

# focus

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – MAY 1, 2016

## 6th Sunday of Easter

### VI Niedziela po Wielkanocy

May 1, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 77.

First reading: Acts 15:1-2,22-29

Psalm: Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8

**O God, let all the nations praise you!**

Epistle: Revelation 21:10-14,22-23

Gospel: John 14:23-29

Intention: for all parishioners

Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki

Lector: 9:30am Marilyn Hietala, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Easter Lauds at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee hour, SOCL Classes
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

## 7th Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day

### VII Niedziela po Wielkanocy/Dzień Matki

May 8, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 77.

First reading: Acts 7:55-60

Psalm: Ps 97:1-2,6-7,9

**The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.**

Epistle: Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20

Gospel: John 17:20-26

Intention: for all mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, and special women in our lives

Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki

Lector: 9:30am Derek Westcott, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Easter Lauds at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee hour, SOCL Classes
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

*The way of light, then, is as follows. If any one desires to travel to the appointed place, he must be zealous in his works. The knowledge, therefore, which is given to us for the purpose of walking in this way, is the following. You shall love Him that created you: you shall glorify Him that redeemed you from death. You shall be simple in heart, and rich in spirit. You shall not join yourself to those who walk in the way of death. You shall hate doing what is displeasing to God: you shall hate all hypocrisy. You shall not forsake the commandments of the Lord. You shall not exalt yourself, but shall be of a lowly mind. You shall not take glory to yourself. You shall not take evil counsel against your neighbor. You shall not allow over-boldness to enter into your soul... You shall be meek: you shall be peaceable. You shall tremble at the words which you hear. – The Epistle of St. Barnabas*

**Sick Calls and Hospital Visits** – Please know that hospitals will not advise parishes when an individual is admitted. Confidentiality regulations prevent them from doing so. If someone is admitted please let Father Jim know so he might visit, pray with, anoint, and bring Jesus' healing presence to them. Call Fr. Jim at 518-522-0944. You may also call Fr. Mark Gnidzinski at 518-453-2258

## Contact

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On the Web: [www.holynamencc.org](http://www.holynamencc.org)



## Upcoming...

- **May 1: 6th Sunday of Easter. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **May 2: Feast – Ss. Philip & James, Apostles (translated).**
- **May 3: Solemnity of the Finding of the Holy Cross**
- **May 5: Solemnity of the Ascension. Holy Mass at 7pm**
- **May 8: 7th Sunday of Easter. Holy Mass at 9:30 with May Crowning and at 11:30am. Mother's Day with Breakfast**
- **May 10: 65th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Bishop Joseph Padewski**
- **May 15: Solemnity of Pentecost. Holy Mass at 9:30 and at 11:30am. Free Lunch on Sunday**
- **May 21: Armed Forces Day**
- **May 22: Solemnity of the Holy Trinity. Holy Mass at 9:30 and at 11:30am.**
- **May 23: Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Jerome Savonarola**

We invite all who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist to partake. It is our practice to distribute the Holy Eucharist by intinction. The Body and Blood of Christ are placed on the tongue, never in the hand.

## Who is really welcome?

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him."

Is the Holy Faith exclusive and unwelcoming? This is an important question and a challenge.

We know that Jesus sets forth what seems to be requirements for those who would follow Him, who would enter the kingdom. A lot of people think that makes up a list of requirements.

Let's look at this a little deeper starting with an understanding of what requirements are. Going to the dictionary we find two ways of looking at the term: Requirement: a thing that is needed or wanted. Requirement: a thing that is compulsory or necessary.

Of course, if the Church were a social club we might have dues and membership requirements. If we

were a sports club, we would have athletic skill requirements. If we were a music group, we would have talent requirements. We do not have any of those as Church.

Does the Church have things that are needed or wanted? Certainly, but that is not prerequisite. We do not screen based on needs or wants. Rather, we trust that whatever is wanted or needed will be provided. Does the Church have things that are compulsory? We might think baptism, the other sacraments, avoidance of sin. There too, they are not prerequisites. Rather, they are the means through which we grow deeper into relationship with God.

Requirements seem practical and organized. They seem to provide structure and can even be reassuring, but we would be very wrong in reducing God to a set of requirements: if you do x then you have a guaranteed ticket to heaven, paradise, etc.

Instead of requirements, Jesus

spoke of love. Love changes our understanding. Love is never a response to requirements. Rather, love is a response to love. God didn't wait for us to love him before He loved us. God's love precedes and enables our love – He welcomes us. God then further responds to our love by entering into a unique, personal, intimate, affectionate, caring, and committed relationship welcoming those who respond to Him in love.

The thing to notice is that loving Jesus is not the same as keeping requirements (the Law as old Israel understood it). Love is an opening, a welcome. Love precedes and gives rise to a relationship that will last forever and out of which we seek to do what is asked of us: keeping the great commandment of loving God and each other. The call to feed, house, clothe, and visit.

For those who love and follow through on that love the promise awaits, the new, eternal and glorious heaven where we will live in love forever – totally welcome.

