

focus

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JANUARY 6, 2013

Solemnity of the Epiphany Uroczystość Objawienia Pańskiego

January 6, 2013

Rite: 9:30am Deacon Missal, 11:00 Pew Missal, page 63

First reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm: 72:1-2,7-8,10-13

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Epistle: Ephesians 3:2,3,5,6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Intention: For all who journey to seek the Lord

Worship leader: 9:30am Rev. Mr. James Konicki

Celebrant: 11am Rev. Mark Gnidzinski

Lector: 11am Marilyn Heitala

- Worship begins at 9:20am with Matins.
- Service of Worship & Holy Communion at 9:30am.
- Coffee Hour
- School of Christian Living, Confirmation, First Communion classes
- Holy Mass at 11am. Blessing of chalk & incense, Exposition and Benediction

Solemnity – Baptism of our Lord Wspomnienie Chrztu Pańskiego

January 13, 2013

Rite: 9:30am Deacon Missal

First reading: Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7

Psalm: 29:1-4,3,9-10

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Epistle: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22

Intention: For all who entered the Church in 2012 and those preparing

Worship leader: 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 – please join us.
- Parish Committee Meeting

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

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Schenectady, New York 12303-1846

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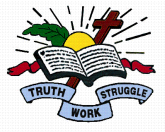
In an emergency: Fr. Mark Gnidzinski,

518-437-1889

Deacon Jim Konicki:

518-765-2134 or 518-522-0944

On the Web: www.holynamencc.org



Upcoming...

- January 6: Solemnity – Epiphany of our Lord
- January 13: Solemnity - Baptism of the Lord, Parish Committee Meeting
- January 18-25: Week of prayer for Christian Unity
- January 20: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- January 27: Septuagesima Sunday, beginning of Pre-Lent, Music Scholarship Sunday, 2nd Soup on Sunday
- February 2: Solemnity of the Presentation
- February 3: Sexagesima Sunday, Commemoration of St. Blaise, Blessing of Throats, Annual Parish Meeting & Elections
- February 10: Quinquagesima Sunday
- February 12: Ash Wednesday, Beginning of the Great Lent

Does God play... hide and seek?

"Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."

Have you ever stopped for directions? The typical joke is that a man will drive around for hours, trying to find a destination, while a woman would immediately stop and ask for directions.

From our reading of the scripture we see that the Wise Men/Kings/Astrologers/Magi did stop and ask directions. They received directions, an answer in response to their search for The Answer, and made their way to Bethlehem.

It seems inconsistent doesn't it? The Wise Men were following a star. Besides being men, why would they stop for directions if they had the star to guide them?

The lesson here is that something greater was happening. We need to unfold the map, and get our directions by reading between the lines a little.

Certainly, the gospel account is true. The Astrologers saw a sign in the skies and intuited that something wonderful had happened. That intuition isn't just some human trait, but God's grace at work in them, asking them to take action. They chose to believe and act on that grace. They decided to believe and follow a light – a star.

The star they followed wasn't just something in the sky; it was the light glowing in their hearts that drove them onward toward God. That light drove them toward Jesus, the reality of God's promise to all people.

The wise men received a great blessing – from outside of God's chosen people, God called these men. With the power of His love – that is, His grace – He called

Gentile leaders to come to His Son. These representatives of all nations responded. They headed toward Jesus (stopping for directions along the way).

God doesn't play hide-and-seek. His grace is for all people in the same way as was given to the Magi. The light of His star exists in all hearts as a little flicker, an ember. If we choose to act on that grace and head toward Jesus, that ember will be fanned into a great flame, greater than any star.

When touched by the spark of grace we must not brush it off or put it out. Rather we stop and ask directions. We start in our faith community, our local church. From there, we set out and find Him as fully as we are able. Finding Him we also become His messengers (like the Magi – who as travelers were also bearers of news). With a great light in us we go out and proclaim the Good News. God is not hiding – we only need to fan His many embers into great stars revealing Jesus to all.

*Oh send out Thy light and Thy truth;
let them lead me,
let them bring me to Thy holy hill
and to Thy dwelling!.*

Psalm 43:3

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Luke 1:1-4

MONDAY: 2 Samuel 22:29

TUESDAY: Job 33:28

WEDNESDAY: Psalm 18:28

THURSDAY: John 1:4

FRIDAY: Isaiah 60:19

SATURDAY: Romans 13:12

Pray

Lord Jesus, grant that the light of Your star shine in my life. Help me to lead many to Your light.

School of Christian Living

We have an active and on-going Confirmation, First Communion and SOCL classes. Thank you to our parents for supporting the program. Sign-ups can be done at any time – it is never too late to learn.

Epiphany Home Blessings

We continue the wonderful tradition of offering home visits and blessings for those who would like them. Blessing of the homes will take place starting Monday, January 7th through Tuesday, February 12th. It is an ancient custom for Christians to have their homes blessed in relation to the feast of the Epiphany, which commemorates the coming of the Wisemen to the house of the Holy Family. Please see Deacon Jim to set aside a time.

Envelops Available

God bless you for your generosity and support of our parish. Donation envelopes for 2013 have arrived and are available in the back of the church. Each 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.

Parish Offices

Our annual congregation meeting will be held February 3rd along with the election of a new Parish Committee. So much good has been accomplished in 2012 – and it will be a great meeting filled with thankfulness for the many blessings we have experienced - especially for the blessing of having you in our family of faith!!! If you or someone you know would like to be part of the leadership team, please write your name, theirs, or better yet, both of yours 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.

SOUP, Round Two

Our next Soup on Sunday event is Sunday, January 27th from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Please volunteer to assist in cooking and serving - we need your help. Also, get the word out wherever/whenever you can. Soup on Sunday is scheduled for the last Sunday of every month.

Our first Soup on Sunday garnered great exposure for our parish program in the Schenectady Gazette and Times Union, donations from the Golub Foundation and Hannaford Supermarkets, as well as support and volunteers from the local community. God bless Bob and Stephanie Dominy for their leadership in this effort and all who assisted in any way.

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 Cousins, 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, Louie Perkinson, Laurie Speech, John Humme, Gary Wilkinson, Jakub Kozina, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Prime Bishop Emeritus Robert Nemkovich, George Damouni, Kindlon Family, Carolyn Walker, Chris, James McGrath, Larry Alfred, Brian Soos, Bonesteel Family; Bill VanShufflin

- 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: St. John the Baptist Parish, Hazelton, PA its congregation and pastor Rev. Bogusław Janiec.

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

Coffee Hour: Coffee hour is back. Spend some time after services to share in community and fellowship. 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.