

## THE WORD



WESTERN DIOCESE
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

# The Polish National Catholic Church Presents... National Youth Convocation 2014

In the beginning...



Hosted by
The Western Diocese United Youth Association
July 21 - 25, 2014
Heidelberg University - Tiffin, Ohio
Open to all Youth (Ages 12 - 20) & Adults



June 2014

Hello Convo Participants!

As part of our service outreach project, our Convo Committee asks you to join us in raising money and awareness for an organization called *Compassion International* through their project "One Meal, One Day". *Compassion International* is a great organization whose mission is to help hungry children throughout the world. So far they've helped over one million children in over 26 countries

In order to help these hungry kids, we're asking that for the four weeks right before Convo, you skip one meal per week and donate the money you would have spent on it to *Compassion International*. Just as Advent and Lent are times of preparation in the church, may these four weeks of sacrifice and giving prepare you for the awesome week of Convo. Please bring your total donation to Convo 2014 in the form of a check made out to the <u>Western Diocese PNCC</u>, and we will make one big donation to the organization in the church's name!

The link to the website is: www.onemealoneday.com

If you want more information about Compassion International itself, look here: www.compassion.com

God Bless.

The Convo 2014 Committee

Volume 6, Issue 2

Summer 2014



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Bishop's Desk 2

Clergy Conference 5

Declining Membership 6

Diocesan Council 9

59th Choir Convention 11

Cathedral Confirmation 12

Polish National Union 13

Calendar of Events 14

Office of the Bishop 15

WD Parish Websites 16

SPECIAL THOUGHTS:

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!

GOD BLESS AMERICA

HAVE FUN AND BE SAFE! Page 2 The Word

## FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK:

"To understand the impact of relationship, we must follow a strong biblical tenant-empathy."

This article began with the intention to speak with the clergy of our diocese. However, as it unfolded, it seemed that there were some implications for both the clergy and the diocesan faithful in this edition of "The Word". I've been reading a series of books written by the contemporary theologian Andrew Root. Not only has he written a series of very provocative issues concerning youth ministry, he is also very passionate pastor. In my conversations with him, he is very concerned about the pastoral status in the contemporary church. Another of his books which I've read, is entitled "The Relational Pastor". In an age where connecting with people via technology and social media has quickly become the norm, Andy Root has spent much energy reminding pastors what it means to connect and be relationship with others in the context of their ministries. His writing is a convicting call to pastors on all levels to remember what it is to be Christlike and incarnational in regards to our relationships. He is very convicting in his position that any pastor who believes that relationships with people are at the core of not just ministry but of our understanding of Jesus Christ and our intimacy with Him. There is an African Ubuntu saying: I am because we are. The suggestion that without you I cannot be myself is radical and transformative. Such a understanding human persons opens up a very different relational space; one which stands in stark contrast to our individualistic assumptions and the whole idea that we are "our own people."

I am sure that you would agree with me that relationships constitute 99% of our everyday life. We are in a relationship with our Lord, we are in a relationship with our families, we are in a relationship with our congregation, we are in relationship with our community; if we do not realize this, then it's a wonder what we do every day. To understand the impact of relationship, we must follow a strong biblical tenant-empathy. To define, empathy is the experience of feeling (often involuntarily) the very relationships that make a person. Empathy is a feeling that touches the relationships that make us, a magnet the draws our

person to another's. Empathy, as a feeling, is how we experienced the ontological relationships that make a person, so writes Root. I am sure again that you would agree with me that empathy was the impetus to our seeking the priesthood and/or our shared ministries in our parish church, our seniorate church, and our diocesan church. It is that deep feeling of spirit that pulls us from ourselves, which is why some people resent it. This, as well as a hug.

