

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC
1040 PEARL STREET
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12303-1846
PARISH AND HALL: 518-372-1992
FR. JIM KONICKI: 518-765-2134 OR
518-522-0944
ON THE WEB: WWW.HOLYNAMENCC.ORG

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2016



BUT FROM THE BEGINNING OF CREATION

In ten days we enter the holy season of Lent. We are already in the midst of our preparations for Lent.

In ages past those who had little or nothing sacrificed whatever minor and inconsequential luxuries they might have had before Lent began. In the Pre-Lenten season they cleaned out the meats, the cheeses, the wine and were left with only meager vegetables and beans. They didn't give up meat for fish - there wasn't any of that - they took on a hard fast that went on every day for forty days. It makes one ask, to what end?

To do something serious, to take up a major personal challenge, there has to be an end game, a payoff. We don't take on something that hard for nothing. So why should we take up the serious challenge of Lent. Why should we sacrifice even a few small things?

Jesus gives us the reason in the brief statement above: *But from the beginning of creation...* God had an end game, a plan, a payoff in mind

from the start. He created us for a reason, for a purpose. It is so we might inherit and enter into Paradise, capture Eden. His plan and promise is to have us live in His presence in peace, joy, and glory.

In about forty days we will recall Jesus' Last Supper, His capture, imprisonment, trial, torture, and death. Jesus laid aside the glories of heaven to bear our penalty for sin and gift us with what had once been lost. And, on the fortieth day, we will recall and celebrate with great joy because Eden - Paradise - is ours again. Heaven has been made ours because of Jesus' sacrifice.

Our Lenten end game, our small sacrifices, our increased prayer, and the time we will spend contemplating the Way of the Cross help us to prepare ourselves. They make the picture of heaven fresh in our minds and hearts. They help us clean out all standing between us and Eden, Paradise. This Lent let us focus on and do whatever it takes to recapture Paradise and take hold of God's promise.

Confirmation

Our brother, Derek Westcott is being confirmed by our Bishop, Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki on Sunday, February 14th. There will be only one Holy Mass that day at 10am. Please attend Holy Mass and wish our brother, Derek well as he accepts the duty to witness fully and bravely to Jesus Christ. A breakfast will follow.

...and he's staying for our Annual Meeting

Our Bishop Ordinary, in his role and ministry, is the chief shepherd of our diocese. That ministry is carried out in various ways. This is traditionally called the bishop's threefold role which is to sanctify, teach, and administrate. In my discussions with him, this opportunity to participate in our annual meeting on February 14th is a particular blessing. It is a great honor and joy to have this opportunity to welcome the Diocese's chief administrator to our meeting. Please make an effort to attend and share your thoughts on our parish, the Diocese, and our Holy Church with our bishop.

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

February 2016 – the month of love. Thank you to all who purchased and donated tickets for our Outrageous Valentine's Raffle. Your generosity and support helps our young people attend the annual KURS summer encampment and CONVO 2016 in the Eastern Diocese.

We wish you the best of luck this month. We will send winners their checks right away and will announce all the winners in March's newsletter.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

For the 15th year in a row, our parish is participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Through the Souper Bowl of Caring we are providing food help for those in need in our local community. We ask for your support and deeply appreciate your generosity!

Your monetary and food donations in church on Super Bowl Sunday – February 7th will support the work of Schenectady Inner City Ministry.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. — Matthew 25:35

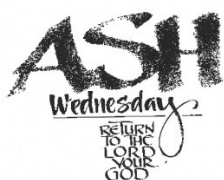
Free Lunch on Sunday

Our next Free Lunch on Sunday is

Sunday, February 21st from 11:30am until 1:30pm.

We offer free food and more for anyone in need - whether its warmth, food, friendship, or just some company. Please help spread the word. God bless all who work so hard to serve those in need - without cost or requirement. We especially thank Bob & Stephanie Dominy for their leadership!!!

Ash Wednesday



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 10th. Holy Mass with the blessing and distribution of

ashes will take place at 7pm on the 10th. Please join us.

Directed Giving for Lent:

Ash Wednesday Week, Feb. 10-13, LET'S DO LUNCH Tuna and Mayonnaise, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Soup and Crackers.

1st Week of Lent, Feb. 14-20, FEELING FRUITY Canned Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail, Pineapple or Applesauce, 100% Juice in Cans.

2nd Week of Lent, Feb. 21-27, VEGGIE MANIA Canned Corn, Canned Peas, Canned Beans, Canned Potatoes, Canned Sweet Potatoes.

3rd Week of Lent, Feb. 28-Mar. 5, 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. 6-12, SCHOOL NEEDS Pencils and Pens, Folders and Notebooks, Crayons, Tape and Elmer's Glue.

Passion Week, Mar. 13-19, BABY MAKES THREE Disposable Diapers, Baby Wipes, Liquid Formula, Jars of Baby Food.

Holy Week, Mar 20-26, SPECIAL NEEDS DIET Low Sodium Soups, Canned Fruit in Juices (not syrup), Canned Tuna in Water, Low Sodium Crackers, Natural Applesauce.

