

HOLY NAME OF JESUS

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NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2012

Jesus reveals our status.

Jesus, thank you for showing us to be the adopted sons and daughters of God, and Your brothers and sisters!

The Journey to Lent

The first Sunday in February, the 5th, is the beginning of the Septuagesima season - a fancy word that means seventieth. There are about 70 days until Easter. In practical terms, this Sunday marks the beginning of our Pre-Lenten preparations.

In the book *The Great Lent Journey to Pascha* by Alexander Schemann it says: "Long before the actual beginning of Lent, the Church announces its approach and invites us to enter into the period of Pre-Lenten preparation. It is a characteristic of our liturgical tradition that every major feast or season is announced and "prepared for" in advance. Why? Because of the deep psychological insight by the Church into human nature. Knowing our lack of concentration and the frightening 'worldliness' of

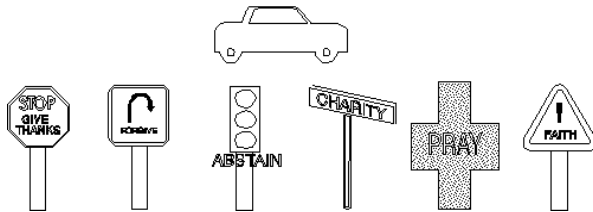
our life, the Church knows our inability to change rapidly, to go abruptly from one spiritual or mental state into another. Thus, long before the actual effort of Lent is to begin, the Church calls our attention to its seriousness and invites us to meditate on its significance."

How can we prepare? Like any effort, we need to reflect upon where we are in life and the failings that break our relationships. We need to take the time to strategize on how we will attack those shortcomings. We also need to ensure that we make time in our calendars to take part in Lenten practices as well as meditations such as Stations of the Cross and Bitter Lamentations.

May our Lord give us the grace to prepare worthily for the journey!

Pre-Lent to Lent

As we prepare for Lent let us keep in mind those practices that are worthy and recommended by the Church in our journey. It is time to ready ourselves to:



- **Abstain from meat on**

Wednesdays and Fridays: It is a small practice of denial in which we regulate our minds and bodies. We need to practice for all endeavors. If we want to be good in a sport or as a musician we must practice. So too spiritually. If we practice small denials we are better prepared to reject things that are truly damaging.

- **Pray and Participate in Lenten**

Devotions: The Church calls us to prayer and reflection during Lent. We will offer Stations of the Cross and Bitter Lamentations on Fridays in Lent at 7 PM. These are great opportunities to join in community and pray through the journey; to acknowledge what Jesus did for us and to be willing participants in His life.

- **Be Charitable:** We are called to take up the cross of others who are in need during our Lenten journey. Our directed giving program is a perfect opportunity to set aside our needs, using our resources for the good of others

through the gift of food.

- **Forgive:** The road through Lent leads us to the cross, the source of forgiveness for the world. When the Father looks at us, He no longer sees our brokenness and separateness, but rather the blood of His Son Jesus that washes us clean and makes us His adopted sons and daughters. Scripture reminds us that before we come before God we must make peace with those with whom we have disagreement (Matthew 5:23-24). We must reconcile. Let us take time to forgive this Lent. Then we can come before God with open hearts.
- **Stand in Faith:** St. Paul tells us that we make little sense to the world. Our faith is a offense to some and foolishness to others (1 Corinthians 1:23). Paul goes on to tell us that we have been called by God. The light of faith shows us that the crucified Jesus is the power and wisdom of God. We are called to strengthen our faith this Lent and to increase our confidence in God's love for us.
- **Be Thankful:** Finally, we are called to be thankful this Lent. A few short weeks ago we celebrated God's coming, the gift of Himself to us. That journey ends at an empty tomb. We stand before that tomb assured of our salvation and owning the gift of life that will never end.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

1 Janet Spurck
2 Christine
Spooner, Jean
Martin
5 Suzanne
Heins,
Kathleen
Dominy-White
9 Christine Caden
11 Bob Shufelt, Justice Smith,
Joseph Ruchalski
12 Kristen Smith-Prusky
16 Celina Maliszewski
18 Paul Podkulski
20 Kelly Supinski, Lisa Kaminski
21 - Casey Carroll
28 - Patrick Clas

i thank
the Lord
for you.
happy
birthday!

