

focus

OVERCOME

3rd Sunday of Advent III Niedziela Adwentu

December 16, 2012

Rite: 8:45am Pew Missal, pg. 63

First reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

Intention: In gratitude for God's forgiveness; sp. Walter & Helen Kupiec
Celebrant at 8:45am: Rev. Rafał Dadiello
Lector: at 8:45am: Marilyn Heitala

- Worship begins at **8:35am** with Matins, Lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle
- Advent Penitential Service followed by Holy Mass at **8:45am**
- School of Christian Living, Confirmation, First Communion classes
- Preparation for Parish Vigil Dinner
- 11:30 Youth Presentation and Vigil Dinner

4th Sunday of Advent IV Niedziela Adwentu

December 23, 2012

Rite: 9:30am Deacon Missal

First reading: Micah 5:1-4

Psalms: 80:2-3,15-16,18-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Intention: For a spirit of preparation this Advent, sp Dennis Kopec

Worship leader: 9:30am Rev. Mr. James Konicki

Lector: Claudia Bertasso

- Worship begins at 9:20am with Matins. Lighting of the 4th Advent Candle
- Service of Worship & Holy Communion at 9:30am.
- Coffee Hour
- School of Christian Living, Confirmation, First Communion classes
- Greening of the Church – come help decorate.

Sick Calls and Hospital Visits – Please know that hospitals will not advise parishes when an individual is admitted. Health confidentiality regulations prevent them from doing so. If someone is admitted please let Deacon Jim know so he might visit, pray with them, and bring Jesus' healing presence to them. Parishioners in need of anointing should contact Fr. Mark Gnidzinski at 518-437-1889.

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

National Catholic Church, PNCC

1040 Pearl Street

Schenectady, New York 12303-1846

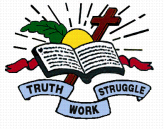
Parish and Hall: 518-372-1992

In an emergency: Fr. Mark Gnidzinski,
518-437-1889

Deacon Jim Konicki:

518-765-2134 or 518-522-0944

On the Web: www.holynamencc.org



Upcoming...

- December 16: 3rd Sunday of Advent/Parish Vigil Dinner and Youth Presentation
NOTE: Start Time 8:45AM
- December 21: Feast – St. Thomas
- December 23: 4th Sunday of Advent/Greening of the Church
- December 24: Vigil of the Nativity
- December 25: Nativity of the Lord
Holy Mass at Midnight
Service of Worship and Holy Communion at 10am
- December 26: Feast – St. Stephen, Proto-Martyr
- December 27: Feast – St. John, Apostle & Evangelist - Service of Worship and Holy Communion at 7:30pm with Blessing of Wine
- December 29: Solemnity of the Holy Family
- December 30: Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds/1st Monthly Soup on Sunday at 11:30am

Why!

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Today we listen to words of joy, encouragement, gladness, and exultation. We hear of God's provision for His people. We are reassured that we share in love because God is among us. We also share in the wonderful gift of forgiveness and renewal. We follow John the Baptist's admonition to repent before the coming of the Lord.

The events of this week in Newtown turn the message of rejoicing on its head. How can we rejoice? How can we be glad and exult? Faced with these words we turn to God with hearts and minds full of questions, maybe questions tinged with

anger.

Philosophers and theologians have explanations for all this, but what good are explanations when our hearts are filled with sadness and grief? Can explanations help when our hearts are downcast and our minds fearful? What has happened? God, couldn't you have intervened?!

Then we consider our confession and repentance. We look at our sins, and we think, my sins are so small, so insignificant, so trifling. Why should I feel guilt and remorse for my small sins, to have to repent, when there is such serious evil and so much sickness in the world?

In a few days, the next ugly thing will happen. Some person, claiming to be Christian, will burst out with blame for one group or another, and say that God is purposefully punishing us.

We, who follow Jesus can be reassured that God's peace

surpasses our human understanding. Christ came to live among us, not just to appear and go back. He did not come to punish, but to bring healing and renewal. He is not just an antidote to evil, someone we can conjure up in hard and sad times, but the light that destroys evil.

In our confession and repentance we bear witness and re-align ourselves with right and truth. We stay on the right track and call the world to do the same. Renewed, we set out to be God's light, bearing Christ with us. We bring love where there is little, joy where there is none, comfort where there is despair. Healing to the sick.

God has not left us abandoned and alone. He is intervening every day through us. This Sunday let our hearts take comfort and overcome. Stand up and rejoice in the face of despair and sadness because in the midst of horrible tragedy we will bear the light of Christ to the world – a light that no darkness can overcome.

"Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that you may do the will of God and receive what is promised.

