May 2, Maj 2021

**Weekend Mass Times:**  Saturday 4:00 pm. / Sunday 10:00 am.  Holy Days as announced

**Weekday Masses:**  Mon., Wed., Fri.  5:30 pm.  Tues., Thurs.  9:00 am.

**Confessions**  Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 pm or by appointment

**Eucharistic Adoration**  Thursdays 9:30 am.  **Divine Mercy Devotion**  Fridays 3:00 pm.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

_Piąta Niedziela Wielkanocna_

All Masses live streamed at sainthedwigh.org
Hello Everyone!

I've noticed a few familiar faces who have come back to join us for the celebration of Mass since the Pandemic. It is so good to see you again! I continue to pray for those who are still at home for their safety and that I keep you in mind. I haven’t forgotten you. As we are now receiving the vaccines, some of us may feel it is safe to venture out into the world once again, but we still need to keep safe by maintaining social distancing and wearing a mask. We cannot allow ourselves to live in fear, but have courage to resume our lives, activities, our interactions with family and friends, if we so choose to do so. We continue to pray for the day when this pandemic will go away and life can get back to normal. This experience should give us a whole new outlook on life, and how much we cherish life and our families, our interactions with society, and especially our faith life. The pandemic a year ago caused the temporary shutdown of public worship in parishes throughout the country. No doubt, there were probably many who missed going to church, receiving the sacraments, and praying together as a parish family. This also cause many pastors to be creative in maintaining a connection with his parishioners. We used the many means of social media to "televise" our masses through FaceBook and parish websites. I was happy to install a camera for St. Hedwig's and to air the Masses on our parish website. I hope many are taking good advantage of this and joining us for Mass on live stream. We continue to live out each day with joyful hope, for there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

We hear in our gospel this weekend Jesus describes Himself as the vine, and we are the branches. Jesus uses images that were very familiar to His audience, in this case, a vineyard. Anyone who runs a vineyard must know what time, effort, and care is involved in maintaining the vines, so as to produce the fruits that are needed for consumption, or the production of wine. With this imagery, we are the branches attached to the vine that is Jesus. It is through Jesus that we are nourished by His grace, love, mercy, and salvation. These are things that will help us to produce spiritual fruits such as peace, happiness, and joy. Sometimes we may have to do some self maintenance in order to keep growing in God. When a branch is not producing, it is pruned, cut away, so that the other branches can take advantage of the nutrients it needs to keep growing. For us, we may need to prune away sin, anger, impatience, or whatever holds us back so that our spiritual life does not wither. Let us daily keep ourselves attached to Jesus and allow our spiritual fruits to grow, through prayer, worship, and good works.

This week, many of the priests of the diocese will be gathering for our Spring Convocation at the Mountain View Grand Hotel in Whitefield. We did not meet last year as the pandemic was in full swing. This is an opportunity for us priests to gather and share times of prayer, social interaction, and a spiritual talk, with our brothers. The priesthood is a brotherhood and we need to get together to share our experiences of parish and ministry, and just to relax for a little while. Pray for priests, he needs them to keep going, to maintain the vineyard and make sure that you will be a fruitful branch of Jesus Christ. I will be away from Sunday afternoon and return Wednesday afternoon. There will be no daily Mass on Monday May 3, and Tuesday May 4. I will be back for the Wednesday Mass.

Yours Truly.
**Parish Information**

**St. Hedwig Cemetery**  
Old Bedford, Bedford, NH 03103  
Phone: 603-623-4835

**Sacraments:**

**Baptism**  
Please contact the parish if you wish to have your child baptized. Baptisms are celebrated after the 10 am Mass on Sundays, except during the Lenten season.

**Marriage**  
Marriages are booked six months in advance.

**Convent**  
Sr. Mary Thomas Lesniak, CSSF  
Sr. Jacqueline Mary Kazanowski, CSSF  
147 Walnut Street, Manchester, NH. 03104  
603-232-3115

**Weekly Giving**

Donations received, April 17-23, 2021  
Easter Offerings $1,122.00  
Online giving $107.50  
Total: $1,229.50

Thank You!  
Bóg Zapłac

**Are you new to the parish?**

We are glad you can worship with us at St. Hedwig Parish. Please register at the rectory or in the Sacristy after Mass. If you haven't already, please take a parish registration form at the entrance of the Church and fill it out. On the reverse side of the form, you can make a choice of joining any of the Parish Ministries available at St. Hedwig. When complete, please drop the form in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office at:

147 Walnut Street, Manchester, NH 03104

**Parish Staff**

Rev. Eric T. Delisle  
Pastor  
Sr. M. Thomas Lesniak  
Pastoral Assistant

Scott Bergendahl  
Music Director  
Dan Felch  
Parish Maintenance

Ellie Felch  
Parish Secretary

**Welcome**

**A Prayer for the Sick of our Parish**

May you be wrapped up in God’s love found deep in His everlasting wings. Carried and kept, safe and cherished. May the healing power of Christ breath across your being now.

Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish:

Shirley Stemska, Rita Haskins,  
Emily Menczywor, Walter Gorski

If you know of any other members of St. Hedwig’s who are homebound and could be added to this list, please let Fr. Eric know or leave a message on the parish voice mail. Thank you.

The beginning of spring comes with a few unusual traditions in Poland. In schools, the first day of spring (21st March) is traditionally associated with the so-called Truant’s Day (Dzień Wagarowicza). Although its origin is not clear, this unofficial holiday has been known to generations of Polish pupils and students. In the past, Truant’s Day was indeed treated as an excuse to skip classes by those who wanted to take a break from algebra or microbiology and breathe in some fresh spring air instead. That is why schools soon started to introduce special events such as dress-up contests, sport competitions or theatre shows in an attempt to keep their pupils inside. Nowadays it is also common to organise school trips to the cinema, museum or botanical garden. While some students are still attracted to the idea of playing truant on Truant’s Day, the original "tradition" seems less popular than in the past.