Wedding Anniversaries

14 Frederick & Louise James
17 Tom & Kelly Supinski
18 Stefan & Elizabeth Węglinski
26 Michael & Kimberly DonVito
Wishing you all many years! Sto
Lat!

With Thanks

To all who attended our annual congregational meeting. What a wonderful occasion to celebrate our One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic, and democratic Church. Thank you to all who stood for Parish offices and for all the wonderful ideas and potential projects that were offered.

To Pete Battaglia who has acted as our professional liturgical fire marshal. Pete has assisted in the sacred duty to properly destroy

sacramentals, returning them their basic elements for burial. Pete also took care of burning our old palms for use on Ash Wednesday.

To all who have assisted in Parish clean up and organizational duties. Much has been accomplished and your energy and enthusiasm for this task is a blessing.

To all who assisted in the taking down of our Christmas decorations.

To our wonderful altar servers, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia, and to Ed Bertasso for his ministry of hospitality.

To all who have welcomed Fr. Adam and myself to your homes for Epiphany visitations/Kolęda. Your hospitality and graciousness are greatly appreciated. You are a blessing.

Free stuff

We all know the old saying, "nothing in life is free." Well there is one place you can still get free stuff. Where!?! In church. Of course we start with God's free gift of grace, and also free:

- Chalk and Incense (Jan. 6th)
- Candles (Feb. 2nd)
- Ashes (Feb. 22nd)
- Palms (Apr. 1st)
- Plants and Herbs (Aug. 15th)

All these, and a wonderful faith family, all for free, in church. Wow!!!

Poetry for the Month

Nobel prize winner in poetry, Ś+P Wisława Szymborska entered her eternal rest on February 1st. She was 88.

Ms. Szymborska used the imagery of everyday objects and a mordant style to explore dramatic themes of human experience including love, war and death,

Ms. Szymborska was virtually unknown outside Poland before the Swedish Academy honored her with the 1996 Nobel Prize in literature.

Having spent nearly all her life in Krakow, Ms. Szymborska had endured the trauma of Germany's invasion of Poland in 1939, the carnage of World War II and decades under communist rule, including martial law in the 1980s. The Swedish Academy lauded her poetry for the "ironic precision" with which it illuminated 20th-century history and the way it explored the modern world in "fragments of human reality."

In her 1957 collection "Calling Out to Yeti," she compared the late Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin to the Abominable Snowman — a daring act that could have cost her her life only a year or two earlier. The work, poet and critic Edward Hirsch wrote, was a denunciation of the restrictions placed on human and artistic freedom under Communism. Here is a selection of her poetry: *A Word on Statistics* by Wisława Szymborska, translated from Polish

by Joanna Trzeciak.

Out of every hundred people,
those who always know better:
fifty-two.

Unsure of every step:
almost all the rest.

Ready to help,
if it doesn't take long:
forty-nine.

Always good,
because they cannot be otherwise:
four — well, maybe five.

Able to admire without envy:
eighteen.

Led to error
by youth (which passes):
sixty, plus or minus.

Those not to be messed with:
four-and-forty.

Living in constant fear
of someone or something:
seventy-seven.

Capable of happiness:
twenty-some-odd at most.

Harmless alone,
turning savage in crowds:
more than half, for sure.

Cruel
when forced by circumstances:
it's better not to know,
not even approximately.

Wise in hindsight:
not many more
than wise in foresight.

Getting nothing out of life except things:
thirty
(though I would like to be wrong).

Balled up in pain
and without a flashlight in the dark:
eighty-three, sooner or later.

Those who are just:
quite a few, thirty-five.

But if it takes effort to understand:
three.

Worthy of empathy:
ninety-nine.

