

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth,
for the first heaven and the first earth
had passed away, and the sea was no more.

REVELATION 21:1

focus

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – APRIL 24, 2016

5th Sunday of Easter

V Niedziela po Wielkanocy

April 24, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 77.

First reading: Acts 14:21-27

Psalm: Ps 145:8-13

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Epistle: Revelation 21:1-5

Gospel: John 13:31-35

Intention: 11:30 for Grayson and his family

Celebrant: 11:30am Rev. Mark Gnidzinski

Lector: 11:30am Marilyn Hietala

- Easter Lauds at 11:20am. Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite) with Supply of the Ceremonies Omitted in a Child's Baptism for Grayson
- Coffee Hour

6th Sunday of Easter

VI Niedziela po Wielkanocy

May 1, 2016

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 77.

First reading: Acts 15:1-2,22-29

Psalm: Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Epistle: Revelation 21:10-14,22-23

Gospel: John 14:23-29

Intention: for all parishioners

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

Lector: 9:30am Derek Westcott, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Easter Lauds at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee hour, SOCL Classes
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

And not only now let us seem to believe and give heed, when we are admonished by the elders; but also when we take our departure home, let us remember the commandments of the Lord, and not be allured back by worldly lusts, but let us often and often draw near and try to make progress in the Lord's commands, that we all having the same mind may be gathered together for life. For the Lord said, I come to gather all nations [kindreds] and tongues. This means the day of His appearing, when He will come and redeem us— each one according to his works. And the unbelievers will see His glory and might, and, when they see the empire of the world in Jesus, they will be surprised, saying, Woe to us, because You were, and we knew not and believed not and obeyed not the elders (Isaiah 66:18) who show us plainly of our salvation. – St. Clement

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 Gnidzi.

Contact

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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

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Upcoming...

- **April 24: 5th Sunday of Easter, Holy Mass 11:30 ONLY.**
- **April 25: Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist**
- **April 26-27: Supreme Council Meets in Lancaster, NY.**
- **April 27: NO Bible Study today**
- **April 30: Solemnity – St. Joseph the Workman.**
- **May 1: 6th Sunday of Easter. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **May 2: Feast – Ss. Philip & James, Apostles (translated).**
- **May 3: Solemnity of the Finding of the Holy Cross**
- **May 5: Solemnity of the Ascension. Holy Mass at 7pm**
- **May 7: 7th Sunday of Easter. Holy Mass at 9:30 with May Crowning and at 11:30am. Mother's Day**
- **May 10: 65th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Bishop Joseph Padewski**

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.

Who is the shepherd?

Then I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away."

Christians are sometimes referred to as 'People of the Promise.' The Easter Season is a wonderful time to focus on what that means.

Throughout Old Testament history we hear the promises made to Israel's leaders. God made specific promises to Abraham, Jacob, Joseph

and Moses as well as others. Abraham would have descendants as numerous as the stars of the sky. Jacob received a similar promise. Joseph had dreams that indicated his future ennoblement. He had not direct assurance that it would happen, yet lived a life of patient endurance sustained by his belief in the promises of God made to his fathers. Even in the midst of struggles Joseph lived uprightly and he came to save his father, brothers, and his people. Moses received the promise of freedom in a land flowing with milk and honey.

These are but shadows and precursors to the ultimate promise that David would receive. God told him through the Prophet Nathan that his house and kingdom would endure forever and that his throne would be established forever.

In the coming of Jesus, the One who would did all in accord with His Father's will we receive the

finality of all of God's promises. Jesus' promises to us relate to the far future and to present life on earth. Some are conditioned upon our placing our faith in him and some on other conditions such as obedience, prayer, and humility.

John saw the promise of the kingdom, what it would really be like for the faithful. This isn't a promise given to everyone, but to those who are the baptized faithful, the ones who stand strong in doing Jesus' will. For those who, even in the struggle, keep their focus on God. We can rejoice in that promise. That beautiful kingdom, that New Jerusalem, is ours in the ages to come.

The key is to keep our eyes on the prize, on the promised Jerusalem (not the earthly one). Jesus left us with the command (one which can be a struggle). That is, we are to *love one another* as He loved us. It can be difficult at times, it can require will power and the courage to forgive – but in the end so well worth it.

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: 2 Peter 1:4
MONDAY: 2 Corinthians 1:20
TUESDAY: Titus 1:2
WEDNESDAY: Psalm 84:11
THURSDAY: 2 Corinthians 7:1
FRIDAY: Acts 2:38-39
SATURDAY: John 10:10

Pray

Lord Jesus, I thank You for Your wonderful promises. Grant that I may gain them through ever greater faith in You.

Basket Social Thank You

Our 14th Annual Basket Social was a great success. Thank you to all who attended and our deepest apologies to those who could not get in because we reached the room's capacity. Our thanks to the Rotterdam Senior Citizens Center for the use of their facilities and a special thank you to all the generous donors who prepared baskets, those who prepared and worked, cooked, and pitched in. A new record of 116 baskets were put up for auction. We raised over \$800 over the prior year's total with a grand total of \$7,535. God is great!!!!

Memories of Thankfulness

In a conversation one of my clergy friends engaged in, the changes in our practice of our faith, especially the personal ones, entered into the discussion. One of the participants said that not that long ago it was the almost never forgotten custom to offer thanksgiving to God for special events in one's life (birthdays, anniversaries, births, business successes, marriages, blessings of all kinds) by attending Holy Mass. It was a normal part of the Catholic life. I know it was for my family. However, in our present time, this seems to have grown out of style among many. Seemingly, like the 10 lepers in the Gospel story, only one of ten Christians comes to Holy Mass (the greatest act of thanksgiving) on these important days, or to honor these special events and blessings by offering Holy Mass. Too many other activities at these times seem to take precedence. Is this a sign that we have forgotten where these gifts come from, or that God is less present in our lives? Hopefully not! We have much to be thankful for

Something Special for Grayson

Today we welcome Grayson in a special series of ceremonies. When an emergency baptism takes place a child is not later re-baptized but is brought to church where the ceremonies omitted in the emergency situation are provided. God bless Grayson on this special day!

Music Scholarship Applications

With the 2015 Music Scholarships, the Church has given out 1059 scholarships totaling \$298,085. Applications for the 2016 Scholarship Program are available at <http://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com/music-scholarship-application.html> and Junior Incentive Award applications are available at <http://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com/junior-incentive-application.html>. We strongly encourage all who can to apply. The deadline for applying is May 15, 2016.

Kurs and CONVO

Kurs and CONVO are not that far off. Youth who will be attending CONO should get there applications in as soon as possible so we make take advantage of the discounted early bird rate.

FREE LUNCH on Sunday

Our next free lunch is May 15th. 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.

Of note...

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Stanley Radzyninski, 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 Szczepkowski, 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, Umar Abdur-Rahman, Karen Kisch.

- 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 Good Shepherd Parish, Żary, Poland and its administrator, Rev. Wacław Gwoździwski.

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.

--- Share Easter joy and invite others to glory in the cross of Jesus at Holy Name. ---