



St. Hedwig Church

408 S. Harrison Street, Wilmington, Delaware, 19805

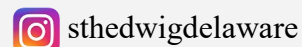
Parish Office

Telephone: 302-594-1400, ext. 0

Fax: 302-594-1415

Email: sthedwigchurch@comcast.net

www.sthedwigde.org



DECEMBER 31, 2023 † THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH †



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.

Fr. Andrew Molewski
Pastor

Fr. Adam Slominski, SChr
Assistant Pastor

Deacon Ray Zolandz

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

11:30 a.m. (Polish)

4:00 p.m.

Holy Days: see website & bulletin

First Friday: 6:30 p.m.

Purgatorial Society Mass

Adoration: Sunday 3-4:00 p.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule

(in Saint Pope John Paul II Chapel)

Monday - Friday 6:30 p.m.

(Adoration 5:30-6:30pm each evening)

Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confession on Saturday: 3:00-3:45 p.m.
and on weeknights before Mass

Parish Office Business Hours

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday Evening

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



† Słowo Proboszcza †

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

God makes threefold promise to Abram. He will possess a land, he will become a great nation, and he will be a blessing to the people of the earth (12:1—3). The promise will be repeated multiple times in the book of Genesis (for a son: Genesis 12:21; 15:5; 17:4; 17:16; 18:10; 18:18; 21:12; 22:17; 26:4 and for land: 12:1; 12:7; 13:14; 15:18; 17:8; 24:7; and 26:4). In today's first reading, Abram bemoans the fact that he is without an heir. To this lament, God promises that as numerous as are the stars in the sky, so will Abram's descendants be. On God's word, Abram has faith. This remarkable trust is credited to Abram as an act of righteousness, and will be echoed by St. Paul as a demonstration that justification is not based on acts but on faith (Romans 4:1—12).

The faith of Abraham is also the subject of today's second reading. Written toward the end of the first century, Hebrews attempts to exhort and guide believers who are at risk of apostasy (5:11 – 6:20). The author uses the literary technique of prophecy-fulfillment to demonstrate that God planned something new that would be in continuity with the old but far superior (Hebrews 11:19). Abraham's faithful trust in God's promise becomes the example believers should follow.

In the Gospel reading, we encounter another faithful elder. Like Abram, Simeon is declared righteous (Luke 2:25), a term only used by Luke for those who exemplify Old Testament piety (Luke 1:6; 23:46, 50). He is awaiting the consolation of Israel and the Holy Spirit is upon him. He encounters the child Jesus in the temple, and taking the baby in his arms, he blesses God, who has fulfilled the long-awaited promise. "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace...my eyes have seen your salvation" (Luke 2:29—30). Luke often pairs two similar stories—one about a male character and the other a female (see Luke 7:1—17; 15:8—32). So after the encounter with the elderly Simeon, the Holy Family meets Anna, an 84-year old widow, who worships in the temple night and day with fasting and prayer. Though she isn't called "righteous" her actions demonstrate her faithfulness. She goes forth speaking about the child to all who are awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

God bless,
Fr. Andrew

Kochani Parafianie,

W pierwszym czytaniu dzisiejszej liturgii Słowa mamy do czynienia ze starotestamentalną teologią rodziny. Wszystko, co tam zostało powiedziane, zwłaszcza na temat powinności dzieci względem rodziców, jest aktualne i godne polecenia po dzień dzisiejszy. Potrzeba okazywania szacunku i miłości rodzicom jest umotywowana bardzo szczegółowo. Nie tylko wypada, ale nawet po ludzku sadzić bardzo się opłaca darzyć szacunkiem rodziców: bo za to dostąpi się odpuszczenia grzechów; bo przez to można sobie zasłużyć na długie życie; bo to gwarantuje udział w miłosierdziu Bożym; bo w ten sposób gromadzi się skarby nadprzyrodzone; bo tak się zarabia na podobny szacunek ze strony własnych dzieci. Czy to nie wystarczy?

Szacunek względem własnych rodziców to tylko jeden z elementów prawego życia. W drugim czytaniu z dzisiejszej liturgii Słowa św. Paweł podsuwa nam tych elementów znacznie więcej. Oto one: serdeczne miłosierdzie, wybaczenie sobie wszelkich urazów. Są to tzw. cnoty społeczne. Bez ich przynajmniej elementarnej praktyki trudno sobie nawet wyobrazić poprawne układy społeczne. I jeszcze jedno. Ludzie już tak żyjący muszą się nieustannie modlić, najlepiej modlitwą dziekczynienia, zawsze w imię Pana Jezusa.

