

The Shepherd & His sheep

focus

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 29, 2013

Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds Uroczystość Ubogich Pasterzy

December 29, 2013

Rite: 9:30am Deacon Missal

First reading: Jeremiah 31:10-14

Psalm: Ps 97:1,6,11,12

A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us

Epistle: Titus 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:15-20

Intention: For all bishops, priests, and deacons of our Holy Church

Celebrant: 9:30am, Rev. Mr. James Konicki

Lector: Marilyn Heitala

- Worship begins at 9:20am with Matins
- Service of Worship and Holy Communion at 9:30am
- Coffee Hour, Free Lunch on Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family Niedziela Świętej Rodziny

January 5, 2014

Rite: 9:30am Deacon Missal

First reading: Sirach 3:2-6,12-14

Psalm: Ps 128:1-5

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Epistle: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Intention: For all parish families

Celebrant: 9:30am, Rev. Mr. James Konicki

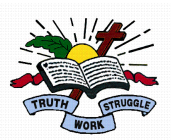
Lector: Larry Panfil

- Worship begins at 9:20am with Matins
- Service of Worship and Holy Communion at 9:30am
- Coffee Hour

When a deacon is to be ordained, he is chosen after the fashion of those things said above, the bishop alone in like manner imposing his hands upon him as we have prescribed. In the ordaining of a deacon, this is the reason why the bishop alone is to impose his hands upon him: He is not ordained to the priesthood, but to serve the bishop and to fulfill the bishop's command . . . On a presbyter, however, let the presbyters impose their hands because of the common and like Spirit of the clergy. Even so, the presbyter has only the power to receive [the Spirit], and not the power to give [the Spirit]. That is why a presbyter does not ordain the clergy; for at the ordaining of a presbyter, he but seals while the bishop ordains." – St. Hippolytus

Sick Calls and Hospital Visits – Please know that hospitals will not advise parishes when an individual is admitted. Health confidentiality regulations prevent them from doing so. If someone is admitted please let Deacon Jim know so he might visit, pray with them, and bring Jesus' healing presence to them. Parishioners in need of anointing should contact Fr. Mark Gnidzinski at 518-437-1889.

Contact



Holy Name of Jesus

National Catholic Church, PNCC

1040 Pearl Street

Schenectady, New York 12303-1846

Parish and Hall: 518-372-1992

In an emergency: Fr. Mark Gnidzinski,
518-437-1889

Deacon Jim Konicki:

518-765-2134 or 518-522-0944

On the Web: www.holynamencc.org

Upcoming...

- **December 29th: Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds, 9:30am.**
- **January 1st: Solemnity of the Circumcision of our Lord – Service at 9:30am.**
- **January 2nd: Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus – Service at 7pm.**
- **January 5th: Feast of the Holy Family, 9:30am.**
- **January 6th: Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord. Service with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense at 7pm.**
- **January 12th: Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, 9:30am.**
- **January 19th: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 9:30am. Free Lunch on Sunday**
- **January 18th – 25th: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
- **January 26th: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 9:30am. Music Scholarship Sunday, Annual Congregational Meeting.**

Lord, keep us as shepherds - guide your flock

"I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, says the LORD."

In 1906 a Special Holy Synod of our Church was convened and one of its actions was to declare the Sunday after Christmas the Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds.

As the faithful of the Polish National Catholic Church we annually celebrate the example of humble working people represented by the Bethlehem shepherds, the ones chosen by God in Luke's Gospel to hear the first announcement of Jesus' birth.

God had exalted these often shunned and discriminated individuals. God had honored

their honest and humble work as He sent His Son into the world in such an extraordinarily ordinary circumstance.

This Solemnity was meant to encourage the predominantly immigrant, working class, and poor Church members of that day.

Those hard working and under-appreciated first parishioners were spiritually strengthened to maintain the good fight for a democratic, people's Catholic church by remembering the example of the Humble Shepherds. They fully understood the humble shepherds who, when prompted by God, went to meet the newborn savior: *"Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."* Then having seen the fulfillment they took action and made the good news known: *And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child.*

This Solemnity reminds us to maintain our focus. We must listen to God's word and then we must take action. We must continue to fight against meaningless parades of pomp for the sake of glorifying clergy in carrying out our faith life. Ours is a humble Church, built by the humble, and led by humble shepherds who love Jesus and their people. This is a model of Christian faith, practiced in the PNCC for over 100 years, which other Churches are beginning to find.

On this Solemnity we also particularly remember and pray for our shepherds – the priests and bishops who lead us with love and humility. They listened to the prompting of God and took action – standing before us to make God's word known so that we might take action. Let us ask God to bless our clergy and to call forth to Sacred Vocations those called by Christ to be the humble shepherds of our congregations. May they hear, listen, and take action.

