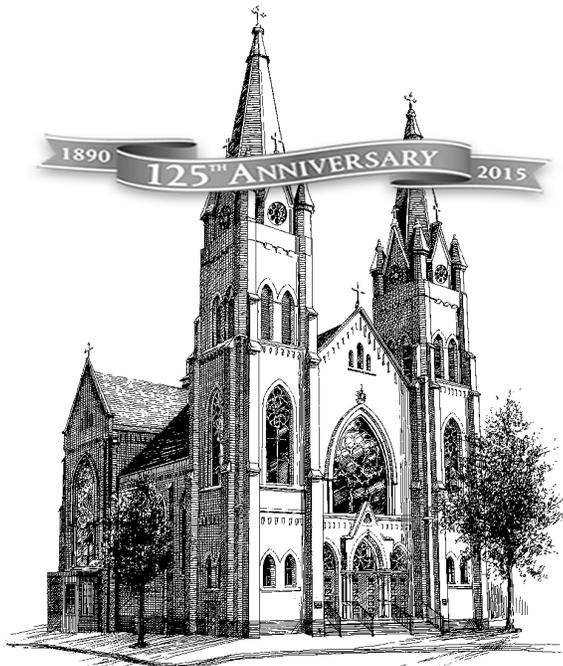


St. Hedwig Church

408 S. Harrison Street, Wilmington, DE 19805

March 22, 2020

† Fourth Sunday of Lent †



Parish Established 1890 ~ Church Dedicated 1905

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass in Saint Pope John Paul II Chapel:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday...6:30pm

Weekend Schedule: Saturday morning (Chapel).....8:00am

Saturday (Vigil).....4:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am, 11:30am (Polish), & 4:00pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament...3:00-4:00pm

First Friday: Purgatorial Society Mass...last Thursday at 6:30pm

Holy Days: See bulletin or website for Mass schedule

Parish Staff

Rev. Andrew Molewski, Pastor

Mr. Raymond R. Zolandz, Deacon

Parish Directory

Parish Office..... 594-1400

Parish E-mail..... sthedwigchurch@comcast.net

Parish Website.....www.sthedwigde.org

Religious Education (Roweena Rego)..... 594-1400, Ext. 4

Music Ministry594-1400, Ext. 5

Parish Office Hours:

Mon. Wed. Thurs...10:00am-2:00pm...(closed Tues. & Friday)

Tuesday evening.....6:00pm -8:00pm

Parish Membership: We welcome all who wish to join our Parish Family. Call or visit the parish office for a registration form or download the forms from www.sthedwigde.org.

St. Hedwig Church welcomes you...

We the faithful of Saint Hedwig Parish, a Catholic Community, are committed to living and sharing the Gospel values as disciples of Jesus Christ, celebrating our lives together around the table of the Eucharist and other sacramental times during our journey of faith.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

One-half hour before daily Mass, Monday - Saturday in the Chapel or 3:00- 3:45pm on Saturdays in Church; or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the parish office to register for the Baptism Preparation Class and to make arrangements for Baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage: Engaged couples should call the parish office at least one year in advance of the planned wedding date.

Ministry to the Sick: Our priest makes weekly hospital visits and monthly visits to nursing homes and the homebound. Please call the parish office to arrange for Communion, Confession, and/or Anointing of the Sick.

Parish Pastoral Council: Meets monthly. See bulletin for dates.

Religious Education Classes (CCD): Please contact the Office of Religious Education and leave a message at 594-1400 Ext. 4.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): For those who are discerning readiness to join the Catholic Church or to complete the Sacraments of Initiation. Call 594-1400, ext. 0.

Holy Rosary Society: Members attend Mass monthly on the Sunday following First Friday. Recitation of the Rosary begins one-half hour before Mass. New members welcome. For more information call the parish office at 594-1400, ext. 0.