Rodzinom zaś całym udziela Paweł następujących pouczeń: żony winny być poddane mężom, mężowie mają miłować żony, oboje rodzice nie powinni rozdrażniać swych dzieci, które, w zamian za to, mają być we wszystkim posłuszne rodzicom.

Szczegółowość tych pouczeń świadczy o rozmiarach troski, jaką Paweł otaczał zarówno poszczególnych chrześcijan, jak i całe ich rodziny.

Szczesc Boze,
Ks. Andrzej



If there are no ushers present at the Mass you attend, please place your envelopes in the donation boxes at the front and back of the church. Thanks for your help!

Hospital Visitations– Please contact the rectory at 302-594-1400, or email sthedwigchurch@comcast.net if you are in the hospital and would like a priest to visit you. The pastoral services at the hospitals are no longer making weekly calls to update us on admissions.

Weekly Collection

Every penny counts!



Thank you for your contribution - big and small!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION
December 16 & 17 2023
 Offertory Envelopes - \$2652.00
 & Special Collections - \$573.00
 We appreciate your generosity and thank you.

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF ST. HEDWIG



We invite you for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Saint John Paul II Chapel, Monday-Friday evenings from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Confessions are heard during Adoration. Holy Mass begins at 6:30 p.m. During Eucharistic Adoration, we “watch and wait”, we remain “silent” in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist. Come and pray!



PRAYER GROUP

Every Thursday evening in the parish hall, immediately following the 6:30 p.m. Mass. Join us for Mass,

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday, January 1, 2024 Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday, January 2, 2024 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4 Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday, January 3, 2024 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6 Jn 1:29-34
Thursday, January 4, 2024 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 Jn 1:35-42
Friday, January 5, 2024 1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 Jn 1:43-51
Saturday, January 6, 2024 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
Sunday, January 7, 2024 Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12



Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m.: Pro-life vigil, outside Wilmington Planned Parenthood, 7th and Shipley Sts., Wilmington. Members of the Wilmington for Life team will be present from 9AM until 1 PM on Mondays through Saturdays. Join us anytime during those hours to take a prayerful stand for life. To register your parish or yourself for a day/time or more information contact Nancy at 302-893-1039 or nancyfrick93@verizon.net.

The Solemnity of Mary January 1st



Sunday, December 31 - New Year's Eve

3:30pm New Year's Eve Concert with the Adult Choir
4:00pm Mass - followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00pm
11:00pm Mass to End Year 2023

Monday, January 1, 2024 - New Year's Day

*The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
(A Holy Day of Obligation)*



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Remember and Pray for all who are sick in our parish and community.

Remember and Pray for all who have departed this life.

Father Andrew, Katie, Joe Rybaltowski, Fran Golden, John Yasik, Bri Iacona, Rosalie Wilner, Mary Ann Romano, Anna Kaminska, Wanda Weikel, Aleksander Bielecki, Sharon Kozlowski, Cindy, Dot, Joe, Hanna, Terry, Lori Weikel, Erin Rathmanner, John & Sally Sitek, John & Marie Larouche, Jack & Kathy McDermott, Rudolf Wolanin, Josephine Szczerba, Joy Deluchia, John W. Foskey, Sr., Sandra Boom, Mary Eva Ross and Frank Kucharski.

HEAL THEM O LORD!

Masses For The Week



Monday, January 1, 2024

- 9:00am** Thomas Sagan
Int. Tom Duszak
11:30am Carl Koekkoek
Int. Wife, Dorothy
4:00pm Parishioners & Benefactors

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

- 6:30pm Rocci Rapposelli
Int. MaryAnn & Family

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

- 6:30pm Linda Goad
Int. Sandi Murphy

Thursday, January 4, 2024

- 6:30pm Joseph F. Rutkowski
Int. Clare

Friday, January 5, 2024

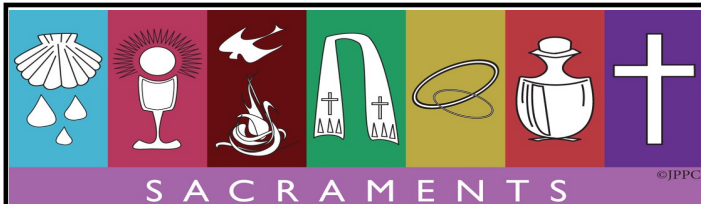
- 6:30pm Purgatorial Society Members

Saturday, January 6, 2024

- 8am Dr. William Kapa
Int. Loretta
4pm Living & Deceased Members of the
Holy Rosary Society