Truant’s Day
Saturday, May 1, 2021  
4:00 pm. +S.p Helen M. Warren, Anniv.  
from Nancy Dudziak

Sunday, May 2, 2021  
5th Sunday of Easter  
10:00 am. +S.p. Andrew Felch, 1st. Anniv.  
from Cathy Felch  
+Sp. Plodzik & Borowski Families  
from the Family

Monday, May 3, 2021  
5:30 pm. NO MASS

Tuesday, May 4, 2021  
9:00 am. NO MASS

Wednesday, May 5, 2021  
Easter Weekday  
5:30 pm.  
For a greater reverence for the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, May 6, 2021  
Easter Weekday  
9:00 am.  
For the protection of the unborn

Friday, May 7, 2021  
Easter Weekday  
5:30 pm.  
For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Saturday, May 8, 2021  
4:00 pm. +S.p Sophie Dudziak, Birthday Remembrance  
from Nancy Dudziak  
+S.p. Rita Martin  
from Walter & Dian Kalisz

Sunday, May 9, 2021  
6th Sunday of Easter  
10:00 am. +S.p. David Kazanowski  
from the Family

Joseph, Lover of Poverty  
Joseph could count on nothing in this world to be his stay. Neither his trade nor property were employed in his first years as father of the Divine child. He had to abandon all that was his and provide for them in whatever way was possible as they were on pilgrimage to Bethlehem, to Egypt, and finally to Nazareth.

Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection, or implored your aid without obtaining relief. Confiding therefore in your goodness, I come before you. Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of:  
Artur Frąckowiak  
of Gniezno, Poland, father of  
Rev. Adrian Frąckowiak, a priest of the  
Diocese of Manchester serving at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Rochester, NH.

Obdarz go wiecznym spoczynkiem, Panie.
Readings of the Week

**Monday:** 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6-14

**Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11

**Friday:** Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-9, 10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

**Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:1-8

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Sunday Readings

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Reading I:** Acts 9: 26-31
St. Paul not only witnesses the risen Jesus, but also has become His missionary. At the same time, Paul’s conversion evidently brought peace to the Palestinian Church communities.

**Reading II:** 1 John 3: 18-24
God, being “greater than our hearts” still inspires confidence even if our consciences condemn us. As a result, we do what pleases Him.

**The Gospel:** John 15: 1-8
The vine and branch imagery includes an assurance from Jesus that the Word of God has made the disciples safe from pruning. When these disciples “bear fruit” as His emissaries they glorify the Father.
Celebrating Polish Independence!

The Constitution of 3 May, 1791 is considered one of the most important achievements in the history of Poland, despite being in effect for only a year, until the Russo-Polish War of 1792. Historian Norman Davies calls it "the first constitution of its type in Europe"; other scholars also refer to it as the world's second oldest constitution. The 3 May Constitution was designed to redress long-standing political defects of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. The Constitution sought to supplant the existing anarchy fostered by some of the country's magnates with a more democratic constitutional monarchy. The adoption of the 3 May Constitution provoked the active hostility of the Commonwealth's neighbors, leading to the Second Partition of Poland in 1792, the Kosciuszko Uprising of 1794 and the final, Third Partition of Poland, in 1795. In the words of two of its co-authors, Ignacy Potaki and Hugo Kołłątaj, it was "the last will and testament of the expiring Fatherland." The memory of the 3 May Constitution—recognised by political scientists as a very progressive document for its time—for generations helped keep alive Polish aspirations for an independent and just society, and continued to inform the efforts of its authors' descendants. In Poland it is viewed as a national symbol, and the culmination of all that was good and enlightened in Polish History and culture. The 3 May anniversary of its adoption has been observed as Poland's most important civil holiday since Poland regained independence in 1918. Its importance for the Polish people has been compared to that of 4 July to the Americans.

“Saint 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 evil spirits who prowl through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.”
Catholic Charities NH: Upcoming Mass Talk

Catholic Charities NH will be coming to our parish on the weekend of May 1/2, 2021 for their annual Mass Talk/Appeal. They will be sharing specific ways your support allowed them to adapt and create new opportunities to serve New Hampshire residents in incredibly meaningful ways over the past year, while building on its mission – one rooted in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ – of serving the vulnerable and those without a voice. Visit www.cc-nh.org/everything to make a gift and see how your support of Catholic Charities helps our neighbors in need overcome hardship. Our parish goal is $3,000.

Catholic Charities NH provides many services and resources to help those in need, especially through counseling, those suffering the loss of a loved one, as well as many other needs. For information call: 603-669-3030 or cc-nh.org.

Seeking your assistance...

I have a beautiful old chalice that came from the chapel of the Chandler House when the Felician Sisters lived there. It is in need of refurbishing/re-plating, and I would like to incorporate this chalice for use at the celebration of Masses here at St. Hedwig, as it is a part of our parish history. The estimate I received for the refurbishing is nearly $900 (not cheap by any means!) I seek your assistance in humbly asking for any donations, if you're able, of any amount to help defray the cost. Every bit helps. See photos below. The chalice is inscribed:

In Loving Memory of
Louis Szczepkowski
from
Geneview Szczepkowski
Sr. Mary Ruth

If you wish to help, simply place your donation in an envelope and write "chalice" on it. Thank you for your consideration.

Humor

"How do you divide your love among four children?"

"I don’t divide it, I multiply it."