

LOOKING AHEAD

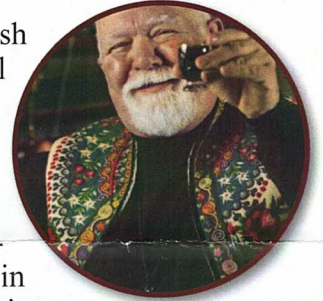
A YEAR OF GRACE WITH THE PARISHES OF ALL SAINTS, HOLY FAMILY, & QUEEN OF ANGELS

Our parish families welcome any and all to the Masses, devotions, classes, and events that will take place over the next few months. As we seek to celebrate the intersection between faith and culture, we pray that our parishes will be a place where tradition and the present intersect, an encounter with beauty ever ancient and ever new.

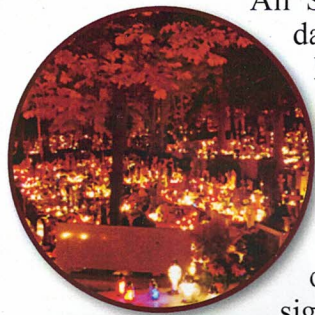
— *Father Aron Maghsoudi* — Pastor

POLISH EASTER CUSTOMS — OCTOBER 22ND

Fr. Czeslaw Krysa returns to All Saints Parish in Boswell with a presentation on Polish Easter Customs. Last year his dynamic presentation on Christmas customs was very well received. Fr. Krysa is presently the rector of St. Casimir Church in Buffalo, New York and is a noted authority on Polish folk culture. In addition to his theological degrees, Fr. Krysa holds a master's degree in Liturgical Arts from the University of Notre Dame and a doctorate in Sacred Liturgy from the Pontifical Athenaeum of Saint Anselm in Rome. For many years Fr. Krysa was on the faculty at Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake Michigan. An author and educator, he has helped guide many in the Polish-American community to rediscover their family traditions through publications and workshops on religious ritual practices. He is the author of an extensive book entitled *A Polish Christmas Eve: Traditions and Recipes, Decorations and Song*, and has produced a video series about Polish ethnic traditions. Father's presentation will focus on beloved Easter customs including egg decorating, food blessings, and devotional practices of the home and church. The presentation, which will begin at 6:30 PM, will include hot Polish food and drink at no cost. All are welcome, but are asked to register by phoning the parish (814) 695-5551 by October 18th.



NOVEMBER 1ST & 2ND - POLISH CEMETERY CANDLES



All Saints Parish will be providing Polish cemetery candles for All Saints & All Souls days. Since the earliest days of the Church people have visited cemeteries as the three Marys went to the tomb of Christ on Easter. Just as they went to anoint the body of Jesus, the tradition of burning oil or candles at graves is not only ancient but very common in Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia, and Italy. Such customs help us to pray for and honor the loved ones we miss. In Poland this custom is so widespread that cemeteries are illumined on All Saints and All Souls days to the extent that it looks almost like daylight (search "All Souls Day Cemetery Poland" on Google images). Over the years this custom has faded in the United States. As a sign of spiritual solidarity with the faithful departed, authentic cemetery candles from

Poland will be offered through All Saints Parish. The candles have a red glass globe and a lid that keeps them from going out. Some of the candle globes can be reused each year (replacement candles are available). Four sizes are being offered by the parish (\$8.00, \$12.00, \$20.00, & 30.00), and can be obtained by arranging pick up at the parish (814-695-5551), after Sunday Masses, or after Fr. Krysa's class on October 22nd. Prayer times at the parish cemeteries (Holy Family, Mt. Carmel, St. Stanislaus, St. Joseph, Sacred Heart, and St. John) on All Souls Day will be listed in the bulletin the week prior. All families are asked to drop off pictures of their deceased loved ones at the parishes prior to All Souls Day, the pictures will remain at the churches during the month of November when we pray for the faithful departed in a particular way.

SPAGHETTI DINNER - NOVEMBER 5TH

Since the early 1950s the parish in Boswell has sponsored a spaghetti and homemade meatball dinner on Election Day. In accord with the tradition that began at the old St. Joseph Church - and continues to this day - the dinner will be on Tuesday November 5th with serving times for both lunch and dinner. Takeout and sit down options are available. Phone the parish for details (814) 629-5551.

