



focus

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JANUARY 10, 2016

Solemnity of the Baptism of our Lord Wspomnienie Chrztu Pańskiego

January 10, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 88.

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

Psalm: Ps 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: 9:30 for all parishioners; 11:30 – for Leo and Mason

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

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

- Matins at 9:20am and Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee Hour
- Holy Mass & Baptisms at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Parish Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time II Niedziela zwykła

January 17, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 88.

First reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm: Ps 96:1-3,7-10

Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

Intention: For all parishioners.

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

Lector: 9:30am Larry Panfil, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 9:20am and Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee Hour
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Free Lunch on Sunday 11:30am – 1:30pm

"The Church was redeemed at the price of Christ's blood. Jew or Greek, it makes no difference; but if he has believed, he must circumcise himself from his sins [in baptism] so that he can be saved . . . for no one ascends into the kingdom of heaven except through the sacrament of baptism . . . "Unless a man be born again of water and the Holy Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." – St. Ambrose

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- 437-1889.

Contact

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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

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Upcoming...

- **January 10: Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord. Holy Mass at 9:30 and Holy Mass and Baptisms at 11:30am.**
- **January 17: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch on Sunday**
- **January 18: Feast – St. Peter's Chair in Antioch, Martin Luther King Day. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins. Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm.**
- **January 24: Septuagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **January 25: Conversion of St. Paul. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends**
- **January 31: Sexagesima Sunday, Music Scholarship Sunday, Holy Mass at 11:30am ONLY**
- **February 2: Solemnity of the Presentation**
- **February 3: Commemoration of St. Blaise**
- **February 7: Quinquagesima Sunday, Holy Mass & Confirmation at 11:30am ONLY**

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.

Help the me in me
to decrease

John answered them all, saying, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

In the Orthodox Church the celebration of the Lord’s Epiphany celebrates Jesus’ threefold revelation.

Jesus is revealed to the nations in the visit of the Magi. Jesus and the Holy Trinity is revealed at Jesus’ Baptism: *heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”* Jesus is revealed to His disciples at Cana in Galilee when He changes water to wine. You have got to love the Church’s celebration especially when you get a three-for-one deal.

In the west we spread the

celebration of these events over several weeks. What remains most important is that we maintain focus on the magnificence of God’s coming. Whether commemorated in one day or over several weeks, the importance Jesus’ coming should always be before our eyes. Why so?

We could say that God’s coming to earth is important and magnificent in and of itself. That’s the wow factor – Wow, God is here, walking with us. We could focus on the wonderful teaching and way of life Jesus proclaimed. A lot of people do that even if they don’t believe that Jesus is God. Jesus’ coming and revelation touches each person in a particular way. That’s God’s grace at work in us – drawing us closer each day, entering relationship with us.

Today, two young people will be baptized. They will come forward and will agree to start the journey into relationship with God. They

will acknowledge their search for and commitment to God’s revelation in their lives. They will say that they want the world to meet Jesus through them, their words, actions, and way of life.

What we sometimes miss in Jesus’ revelation is the very thing John said: *He is mightier, I am not worthy...* The Gospel according to St. John is even more explicit in this regard. John the Baptist says: *He must increase in importance, while I must decrease...*

At its essence, that is what baptism is all about. It is about revealing God as more important than all of my wants and desires. I want God more than anything else. He is all in my life. Fill in the blank: God is more important than my _____. When we do that, we place God at the center of our lives, we become victorious. When we put Jesus front and center and throughout our lives we let Him be powerful and revealed in our lives. It is no longer just me, but Him in me. Then we achieve true joy and glory.

The mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.

Colossians 1:26

Time to Study God’s Word

SUNDAY: Romans 16:25
MONDAY: Proverbs 1:5
TUESDAY: 2 Peter 1:21
WEDNESDAY: Hebrews 1:2
THURSDAY: John 14:21
FRIDAY: Ephesians 3:4-5
SATURDAY: Romans 16:26

Pray

Lord Jesus, grant me humility so that I may achieve greatness in You.

And their churches are...

With all of the celebration over the New Year not much was mentioned, especially in the Western media, about a terrorist attack in Qamishli, Syria, a city along the Turkish border. The target was the Syriac Christian community. Three suicide bombers attacked a restaurant in a Christian neighborhood and 16 Christians were martyred just for being believers in the only Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May their memory be eternal! In light of this, we could expect fear. Not so. At their funeral the church was packed. Churches remain packed and standing room only. May we find such faith!

A Season of 40 Days & Home Blessings

Let us make a special effort to celebrate Jesus’ coming with true joy for each of its forty days (i.e., until February 2nd). Note the various observances of the season in our calendar. If you would like to have your home blessed after the Solemnity of the Epiphany, please see Fr. Jim to set up a time. All home blessings must be concluded prior to Ash Wednesday, February 10th.

Food Collection

Our new food and money collection is for Souper Bowl Sunday, February 7th. Souper Bowl Sunday supports local charities feeding the hungry. God bless you for your spare change and generosity!!!

Pre-Lent to Ash Wednesday

Easter is on March 27th this year, which means that Lent and the transitional season of Pre-Lent are very early on the calendar. The season of Pre-Lent and our remote preparations for Holy Week begins on Sunday, January 24th. This means that we need to remove the Christmas decorations from the church after Mass on January 17th. Your help would be very much appreciated.

Outrageous Valentine’s Raffle

Please be sure to sell your tickets for February’s Outrageous Valentine’s raffle. Prizes total \$1,220! Each entry gives one multiple chances to win. Tickets should be returned by Sunday, January 31st. Thank you for supporting this effort, which pays for our summer youth programs – Kurs and CONVO.

Bible Study

The last Wednesday of each month we will hold an Ecumenical Bible Study at 7:30pm. Please stop by and join is to support this new ministry. Please plan to join us on Wednesday, January 27th.

Holy Mass Intentions

Reminder... you can ask Father Jim to offer Holy Mass for any intention. Just see Fr. Jim and let him know what you want.

FREE LUNCH on Sunday

Our next free lunch is January 17th. 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.

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Stanley Radzyminski, 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, Diana and Georgette Hannoush, Madison Sheridan, Resaan, Kathleen, Dan, William, Jeremy, Alison, 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.

- 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, Pattric 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 Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Leszno Wielkopolskie, Poland and its pastor Rev. Tadeusz Krasiejko.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobłogosław 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.

Of note...

--- Please think of inviting a friend to Holy Name of Jesus ---