



Take

focus

# My Yoke

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JULY 9, 2017

## 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time XIV Niedziela zwykła

July 9, 2017  
Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 82.  
First reading: Zechariah 9:9-10  
Psalm: Ps. 145:1-2,8-11,13-14  
**I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**  
Epistle: Romans 8:9,11-13  
Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

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. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite). Exposition and Benediction.
- First Communion/Confirmation classes.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

## 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time XV Niedziela zwykła

July 16, 2017  
Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 82.  
First reading: Isaiah 55:10-11  
Psalm: Ps 65:10-14  
**The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**  
Epistle: Romans 8:18-23  
Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

Intention: for all parishioners.  
Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki  
Lector: 9:30am Marilyn Hietala, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- First Communion/Confirmation classes.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

*Fear thou not therefore, neither start away from the yoke that lightens you of all these things, but put yourself under it with all forwardness, and then you shall know well the pleasure thereof. For it does not at all bruise your neck, but is put on you for good order's sake only, and to persuade you to walk seemly, and to lead you unto the royal road, and to deliver you from the precipices on either side, and to make you walk with ease in the narrow way. Since then so great are its benefits, so great its security, so great its gladness, let us with all our soul, with all our diligence, draw this yoke; that we may both here find rest unto our souls, and attain unto the good things to come, by the grace and love towards man of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be glory and might, now and ever, and world without end. Amen. – St. John Chrysostom*

**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 518-453-2258.

### Contact



**Holy Name of Jesus**  
National Catholic Church, PNCC  
1040 Pearl Street  
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.holynamenccc.org](http://www.holynamenccc.org)

### Upcoming...

- **July 9: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **July 16: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **July 23: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **July 26-28: National United Choirs Convention and Music Workshop.**
- **July 30: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Service of Worship and Holy Communion at 10am.**
- **August 3: Feast – Finding of the Body of St. Stephen.**
- **August 6: Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **August 13: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **August 15: Solemnity - Dormition of the B.V.M. Holy Mass at 6:15pm.**
- **August 19: 3rd Annual National Golf Tournament. Elma, NY**

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.

Taking up the yoke.

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

These scriptures for Ordinary Time speak to where we are and urge us to deeper spiritual formation, authentic responses to God's call in the midst of our challenges, and to a renewed commitment to evangelism.

Today we hear Jesus invite us to come to Him and find rest. He asks us to take up His yoke for it is easy and light.

As a young person, this verse confused me a little. Why would one come for rest only to take up a yoke? It seemed ironic at best to lay down one's burdens just to take up another. What could this mean?

Jesus' invitation is indeed for those who labor and are burdened down.

The Greek words in original scripture speak of labor and burden as grinding toil and desperate burden. Desperate burden is that kind of weight that creates on-going weariness. It is seemingly inescapable.

As we reflect back on the lives of people at the time Jesus walked the earth we might imagine some of the burdens they carried. They had to turn over nearly everything they had to corrupt tax collectors. They had to scrape for a bit of oil and wheat to make some bread, maybe a bit of weak wine on a special occasion? On top of that there were the requirements of the old Law. Sacrifices had to be made for sin. Rules had to be obeyed diligently, often for no better reason than they were made requirements by religious leaders who enriched themselves.

Jesus invites these weary people to come to Him – He would give them true rest. The Greek word for "rest" used here suggests renewal and refreshment. It

doesn't promise that burdens will go away. It does not promise that people who receive this renewal and refreshment will never be weary again. Rather, their lives will be changed to such an extent that toil and burdens will pale in comparison to the glory they will receive.

Jesus' invites the desperately weary to take up a new yoke – a new life that brings joy – not weariness. As understood in Jewish culture, this yoke was beautiful submission and obedience to God. Jesus' invitation was to know joy and freedom by following His path.

We too were once called to come to Jesus, to take up His yoke – to become His disciples. Perhaps some are called out of their burdens today. Inescapable weariness didn't disappear in the year 100, 1,000, 1980, or 2016. What has changed is that we have the opportunity to say yes to a light and beautiful burden that destroys grinding toil and desperation. Take up His yoke, throw down burden, find joy.

Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Psalm 55:22

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Galatians 6:2  
MONDAY: Philippians 4:6  
TUESDAY: 1 Peter 5:6-7  
WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 6:13  
THURSDAY: John 14:26  
FRIDAY: Matthew 6:25-34  
SATURDAY: Psalm 68:19

Pray

Lord Jesus, I take up Your yoke. Teach me and lead me. Grant me Your joy!

Thank You

Thank you to Fr. Mark for filling in this past weekend while Fr. Jim was away ministering to the Church's youth at Kurs. Thank you to all who supported our youth. We had a great turnout both from our parish and from the rest of the Church. There was an increase of twenty attendees. It was a magnificent and blessed week. Thanks be to God!

Votive Candles

There is a beautiful custom to light a candle when we pray. To "light a candle for someone" indicates one's intention to say a prayer for another person, and the candle symbolizes that prayer. When you lite that candle for another person or for your very personal intention always remember that the candle prolongs your prayer.

Fr. Jim Away

Fr. Jim will be away from July 11th through 14th. In an emergency, please contact Fr. Mark at 518-453-2258 or Fr. Rafał at 315-823-0793.

Why Do So Many Hate God?

Why do people hate God? They hate Him not only because their deeds are dark while God is light, but also because they consider Him as a menace, an imminent and eternal danger, an adversary in court, an opponent at law, a public prosecutor and an eternal persecutor. To them, God is no longer the Almighty Physician who came to save them from illness and death, but rather a cruel judge and a vengeful inquisitor. You see, the devil, the slanderer, has managed to make many believe that God does not really love us, that He really only loves Himself, and that He accepts us only if we behave as He wants us to behave; that He hates us if we do not behave as He ordered us to behave, and is offended by our insubordination to such a degree that we must pay for it by eternal tortures, created by Him for that purpose. Who can love a torturer? Even those who try hard to save themselves from the wrath of God cannot really love Him. They love only themselves, trying to escape God's vengeance and to achieve eternal bliss by managing to please this fearsome and extremely dangerous Creator. Do you perceive the slander of our all loving, all kind, and absolutely good God? – excerpted from Alexander Kalomiros, "The River of Fire"

We Need Bras

We are looking for gently used or new bras with tags (preferably) to donate to the Free the Girls organization through the Zonta Club of Albany. Bring in your new or gently used bras and place them in the box located in the parish hall throughout the summer.

Upcoming Events

- National United Choirs Convention and Workshop, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Manchester, NH, July 26th-28th.
- Third Annual YMS of R Golf Tournament in Elma, NY, August 19th.

Of note...

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan Węglinski, Robert & Stephanie Dominy, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Bishop Stanley, Brian Soos, Virginia Lamb, Virginia Rogers, Curtis Szczepkowski, Derek Westcott, Dolores Konicki, Pastor Tom Kendall, Joshua Moraski, Sue & Roger White, Chris Tatlock, Ceil & Eddie Gibbons, Helen Pasiak, Jessie Feathers-Ostrowski, Lucas Taylor, Joanne Bauer, Shirley Greene, Madison Sheridan, Eddie Stover, Karen & Jacob, Sean and Jessie Wilcox, Snyder Family, Amber Tatlock, Kathleen Hietala, Vicky Stover, Joe Barratiere, Tom Abbot, Donnie Wright, Karen Kisch, Joe Emmanuel, Gregory Henderson, Vince Cacamo, Theresa Ordon, Robert Baia, Michelle Zawistowski, Faith, Adam, Allyson Keyser, Richard and Suzette Place, Amanda Carr, Tyler Hoffman, the Hoffman Family, Daniel DiIanne, Warren Tatlock, Susan Jones, Vincenzo DiIanne, Cassandra Wade, Garry Packer, Madison Dunlap, Fr. Sr. Edward Ratajack, Rev. Mr. Michael Seward, 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 National Catholic Church. This week we remember and pray for the clergy and people of Our Lord's Ascension Parish, Bethlehem, PA. Rev. Bogdan Yurchishin, Pastor.

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

Coffee Hour: Coffee hour is on summer break. Thank you to all who assisted with this ministry of hospitality. See you in September.

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.

--- Introduce others to the Holy Spirit at Holy Name. ---