ALL SAINTS

325 Quemahoning Street
Boswell, PA 15531
(814) 629-5551

HOLY FAMILY

321 Sugar Street
Hooversville, PA 15936
(814) 798-2933

QUEEN OF ANGELS

738 Sunshine Avenue
Central City, PA 15926
(814) 754-5224

FR. ARON MAGHSOUDI
amaghsoudi@dioceseaj.org

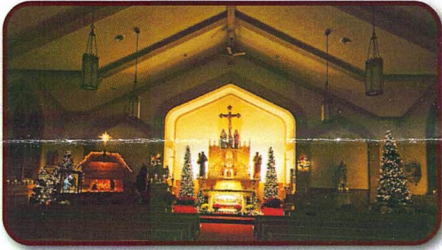
RORATE MASS - DECEMBER 10TH

Queen of Angels Parish in Central City will offer a Rorate Mass at 6:30 AM at their St. John site. Common in Eastern and Central Europe, a Rorate Mass is celebrated only by candlelight just before dawn. Offered in honor of the Blessed Mother, the interplay of light and darkness speak to the meaning of Advent and the coming of Christ as the light of the world. The Mass will be in English and Latin with Gregorian Chant lead by Professor Nicholas Will. If your soul is looking for a quiet, reverent, and transcendent place of refreshment, please consider attending.



CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 25TH

Masses celebrated to honor the Nativity of Christ will be celebrated at 4:00 PM on Christmas Eve at All Saints, Holy Family, and Queen of Angels (Sacred Heart) Parishes. There will be Mass at 10:00 PM (with some Polish and Italian hymns at All Saints, Midnight at Queen of Angels (St. John – with Latin and Slovak hymns), and 10:00 AM on Christmas Day at Holy Family (no incense). Keep Mass in Christmas! Many thanks to the Benedictine Monks at St. Vincent Archabbey for covering the 4:00 Masses at Holy Family and All Saints on Christmas Eve. Oplatki for your holy supper will be available in each of the churches starting the first Sunday of Advent. In accord with the Polish and Slovak custom, Christmas decorations will remain up in each church until Candlemas day, February 2nd.



POLISH CHRISTMAS HYMNS - JANUARY 5TH

All Saints Parish in Boswell will host their singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolędy) on Sunday, January 5th, at 2:00 PM at the church (325 Quemahoning Street). Kolędy capture some of the finest sentiments of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage.

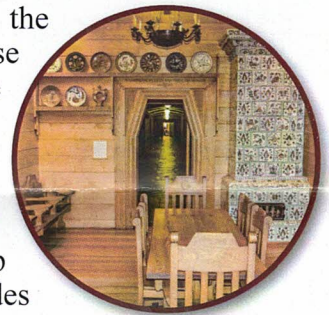


HOUSE BLESSINGS - EPIPHANY 2025

The tradition of blessing homes will be observed on the days near the Feast of the Epiphany 2025. If you wish to have Father Aron bless your home during this time please phone any of the parish offices to set up a time. Even if your house is messy, please have it blessed!

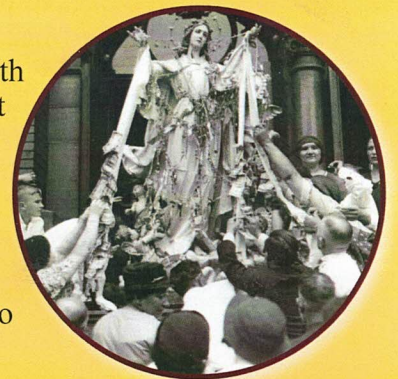
ETHNIC CHURCH AND NATIONALITY ROOMS BUS TOUR - JANUARY 11TH

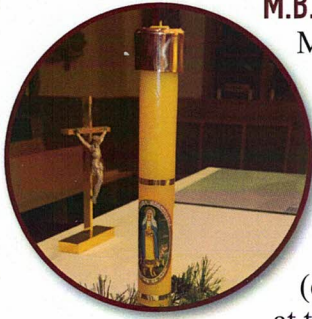
Queen of Angels will host a bus pilgrimage on Saturday January 11th to visit the Nationality Rooms at the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh. These rooms, uniquely adorned with accurate architecture and furnishings from thirty-one different nationalities, are a treasure of Western Pennsylvania. Following the tour, Mass will be celebrated at the "Polish Cathedral of Pittsburgh," Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, after which there will be a tour of the historic St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church. Dinner concludes the evening at Emil's restaurant with a meal of fried chicken, halupki, kolbasi and all the sides. Bus pick up locations at Central City, Boswell, and Latrobe. The cost is per person is \$70 and includes dinner. To register please call the parish (814) 754-5224.



