

What are you living for?

For forever!

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

We are about to embark on our Lenten journey. In 4 days, we come to church to have ashes imposed on our foreheads in an act of desire – desire for repentance, change, and victory. These desires puts us on the side of Jesus so that we live in accordance with His way and in faith that His promised victory will be fulfilled for us.

Many people don't get it. They might ask us why we take on ashes. What's the point of our desire? Aren't we generally good enough, victorious enough already?

If we are honest with ourselves and with them, we state a faith in Jesus and a victory beyond the here and now. We admit that Jesus is our life; that we have complete faith in Him and in His victory. We admit that the ashes symbolize our shortcomings in not living Jesus' way of life. We state that we want to make our lives like His. Our ashes symbolize a fact and a desire – We want to fix our lives so we live as Jesus asked us to live. Then we will find eternal happiness and victory.

If we lived only by our own desires and practices our lives would be empty. We would always be chasing after perfection in what we want, but never find what we need. We know, in the end, that our ways, our desires, our wants and needs are ultimately unfulfilling. They offer no hope beyond today (and not that much).

By aligning ourselves with Jesus' way, in striving to *be steadfast,*

immovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord we conform our lives – we focus on living the right way. Living Jesus' way brings us to eternal life which is God's offer and promise of victory. Jesus' victory helps us along the way and brings us to perfection even when we fall short. His love covers our failures giving victory.

In taking on ashes, in working through the season ahead, we implore God's help to get back on track. We ask Him to help us in living for what is greater and more powerful than any temporary desire; better than anything the world can offer. We place our trust in His mercy that overcomes all weakness.

What can the world offer? The world offers more work, rules, temporary solutions, and a day's wage. Are they enough? Where will they lead? Nowhere! With faith, and a re-commitment to Jesus we live for glory. All else will fade except happiness forever – our complete victory in Jesus.

I can do all things in him who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: 2 Corinthians 13:4
MONDAY: 2 Corinthians 9:6
TUESDAY: 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 6:16-17
THURSDAY: 2 Corinthians 13:5
FRIDAY: Revelation 21:7
SATURDAY: Revelation 22:14

Pray

Lord Jesus, grant that I may work to overcome my weakness always trusting in the victory I have in You.

Lent, in 4 Days

We are at the close of our pre-Lenten season of Septuagesima. We are prepared for our entry into the great Lent. **What have I decided to do to prepare, to purify myself through prayer, fasting, sacrifice, and works of charity?**

The Holy Church is offering many opportunities, but it is up to us to join ourselves to them. Start with us on Ash Wednesday at 7:30pm. Please come to church every Sunday. Participate in Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:30pm. Practice charity by giving food and volunteering. In about 50 days we will recall what our Lord has done for us. Be ready so that by sharing in His passion and death we will rise with Him.

Souper Bowl

For the 12th year in a row, our parish is participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. We are providing food help for those in need through the Souper Bowl of Caring and YouGiveGoods. Your monetary donations in church will support the work of Schenectady Inner City Ministry. You can donate food online through our YouGiveGoods donation page (see our website to donate online). Food donations will be provided to Concerned For The Hungry. Thank you for your support of our efforts to assist the

SOUP, Round Three

Our next Soup on Sunday event will be Sunday, February 24th 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. Take flyers and spread them around.

Annual Parish Meeting

Our annual congregation meeting was held last Sunday along with the election of a new Parish Committee. Thank you to all who attended and congratulations to all elected to Parish offices. We look forward to the successes and blessings that await us in 2013. Remember to take that extra bulletin and share it with a friend. Invite someone to church. Remember that Jesus + You + Community = Success.

Basket Social – time to prepare!

It is time to get ready for our annual basket social to be held April 7th. We really need your help to make this year's Social a success. Can you donate a basket, or two, or three? They don't have to be huge - anything will do. Through your love and charity we are able to touch the lives of others and maintain a vibrant faith community. Need ideas - check out Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/cmki1953/basket-party-ideas/>

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 Haberlan, 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, Bishop Stanley Bilinski, George Damouni, Carolyn Walker, Chris, James McGrath, Brian Soos, Mary Ellen Hitchings, Frances Myslinski, Jean Nowak, Fr. Senior John Kraus, David & Frank Wielinski

- 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: Our Savior Parish, Lawrenceville, NJ its congregation and pastor Rev. Gregory Mikula.

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.