



2nd Sunday of Advent

II Niedziela Adwentu

December 6, 2015
Rite: Pew Missal, page 15, Canon, page 28.
First reading: Baruch 5:1-9
Psalm: 126:1-6
R. **The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**
Epistle: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11
Gospel: Luke 3:4,6

Intention: 9:30 – In thanksgiving, for vocations, and our parish
Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki
Lector: 9:30am Larry Panfil, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins and Lighting of the Advent Wreath at 9:20am and Holy Mass at 9:30am (Traditional Rite), Exposition & Benediction
- Coffee Hour, SOCL.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite, pg. 63/Canon, pg. 77)
- Celebration Dinner, 2pm

3rd Sunday of Advent

III Niedziela Adwentu

December 13, 2015
Rite: Pew Missal, page 15, Canon, page 28.
First reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18
Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6
R. **To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

Intention: 11:30am – for all parishioners
Celebrant: 11:30am Rev. James Konicki
Lector: 11:30am Derek Westcott

- Matins and Lighting of the Advent Wreath at 11:20am and Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite)
- Parish Vigil Pot Luck Dinner after Holy Mass

And all flesh did see the salvation of God, even of the Father: for He sent the Son to be our Savior. And in these words by "flesh," man generally is to be understood, that is, the whole human race. For thus all flesh shall see the salvation of God: no longer Israel only, but all flesh. For the gentleness of the Savior and Lord of all is not limited, nor did He save one nation merely, but rather embraced within His net the whole world, and has illuminated all who were in darkness. And this is what was celebrated by the Psalmist's lyre, "All the nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord." While at the same time the remnant of the Israelites is saved, as the great Moses also long ago declared, saying, "Rejoice ye nations with His people." – St. Cyril of Alexandria

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- 437-1889.

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus
National Catholic Church, PNCC
1040 Pearl Street
Schenectady, New York 12303-1846
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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at
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Upcoming...

- **December 6: 2nd Sunday of Advent, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Celebratory Dinner –1st Anniversary of Fr. Jim's Ordination, 2pm.**
- **December 13: 3rd Sunday of Advent, Holy Mass 11:30am only. Youth Presentation and Parish Vigil Dinner follows.**
- **December 14: Holy Mass for Healing, 6:15pm.**
- **December 20: 4th Sunday of Advent, Advent Penitential Service and Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch, Greening of the Church.**
- **December 24: Vigil of the Nativity, Children's Christmas Vigil Holy Mass at 4pm.**
- **December 25: Nativity of the Lord. Solemn Procession to the Manger, High Holy Mass at Midnight and 10am.**
- **December 26: Feast – St. Stephen, Protomartyr**
- **December 27: Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds/Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am with wine blessing.**

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 paved this road?

For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God.

The Prophet Baruch proclaims words similar to those proclaimed by Isaiah and Sirach: *prepare, make straight the path for the Lord*. We hear those same words re-proclaimed by John the Baptist:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth...”

These prophetic words are heard in church each Advent. They easily define for us the things we are to do as part of both our Advent journey and throughout the rest of the year. We are to prepare ourselves and make ourselves ready for the

coming of the Lord.

How should we prepare? The Church helps to guide us – and the guidance certainly isn’t to be busy, busy, busy all the time with decorating and shopping. The Lord is expecting a different kind of present from us – a prepared, humble, and penitent heart – a heart filled with love for Him and for our neighbor.

A far more difficult question is, even with the Church’s help, whether we are able to prepare enough. How can we fully turn our lives around so that we are perfectly ready for the Lord?

Thankfully, Baruch tells us how those high mountains will be made low, how deep valleys and gorges will be filled in, how the road will be made ready – how we will be made ready: God will do it. The high mountains in our lives – those things too difficult to overcome on our own and the deep valleys of failure will be overcome and filled in by God.

Baruch tells us that *God has commanded* these things. Having commanded it, that is, having made it a requirement, He had to bring His command to fulfillment.

God brought all things to fulfillment by sending His Son, Jesus, to accomplish His command. Jesus was and is the only One who can level the mountains and valleys of sin, despair, and death for us. He took all those things away and paved the road of life for us. He took away our sins – all of them. In a similar way, God stated multiple times (see Deuteronomy, Jeremiah and Ezekiel) that He would make our hearts ready.

All of this mountain leveling, valley filling, and road paving are impossible for us on our own. We cannot earn God’s favor. Rather, we make ready by accepting Him fully in faith. That is the preparation that is most important. Accepting Him and traveling His way we *shall see the salvation of God*. He paved the road and we just have to take it.

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

Time to Study God’s Word

SUNDAY: Mark 11:23
MONDAY: Psalm 23:3
TUESDAY: James 4:17
WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 4:15
THURSDAY: Ephesians 2:8
FRIDAY: Galatians 4:8
SATURDAY: Romans 6:23

Pray

Lord Jesus, You have prepared the way and have removed every obstacle. Help me to accept you fully.

A Time of Anticipation & Longing

Advent, one week down, 3 more to go. Let us make a special effort to engage ourselves in deeper prayer, fasting, and through works of charity during this Holy Season. Be sure to attend our Penitential Service before Holy Mass of December 20th.

We bless our Advent Wreath and Christmas Wafers/Oplátky this Sunday before Holy Mass. Our Advent Season will also be busy with a celebratory dinner on December 6th and our Community Vigil on the 13th. Join in to share this time of anticipation within the family of faith so that when Jesus arrives you will stand with His faithful.

Thank you!!!!!!!!!!!!

Today marks the first anniversary of my ordination to the Holy Priesthood. I spoke with Bishop Bernard yesterday afternoon to thank him for this beautiful gift – the ability and authorization to serve each of you. Speaking of gifts, this day falls on the Commemoration of St. Nicholas who provided for all in need. Jesus’ command to love and St. Nicholas’ example are made real in such a special way in our parish – the most generous people I have ever met. Thank you to all who have joined hands in the Lord’s work and to all who have honored me today.

Food Collection

As we do each November and December, we are taking up a food collection to help those in our local community. Please bring in bags of canned and dry foods and/or personal care items and leave them by the Mary altar. Your generosity shows forth your thankfulness for God’s many blessings and your sacrifice during the upcoming penitential and preparatory season of Advent.

Outrageous Valentine’s Raffle

We have sent out tickets for next February’s Outrageous Valentine’s raffle. Prizes total \$1,220. Each entry gives one multiple chances to win. Every time someone wins, their ticket is placed ‘back in the bucket.’ Daily prizes are \$40 and the Valentine’s Day prize is \$100. Thank you for supporting this effort which pays for our summer youth programs – Kurs and CONVO.

Bible Study

The last Wednesday of each month we will hold an Ecumenical Bible Study at 7:30pm. Please stop by and join is to support this new ministry. Please plan to join us on Wednesday, December 30th.

Holy Mass Intentions

Reminder... you can ask Father Jim to offer Holy Mass for any intention. Just see Fr. Jim and let him know what you want.

FREE LUNCH on Sunday

Our next free lunch is December 20th. 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.

- 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 Holy Mother of the Rosary Parish, Duszniki Zdrój, Poland and its pastor Rev. Bogdan Skowroński.

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.

--- Please think of inviting a friend to Holy Name of Jesus ---