Root continues in providing some new visions of incarnational ministry. In order to examine a new vision, one would need to base it on a currently used model. So the question now is, what is your model? Is our model of ministry one that is meant to win something? Or is our model one of individualism or building community? Like the famous Paul Harvey story about the man who refuses to go to Christmas eve mass, not understanding the meaning of Christmas until he frustratingly tries (of function) to get sparrows out of the bitter cold and get them into a safe, warm barn (an interest). The man's great breakthrough happens when he realizes that he could meet this interest if he could take on the function of being a bird. As the church bells ring, becoming the soundtrack to his frustrated interest, he realizes that the incarnation, Jesus becoming human to show us the way, is the best strategy. Root analyzes the story by writing that "the idea of incarnation makes sense as a strategy to fulfill his and God's interest, to get stubborn or foolish things (objects) to change their wants. So the point of the story is that God chooses the incarnation, taking on the function of being human, because of the interest of getting us to heaven, to church, to moral living or to some warm, safe place. The incarnation is the most strategic way for God to meet God's interest. It is assumed that our interest is our motivation. God is interested in saving us, so God uses the strategy of incarnation."

The very logic of the incarnation is the ultimate act of sharing as the giving of the relationship that makes us persons. It would seem then that our Christology that we share with the members of our congregation allows them, as persons, to be "The incarnation
is the most
strategic way
for God to meet
God's interest."

Page 4 The Word

## FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK continued

incarnational in their gathering and their worship. It would seem also then, that that our whole purpose of ministry is to allow for opportunities that would ensure this logic to unfold. We all go into ministry with particular charisms and talents that have been God-given from the time of our birth. During our ministry, we enhance these charisms, and take on new ones, many times to our surprise. However, this arsenal of talents allows us to have a unique ministry that we share with our congregations. But as we look on the seniorate or diocesan level, we must also realize that we use these talents and abilities however accentuated for the good of the seniorate's or the diocese's benefit. And, may I dare say, for the good of the national church as well.

The Cathedral Parish of All Saints has undertaken this year the preparation of monthly pamphlets and worksheets concerning the spiritual disciplines. I am sure we, clergy and lay, attempt to work these into our daily life as well. The reason I bring this up is that the spiritual disciplines could be displayed to our congregation as empathy. How strong a conviction to community could we show when we gather together to practice the spiritual disciplines. Even if we encourage them on an individual level, we could certainly devise a way that the experience, could be melded in a community building experience in our parishes. And then, really thinking out-of-the-box, to devise a way of enhancing our seniorate community and even our diocesan community to even more vibrant and far reaching ministry opportunities. And if I may be allowed a short commercial, this will, in large part, be the focus of this year's General Synod. What a wonderful experience we, as the Western Diocese, could take to the General Synod saying that our communities are already experiencing this wonderful empathy that brings us closer to Christ and gladdens His heart.

I would hope to open up a dialogue with the clergy of our diocese and any and all of our diocesan faithful who see the possibilities that may arise in this endeavor. May all of you have an enjoyable, relaxing, challenging, whatever-you-need-it-to-be, summer. God love you all.

## 2014 ANNUAL CLERGY CONFERENCE

The annual Western Diocese Clergy Conference and Retreat was held Monday May 19 through Thursday, May 22, 2014 at Techny Towers and Conference and Retreat Center in Techny, Illinois. A total of 17 active clergy along with two guest clergy were in attendance. This was the first year they met for almost four days as a result of only getting together once a year instead of twice as in years past. Gathering together in community for the clergy is beneficial and helps strengthen the bonds of the brotherhood within our Church. May God continue to bless our clergy and that the numbers will increase through the years.



Front Row: Rev. Mendelewski, Rev. Alvarez & Deacon Garcia (guests), Bishop Bilinski, Rev. Rafalko, Rev. John Kowalczyk, Deacon Opala

Second Row: Rev. Talaga, Rev. Bako, Rev. Rojas, Rev. Wsul, Very Rev. Kraus, Rev. Drada, Rev. Soltysiak, Very Rev. Nowak, Rev. Rowinski, Rev. Cramer, Rev. Czaja, Rev. Zawistowski

Page 6 The Word

## **DECLINING MEMBERSHIP IN CHURCH:**

IS IT JUST US? by Martin H. Wachna, Jr.

As we approach the General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church we will be taking a vast amount of time to do a retrospective on why membership and attendance in our Holy Church continues to decline. While this retrospective is healthy, it can be a very scary realization that all must be prepared to accept. The first question we need to ask ourselves: Is it Just Us?

