

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC
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NEWSLETTER

JANUARY

2015



AND THE LORD ADDED TO THEIR NUMBER DAY BY DAY THOSE WHO WERE BEING SAVED.

Over the past three years we have added many to the Lord's body in the Sacrament of Baptism. More than twenty-five have come to the Church with their parents and godparents, with their entire families desiring to be added to the household of the Lord, the family of God.

This past Advent we reflected on the abundance that the Lord provides us. This is not abundance as the world sees abundance, but rather a priceless abundance that lasts for eternity. Three of our youth were confirmed and pledged to do their utmost to live in and share the abundance that faith and membership gives them. On Christmas we recalled the fact that in accord with God's plan Jesus emptied Himself of the abundance of heaven and handed that abundance over to us. Jesus Christ's abundance is greater and overcomes every obstacle because

as His anointed and commissioned followers we fully share in His abundance.

We have a chance. It is a great chance, an opportunity, a moment to agree together to accept His abundance once again, to re-connect to it.

Jesus has called each of us for a purpose. He offers His abundance over and over. As we read on the Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds, He sends the Holy Spirit to lavish His abundant

love and grace on us.

Many have been added and pledged faithfulness. Now we must act on that pledge. As the new year dawns each of us must decide whether we will follow through. Will the parish see the baptized and their parents each week? Will each of us commit to finding success, blessing, healing, grace, and abundant life in church each week? Open the door to abundant life today and all of 2015!



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting & Parish Offices Will You Step Forward to Lead?

Our annual congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, February 1st along with the election of a new Parish Committee.



So much good has been accomplished in 2014 – and it will be a great meeting filled with thankfulness for the good fruit that has been produced by having you in our family of faith!!!

We have been faithfully served by a great, ethical, and cooperative leadership team. That said, many have served for years and deserve a bit of a break. We need our younger members to step forward and pick up their mantle. Please consider this and have the courage to walk in their shoes.

Please write your name down along with the office (Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Secretary, Trustee) you would like to run for and drop them in the collection basket in an envelope

marked nominations.

Anyone may attend the annual meeting to share in the information provided, but please note that only parish members may cast a vote or run for office.

Membership and Dues

Our Church is unique among all Churches in this regard - where all members have a voice and a vote, where they are guaranteed accountability, where money doesn't go into hidden accounts, and where no one can close their parish. Membership requires the payment of annual dues which support the larger Church, our Diocese, and our Parish.

\$
**KEEP
CALM
AND
PAY YOUR
DUES**

During Holy Synod the people of the Church voted to increase dues by \$45 per year (really only 86 cents per week). If anyone has trouble meeting

this obligation please let Fr. Jim know privately and we will work with you.

Dues are now \$137 per year (\$2.63/week) for adult members, \$112 for seniors 65 and over. Payment of dues gives you a voice and a vote and the ability to run for a position on the Parish Committee. It also allows you to represent the parish and vote at Diocesan and General Church Synods.

Expanded Holy Mass Schedule

Based on feedback received, a second Holy Mass will be held every Sunday at 11:30am. Weekly Holy Masses on Sunday will be at 9:30am and 11:30am.

Envelopes and Tax Statements



God bless you for your generosity and support of our parish in 2014. Because of you and your sacrifice we have been greatly blessed. Donation envelopes for 2015 have arrived and are available in the back of the church. Each envelope packet is marked with a family name. Please take your packet home and avail yourself of these envelopes in the coming year. Doing so allows the parish to provide you with a statement for accounting and income tax purposes.

Annual statements for income tax purposes will also be available this month.

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

Make February 2015 – the month of

love – a month to win in more ways than one!

This effort supports the youth of our parish and will help us in saving for CONVO 2016. This summer we will once again be sending our young people to the annual KURS summer encampment.

We need your support to give our young people a great beginning in 2015. As God has told us, starting our children off right in the knowledge of the Lord will cause them to bear much good fruit in their lives.

Each ticket for the Outrageous Valentine's Raffle gives the purchaser a chance to win up to \$1,180. The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle will include drawings for \$40 daily prizes and a \$100 daily prize on Valentine's Day. The raffle is drawn each day of the month, giving the ticket holder 28 chances to win! Winners are returned to the raffle bucket, making them eligible to win again and again.

We mailed out tickets in November and ask that you continue to sell them and get them into the parish office so that everyone may be entered. Tickets cost only \$10 each. Feel free to contact Stephanie Dominy at 518-369-1346 with any questions or to get more tickets if needed.

We thank you for your support and wish you good luck!



**THANK YOU, MERCI,
DZIĘKUJE, ĀČIŪ, GRACIAS,
MAHALO, GRAZIE!**

There is so much to be thankful for. To all who blessed Fr. Jim with

*Thank
You*

their presence, prayer, and gifts at his ordination and first Holy Mass. To those who prepared food for both our celebratory dinner after Fr. Jim's first Holy Mass and for

Confirmation.

To our confirmands: Claudia St. Cleopatra, Justyne Our Lady of Charity, and Adam St. Bernadine of Sienna as well as their parents, families, and friends for supporting their faith journey.