Knights of Columbus, Pope John Paul Council 7608: Meets the second Tuesday of every month. Mass at 6:30 pm in the Chapel, followed by meeting. New members welcome. Contact John Kwiatkowski, Grand Knight.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace Prayer Group: Meets on Thursday evenings following the 6:30 p.m. Mass in the Chapel. All are welcome to join us in prayer.

The Gift that Keeps on Giving: In your will you can remember your loved ones and the institutions that have been important in your life. We hope St. Hedwig merits your consideration.

Bulletin Deadline: Noon on Friday for the following week.

† Pastor's Notes †

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Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The reading from the first book of Samuel introduces David, the youngest son of Jesse of Bethlehem. At the request of the people, God had allowed the prophet Samuel to anoint Saul as ruler over the people, but Saul proved unworthy. Samuel is sent to Bethlehem to anoint a new king from among the sons of Jesse. Judging by appearance, Samuel mistakes the oldest as the Lord's chosen. But God corrects him, "Not as man sees does God see." It is the youngest son, David, whom God has chosen. As Samuel anoints him, the Spirit of the Lord rushes upon him. David will prove a worthy ruler, but he must first deal with Saul's jealousy, for as the Spirit descended upon David, so it withdrew from Saul. After Saul's death, David will be made king of Judah.

The Letter to the Ephesians purported to be have been written by Paul actually comes from the second generation of Pauline Christians. Writing in the voice of the Apostle, the author reminds the community to live according to the light, which produces goodness, justice, and truth – virtues that even pagans admire.

The Gospel reading from John introduces the narrative of the man born blind. This is the sixth sign or miracle that Jesus has performed (water into wine in Cana; royal official's son restored to life; healing of the crippled man at Bethesda, feeding the multitude; walking on the water). Each sign serves to reveal Jesus' identity and confirm his disciples' belief in Him. But with each sign, those who do not believe strengthen their animosity toward Him. After the seventh and the final sign, the raising of Lazarus, the chief priest and Pharisees gather the Great Council and decide to have Jesus put to death. The man healed in today's Gospel is twice brought before the Pharisees to explain who restored his vision. With his new sight, he recognizes his healer as a prophet and a man from God. And now it is the Pharisees, unable to recognize Jesus as the Son of Man, who are truly blind.

God bless,
Fr. Andrew



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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo
Tuesday: World Day for Truth Concerning Human Rights Violations
Wednesday: The Annunciation of the Lord
Friday: Abstinence

† Slovo Proboszcza †

Kochani Parafianie

Nieczesto spotykamy sie w liturgii Slowa z Samuelem. Dzis many te sposobnosc. Drodzy, zebyscie zechcieli zaprzyjaznic sie z tym prawdziwie Bozym Mezem. To bardzo piekna postac. Niejako wyproszony od Boga przez Anne, ktora go porodzila juz w nieco podeszlych latach, otrzymal Samuel pobozne wykształcenie u boku kaplana Helego, zgodnie z wola swej matki, ktora oddawala go Bogu na wlasnosc jeszcze przed jego urodzeniem. A Bog najwyrazniej te ofiare przyjal i niejeden raz poprzez tego meza prawego przekazywal ludziom swoja wole. Przy wypelnianiu jednej z Bozych misji ukazuje nam go takze dzisiejsza liturgia Slowa. To on wybiera mlodego Davida na przyszlego krola calego Izraela. Wielu jeszcze innych rzeczy dokonywal Bog przez Samuela, ktorego nazywa sie czasem sw. Antonim Starego Testamentu.

Sw. Pawel zas radzi nam, w drugim czytaniu, zebysmy chcieli byc synami swiatlosci. Noc, ciemnosc, sen nawet nie ciesza sie dobra reputacja w Biblii. Sa synonimami zla, grzechu, nieprawosci. Szatan jest nazwany Ksieciem ciemnosci. Natomiast dzien, slonce, swiatlosc – to symbole czystosci, prawosci a w koncu szczescia wiecznego, zwanego inaczej "swiatloscia wiekuista". Pawel zdaje sie nakazywac nam, zebysmy sie nie ukrywali z naszym zyciem po katach; zebysmy sie nie wstydzili naszych uczynkow; zeby wszystko bylo w nas jasne, oswietlone Boza laska, zeby poprzez nas bylo widac Chrystusa.