Mortal:
one hundred out of one hundred –
a figure that has never varied yet.

Na stu ludzi
wiedzących wszystko lepiej
- pięćdziesięciu dwóch;
niepewnych każdego kroku
- prawie cała reszta;
gotowych pomóc,
o ile nie potrwa to długo
- aż czterdziestu dziewięciu;
dobrych zawsze,
bo nie potrafią inaczej
- czterech, no może pięciu;
skłonnych do podziwu bez zawiści
- osiemnastu;
żyjących w stałej trwodze
przed kimś albo czymś
- siedemdziesięciu siedmiu;
uzdolnionych do szczęścia
- dwudziestu kilku najwyżej;
niegroźnych pojedynczo,
dziczejących w tłumie

- ponad połowa na pewno;
okrutnych,
kiedy zmuszą ich okoliczności
- tego lepiej nie wiedzieć
nawet w przybliżeniu;
mądrych po szkodzie
- niewielu więcej
niż mądrych przed szkodą;
niczego nie biorących z życia oprócz
rzeczy
- czterdziestu,
choć chciałabym się mylić;
skulonych, obolałych
i bez latarki w ciemności
- osiemdziesięciu trzech
prędzej czy później;
godnych współczucia
- dziewięćdziesięciu dziewięciu;
śmiertelnych
- stu na stu.
Liczba, która jak dotąd nie ulega
zmianie.

SOCL News and Confirmation

We have a wonderful group of students who have begun preparations for their confirmation. Class remains open to others who have not yet made their confirmation. To make ones confirmation, a student must be at least 14 years old and of sufficient maturity to grasp the adult commitment needed.

We also have class time available for younger students.

Everyone is a student

Classes are not just for the

teen/pre-teen crowd. If you are an adult who has questions of faith, or have not made their first communion or confirmation, please see Deacon Jim. We will work together to assist you in your spiritual journey.

Planning For:

- Feb 5: Pre-Lenten Season Begins. Also, blessing of candles (gromnica) and throats.
- Feb. 16: 59th Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Francziszek Hodur. Requiem service at 7pm.
- Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday, Beginning of the Great Lent. Service at 7pm.
- Feb. 26: Annual Budget Meeting
- 3/11 - Solemnity of the Institution of the PNCC
- 3/18 - Lenten Penitential Service
- 3/19 - Solemnity - St. Joseph
- 3/25 - Passion Sunday
- 3/26 - Annunciation of the BVM
- 4/1 - Palm Sunday
- 4/3 - Holy Mass of Chrism (Cathedral in Scranton)
- 4/5 - Maundy Thursday
- 4/6 - Good Friday
- 4/7 - Holy Saturday
- 4/8 - Solemnity of the Resurrection
- 4/15 - Low Sunday, Annual Basket Social
- 5/18-20 – 67th Annual YMSofR

- Bowling Tournament, Schenectady
- 5/20 – 7th Sunday of Easter, Holy Mass celebrated by the Prime Bishop in our Parish

Directed Giving for Lent:

Ash Wednesday Week, Feb. 22-25, LET'S DO LUNCH Tuna and Mayonnaise, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Soup and Crackers.

1st Week of Lent, Feb. 26-Mar. 3, FEELING FRUITY Canned Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail, Pineapple or Applesauce, 100% Juice in Cans.

2nd Week of Lent, Mar. 4-10, VEGGIE MANIA Canned Corn, Canned Peas, Canned Beans, Canned Potatoes, Canned Sweet Potatoes.

3rd Week of Lent, Mar. 11-17, DINNER IS SERVED Canned Beef Stew, Canned Pork and Beans, Instant Potatoes/Stuffing Mix, Macaroni and Cheese, Spaghetti or other Pasta, Canned Spaghetti Sauce.

4th Week of Lent, Mar. 18-24, SCHOOL NEEDS Pencils and Pens, Folders and Notebooks, Crayons, Tape and Elmer's Glue.