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

Wedding Anniversaries

- 14 Frederick & Louise James
- 17 Tom & Kelly Supinski
- 18 Stefan & Elizabeth Węglinski
- 26 Michael & Kimberly DonVito

Wishing you all many years!

**Thank you, Merci, Dziękuję,
Āčiū, Gracias, Mahalo, Grazie!**

To all who have assisted in Parish clean up and organizational duties around the parish house. Much has been accomplished and your energy and enthusiasm.

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 all who supplied our ministry of hospitality.

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

To all who continue to pray, sacrifice, and serve in Christian love and charity on behalf of our parish.

To every parishioner, visitor, and member -- you are a blessing, a treasure, and a joy!

Invitation to a Polish Mardi Gras

Our neighboring parish, Blessed virgin Mary of Częstochowa, 250 Maxwell Rd., Latham, NY is sponsoring a Pączkowy Bal - A Polish Mardi Gras celebration on Saturday, February 6th from 6pm-10pm. The celebration includes a Pasta Bar, Music by DJ Mark Ives, BYOB, masks and beads

optional. Tickets are \$10 for adults. Kids under 12 are free. Invite family and friends. This is NOT A FUNDRAISER and is only for our parishes. Contact Zosia Dross at 518-618-8663 and RSVP by Wednesday, February 3rd.

Epiphany Visitations - Kolęda - House Blessings

Fr. Jim is available to come to your homes for the traditional Epiphany home blessing. Please see him to make an appointment. Blessing appointments are available through February 9th (prior to Ash Wednesday).

To prepare your home for the blessing please have the blessed chalk and incense available as well as your blessed candle (gromnica).

Please Help

Basket Social - Date TBD

It is time to get ready for our annual basket social. We really need your help to make this year's Social a success. Can you donate a basket, or two, or three? They don't have to be huge - anything will do. Through your love and charity we are able to touch the lives of others and maintain a vibrant faith community. Need ideas - check out Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/cmk1953/basket-party-ideas/>

CONVO 2016



We are excited to announce that Convo 2016 will be held from July 25 – 29, 2016 at St. Anselm's College in Manchester, New Hampshire. Registration and health forms that needs to be completed for all Convo participants are now available. Due to a successful Convo raffle, six Convo sponsorships, and a generous contribution of the Polish National Union of America during their recent Convention the registration fee is \$300 per participant.

Completed registration and health forms with payment made payable to Convo 2016 Committee should be sent by May 15, 2016 to: Convo 2016 Committee c/o Blessed Trinity Parish, 37 Winthrop Street Fall River, MA 02721

For those forms received after May 15th the registration fee will be \$350. Registration forms will not be accepted after July 1, 2016.

The Convo 2016 Committee has

been meeting and is planning for an exciting week of worship, prayer, learning and Christian fellowship.

Don't forget to check out the Convo 2016 YouTube channel and follow CONVO on Facebook at: Convo 2016

A SPECIAL YEAR OF REVERENCE ACROSS OUR HOLY CHURCH

Dear Bishops, Very Rev. and Rev. Fathers, Deacons and Faithful of our Holy Church,

We wish you Happy and Healthy New Year 2016 - a special year of Reverence across our Holy Church. We begin our second year of continuing to implement the work of

our 2014 General Synod.



This year we are called in a special and particular way to focus

on Reverence and Prayer. Do you have a copy of our latest PNCC Prayer Book? (Published in 2010) They are available from our PNCC Bookstore (pncc.org). Prayer is so important and something we need to be doing daily.

We are sharing with you a portion from our Prayer Book: MORNING PRAYERS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, You have created me in Your image, redeemed me through the death and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, and sanctified me by the help of Your Holy Spirit. In Baptism You have brought me into Your Church, through which You give me the graces needed for my salvation. You have protected me through the night and have given me this new day with its opportunity to serve You. What can I do for You in return for all that You have done for me? I will bless Your holy Name and serve You faithfully every day of my life. Amen.

My Lord Jesus Christ, I dedicate this day to You. I desire to commit all of my thoughts, words and actions to You. With Your help, O Lord, may I think of You constantly throughout this day. May I speak of You and of Your loving care to all who will listen. May I serve You faithfully by being kind and helpful to others with every opportunity You give me. I desire that Your will be done in everything I do this day for Your greater glory. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be . . .

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please feel free to contact our Future Direction committee at FutureDirection@pncc.org should

you have any questions, concerns or challenges with this plan. Our committee is here to help you.

The components of this 2016 action plan include:

1. Greater Understanding of Church Solemnities – Christian Family 2016
2. A Lenten Day of Retreat
3. Completion of at least three community service projects
4. Implement the Reverence Component
5. Implement the Lay Ministry Program within the PNCC
6. Presentation to Diocesan Synods
7. Continue to utilize the PNCC Future Direction You Tube channel
8. Stewardship Component
9. Church wide survey

May God continue to bless this important work and may we be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we allow our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to work through us in building His Kingdom.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

PNCC Supreme Council Future Direction Committee

SOCL News and Confirmation

Be sure to bring your children for School of Christian living classes every week. We are starting a First Communion class. Class is also available for adults who have not

made confirmation.