Szczesc Boze,
Ks. Andrzej

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekly Offering



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March 14 & 15 \$2,878

Offertory Envelopes—\$2,600
& Special Collections—\$278

(Special collections include fuel/heat, building & maintenance, candles, holy days, special diocesan collections, etc.)

The primary source of support for our parish is you, our parishioners. Through gifts of time, talent and treasure we are able to sustain the operation of our parish as well as provide for the programs and activities so important to our parish community.

The weekly offertory is the major source of funding for the parish. Your generosity helps pay for the operating expenses of the parish such as the cost of utilities, (electric, gas, telephone), heating and air-conditioning, landscaping, snow plowing, major repairs, salaries, insurance, liturgical, educational, administrative and other supplies.

During this current pandemic you may mail your offertory envelope, weekly, bi-weekly or even monthly to the parish office at St. Hedwig Church, 408 S. Harrison Street, Wilmington, DE. 19805. You may also drive up and drop it into the big black secure (locked) mailbox located at the bottom of the steps in front of the rectory front door. We empty it daily.

Your generosity to St. Hedwig Parish is greatly appreciated.

PARISH NEWS

SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES AT ST. HEDWIG CHURCH

Due to the current pandemic, all public Masses are cancelled.

Bishop Malooly has cancelled all public Masses in the Diocese of Wilmington until further notice, effective immediately.

Father Andrew will celebrate Mass privately each day for the Mass intentions that have been previously scheduled.

All Religious Ed classes are cancelled until further notice.

In order to protect our parishioners and staff, the Parish Office is closed to the public. Please phone us at (302)594-1400, ext. 0 or by email at sthedwigchurch@comcast.net.

This suspension of Masses and activities may be extended. Please check back for updates as they become available.

We are thankful that our diocese is practicing social distancing to keep everyone safe at this time.

Lastly, please pray with and for one another – those who have died, the ill, and all those affected by this disease in a physical, emotional, or economic way. Let us place our intentions in the hands of our Blessed Mother each day through prayer.

DAILY MASS INFORMATION

Bishop Robert Barron is posting his daily Mass online at <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>

Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York is live streaming their daily Mass at <https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live>

EWTN lives streams their daily Mass each weekday at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. at <https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live>

Visit the USCCB at <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm> and <https://catholiccurrent.org/covid19/>



STEEPLE REPAIR PROJECT

\$37,605!

received to date

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR RECENT DONORS!

\$125,000 IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE WORK TO RESTORE THE EXTERIOR STEEPLE ROOFS AND LEAD-COPPER FLASHINGS AND ALSO THE COMPLETE RESTORATION OF THE TWO (2) STEEPLE CROSSES AT THE VERY TOP

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the steeple repair project. All donations, large and small, are greatly appreciated. God bless you.

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TODAY!

CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION

Are you a 7th, 8th or 9th grade student who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Are you willing to OPEN your HEART to encounter Christ and to be drawn into a deeper relationship with him? If so, contact Father Andrew or call the Parish Office at (302)594-1400, ext. 0.

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

“My Jesus, I believe that you’re present in the Holy Sacrament. I love You above all else, and I desire You in my soul. As long as I can’t receive You sacramentally, at least enter spiritually into my soul.” (brief pause to unite oneself with Jesus) “Since you’ve come, I embrace you and unite my entire self with You; don’t let me ever separate myself from You.”

This prayer has been added to the resources on the diocesan webpage responding to the Coronavirus (cdow.org/coronavirus).

OTHER NEWS

CITY DEANERY LENT PENANCE SERVICE

The City Deanery Lenten Penance Service scheduled for Sunday, March 22nd at 3:00 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Church has been cancelled.