Over the past number of years there has been a significant paradigm shift in America toward churches as a whole. This shift away from church membership and church attendance. The number in attendance at church services has declined for most all of the denominations as per a study conducted by the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion by sociologists C. Kirk Hadaway and Penny Long Marler that shows the number of people worshipping each week is about 17.7%, so the good news is it's not just us. The bigger question is: What are we going to do to change direction?

It is important to look at this issue as two completely different issues. This two-part article will investigate these issues. First issue is attendance to church services, and the second to that of membership. Let's take a look at each of these issues and hopefully some insights will come to light to allow you to increase the Spread of the Good News of Christ in your area.

Part One: Attendance

Attendance to church services has been on the decline for a number of years. While many polls taken by the Gallop Corporation show that people answering the question about church attendance shows approximately 40% of respondents claim they go to Church weekly, scholars in this area claim the reality is about 17.7%. All in all there is one major reason for the decline in attendance at churches is a **Frequency Issue**, as pointed out by Thom S. Rainer in his Christian Post article: *The Number One Reason for the Decline in Church Attendance and Five Ways to Address It*.

In this article, Mr. Rainer points to five ways he believes churches can address the decline in attendance. These five ways are:

> Raise the expectation of membership; Require an entry class for membership; Encourage ministry involvement;

"What are we going to do to change direction?"

Offer more worship times; Monitor attendance of each member.

While there is no magic cure for changing direction of attendance quickly, one must remember that the decline in attendance did not happen overnight. Doing a retrospective on Mr. Rainer's five points let's look at the Polish National Catholic Church to see if there may be some validity to his claim.

## Raise the expectation of membership:

Does our Church have expectations of members for the attendance of church services? If one were to look in the Constitution and Laws of the Polish National Catholic Church one would say yes. But if you really study the Constitution, you quickly realize, that there is really no expectation of the membership to attend church services. The Constitution states "active participation in the corporate worship of this Church". Maybe it is time that we as a church set goals and expectations of active participation in church services and teach our members what active participation means because no one has taught them otherwise.

### Require a class for membership:

Are there any official classes that are held in order to become a member of the Polish National Catholic Church? In order for members to understand the meaning of their membership in this Holy Church we go back to teaching as emphasized above. In this manner we also can state the expectations of attendance to the member. It also then allows the prospective member what type of commitment is necessary to be a member.

#### Encourage ministry involvement:

Rainer in his article points out that members become less frequent because they have no ministry roles in the church. While from the perspective of this author, the PNCC does indeed encourage ministry involvement in the church, in many instances the inclusion of all members can be suspect.

"Are there any official classes that are held in order to become a member of the Polish National Catholic Church?"

PAGE 8 The Word

## Declining Membership in Churches: Is it just us? continued

Fortunately for our church we are beginning to understand this and have been striving to correct this point.

## Offer more options for worship times:

In Rainer's article he points out that we are a 24/7 society and if possible we need to think about giving people options. In many aspects this is never a more true statement. In many instances especially during the summer months churches reduce the amount of services because of lack of attendance. Could it be we are missing the point? Should we add later Masses on Sunday, maybe in the afternoon to make church more available to all?

## Monitor attendance of each member:

This can be a very difficult issue. Do we want to take attendance at church like Sunday School? Maybe a better thought would be when a person hasn't been there for a while not asking them where they have been but saying its glad to see them again and that they were very much missed at worship.

To conclude part one of this article let us take a serious look into our own parishes to promote attendance at worship services, whether they are Sunday or another day of the week. We must remember that all of us need to be spreading the Good News to all. We need to stop admiring the attendance issues in our parishes but look for ways we can band together as one family, the family of God to increase His teachings throughout our area to rebuild attendance slowly and steadily once again.

#### **Citations**

Rainer, Thom S., (2013). The Number One Reason for the Decline in Church Attendance and Five Ways to Address It. http://www.christianpost.com/news/the-number-one-reason-for-the-decline-in-church-attendance-and-five-ways-to-address-it-102882/

"Should we add later Masses on Sunday, maybe in the afternoon to make church more available to all?"

