

focus GROW

In Your Faith

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JULY 16, 2017

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).

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

XVI Niedziela zwykła

July 23, 2017

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

First reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

Psalm: Ps. 86:5-6,9-10,15-16

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Epistle: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Intention: for all parishioners.

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

Lector: 9:30am Joe Kaczynski, 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).

"I cried out while I was in your midst, I spoke with a loud voice, the voice of God: 'Give heed to the bishop and the presbytery and the deacons.' Some suspect me of saying this because I had previous knowledge of the division certain persons had caused; but He for whom I am in chains is my witness that I had no knowledge of this from any man. It was the Spirit who kept preaching these words, 'Do nothing without the bishop, keep your body as the temple of God, love unity, flee from divisions, be imitators of Jesus Christ, as he was imitator of the Father'"

– St. Ignatius of Antioch

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

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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

518-522-0944 or 518-765-2134

On the Web: www.holynamencc.org

Upcoming...

- **July 16: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **July 17: Healing Holy Mass at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting follows.**
- **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.

In the mirror between the sowing and growing.

"Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

How deep is our faith? Jesus’ parable is really a question about that very subject. As we have heard, Ordinary Time is a period of focus on our faith journey. During this time, we are given the opportunity to

grow and develop, to deepen our faith inwardly and outwardly.

As we probe our faith in the mirror, we need to take account of those areas in which we can grow and beware of those things which can hurt our relationship with Christ. We must engage with the Lord both in our personal mystical union with Him and our corporate experience of Him.

Jesus sows only good in our lives. He places His word in the hearts and minds of men and women with the intent that it will grow, flourish, and produce. He does this through both His ministers and all the faithful called to evangelize the world. But things happen between the sowing and the growing. This is where depth comes into play.

Jesus’ explanation is pretty straightforward. In the first three examples, something comes between the sowing and the growing. In the fourth, the faithful grow and produce.

In the first example, the Church is just a way station. It serves some other purpose in the person’s life. There is little to no faith intent in them and thus no depth. It might be a great social club, some sort of way to pass time or even do a little good – but no real connection to faith in Christ at all.

The second two are more troublesome; they have actually gotten it. Christ began to grow in them. Unfortunately, something intervened, and that is not an external intervention. They let other things get in the way of Jesus. Maybe personalities, control, or a personal opinion – whatever the cause, these lost the purpose for which the seed was planted in them. They didn’t see the danger and killed off growth in Jesus.

The question can only be answered by looking in the mirror. Is Jesus there with us – deep in us – or is something else pasted on Jesus’ face? If the seed has been choked, now is the time to find out and to ask Jesus to replant it. He will!

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

2 Corinthians 9:6

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Galatians 6:7
MONDAY: Proverbs 11:24-25
TUESDAY: Ecclesiastes 11:6
WEDNESDAY: Luke 8:15
THURSDAY: 2 Corinthians 9:10
FRIDAY: 2 Corinthians 9:12
SATURDAY: Acts 20:35

Pray

Lord, You have sown generously within me. Help me to sow Your word and Your Spirit generously.

The democratic Church model

We often quote the democratic nature of our Holy Church. This is a wonderful and glorious legacy left to us by our organizers and forbearers. But what does this mean, and how should we live this Church model?

The first key point is that our democracy is not a perfect democracy in the political sense. In a perfect democracy, everyone has a vote over everything. Our country doesn’t even follow this model. It would be rather unmanageable to go to the polls to vote on every little decision. Rather, we elect representative to carry out our general wishes. They govern by the Constitution, laws. and our will and we always have the right to replace them.

In our Church model, we too elect representatives. The Parish Committee is empowered to make various decisions, but again, their power has limits. They must govern in accordance with the Church’s Constitution and its various laws and rules. Their power is further limited to the secular matters of the Church. In essence, we are an Ecclesiastical democracy. The Parish Committee functions only with the blessing and approval of the bishop. They have no say over matters of faith, morals, or discipline in the Church. That power is reserved to the Prime Bishop and the bishops, priests, and deacons in union with him.

This model has worked for 120 years and generally successfully. Where successful, it, as Jesus said, *bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold*. This democratic tradition is a great treasure, and many desire this model for their Churches. In some Churches, poorly crafted democratic models have led to the destruction of faith and morals – they are literally one vote away from declaring that Jesus is not God. In some, the lack of a democratic model has led to the assumption of power by one or a few individuals. We have a set of checks and balances. Therefore, let us honor and treasure our Christian faith, our Constitution, the enactments of our Holy Synods, and the work of all those who struggle to do the right thing.

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.

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 Savior Parish, Lawrenceville, NJ. Rev. Donald Wunderlich, 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. ---