SOME THOUGHTS FOR OUR TIMES...

It is a strange time that we are living in, with stores and restaurants closing and Churches and synagogues cancelling services. As one person posted on the internet, "I hadn't planned on giving up this much for Lent."

In the midst of the uncertainty and confusion, we may ask what lessons there are to be learned from the current situation. One lesson is that we are not in control: nature and its ways still hold some sway over us. Another lesson is that we are indeed social creatures that our normal existence consists of relationships with other people, not only those who are close to us but also those we meet in the course of an ordinary day.

For Catholic Christians, the cancellation of Masses is an unprecedented event: for the first time in our lives, we cannot partake of the Eucharist, which, as the Catechism tells us, is the "the source and summit of the Christian life." It will be strange to wake up on Sunday mornings and not be able to gather together at Mass.

The cancellation of Masses leaves a void in our life. But we can fill that void through personal prayer and devotions. Bishop Robert Barron offered the the following advice in a recent email:

"I encourage you to read the Gospels, pray with your families, and join yourself to the Eucharist... by making an act of spiritual communion like the one recommended by Archbishop Gomez: "I wish, my Lord, to receive you with the purity, humility, and devotion with which your most holy Mother received you, with the spirit and fervor of the saints." wonder if there are lessons what message God is trying to send us by allowing the coronavirus to impact us. He may be trying to remind us we can take heart in the fact that Jesus promised to be with us always, until the end of the ages."

While it is not the same as being physically present in Church, modern technology does allow us opportunities to pray the prayers of Mass while watching video broadcasts, such as from EWTN. Masses are also available on the internet, such as Sunday Masses from our own Cathedral, on cdow.org, or daily Masses from other sites, including Bishop Barron's Word on Fire Institute (<https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass>).

Please continue to pray that the crisis we are experiencing will soon pass. Pray for the health care workers and other professionals who are working hard to contain the virus. Pray for the poor and for those whose jobs have been put on hold, and help them if you can. Pray for our priests, who will be offering daily Mass on our behalf, and whose ministry to their people continues, though in modified ways.

Just a few weeks ago, on the 2nd Sunday of Lent, we heard the passage about the Transfiguration of Jesus. Recall how, when the voice of the Father was heard, the Apostles fell down in fear, only to be comforted by Jesus, "Do not be afraid."

The uncertainty of our present situation may cause us to be fearful. But we must take heart, for the Father still loves us, Jesus still walks with us and the Holy Spirit is still there to strengthen us, guide us, and bring the peace of Christ into our hearts, today and every day.

Yours in Christ,
Deacon Ray

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Due to the pandemic, all public Masses are cancelled. Our Church and Chapel are closed for now.

Bishop Malooly has cancelled all public Masses in the Diocese of Wilmington until further notice, effective last Sunday evening.

Father Andrew will celebrate Mass privately each day for the Mass intentions listed below.

- Monday, March 23**
6:30pm Rev. Thomas Gardocki int. Holy Rosary Society
- Tuesday, March 24**
6:30pm Stanley Lutrzykowski int. nieces, Janice and Nancy and Families
- Wednesday, March 25**
6:30pm Kelly Fisher int. Izabela Toner
- Thursday, March 26**
6:30pm Anna Mae Keen (birthday) int. Gary & Coleen & Fam.
- Saturday, March 28**
8:00am Peter and Lech Molewski int. Family
4:00pm Ernie Carilli int. Al Okoniewski & Family
- Sunday, March 29 † Fifth Sunday of Lent**
9:00am Jennie Minakowski int. Bill & Dolores Rybaltowski
11:30am Deceased Members of Ryjewski & Wroblewski Families int. Izabela Toner
4:00pm Eleanor and Stanley Wykpisz int. Family



† The Sanctuary Lamp †



signifying the Eucharistic Presence of
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
will burn this week in loving memory of

Betty Hollweck Zsembik

as requested by June Foster Hollweck