## **ACTIONS OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL - May 31, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 9:46 a.m. by the Right Reverend Stanley Bilinski, Bishop Ordinary of the Western Diocese and then offered the invocation and prayer for the deceased bishops, priests and faithful.

Roll call results revealed 24 present and 3 absent.

Minutes from the June 8, 2013 meeting held at All Saints Cathedral in Chicago, Illinois were distributed prior to the meeting. Upon a motion by James Ploskonka and seconded by Diane Hollinsworth to accept the minutes as presented, motion was approved unanimously. Minutes from the November 18, 2013 teleconference were distributed prior to the meeting. Upon a motion by Very Rev. John Kraus and seconded by Robert Maycan to accept the minutes as presented, motion was approved unanimously.

Correspondence received by the Diocesan Council included a thank you card from Bishop John and Sherry Mack for the hospitality shown to them during the Bishop's Installation weekend.

Election of members to the Diocesan Tribunal took place. Those who volunteered were Reverend John P. Kowalczyk, Jr., Bruce Hoffman and June Wyant. Upon a motion made by James Ploskonka and seconded by Marty Wachna the nominations were closed and motion passed unanimously. Upon a motion made by Very Rev. John Kraus and seconded by Reverend John Cramer, the Secretary cast one ballot for the new members of the Diocesan Tribunal resulting in their term from 2014-2018. Motion passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Chief Financial Officer; Martin Wachna, Jr. Questions were asked and answered throughout the presentation. Upon a motion by Bruce Hoffman and seconded by Reverend John Cramer, the Treasurer's Report was accepted subject to audit. Motion passed unanimously.

Right Reverend Stanley Bilinski reviewed some highlights from his report as the Bishop Ordinary of the Western Diocese. Upon a motion by James Ploskonka and seconded by Very Rev. John Kraus, the Bishop's report was received as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Very Reverend John Kraus presented the report of the Vicar General and as Administrative Senior for the Northwest Seniorate. Upon a motion by James Ploskonka and seconded by Agnes Cramer, to accept the report of the Vicar General as presented, motion was approved unanimously.

Very Reverend Jaroslaw Nowak presented his report. Bishop spoke on behalf of the Indiana Seniorate. Bishop will be present for the Seniorate meeting on Corpus Christi at Divine Providence in Merrillville, Indiana. St. Mary in South Bend celebrated their 100th anniversary last year. Bishop Bilinski spoke on behalf of the Florida Seniorate. Father Niznik spoke regarding St. Paul in Belleview taking care of the necessary renovation due to safety concerns of the social hall. Upon a motion from Edmund Rumowicz and seconded from Robert Maycan, to accept the reports from the Seniorates, motion was approved unanimously.

The Bishop Kardas Memorial Home Report was presented by Ed Rumowicz. Upon a motion by Reverend Mark Niznik and seconded by Catherine Kowalczyk to appoint the Right Reverend Stanley M. Bilinski, Bishop of the Western Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church as the President of the Bishop Kardas Memorial Home in Davie, Florida. Motion passed unanimously. Consideration was requested that the BKMH take back the maintenance of the parish/church building. Upon a motion by James Ploskonka and seconded Marty Wachna by that the BKMH assume the maintenance of St. Joseph Chapel and that the BKMH Committee assess an appropriate fee/rent to the parish determined by that committee. Motion passed unanimously. Upon a motion by Diane Hollinsworth and Robert Maycan, the Bishop Kardas Memorial Home report was received unanimously.

Page 10 The Word

## ACTIONS OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL continued

A verbal report from the Annual Supreme Council Meeting was presented by the Western Diocese representatives Diane Hollinsworth and Martin Wachna. Upon a motion by Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak and seconded by June Wyant, the report was received unanimously.

The verbal report of the Polish National Union of America was presented by District Six Director Christine Wachna and Vice President of the Board of Directors Robert Maycan. Upon a motion by Diane Hollinsworth and seconded by Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, the report was received unanimously.

The Clergy Pension Financial Report was presented by Treasurer, Robert Maycan. Upon a motion by Bruce Hoffman and seconded by Cathy Kowalczyk, the Clergy Pension Fund Report was received unanimously.

