcus@smsrpnc.com. For more information, please visit the website at <http://www.smsrpnc.com/>
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