*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.*

Revelation 3:20

## Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Luke 19:1-10  
MONDAY: Ephesians 2:8-10  
TUESDAY: Luke 15:22-24  
WEDNESDAY: Galatians 3:28  
THURSDAY: Matthew 10:40-42  
FRIDAY: John 14:2  
SATURDAY: John 3:16

## Pray

Lord Jesus, You welcome us, prepare a place for us, and open all blessings to us. Help me to understand Your welcome.

## Mother's Day Celebration

Next Sunday is Mother's Day. What better way is there to honor that special woman in our lives than by praying for her? Give her a present that lasts forever, the only one that really matters.

Special prayers will be offered for our deceased and living mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, and special women in our lives. We will also pray in a special way for those who have broken relationships and the absence of a mom in their lives. After Holy Mass a special breakfast will be held. We would appreciate a count if you plan to attend so we can prepare enough. We hope all of our families will choose to make church a part of this special day.

## Solemnity of the Ascension

On the fortieth day after Easter, the Holy Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension. According to the Acts of the Apostles, on the 40th day Jesus ascended up into the heavens to assume His rightful spot at the right hand of the Father. Holy Mass on this holy day will be celebrated at 7pm on May 5th. During this celebration, the Pascal Candle is extinguished and the symbols of the resurrection are removed from the altar. This is a sign of the Light of the Resurrected Christ, literally visible to the world and in our midst for 40 days, is no longer visible in the same way. This doesn't mean that the light of Christ has gone out of the world, but must be found elsewhere as Jesus prayed: *Now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world.* We are now to be His light.

## A Time For Growth and Renewal

Spring is a time when sunny days lead to blooming trees, flowers, and new growth. This is a good time to find out how the PNU can help add new growth to your financial portfolio. Endowments, insurance policies, and annuities are just some of the things the PNU can offer to help you and your family grow financially. Contact the PNU Home Office at 1-800-724-6352 for more information.

## Music Scholarship Applications

With the 2015 Music Scholarships, the Church has given out 1059 scholarships totaling \$298,085. Applications for the 2016 Scholarship Program are available at <http://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com/music-scholarship-application.html> and Junior Incentive Award applications are available at <http://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com/junior-incentive-application.html>. The deadline for applying is May 15th.

## Kurs and CONVO

Kurs and CONVO are not that far off. Youth who will be attending CONVO should get there applications in as soon as possible so we make take advantage of the discounted early bird rate.

## FREE LUNCH on Sunday

Our next free lunch is May 15th. Please be sure to continue to invite friends, family, and everyone you know to partake every month. There is no cost or charge for this meal. This service opens our home to all in need of a little company, a warm meal, and the love of Christ. Our free lunch on Sunday program is on the 3rd Sunday of every month.

Of note...

## Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Stanley Radzysinski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Bonnie Nelson, Mariea Chase, Nickole Mook, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan Węglinski, Janet Spurck, Robert Dominy, Wayne Balnis, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Bishop Stanley, Brian Soos, Frances Myslinski, Virginia Lamb, Virginia Rogers, Curtis Sczepkowski, Derek Westcott, Dolores Konicki, Nellie Kucharski, Pastor Tom Kendall, Irene Borowski, Joshua Moraski, Sue White, Sue & Roger White, Chris Tatlock, Mildred Lewis, Debbie Esposito, Ceil & Eddie Gibbons, Helen Pasiak, Jessie Feathers-Ostrowski, Lucas Taylor, Joanne Bauer, Shirley Greene, Madison Sheridan, Reginald, Eddie Stover, Karen & Jacob, Sean and Jessie Wilcox, Snyder Family, Amber Tatlock, Kathleen Hietala, Vicky Stover, Joe Barratiere, Tom Abbot, Dennis, Donnie Wright, Fr. Ray Drada, Karen Kisch, Phil Battaglia, Joe Emmanuel, Gregory Henderson

- All in need of God's healing grace.
- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States esp. Michael Angehr, Mark Collins, Patricia Jones.
- All those in Public Service, Police Officers and Fire Fighters.
- All Active And Retired Clergy of the Holy Polish National Catholic Church.
- All Students and Teachers at Mont Pleasant Middle School
- The residents and staff of City Mission of Schenectady
- All who have asked for our prayers.

We continue in prayer and intercession for one of the parishes or ministries in the Polish Catholic Church. This week we remember the people of Good Shepherd Parish, Żary, Poland and its administrator, Rev. Waclaw Gwoździwski.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobjagoslaw im, O Boże!

**Coffee Hour:** Coffee hour is held every week after 9:30am Holy Mass. Thank you to all who assist with this ministry of hospitality. All are welcome to join with us each week. If you can, please help out.

**Parish Organizations:** Did you know that our Parish has many organizations that need you? The YMSofR - Men's Society of the Resurrection Branch 56, ANS - Women's Adoration Society, Choir, Parish Committee, and a hopefully reconstituted branch of the PNU (Spójnia) all need your help. See Father Jim.

--- Share Easter joy and invite others to glory in the cross of Jesus at Holy Name. ---