

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Matthew 5:14-16

focus

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – FEBRUARY 5, 2017

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

V Niedziela zwykła

February 5, 2017

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

First reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Psalm: Ps 112:4-9

The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

Intention: 9:30am for all parishioners

Celebrant: 9:30am Rev. James Konicki.

Lector: 9:30am Marilyn Hietala

- Matins at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite). Exposition and Benediction
- Breakfast and Annual Meeting at 10:30am

Septuagesima Sunday

Niedziela Siedemdziesiątnica

February 12, 2017

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

First reading: Sirach 15:15-20

Psalm: Ps 119:1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

Intention: 9:30am for śp. Louise James and 11:30am for śp. Reginald Harrell

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).
- Coffee Hours, SOCL/Confirmation/First Communion Classes
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

What then? Do you command us to live for display and vain glory? Far from it; I say not this; for I did not say, Give ye diligence to bring forward your own good deeds, neither did I say, Show them; but 'Let your light shine.' That is, Let your virtue be great, and the fire abundant, and the light unspeakable. For when virtue is so great, it cannot lie hidden, though its pursuer shade it over ten thousand-fold. Present unto them an irreprehensible life, and let them have no true occasion of evil speaking; and then, though there be thousands of evil-speakers, no man shall be able to cast any shade upon you. – 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 Gnizinski at 518-453-2258

Contact

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Schenectady, New York 12303-1846

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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...

- **February 5: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30am ONLY. Annual Parish Meeting and Breakfast.**
- **February 12: Septuagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **February 14: Commemoration of St. Valentine.**
- **February 16: 64th Anniversary of the Death of śp. Bishop Francis Hodur.**
- **February 19: Sexagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **February 20: President's Day, Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm.**
- **February 24: Feast – St. Matthias, Apostle.**
- **February 26: Quinquagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **February 28: Last day for Epiphany Home Blessings.**
- **March 1: Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass with Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 7pm.**

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.

Stop being bland.

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

We all face the challenge of blandness. We get bored, complacent, and just don't have the energy we used to. It certainly isn't an age thing, for it happens no matter our age.

It happens in our relationship with God. A friend once told me that he gave up going to church because he'd heard it all before. There was no new sermon, was no new inspiration, the same platitudes got trotted out season after season, year after year.

We crave stimulation and newness for very healthy reasons. If we do not receive proper stimulation, boredom creeps in. When boredom is left unchecked, disgust forms and leads us into cynicism, anger, and

distrust. Unchecked boredom is a red flag. This red flag can result in two outcomes.

The red flag can cause us to go off the rails; lead us to reinventing God. Boredom becomes license to add to and change God's teaching, or to turn God from what He is into a false image created to satisfy and justify our sinful desires. This is damaging Christianity.

On the other hand, we can use this red flag as God intended. It should drive us to dig deeper, to invent anew, and to be creative. Digging deeper, creativity, and newness are hallmarks of healthy Christianity.

If we are feeling bored with the Jesus we think we know, we need to dig deeper. Read and study more – find that aspect in His eternal and infinite perfection that we haven't plumbed yet. Learn and enter contemplative prayer. We could spend an entire lifetime and still not grasp everything in just one aspect of God's life. We won't get bored doing this.

If we are getting bland in our practice of Christianity, let us resolve to add something new to the life of the Church. A new ministry? An added form of prayer? Lead a bible study in our homes or at work. Gather a focused prayer circle to pray for those who have struggles in our parish family. Make it fun, interesting, and new. In the process, we share our faith with new people and expand our family.

Let us get creative. Let us work together to do exactly what God commanded through Isaiah: *Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own.* Because then our *light shall break forth like the dawn, and any wound shall quickly be healed.*

When we end blandness, when we make a new and creative difference, the glory of the Lord dwells with us and our light shines

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: John 1:5
MONDAY: 1 John 1:7
TUESDAY: Ephesians 5:8
WEDNESDAY: 1 John 1:5
THURSDAY 1 Peter 2:9
FRIDAY: Psalm 27:1
SATURDAY: 2 Corinthians 4:6

Pray

Lord, grant me an energized heart, banish blandness, and help me stand as light.

Annual Meeting Today

There will be only one Holy Mass today at 9:30am. Following Holy Mass, we will hold our annual meeting. Breakfast will be served. Please share in this day and help decide the direction of your parish for the coming year and beyond. Note that so many work so very hard in the Lord's field here in Schenectady. Take this opportunity to say thank you.

Music Scholarship Sunday Thank You

A special collection was accepted last week to benefit the National United Choir's Music Scholarship Fund. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you too to Christina who did a great job in presenting her musical talents before the Lord and His people. If any parishioner is studying music, please consider applying for a scholarship. Applications and information are available through Cathy Bilinski at nucscholarship@gmail.com or online at www.nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com. 2017 Scholarships applications must be submitted no later than May 1, 2017.

SouperBowl Sunday

Our annual SuperBowl of caring collection is today. Please be generous with gifts of food or money for those in need in our local community.

Hospice Volunteers

Community Hospice is looking for compassionate and friendly people who have positive attitudes and are good listeners to be volunteers. A multi-day training session begins in March and pre-registration is required. If you are interested, please contact Robin Carlson at 518-470-1458 or by E-mail at rcarlson@communityhospice.org to request an application.

Church Journeys Coming Here

Donna Hanson Munafa had a vision several years ago to visit a different "church" each Sunday morning and then share her experiences. After each visit she will posts her impressions and thoughts to her website at www.churchjourneyblog.com. Donna's passion and purpose is to edify and encourage area churches, help bring unity to the Body of Christ and also give insight to those who have never been to a particular "church".

Donna will be visiting our parish on February 19th for 9:30am Holy Mass. Please be sure to be there to meet this wonderful woman of faith.

Pre-Lent Begins

Next Sunday is the beginning of the brief transitional season of Pre-Lent. This three-Sunday season allows us to move from the joys of the Christmas/Epiphany Season to the solemn tones of Great Lent. The season serves as our remote preparations for Holy Week and Easter. During Pre-Lent, the church begins to take on a more reserved appearance. Accordingly, we can no longer have flowers adorning the Sanctuary.

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 Węgliński, 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 & 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, 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 Diianne, Warren Tatlock, Susan Jones, Vincenzo Diianne, Cassandra Wade, 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 St. Joseph's Parish, Brandon, Manitoba. Rev. Jerzy Urbanski.

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. ---