Passion Week, Mar. 25-31, BABY MAKES THREE Disposable Diapers, Baby Wipes, Liquid Formula, Jars of Baby Food.

Holy Week, April 1-7, SPECIAL NEEDS DIET Low Sodium Soups, Canned Fruit in Juices (not syrup), Canned Tuna in Water, Low Sodium Crackers, Natural Applesauce.

Our Lenten Theme

This year we will take up the theme of our status as adopted children of God, and brothers and sisters of Jesus in our Lenten reception of the Sacrament of the Word of God. Want to find out where your inheritance is hidden? Come join us this Lent.

Our Organizer and First Bishop, Ś+P Franciszek Hodur

February 16th marks the 59th anniversary of the death of Ś+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur. We will hold a Requiem service at 7pm that day.

śp. Bishop Hodur entered into his heavenly reward on February 16, 1953. In honoring the anniversary of his passing we remind ourselves that his teachings and example have not gone to the grave with his physical body.

On Saturday morning, February 21st, more than 10,000 people gathered for his funeral in Scranton. From the Sanctuary, his successor, Prime Bishop Leon Grochowski, offered these words as part of his eulogy: *"Standing beside his coffin and over his hallowed grave, we promise solemnly to carry on the work of Bishop Hodur to which he dedicated 56 years of life and sacrifice and consuming labor. ... We are resolved here and now to dedicate ourselves to perpetuate the work begun by our zealous and sainted Bishop Francis Hodur."*

Let us take this occasion to

recall the progressive ideals that motivated and led to the rapid expansion of our denomination.

We often talk of growing the Church, but what do we mean by this? In 1931 Bishop Hodur referred to the numerical growth of the church and noted that an increase in numbers was not enough. What was necessary is spiritual commitment.

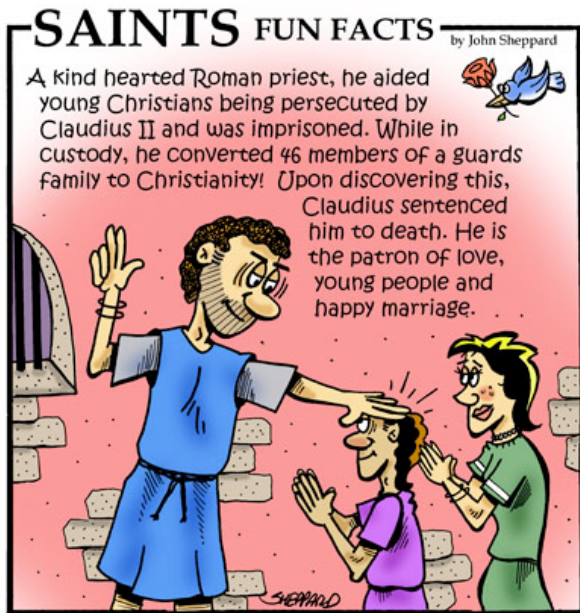
Growing the Church is not only about numbers. It is something more profound. It is our personal commitment to the spirit and faith of our Church. It is also an invitation to others to join in our Church through the power of our ideas. Other Churches have equally beautiful liturgies and many pastors preach very well, but we have a reforming and democratic Catholic ideology that is unique. It is this ideology that can help us grow the Church in a world less impressed by institution and more attune to the religious freedom found in our Holy Polish National Catholic Church.

Happy Valentine's Day

St. Valentine the Presbyter was a Roman priest martyred during the reign of Claudius II, known as Claudius Gothicus. He was arrested and imprisoned upon being caught marrying Christian couples and otherwise aiding Christians who were at the time being persecuted by Claudius in Rome. Claudius took a liking to Valentine – until he tried to convert the Emperor –

whereupon Valentine was condemned to death. He was beaten with clubs and stoned; when that failed to kill him, he was beheaded outside the Flaminian Gate. Various dates are given for the martyrdom or martyrdoms: 269, 270, or 273.

May St. Valentine bless all your relationships and marriages.