Sunday, January 7, 2024

- 9am Steve Quindlen
Int. Toni Quindlen
11:30am Joanna Sobkow
Int. Podsiad Family
4pm Deborah Barr
Int. Czeslawa Sawicki



Sacrament of Baptism: Call the Parish Office during office hours to make arrangements for Baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage: Engaged couples should call the Parish Office so that the proper preparation may be made at least one year in advance of the planned wedding date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: One-half hour before daily Mass in the Chapel, Monday—Friday and on Saturday from 3:00– 3:45 p.m. in Church; or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick and the Eucharist: Please call the parish office to arrange for Communion, Confession, and/or Anointing of the Sick. Parishioners who are planning surgery should contact the priest to receive the Anointing of the Sick before the surgery.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): All adults who are discerning readiness to join the Catholic Church and are interested in becoming Catholic or completing their sacraments should call the Parish Office. All are welcome.

Religious Education Classes (CCD): Children not attending Catholic School are educated in the faith through our Religious Education Program. Please contact the Office of Religious Education and leave a message at 594-1400 Ext. 4.

† Sanctuary Lamp †



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

Walter & Gerri Kula

Requested by:

Stan & Janice

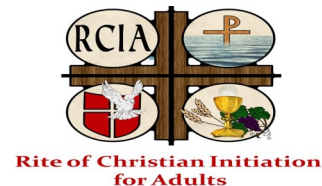


Reminder: The Sacrament of Reconciliation

is offered at St. Hedwig Church Monday - Friday between 5:30-6:30pm (during Eucharistic Adoration) in the Chapel and on Saturday from 3-3:45pm before the 4pm Mass in the Church.

Please take this opportunity to turn to our Merciful God, receive His forgiveness and be reconciled with Him.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



- Monday thru Friday - Eucharistic Adoration, St. John Paul II Chapel 5:30-6:30pm.
- Family Mass - 9:00am first Sunday every month.
- Rosary Mass - 8:30am first Sunday after the first Friday every month.
- Confessions - Every evening during Adoration & 1/2 hour before Masses.
- Blessing of Religious Articles - Second weekend of each month after all Masses.
- Healing of the Sick - Third weekend of each month after 4pm Sunday Mass.
- Prayer Group - Meets every Thursday after 6:30pm Mass.
- Flame of Love - Meets the 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 2:30pm in Gulcz Hall
- Knights of Columbus - Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. John Lagowski, Grand Knight, 302-992- 0309
- Religious Education Classes 10-11:30am every Sunday- Sept.—May
- R.C.I.A. every Monday at 7pm from October-March
- Dec. 31st— 9:00 & 11:30am—Sunday Obligation
- Dec. 31st -3:30pm New Year's Eve Concert with Adult Choir
- Dec. 31st -4pm—Vigil—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- Dec. 31st— 11pm Mass—end Year 2023
- Jan. 1st— 9 & 11:30am Masses, 4:00pm Mass
- Jan. 7th— 9:00am—Family Mass-(Rosary Society meeting after 9am Mass)



Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass 2024 with Bishop Koenig

Bishop William E. Koenig invites all couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, wedding

anniversary or any anniversary beyond 50th, to the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass being held on World Marriage Sunday, February 11, 2024, at 1:00PM at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, 2431 Frazer Rd., Newark, DE 19702.

Reservations are required by February 2, 2024.

The Bishop will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00 pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Koenig, please arrive at 12:00 pm or plan to stay after Mass.

Questions may be referred to the Office for Marriage And Family Life at 302-295-0657 or by emailing OMFL@cdow.org

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?

R.C.I.A. is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. The program is open to people 16 years of age or older. Have you been worshipping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?

Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation?

Have you been away from the church, returned and would like to know more about the Catholic Church?

If any of these questions apply to you, you might want to consider participating in the R.C.I.A. process.

Or, if you know of anyone who could answer yes to any of these questions, perhaps you could extend an invitation to them.

If you are interested and have questions, or would like to register, please call the rectory office at (302)594-1400, ext. 0. R.C.I.A. classes are held one evening each week at 7:00 p.m. in the parish rectory and will begin in late October. There is no cost for the program and all materials will be provided.

We welcome everyone to the program.