### Commissions, Organizations, Conferences Reports

At this time all Commission, Organization and Conference Reports were given. Upon a motion by Edmund Rumowicz and seconded by Diane Hollinsworth, to receive the commission reports as presented, motion was approved unanimously.

The Proposed Budget for 2013-2014 was revisited following the Commission Reports. One loan request was received after the budget had been sent to the members of the Council. All Saints Parish in Sterling Heights, Michigan has requested a loan to repair the roof and remediate the mold due to the extreme weather this past winter.

Father Cramer requested that the Diaconate Program needs to have the stipends that were discussed a few years ago for the instructors to be implemented. A recommendation from James Ploskonka to add a line item for outreach and have that amount set atdr 10% of the revenue. Upon a motion by Reverend Mark Niznik and seconded by Bruce Hoffman, the amended Budget for 2013-2014 was accepted unanimously.

#### Other Business

Bishop Bilinski brought to the table two topics of concern from the Parish Committees. Parish Committees need to inspect all physical property throughout the diocese annually. A written report needs to be submitted to the Bishop's office along with the annual parish report.

A great thank you to Father Senior Kraus, Father Kowalczyk, Marty and Chris Wachna for the wonderful installation held on March 1, 2014. Thanks to the Liturgical Commission as well and to all those who attended.

The next meeting of the Diocesan Council of the Western Diocese will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2014 at All Saints Cathedral. There may be a possibility of scheduling the meeting with the Clergy Conference.

Upon a motion by Very Reverend John Kraus and seconded by Rev. John Cramer the meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m. resulting in a unanimous vote.

Right Reverend Stanley Bilinski offered the Closing Prayer and Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Wachna - Recording Secretary Diocesan Council of the Western Diocese Polish National Catholic Church

# UNITED CIRCLE CHOIRS OF THE WESTERN DIOCESE 59th BIENNIAL CONVENTION & CONCERT by Liz Kaniewski

The United Circle Choirs of the Western Diocese gathered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for their 59<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention and Concert on June 13 to 15, 2014. Choirs from Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago and Milwaukee sent delegates to the convention on Friday, participated in a concert on Saturday and worshipped together at Holy Mass celebrated by Western Diocese Bishop, Rt. Rev. Stanley Bilinski on Sunday.

At the convention, choir delegates gave reports on their individual choir activities, received a report from the NUC on its activities/future projects and discussed ways to grow the choirs. Board members were also elected to service. The Board consists of President Robert Maycan, Vice-President Bruce Kaniewski, Recording Secretary Cathy Bilinski, Financial Secretary/Treasurer Liz Kaniewski, NUC representative Chris Paulus, Directors Wendy Cooper, Barb Bratkowski, and Patty Temesi.

The theme of the Saturday night concert was "The Song Has Just Begun." Choirs performed individually and then combined to present six selections in both English and Polish. June 14th, the date of the concert was also Flag Day, so the choirs were asked to sing one patriotic selection in their program to commemorate the day. After the concert, a reception was held for choir members and concert attendees.

The Milwaukee Circle Choir would like to thank the parishes, organizations, businesses, and individuals of the Western Diocese, as well as the Polish National Union for placing ads in the concert program book. Many thanks are also extended to the guests who attended the concert and to the choir members and their families who traveled many miles to participate and continue the music ministry of the Western Diocese United Choirs.



Page 12 The Word

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION - ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL

The Sacrament of Confirmation was administered at All Saints Cathedral on Sunday, June 22, 2014 during the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Those receiving the Sacrament were Alyssa Cecilia Maycan and Carlie Lucy Kulczak. Nine days prior to this beautiful day, the sponsors were asked to join Bishop Bilinski in prayer for their candidates at least once every day. The focus of the prayers were centered around the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Christine Wachna and Janet Calabrese found this daily action beneficial not only for their candidate but for themselves as well. Congratulations to Alyssa and Carlie for a job well done and may they stay focused on their spiritual journey throughout the rest of their lives.