St. Valentine

2012 Serendipity Calendar

What a fun way to support the parish and potentially WIN! The Serendipity Calendar allows you to choose one or more numbers between 001 and 999. If your number is drawn in the day's NYS Lottery Daily Numbers game, you win.

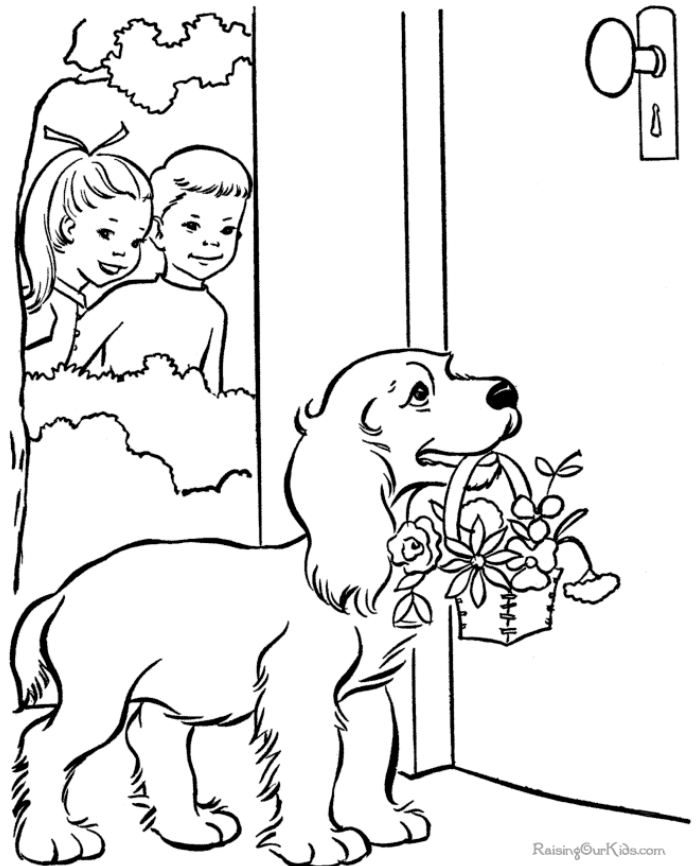
Sign-ups continue for 2012. Reserve your numbers early so you get your lucky numbers. The cost for each number chance is \$20.

Parish Organizations and Ministries








Did you know that our Parish has many organizations that need you?

God calls us to work together for the good of our community, in support of each other, and for the needs of the Church. The YMSofR – Men's Society of the Resurrection, ANS – Women's Adoration Society, Choir, Parish Committee, and a hopefully reconstituted branch of the PNU (Spójnia) all need your help. We also need altar servers and lectors. Please see Deacon Jim.

Color Me!



February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Solemnity of the Presentation	3 	4
5 Septuagesima Sunday - Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am, Lector: Marilyn Heitala Also: blessing of candles and throats	6	7	8	9	10 	11
12 Sexagesima Sunday - Holy Mass, 9:30am Lector: Larry Panfil Also: Parish Committee	13	14 St. Valentine 	15	16 59th Anniversary of the death of sp. Bishop Franciszek Hodur - Requiem Service at 7pm	17 	18
19 Quinquagesima Sunday - Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am. Lector: Claudia Bertasso	20 Presidents' Day Holiday	21	22  Ash Wednesday - Beginning of the Great Lent - Service of Worship and Holy Communion, Blessing and Distribution of Ashes, 7pm	23	24  Feast - St. Matthias the Apostle Stations of the Cross, 7pm.	25
26 1st Sunday of Lent - Holy Mass, 9:30am. Lector: Marilyn Heitala Annual Budget Meeting	27	28	29 			

EVENTS

Basket Social!

Start your planning and get those wonderful baskets together for our April 15th event.

March Upcoming

Mar. 11th - Institution of the PNCC
 Mar. 18th - Lenten Penitential Service
 Mar. 19th - St. Joseph's Day
 Mar. 25th - Passion Sunday