"But not so with you; rather let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves."

Luke 22:26

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: 2 Timothy 2:1-2
MONDAY: 2 Timothy 2:3
TUESDAY: 2 Timothy 2:5
WEDNESDAY: 2 Timothy 2:6
THURSDAY: 2 Timothy 2:15
FRIDAY: 2 Timothy 2:20-21
SATURDAY: 2 Timothy 2:24

Pray

Lord Jesus, send forth humble shepherds to serve Your people in Your Holy Church.

Home Visits

Deacon Jim is available to visit with any parishioner who is hospitalized, homebound, or unable to get to church. He will bring Holy Communion – Jesus' extraordinary gift of love. Also remember that Epiphany home blessings start January 7th. Just see or call Deacon Jim to set up a time to have your home blessed.

The Christmas Season – 40 days

Did you know that the Christmas season began Christmas Day and lasts for 40 days – until the Solemnity of the Presentation on February 2nd? Don't take down those decorations! Continue to celebrate throughout the season. Please take note of our schedule of Holy Masses and worship services for the Christmas season. Worship in the 40 day Christmas season is a joyful experience. On January 1st, the Solemnity of the Circumcision we will worship at 9:30am. Refer to the schedule on the front of the bulletin for other scheduled services.

Our Patronal Feast

January 2nd marks the annual celebration of the Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus. Our parish was established and dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. Join us on January 2nd at 7pm for worship in celebration of our patronal feast. Let us always honor and praise the Holy Name of Jesus in all we do – in our mutual affection, fellowship, love, and charity.

Christmas Thank You

Thank you to all who joined us for Midnight Holy Mass/Pasterka and on Christmas day. On behalf of my family and me, thank you for your kindness, cards, gifts, and letters. – Deacon Jim

Food Collection Continues

Due to cuts in the SNAP and WIC programs, and the cut-off of unemployment benefits to millions, the people of our community – men, women, infants, and children are losing needed nutrition assistance. Vulnerable families are going hungry, and are now completely dependent on depleted food banks. Our collection of dry and canned goods will continue. We will also be placing our annual soup pot out for donations toward Souper Bowl Sunday, February 2nd. All of these efforts help people right here in our neighborhood.

FREE LUNCH on Sunday and Change

Our next free lunch is today. 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.

Starting in January our free lunch on Sunday program will move to the 3rd Sunday of every month.

Of note...

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Kay Kaminski, Joseph and Lee Callahan, Tom Caulfield, Debbie Urban, Ann Marie Riley, George Williams, Diane Avellino, Laura Covari, Ellen Carey, Connie Cola, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Carol Kosik, Eddy Stutz, Jim Kelly, Phil Haberman, Stanley Radzysinski, Joseph Lyman, Sandy Davis, Erin Smith, Margaret Bondi, Sharon Nasner, Dan, Kym, Maggie and Hannah Bucham, Ray Callanan, Jeannie Christopher, Connie Gigliotti, Joe Avellino, Jan Shufelt, Deanna Colfels, Cathy France, Patty Martel-Baum, Rick Rodino, Judy Springer, Deb Couns, Judy Palmer, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Luke Sobiechowski, Mark McCarthy, Bonnie Nelson, Rosemary Ragule, Lisa Caporizzo, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Judy Held, Stefan Węglinski, Janet Spurck, Joannie True, Robert Dominy, Patricia Lewis, Peter Loss, Wayne Balnis, Jakub Kozina, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Bishop Stanley, Brian Soos, Frances Myslinski, Jean Nowak, Edward Glover, Tamara Albury, Melissa Dixon, Virginia Lamb, Virginia Rogers, Laverne Dowdell, Curtis Szczepkowski, Richard, Bishop John, Derek, Jocelyn, Daniel Springsteen, Dolores Konicki, Nellie Kucharski.

- All in need of God's healing grace.
- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States.
- All those in Public Service, Police Officers and Fire Fighters.
- All Active And Retired Clergy of the Holy Polish National Catholic Church.
- All who have asked for our prayers.

We continue in prayer and intercession for one of the parishes or ministries in our Holy Polish National Catholic Church. This week we remember: Holy Trinity Parish in Kewanee, IL and its congregation and pastor, Rev. Jarosław Rafalko.

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

Coffee Hour: Coffee hour has returned. Join us after worship every Sunday. Thank you to Ed Bertasso and God bless you for your ministry of hospitality in providing for this time to gather after services every week.

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 Deacon Jim.