

### Quinquagesima Sunday Niedziela Pięćdziesiątnicy

February 7, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 82.

First reading: Sirach 27:4-7 Psalm: Ps 92:2-3,13-16

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

Intention: for all parishioners

Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki Lector: 9:30am Derek Westcott, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 9:20am and Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite), Blessing of Throats.
- Coffee Hour
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite), Blessing of Throats.
- Parish Committee Meeting

## 1st Sunday of Lent I Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

February 14, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 82.

First reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalm: Ps 91:1-2,10-15

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Epistle: Romans 10:8-13 Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Intention: For all parishioners.

Celebrant: 10am Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki

Lector: 10am Larry Panfil

- Matins at 9:50am and Holy Mass with Confirmation at 10am (Contemporary Rite).
- Breakfast and Annual Meeting

In order then that we may be able well to do and to fulfill what we have been admonished of today, let us first persuade ourselves to this, above all things to have no hate. For when there is no beam in your own eye, you see rightly whatever may be in your brother's eye; and art uneasy, till you cast out of your brother's eye what you see to hurt it. The light that is in you, does not allow you to neglect your brother's light. Whereas if you hate, and would correct him, how do you improve his light, when you have lost your own light? For the same Scripture, where it is written, Whosoever hates his brother is a murderer, has expressly told us this also. He that hates his brother is in darkness even until now. Hatred then is darkness. – St. Augustine

**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-A1889

#### Contact

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Schenectady, New York 12303-1846 Parish and Hall: 518-372-1992

In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at 518-522-0944 or 518-765-2134
On the Web: www.holynamencc.org

# Upcoming...

- February 7: Quinquagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am (with Blessing of Throats)
- February 10: Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass with Blessing at Distribution of Ashes at 7pm.
- February 12: Stations of the Cross at 7pm.
- February 14: 1st Sunday of Lent.
  Holy Mass & Confirmation
  at 10am ONLY. Breakfast and
  Annual Parish Meeting to follow in
  the presence of our Bishop Ordinary.
  Please join in!
- February 15: President's Day. Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm.
- February 16: 63rd Anniversary of the Death of sp. Bishop Francis Hodur.
- February 19: Stations of the Cross at 7pm.
- February 21: 2nd Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch on Sunday.
- February 24: Feast St. Matthias

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.

# Speck, logs, planks, whole trees.

"How can you say to another believer, 'Friend, let me take the piece of sawdust out of your eye,' when you don't see the beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! First remove the beam from your own eye. Then you will see clearly to remove the piece of sawdust from another believer's eye."

Today marks the last Sunday of the Pre-Lenten season. It confronts us with the hardest challenge we can face in life, the tendency to be judgmental toward others while simultaneously failing to perceive our sins and failings.

There are two keys here. First, how easy it is to perceive the failings in another, and to turn that perception into an accusation. How hurtful and damaging to the target. Beyond that, how often we fail to understand the reality behind another person's perceived weaknesses. We never know the real reason, the hurt, the pain, the negative experience behind

another's minor failing.

Second, it really isn't that we fail to see the plank – the hugeness of failings – in our lives. They are exactly huge because they are so close to us. My unbridled passions, lusts, desires, cruelties – huge!

Jesus really hits home in calling us hypocrites exactly because we already know our failings. We see them clearly every day – and yet we turn to hurt another. Wow!

In preparation for Lent we are called to attack the log, the plank, that huge dead tree in the middle of our lives. We are called into a holy season that is to be filled with action. We aren't to go into a solitary cell, sit quietly, and ponder our dead tree. We are to take action, cutting it down and replacing it with the most lifegiving tree of all – the Cross.

Jesus is calling us to go deep in removing that dead tree. The dead tree, the dead roots, all must go. Then we will come to conversion so that we "bear good fruit." We are then that good man [who] out of the good treasure of his heart produces good. Then people will know who we are for out of the godly abundance of the heart will our mouths speak.

There are two kinds of trees we can focus on. We can live in a forest of death and accusation or come to the Tree of Life. Throughout Lent we are going to focus on getting back to the Life tree – to Eden, that paradise God has prepared for us. The place of joy, peace, and true life.

In Eden there are no dead trees, there are no planks, logs, or specks. We do not look at a another and pass judgment. We see in them Jesus and another self. If we perceive in them hurt, pain, or negative experience we do not accuse. Rather we actively heal them. We gather them under and into the life-giving tree. Jesus has opened the door to Eden for us. Let us go to the Life tree.

So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit.

Matthew 7:17-18

#### Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Genesis 2:9
MONDAY: Psalm 1:3
TUESDAY: Acts 5:30
WEDNESDAY: 1 Peter 2:24
THURSDAY: Matthew 3:10
FRIDAY: Revelation 22:2
SATURDAY: Revelation 22:12

#### Pray

Lord Jesus, draw me to the Tree-of Life. Grant that I my chop down and destroy every dead tree in my life.

#### **Souper Bowl Food Collection**

Our Souper Bowl of Caring collection that will benefit the SICM ends today – both food and monetary donations are welcome. This food drive began in 1990 when a church youth group recognized how fortunate they were to spend so much money on comfort food during the Super Bowl game while so many others had little or no food. Last year our church was one of nearly 7,000 congregations that collected over \$8 million in cash and food items for local food banks across the country. Since 1998 our parish has collected \$1,700, 129 food items, and 114 pounds of food. Bless you for caring and sharing with our local community.

#### **Pre-Lent to Ash Wednesday**

The season of Pre-Lent ends on Tuesday. Throughout this remote preparation for Holy Week we have positioned ourselves for the Lenten Season, to make the transition to Great Lent that begins on February 10th, Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass with the blessing and distribution of ashes will be held at 7pm on Ash Wednesday.

#### **Ash Wednesday**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10th. Holy Mass will be offered at 7pm. The imposition of ashes will take place during Holy Mass. The faithful are encouraged to think about how they will observe Lent. The Church offers special Lenten Devotions like Stations of the Cross each Friday at 7pm. These prayerful moments help us in walking more closely with Jesus – telling Him in real ways that we stand with Him.

All of us who are healthy enough are to fast on Ash Wednesday and every Wednesday and Friday. Personal acts of devotion including sacrifice through our directed giving program and additional acts of piety can never hurt as well.

#### **Outrageous Valentine's Raffle**

A huge thank you to all who sold tickets for February's Outrageous Valentine's raffle. Prizes total \$1,220! Thus far we have raised \$1,500 after prizes to support summer activities for our youth – 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 ministry. Please plan to join us on Wednesday, February 24th.

#### **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 today. Thanks to Emily for preparing it. 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, <u>Dolores</u> Konicki, <u>Nellie</u> Kucharski, <u>Pastor Tom</u> Kendall, <u>Irene</u> Borowski, Joshua Moraski, Sue White, Sue & Roger White, <u>Chris</u> Tatlock, <u>Mildred</u> Lewis, <u>Debbie</u> Esposito, <u>Ceil & Eddie</u> 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, <u>Donnie</u> Wright, <u>Fr. Ray</u> Drada, <u>Umar</u> Abdur-Rahman.

- 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 Transfiguration of the Lord Parish, Stargard Szczeciński, Poland and its pastor Rev. Adam Bożacki.

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.

--- Lent is the perfect time to deepen our faith and invite others to share in our love. ---