Christine Wachna (sponsor) Alyssa Cecilia Maycan, Rt. Rev. Stanley Bilinski, Carlie Lucy Kulczak & Janet Calabrese (sponsor)



Alyssa Cecilia, Bishop Bilinski and Carlie Lucy.

## FROM A FATHER TO HIS CHILD by Reverend John Cramer (October 2013)

My child, I love you Since you were formed I wanted to save you From every storm

You sinned, I did not turn away You asked my forgiveness I gave it freely

I sent My Son
To save you from yourself
You crucified Him
He saved you still

I wait for you daily While you work, sleep and play Even though you eat thrice daily How often do you pray?

I wait for your visit

Each day I wait some more

I will still be here

When you want the treasure you have in store

I love you and I wait
As a Father will always do
When you come to want me
I will be here for you.

Volume 6, Issue 2 PAGE 13

## POLISH NATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA



**Home Office Contact Information 1002 Pittston Avenue** Scranton PA 18505 1-800-724-6352 www.pnu.org www.spojniacreditunion.org

#### PNU Districts within the Western Diocese

District 6: Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri & Wisconsin Christine Wachna, District Director 421 South Church Road - Bensenville IL 60106 630-350-1787 pnuofadist6@att.net

District 7: Michigan Stephanie Marsh, District Director 2582 Belle View Shelby Township MI 48316 586-731-6937

District 5: Ohio & Pennsylvania Ted Gibala, District Director 1921 Eden Park Blvd McKeesport PA 15132 412-678-7347

## PNU District Six 2014 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, August 7, 2014 - Teleconference 6:30 p.m. Central/7:30 p.m. Eastern Saturday, October 18, 2014 - St. Michael the Archangel in Cedar Lake, Indiana

The Quarterly Meetings of District Six of the Polish National Union of America are open to all members. Please contact Christine Wachna, Director of District Six for additional details.

PNU District 7 Meeting Schedule Please contact Stephanie Marsh, District Director

Please contact Ted Gibala, District Director

PNU District 12 Meeting Schedule

Page 14 The Word

# WESTERN DIOCESE and PNCC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## All times are Central Time except as noted.

# CHANCERY OFFICE HOURS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Chancery Office will be closed on the following days, due to religious or federal holiday observances:

July 4
Independence Day

September 1 Labor Day

## CHANCERY OFFICE HOURS

The Chancery Office will be closed on the following days, due to staff attending National, Diocesan or other Church related events:

July 21-25 National Youth Convo Tiffin, Ohio

September 29-October 3 24th General Synod Erie, PA

## <u>2014</u>

July 7 Convo 2014 Late Registration Postmark Deadline

**July 13** Tonsure - Diaconate Candidate Richard Kasprzak
Our Savior Parish - Dearborn Heights, MI

**July 21-25** National Youth Convocation -Heidelberg University - Tiffin, OH

August 7 PNU District 6 Teleconference 6:30 p.m. central

**August 9** Tonsure - Diaconate Candidate Gail Lazenby

St. Paul Parish - Belleview FL

**September 20** 100th Anniversary - Sts. Peter & Paul Parish South Milwaukee, WI

September 29 - October 3

XXIV General Synod of the

#### **Polish National Catholic Church**

Hosted by the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese in Erie, PA. Please refer to the God's Field Publication for information regarding the Synod (Dec '13 page 9, Jan '14 pgs 4-6 & March '14 pgs 4-5).

**October 25** 75th Anniversary - Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish Chicago, IL

## Western Diocese Diaconate Program Academic Calendar

**September 2** Classes Resume

September 27 - October 5 Synod Break

November 25 Thanksgiving Break Begins/No Classes

December 1 Classes ResumeDecember 20 Fall Semester Ends

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Please keep the Clergy of the Western Diocese as well as their families in your prayers on a continual basis. Those active clergy from our diocese who need prayers for healing include: Rt. Rev. Stanley Bilinski, Very Rev. John Kraus and Very Rev. Edward Meus, and Rev. Thomas Sheha. Those retired clergy from our diocese who need prayers for healing include: Very Rev. Joseph Kobylarz, Very Rev. Edmund Mlynarczyk, Rev. Joseph Brzek and Rev. John Sielchan. Also pray for all of the Clergy within the PNCC, especially Rt. Rev. John Mack, Very Rev. Gus Sicard and Rev. Bruce Sleczkowski.