ITALIAN CULTURE AND THE FESTA - JANUARY 19TH

The Italian expression of Catholicism teems with life. A common expression of faith in Italian culture is the festa. Honoring a saint is often expressed in a festival that includes devotions, a procession, and unique traditions. Stephanie Longo will be the presenter for a talk on Italian-American culture with a special emphasis on the tradition of the festa. Dr. Longo has authored several award winning books on Italian-American history and is an expert on the lived experience and history of Italians in America. The talk begins at 2:00 PM at All Saints Parish Hall in Boswell and includes authentic Italian refreshments at no cost. All are welcome but asked to register by phoning the parish at (814)-629-5551.





M.B. GROMNICA - CANDLEMAS DAY - FEBRUARY 2ND

Most homes in Poland have at least one large bees wax candle known as a gromnica or 'thunder candle' stored carefully for special occasions. "Grom" is the Polish word for thunder, hence "Thunder Candle." This special candle is only lit for the most important moments in a person's life. Each year the candle is typically brought to church on Candlemas Day (February 2nd) in order to be blessed. If you are interested in purchasing a gromnica, handmade from locally produced bees wax, please contact the Boswell parish office (814-629-5551) or email Emily Marsh (emarsh@dioceseaj.org) by January 1st for more details. The candles will be blessed at the 10:30 AM Mass on February 2nd.

PARISH PILGRIMAGES - FEBRUARY AND JUNE 2025

Due in large part to the generosity of parishioners and friends, both All Saints and Queen of Angels parishes will take their high school students and one parent per family at no cost to Europe this year to explore faith, tradition, and art. All Saints will travel to Rome in February and Queen of Angels will travel to Eastern Europe in June (Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, and Austria). The parishes extend sincere thanks to all who made this possible.

SPORTSMEN RAFFLE - FEBRUARY 2ND

Queen of Angels will host their annual winter Sportsmen Raffle on February 4th in the parish activity center (738 Sunshine Avenue, Central City). Tickets include chances to win great prizes as well as a meal featuring five meats, soft drinks, beer, and other refreshments. The event includes ticket prizes, walk around prizes, cash raffles, and games of chance. A great Christmas gift for the person who loves the outdoors, tickets go on sale November 1st, and typically sell out very quickly.

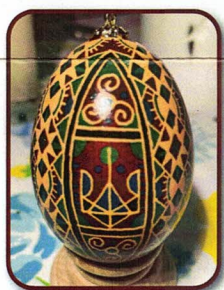
THE ART OF STAINED GLASS MAKING - FEBRUARY 23RD AND MARCH 2ND

All Saints Parish will be hosting a class on two Sundays by Owen Shotts on the art of making stained glass at 2:00 PM on February 23rd and March 2nd in their parish hall (505 Center Street, Boswell). Because of the nature of stained glass making the course extends over two classes and due to the cost of the materials there will be a \$50.00 fee per student. Students will learn the basics of stained glass, walk through a project, and make their own project. The class is limited to twelve students. To register please call All Saints Parish office (814) 629-5551 by February 10th.



PIEROGI 101 - MARCH 9TH

Debbie Moore will teach a class on the basics of pierogi (or if you prefer pirohy) at 2:00 PM on Sunday, March 9th at Queen of Angels Activity Center in Central City. The class will cover the basics of dough, pinching, filling, and cooking. Students will make potato/cheese, sauerkraut, and sweet cabbage pierogi. To register please call Queen of Angels Parish (814) 754-5224 by March 1st.



PYSANKY EGG MAKING - MARCH 24TH

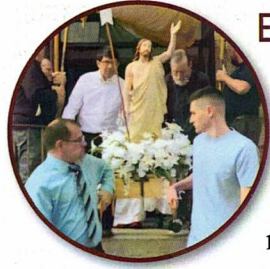
Decorating eggs is an art form deeply rooted in many Eastern European cultures. Using the wax-resist style of egg decorating, Beth Ott will offer a class on March 24th at 6:30 PM in the Kolbe Center at All Saints Parish in Boswell. Participants will learn the method of using hot wax and dye to decorate traditional Easter eggs and decorate an egg during the class. There is no charge to attend, however it is asked that due to limited space, preference will be given to students who have never taken this class in the past. To register please phone All Saints office (814-629-5551) by 17th.