Planning For —

- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation. Holy Mass at 7pm with Blessing of Candles.
- Feb. 8: Quinquagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am with Blessing of Throats.
- Feb. 10: Ash Wednesday, Beginning of the Great Lent. Holy Mass, blessing and distribution of ashes at 7pm.
- Feb. 12: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.
- Feb. 14: First Sunday of Lent. **Holy Mass and Confirmation at 10am.** Breakfast and Annual Meeting to follow in the presence of our Bishop.
- February 15: President's Day. Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm.
- Feb. 16: 63rd Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Francis Hodur.
- Feb. 19: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.
- Feb. 21: Second Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch on Sunday.
- Feb. 24: Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle.
- Feb. 26: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.
- Feb. 28: Third Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- Mar. 4: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.

- Mar. 6: Fourth Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Daylight Savings Time begins.
- Mar. 11: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.
- Mar. 15: Passion Sunday. **Holy Mass at 10am.** Annual Budget Meeting.
- Mar. 18: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.
- Mar. 19: Solemnity - St. Joseph.
- Mar. 20: Palm Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch on Sunday.
- Mar 21: Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm.
- Mar. 27: Solemnity of the Resurrection/Easter. Holy Mass schedule TBA.

Also stay tuned for the dates for our Seniorate Lenten Retreat, our Holy week observances, and our Annual Basket Social.

Need Rental Space?

Family gathering, a party, meetings? Check out our Parish Hall. Discounted rental rates are available to parishioners.

FOR LOVE

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will

Prayers for St. Valentine's Day

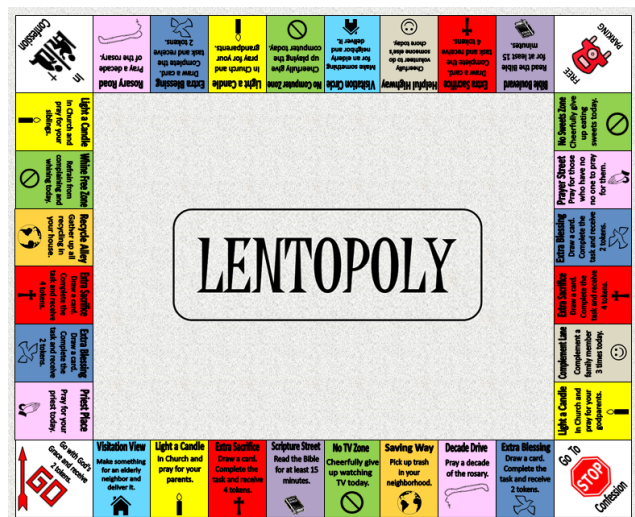
Almighty God, grant we beseech
You, that we who celebrate the
glorious martyrdom of St. Valentine,
Your servant, may by his
intercession be filled with the love of
God and neighbor and be delivered
from all the evils that threaten us.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

Financial Security?

The PNUA and Spójnia Credit Union offer great tools for financial management. If you are considering getting your financial house in order in 2016 contract the PNUA and SCU. Remember too that PNUA policies make great gifts for newlyweds and infants. Call the PNUA office at

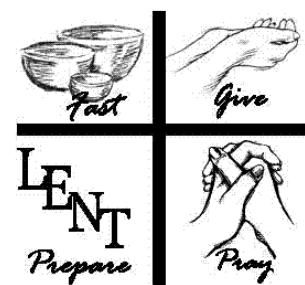
How do I get to joy?

Let's do Lentopoly










Extra prayer, extra sacrifice,
performing kindnesses,
remembering people in a special
way in prayer, going to Stations of
the Cross... all things we can do this
Lent.

Lent is not something to play at, but something we definitely need in our lives. Through these days, let us grow closer to God, fall more deeply in love with Him, and work harder to build His kingdom.



February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Solemnity of the Presentation – Holy Mass at 7pm with Blessing of Candles	3 Commemoration of St. Blaise	4	5 	6
7 Quinquagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Blessing of Throats Lectors: Larry Panfil, Claudia Bertasso. Holy Mass, 11:30am Lector: Claudia Bertasso	8	9	10  Ash Wednesday, Beginning of the Great Lent. Holy Mass, blessing and distribution of ashes at 7pm	11	12  Stations of the Cross, 7pm	13
14 First Sunday of Lent/Commemoration – St. Valentine. Holy Mass and Confirmation at 10am. Lector: Marilyn Hietala Breakfast, Annual Parish Meeting	15 President's Day Holy Mass for Healing with Anointing at 6:15pm	16 63rd Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur.	17 	18	19  Stations of the Cross, 7pm	20
21 Second Sunday of Lent, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Derek Westcott and Claudia Bertasso Free Lunch on Sunday, 11:30-1:30	22	23	24  Feast – St. Matthias	25	26  Stations of the Cross, 7pm	27
28 Third Sunday of Lent, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil and Claudia Bertasso	29					

EVENTS

March Upcoming

Mar. 15th Passion Sunday and Annual Budget Meeting
Mar. 20th – Palm Sunday

Mar. 21st – 26th – Holy Week

Apr. 5th – Solemnity of the Resurrection