To all who joined in to decorate the parish so beautifully for Christmas.

To Stephanie and Joanne for making and selling pierogi and golumbki.

To those who have worked so tirelessly over the past year: our parish officers and committee members, our jurors, nomination committee members, members of the ANS, YMSofR, and choir, Mrs. Liz Battaglia for her service as our organist and music director, our altar servers, lectors, those who cared for the maintenance and upkeep of the parish facilities (Aleksandra, Pete, Bob, Stephanie), Ed Bertasso for his service of hospitality, our event planners and

volunteers at our Basket Social, Rummage sale, breakfasts, Lunch on Sunday, other special fundraisers, and to all those who gave of their time and treasure to build up the ministry and community of our parish and the wider Church.

A special thank you to our youth and their parents/grandparents for your dedication and hard work, as well as your participation in KURS and CONVO.

May God bless and reward you for all you have done!

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

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 Holy Mass in celebration of our patronal feast. Let us always honor and praise the Holy Name of Jesus in all we do – in our witness to His Holy Name and our mutual affection, fellowship, love, and charity.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 John Linscott
- 3 Logan Slezak
- 4 Zach Bixler, Zachary Prusky, Courtney Carroll
- 5 Derrick D'Amico
- 8 Alex D'Amico, Lawrence Panfil, Christine DeCocco

9 Theodore Zebrowski
11 Cyndie Williams
14 Karen DeMidio
18 Stephanie Dominy, Darian
Topolski
22 Catherine Martucci
23 Christina Naumowicz, Laurie Lee
Woodworth
25 Richard Maliszewski, Richard
Okonsky
26 Cadence Smith
27 Eric Kaminski, Jack Kaminski
29 Judi Horton

Wedding Anniversaries

20 Alice and George Houser
Wishing you all many years! Sto
Lat!

Epiphany Visitations - Kołęda - House Blessings

The Solemnity of the
Epiphany is
celebrated on
Tuesday, January
6th. Fr. Jim is
available to come
to your homes
for the
traditional
Epiphany
home blessing. Please see him to
make an appointment. Blessing
appointments are available through
February 17th (prior to Ash
Wednesday).



To prepare your home for the
blessing please have the blessed
chalk and incense available as well
as your blessed candle, gromnica.

Church Questions for the Month

Q. Why do we celebrate Holy Mass facing East?

A. The priest may offer the Holy
Mass facing the East (the same
direction as the people) or facing
the people. Both positions are valid.
Whichever position the Holy Mass is
offered in, what is key is that the
priest offer it with dignity, solemnity,
respect, and a proper focus on what
he is doing. Either can be done
badly! That said, in our parish we
celebrate facing the East and this
orientation educates and informs us
in a particular way.

First, in this form, the Holy Sacrifice
of the Mass is experienced as having
its direction and focus towards God
(a theocentric focus). The
experience is transcendent and
mystical.

Second, this form clearly
demonstrates our waiting as one, in
joyful expectation, for the return of
our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the long-
held Tradition of the Church that
Jesus Christ will return, as with the
rising of the sun, from the East.
East, the rising sun, is symbolic of
the 'New Jerusalem.' So we face
East together awaiting His coming
again. The experience is
eschatological, focused on the
imminence of Jesus' return.

Third, the sacrificial character of the
Mass is wonderfully expressed and
affirmed. The priest and the people

are offering worship and sacrifice to God together. The priest is offering the Mass in Christ's name and in His Person to God the Father and is leading his people in adoration and worship.

Fourth, it reminds us that the priest's position and demeanor should be modest and humble. The priest and the faithful are spared the temptation of seeing the Holy Mass as a 'show' with the priest as the 'performer.'

Where Charity lives, Love prevails

In scripture, the word charity is synonymous with love. Our annual holiday food collection amounted to **638lbs of food** (an increase of 363lbs over last year). That's more than a quarter ton of food. Dorothy Morrison worked to collect 273lbs of that amount donated in lieu of grab bag gifts at the Elks Auxiliary Christmas party that she hosted. The food was donated in the name of our parish to SICM. God bless you for your generosity and care for those in need in our local area.

Our continued Free Lunch on Sunday providing nourishment and friendship to those in need.

Thank you for sacrificing and honoring the time of preparation for God's coming. You have blessed those in need through your efforts.

Planning Ahead

- Jan 1: Solemnity of the Circumcision - Holy Mass at 9:30am.
- Jan. 2: Solemnity: Holy Name – our Parish Feast – Holy Mass at 7pm.
- Jan. 4: Feast of the Holy Family. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am
- Jan. 6: Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord – Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense at 7pm.
- Jan. 11: Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Parish Committee Meeting.
- Jan. 15: 42nd Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Memorial Service, 7pm at Macedonia Baptist Church, 26 Wilson Avenue in Colonie
- Jan. 18-25: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- Jan. 18: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am for those remembered with Memory Crosses. Free lunch.
- Jan. 25: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Music Scholarship Sunday.
- Feb. 1: Septuagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Blessing of candles and throats, SouperBowl Sunday, **Parish**

ANNUAL Meeting & Elections.

- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation,
- Feb. 8: Sexagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- Feb. 15: Quinquagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- Feb. 16: 62nd Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur
- Feb. 18: Ash Wednesday, Beginning of the Great Lent. Holy Mass with Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 7pm

Looking further into 2015

Here are some things we will do in 2015:

- Craft fair,
- Rummage sale,
- Annual Basket Social,
- MLK Oratory Contest.

Your ideas are welcome and encouraged as well.

Music Scholarship Sunday

Sunday, January 25th is Music Scholarship Sunday. Our parish has been blessed with great musicians and aspiring musicians. Our younger members have been recipients of music scholarships. Scholarships are available to both youth and adults. 2015 scholarship applications will be



available soon. God bless those who add musical beauty to the worship of God.

Wonderful donations -

Thank you

A special thank you to:

- Stan Podkulski for the donation of a new intinction set in loving memory of his wife, Marilyn 'Lyn' Podkulski.
- To Larry Panfil and Linda DePaula for the refinishing of a chalice that had previously been donated in memory of their grandparents.

The parish is in need of having its ciborium refinished and of a new holy water bucket. If you are interested, please see or call Fr. Jim.

Home for Rent



The parish house is available for rent. It is a three bedroom home, full basement, garage, and large back yard. The rental rate is \$850 per month. If you,

or someone you know, is interested please have them contact Fr. Jim or a Parish Committee member.

Jobs Galore



Our parish website at www.holynamenc.org features job openings. Jobs are posted daily on our news page (<http://www.holynamenc.org/our-blog/>) in the right hand column and weekly in the main column. If you, or anyone you know, is in search of a new job please check it out.

SOUPERBOWL OF CARING

TACKLE



HUNGER

"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

Over the past 13 years our parish has raised \$1,600, 129 food items and 114 lbs. of food as part of the SouperBowl of Caring effort. This year's collection will be held on February 1, 2015. Please continue

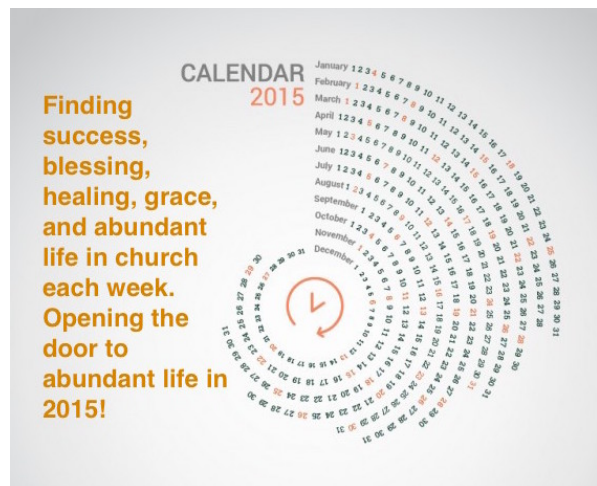
your generosity in this worthy effort which helps Schenectady Inner City Ministries in feeding the hungry.

New Year's Resolution - Financial Security?

The PNUA and Spójnia Credit Union offer great tools for financial management. If you are considering getting your financial house in order in 2015 contract the PNUA and SCU. Special 2015 programs are now available, but for a limited time. Call the PNUA office at 1-800-724-6352 or see Fr. Jim.

Happy 2015!

On behalf of Fr. Jim and our Parish Committee we wish you and yours the blessings of abundant life in Jesus for 2015.



January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Solemnity of the Circumcision, Holy Mass, 9:30am	2 Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus – Parish Feast, Holy Mass, 7pm	3
4 Feast of the Holy Family, Holy Mass, 9:30am Lector: Claudia Bertasso Holy Mass, 11:30am	5	6 Solemnity of the Epiphany - Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense, 7pm	7	8	9	10
11 Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, Holy Mass, 9:30am Lector: Larry Panfil Parish Committee Meeting Holy Mass, 11:30am	12	13	14	15 42nd Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Memorial Service, 7pm at Macedonia Baptist Church, 26 Wilson Avenue in Colonie	16	17
18 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Holy Mass, 9:30am Lector: Marilyn Hietala Free Lunch on Sunday Holy Mass, 11:30am Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins	19 St. Peter's Chair at Antioch (translated)	20	21	22	23	24
25 Music Scholarship Sunday 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Holy Mass, 9:30am Lector: Claudia Bertasso Holy Mass, 11:30am	26 Conversion of St. Paul Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends	27	28	29	30	31

EVENTS

Starting Jan. 7th

Blessing of Homes Begins – See or Call Fr. Jim.

All of February

Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

February Upcoming

Feb. 1st – Pre-Lent Begins

Feb. 2nd – Presentation

Feb. 3rd – St. Blaise

Feb. 16th - 62nd Anniversary of the death of Š+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur

Feb. 17th – President's Day

Feb. 18th – Ash Wednesday – 7pm