

# focus

## I'm Resolved to Follow God

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JANUARY 1, 2017

### Solemnity of the Circumcision

#### Uroczystość Obrzezania Pańskie

January 1, 2017

Rite: Pew Missal, page 15, Canon, page 28.

First reading: Genesis 17:9-14

Psalm: Ps 19:8-11

**R. The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing my soul.**

Epistle: Galatians 5:3-6

Gospel: Luke 2:21

Intention: 9:30am and 11:30am for all parishioners

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

Lector: 9:30am Daniel Diiane, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Traditional Rite). Exposition and Benediction.
- Coffee Hour.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite).

### Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds

#### Uroczystość Ubogich Pasterzy

January 8, 2017

Rite: Pew Missal, page 39, Canon, page 52.

First reading: Jeremiah 31:10-14

Psalm: Ps 97:1,6,11,12

**A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us**

Epistle: Titus 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:15-20

Intention: 9:30am and 11:30am 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 (PNCC Rite).
- Coffee Hour.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (PNCC Rite).

***And we, who have approached God through Him (Christ), have received not carnal, but spiritual circumcision, which Enoch and those like him observed. And we have received it through baptism, since we were sinners, by God's mercy; and all men may equally obtain it. – St. Justin Martyr***

**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 Gniedzinski at 518-453-2258

### Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

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On the Web: [www.holynamencc.org](http://www.holynamencc.org)



### Upcoming...

- **January 1: Solemnity of the Circumcision. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Happy 2017!**
- **January 2: Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus – Holy Mass at 10am.**
- **January 6: Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord. Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense at 7pm.**
- **January 8: Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **January 9: Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord. Holy Mass at 8:30am. YMS of R Night Out at 6pm.**
- **January 15: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **January 18: Feast: St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins.**
- **January 22: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **January 25: Feast: Conversion of St. Paul. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends.**

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.

I am resolved.

Eight days later Jesus' parents did for him what the Law of Moses commands.

Today we listen to the shortest Gospel reading of the year; one sentence in length. Yet this reading contains so much of what Jesus is all about.

After eight days every male child who was descended from Abraham was to be circumcised as a sign of the covenant with God and in order to be full participants in God's community.

The milah – circumcision – was performed anytime between sunrise and sunset on the eighth day from when the child was born. Mary brought her Son to the place where the circumcision was to be performed and Joseph likely performed the ceremony. Circumcision in Jesus' time was much the same as it had been in Abraham's day. It was ritualistic and less formal than it is today.

Now Jesus, being God, did not need circumcision, yet He went through it. We can say that His circumcision is more than something He accepted, it is something He resolved to do. It was His purpose, God's resolution, that the requirements the old law be observed so that the new law, the new covenant would be ushered in.

For practical purposes alone Jesus had to be circumcised. Otherwise, the community of Israel would have excluded Him from the Synagogue and Temple. He would not have been able to bring God's new covenant to God's chosen people if He was seen as against the Law.

Beyond the practical, Jesus took up in this act the fullness of humanity. God came, born of a woman and took up all of what we are. God would live and experience the fullness of human loss, sufferings, pain, and temptation. He would also enjoy the fullness of human joy. He, like us, would not live immune or somehow above the

reality of human nature. He came to show us what we can be, what our opportunities and possibilities are.

We stand at the beginning of a new year. It is that moment when we take up opportunities and possibilities. They may be practical – lose weight, quit smoking, exercise more. They should be something more.

In reflecting on the opportunities and possibilities of the New Year let us unite ourselves with the Lord. Let us recognize the important lesson He taught – the fullness of our humanity has every chance at perfection because of Jesus and only in Jesus. Like Jesus we will spend time in joyful celebration and happiness in the days, weeks, and months ahead. Like Him we will be challenged by human loss, sufferings, pain, and temptation. God resolved to save us. Let us be resolved to do the Father's will, and become more and more like His Son. He has freed us in the new covenant to do exactly that.

For neither circumcison counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God.

1 Corinthians 7:19

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Galatians 5:2-3  
MONDAY: Jeremiah 4:4  
TUESDAY: Galatians 6:15  
WEDNESDAY: Romans 2:28  
THURSDAY: Philippians 3:3  
FRIDAY: Deuteronomy 10:16  
SATURDAY: John 3:16

Pray

Lord, You made a new covenant in Your blood. Help me to circumcise my heart and ears to love and hear You.

A Nativity Thank You

Why not a Christmas thank you? Because we are in the forty-day season of Christmas and it isn't over yet. That said, I so appreciate everyone's participation in the liturgies of the Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas Eve and Day). We had a wonderful turnout. Thank you to Marilyn for supplying our traditional repast after the Shepherd's Holy Mass at midnight and the 10am Christmas Day Holy Mass. Thank you to Mrs. Liz Battaglia for the beautiful music, to our altar servers for their assistance, to all who prepared and decorated. Thank you for your many personal gifts and cards. Most of all, thank you for the love you show for our Lord by your active participation – fulfilling your role in the Eucharistic celebration.

Youth, Music, Vigil Dinner Thank You

Thank you to all who attended our annual youth Christmas presentation on December 18th, who supported our brother Derek in the beautiful music he prepared for that day, and who shared food and time during our annual parish vigil dinner. Everything was so beautiful. We are truly blessed.

Financial Obligations and Envelopes

Tax statements will be available in January. Also, if you use parish financial envelopes, those are now available to be picked-up. Dues for each member under the age of 65 is \$150 per year or \$2.88 per week which supports the Central Diocese and National Church. Dues for members 65 and over are \$125 per year or \$2.40 per week.

Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

We are once again holding our Outrageous Valentine's raffle to support the youth of our Church and our parish, including support for the annual KURS summer encampment. Tickets have been sent out. They make great gifts. See Stephanie or call her at 518-369-1346.

YMSofR Holiday Celebration

The YMSofR of Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa parish invites all the men of our parish to their annual holiday night out on Monday, January 9th starting at 6pm at the Italian American Club, Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, NY. The cost is the same as last year, \$25/guest. Monday is two for one night and that covers the great buffet, tip. Soda and coffee included; adult beverages are on your own. Please let Fr. Jim know if you can attend.

Week Ahead

Please join us for the special liturgical happenings this week. Holy Mass for our Parish Feast will be held Monday at 10am. Holy Mass for the Epiphany of our Lord with the blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense will be Friday at 7pm.

SOCL Classes

Parents are reminded that when they had their child baptized, they vowed to have the child educated in the Christian Faith. All youth of the parish should be enrolled and attend SOCL every Sunday.

Of note...

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Mariea Chase, Nickole Mook, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan Węglinski, Robert Dominy, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Bishop Stanley, Brian Soos, Frances Myslinski, Virginia Lamb, Virginia Rogers, Curtis Szczepkowski, Derek Westcott, Dolores Konicki, Pastor Tom Kendall, 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, Madison Sheridan, 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, Karen Kisch, Joe Emmanuel, Gregory Henderson, Muse En Lystrala, Vince Cacamo, Theresa Ordon, Robert Baia, Michelle Zawistowski, Faith, Adam, Allyson Keyser, Richard and Suzette Place, Amanda Carr, Tyler Hoffman, the Hoffman Family, Daniel Diiane, Warren Tatlock. 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 Cathedral Parish of St. John the Baptist, Toronto, Ontario. Rev. Zbigniew Kozar.

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

Coffee Hour: Thank you to all who assist with this ministry of hospitality. Please volunteer to help.

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. Help is always needed for SOCL especially in instructing and encouraging our youth. Please see Fr. Jim.

--- Invite friends and family to greet the Lord with you. ---