GORZKIE ZALE - MARCH 16TH - MARCH 30TH - APRIL 13TH

Gorzkie Zale (in English "Bitter Lamentations") is a Polish Lenten devotion consisting of three sung meditations on the Passion of Christ. The devotions will be sung in English at Queen of Angels Parish (Sacred Heart) on three Sundays during Lent at 3:00 PM. Each week there will be a guest speaker. Dr. Kathleen Borres will speak on March 16th asking the question, "What is hope?" On March 30th Fr. Eugene Ritz, postulator of the cause of canonization for Fr. Walter Ciszek, will speak on the heroic life of Polish-American priest who was imprisoned in Soviet prisons for 23 years. On April 15th Travis Moger, a married former Baptist minister who entered the Catholic Church and is preparing for ordination as a Catholic priest, will share his story. As a way to begin Holy Week together, following the devotions on April 15th there will be a free spaghetti and meatball dinner in the parish hall open to all.

BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS - ŚWIĘCONKA - APRIL 19TH

The blessing of Easter foods, so deeply part of Eastern European tradition, will be observed at Queen of Angels Parish (Sacred Heart) in Central City on Holy Saturday at Noon and at All Saints in Boswell at 3:00 PM. The rite used for blessing is an English translation of the blessing approved by the bishops of Poland. An egg hunt for children follows the blessings.



EASTER REZUREKCJA MASS - APRIL 20TH

This year the Easter Sunday 8:00 AM Mass at Queen of Angels Parish (Sacred Heart) in Central City and the 10:30 AM Mass at All Saints Parish in Boswell will follow the tradition of the Polish Rezurekcja Mass. Mass begins at the empty tomb, all present process around the church with the Eucharist while the bells peal and all present ring hand bells (please bring a bell with you if you have one). One of the most jubilant expressions of the resurrection of Christ as seen through the Polish tradition.

DYNGUS DAY - APRIL 26TH

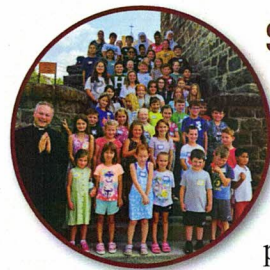
The Polish day of merriment, Dyngus Day, will be celebrated at Queen of Angels Parish on Saturday April 26th. Tickets go on sale March 6th (tickets sold-out in 38 minutes last year). The event includes homemade ethnic foods, open bar, games of chance, and live polka music. Proceeds benefit Queen of Angels CCD trip to Eastern Europe. For tickets call (814) 754-5224. Mass will be celebrated at 4:00 PM featuring Polish hymns. Open to all who like to have a nice time – no cheapskates!

MAY CROWNING - MAY 10/11

As a way to recall the dignity of motherhood and to honor Our Lady, each parish will honor the Blessed Virgin Mary with May Crowning the weekend of May 11th.

CORPUS CHRISTI SAWDUST CARPETS - JUNE 22ND

All Saints Parish will celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi with vespers and an outdoor procession on Sunday June 22nd at 4:00 PM. As a way to honor the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist the route of the procession will be decorated with "sawdust carpets." Families and individuals (irrespective of parish affiliation) are invited to construct religious images out of dyed sawdust prior to the 4:00 PM vespers. The Blessed Sacrament will be carried over the carpets in the procession. For more information please contact the parish office (814) 629-5551.



SUMMER DAY CAMP - SUMMER 2025

All Saints Parish will host their annual summer day camp for students K-8 in the summer of 2025. This camp includes lessons about the faith (taught by the Sacred Heart Sisters), games, music, and has a unique emphasis on art, architecture, ethnic traditions, and history. The camp includes daily Mass, a field trip, hot meals each day, and takes place over four days, all day. The camp usually has between 60 and 70 students. For more information please contact the parish office (814) 629-5551.

ST. JOHN GUESTHOUSE - OPEN FOR VISITORS

The former rectory at Queen of Angels St. John Site is open to all who are visiting and need a place to stay. The cost is \$75.00 per night (plus a cleaning fee) for the house (five bedrooms). Recently the home was updated and, at the same time, restored to its 1920s splendor.