Parishes that have held their annual elections, but have not submitted the results to the Bishop for approval, should do so at this time. Please refer to the 2010 Constitution and Laws of the Polish National Catholic Church (Article XVII section 4). Upon the conclusion of election of officers for the parish committee, the pastor is asked to submit a letter requesting approval of the election (Article XVII Section 1), as well as supplying the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of those who were elected for the 2014 term of office.

#### I DO HEREBY APPROVE...

The following Parish Committee Elections have been approved for 2014 as of from April 1, 2014 - May 28, 2014.

St. Hedwig - Chicago, Illinois

St. Mary - West Allis, Wisconsin

St. Joseph Parish - Davie, Florida

In Christ's service,

Bishop Ordinary of the Western Diocese Polish National Catholic Church

E-3 E-3 E-3

# WESTERN DIOCESAN FINANCIAL OBLIGATION DEADLINES

The schedule for parish financial obligations which are due to the Western Diocese on a quarterly basis, are as follows:

### **2014 Obligations**

1st Quarter Due May 18, 2014

2nd Quarter Due August 18, 2014

3rd Quarter Due November 18, 2014

**4th Quarter Due** February 14, 2015

Quarterly Remittance Forms have been mailed to each parish in the Diocese. They are also available on the Western Diocese Website westerndiocesepncc.org and click on the Financial Page.

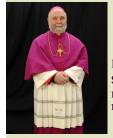
By submitting parish obligations to the Western Diocese on/or before the above dates, this allows the Diocese ample time to submit the proper financial obligations to the General Church of the Polish National Catholic Church by the last day of each quarter.

## WESTERN DIOCESE POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH



We're on the Web! www.westerndiocesepncc.org www.pncc.org





Right Reverend Stanley M. Bilinski, Jr. Bishop Ordinary of the Western Diocese Polish National Catholic Church

**Chancery Office:** 920 N. Northwest Highway Park Ridge, IL 60068-2358

Phone: 847-698-0578 Fax: 847-698-1144

Email: wdpncc@sbcglobal.net

The Word Newsletter Staff:

Right Reverend Stanley M. Bilinski, Jr., Controller Very Reverend John Z. Kraus, Editor Reverend John P. Kowalczyk, Jr., Editor Christine A. Wachna, Executive Editor

The Word, a publication of the Western Diocese Polish National Catholic Church is not responsible for content or performance of any web site that The Word may be linked to or from which this web site maybe accessed. The opinions are those of the author and may not reflect the official teachings of the Polish National Catholic Church. It is not implied that the Controller agrees with the contents, opinions or statements expressed.

#### WESTERN DIOCESE WEBSITES

#### Western Diocese PNCC www.westerndiocesepncc.org

All Saints Cathedral - Chicago, Illinois All Saints - Sterling Heights, Michigan Holy Cross - Hamtramck, Michigan Holy Trinity - Kewanee, Illinois Our Savior - Dearborn Heights, Michigan

Resurrection of Our Lord - Temperance, Michigan

Sacred Heart of Jesus - Madison, Illinois

San Juan Bautista - St. John the Baptist - Chicago, IL www.sanjuanbautistapncc.webs.com

St. Joseph - Davie, Florida St. Mary - Parma, Ohio

St. Mary - South Bend, Indiana

St. Michael the Archangel - Cedar Lake, Indiana

St. Paul - Belleview, Florida

Sts. Cyril & Methodius - St. Louis, Missouri

Sts. Cyril & Methodius - Chicago, Illinois

Sts. Peter & Paul - South Milwaukee, Wisconsin

www.ascncc.org

www.allsaintspncc.org www.holycrosspncc.com www.kewaneepncc.com www.oursaviorpncc.com www.resurrectionpncc.org

www.stlpncc.org

www.stjosephpncc.org www.stmaryspncc.com www.stmarypncc.org www.stmichaelpncc.org

www.stpaulfl.com www.stlpncc.org www.cmpncc.org

www.stspeterandpaulpncc.org