Hebrews 10:35-36

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: James 1:2-4
MONDAY: 1 Peter 1:6-9
TUESDAY: John 15:11
WEDNESDAY: Acts 13:52
THURSDAY: Hebrews 12:2
FRIDAY: 2 Corinthians 8:2-3
SATURDAY: 1 Thessalonians 1:6

Pray

Lord Jesus, grant that I may find You in the midst of trouble and rejoice in Your healing.

School of Christian Living

We have an active and on-going Confirmation, First Communion and SOCL classes. Thank you to our parents for supporting the program. Sign-ups can be done at any time – it is never too late to learn.

Eternal rest...

Charlotte Bacon, 6
Daniel Barden, 7
Rachel Davino, 29
Olivia Engel, 6
Josephine Gay, 7
Ana Marquez-Greene, 6
Dawn Hochsprung, 47
Dylan Hockley, 6
Madeleine Hsu, 6
Catherine Hubbard, 6
Chase Kowalski, 7
Nancy Lanza, 52
Jesse Lewis, 6
James Mattioli, 6
Grace McDonnell, 7
Anne Marie Murphy, 52
Emilie Parker, 6
Jack Pinto, 6
Noah Pozner, 6
Caroline Previdi, 6
Jessica Rekos, 6
Aviella Richman, 6
Lauren Russo, 30
Mary Sherlach, 56
Victoria Soto, 27
Benjamin Wheeler, 6
Allison Wyatt, 6

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may the perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Wieczne odpoczynek racz im dać Panie, a światłość wiekuista niechaj im świeci. Niech odpoczywają w pokoju, Amen.

O Merciful God, Father of the Crucified Christ! In every sorrow which awaits us may we look up to Thee without doubt or fear, persuaded that Thy mercy is ever sure. Thou cannot fail us. There is no place or time where Thou art not. Uphold us in our grief and sorrow, and in our darkness visit us with Thy light. We are Thine; help us, we beseech Thee, in life and in death to feel that we are Thine. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. — *A Prayer In Time of Sorrow — from A Book of Devotions and Prayers According to the Use of the Polish National Catholic Church, Published by the Mission Fund of the PNCC, 7th edition, May 1, 1984.*

A time of preparation

Today we enter the last half of Advent, a time of preparation. Rather than lamenting the trends of society, and complaining about the secularization of Jesus' birth, let's resolve instead to do something positive. Let our preparation continue to focus first on prayer – a prayer of hope and anticipation for God's coming among us. Pray for reconciliation and an end to greed.

Let us then also continue our sacrifice for those in need. We will put out a donation basket. Our contributions will be used toward **the purchase of a well** for people in need of fresh water. We will also be **collecting food, gloves, and hats** for those in need in our immediate community. Canned, dried, and non-perishable foods, as well mittens, gloves, and hats are all needed. God bless you for your generosity and sacrifice in preparation for Jesus' coming.

Of note...

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Kay Kaminski, Joseph and Lee Callahan, Tom Caulfield, Debbie Urban, Ann Marie Riley, George Williams, Diane Avellino, Laura Covari, Ellen Carey, Connie Cola, Alice and George Houser, Angela Kaminski, Carol Kosik, Eddy Stutz, Jim Kelly, Phil Haberman, Stanley Radzysinski, Joseph Lyman, Sandy Davis, Erin Smith, Margaret Bondi, Sharon Nasner, Dan, Kym, Maggie and Hannah Bucham, Ray Callanan, Jeannie Christopher, Connie Gigliotti, Joe Avellino, Jan Shufelt, Deanna Colfels, Cathy France, Patty Martel-Baum, Rick Rodino, Judy Springer, Deb Cousins, Judy Palmer, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Luke Sobiechowski, Mark McCarthy, Bonnie Nelson, Rosemary Ragule, Lisa Caporizzo, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Judy Held, Stefan Węglinski, Janet Spurck, Joannie True, Robert Dominy, Patricia Lewis, Peter Loss, Wayne Balnis, Louie Perkinson, Laurie Speech, John Humme, Gary Wilkinson, Jakub Kozina, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Prime Bishop Emeritus Robert Nemkovich, George Damouni, Kindlon Family, Carolyn Walker, Cynthia Hume, Chris, James McGrath, Larry Alfred, Brian Soos, Bonesteel Family; Bill VanShufflin

- All in need of God's healing grace.
- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States.
- All those in Public Service, Police Officers and Fire Fighters.
- All Active And Retired Clergy of the Holy Polish National Catholic Church.
- All who have asked for our prayers.

We continue in prayer and intercession for one of the parishes or ministries in our Holy Polish National Catholic Church. This week we remember: Holy Ghost Parish, Shenandoah, PA its congregation and pastor Rev. Robert Plichta.

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

Coffee Hour: Coffee hour is back. Spend some time after services to share in community and fellowship. Thank you to Ed Bertasso and God bless you for your ministry of hospitality in providing for this time to gather after services every week.

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 Deacon Jim.