

**HOLY NAME OF JESUS**  
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC**  
**1040 PEARL STREET**  
**SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12303-1846**  
**PARISH AND HALL: 518-372-1992**  
**REV. JIM KONICKI: 518-765-2134**  
**OR 518-522-0944**

**ON THE WEB: [WWW.HOLYNAMENCC.ORG](http://WWW.HOLYNAMENCC.ORG)**



# **NEWSLETTER**

## **JANUARY**

# **2016**

FOR IN CHRIST JESUS NEITHER CIRCUMCISION NOR  
UNCIRCUMCISION COUNTS FOR ANYTHING; THE ONLY THING  
THAT COUNTS IS FAITH WORKING THROUGH LOVE.

On January 1st we celebrate the Solemnity of the Circumcision of the Lord. What a way to start the new year!

Jesus' family had Him circumcised on the eighth day after His birth in accordance with the Law. That falls on January 1st. That was also the moment He was given the Name Jesus as commanded to Joseph. But why think about this brief moment in Jesus' life on January 1st? Why focus on this uncomfortable subject? Is there a good reason for this?

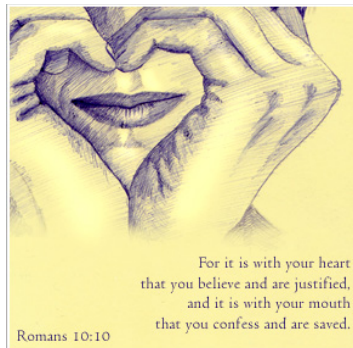
Throughout salvation history God called His people into relationship. They were to carry a sign in their flesh that was to reflect and be witness to the covenant. Not easy to do, but circumcision showed a real commitment to live by God's commands. To be uncircumcised represented stubborn refusal to

enter into relationship with God.

Even though this sign existed in the flesh of God's people they still forgot, gave up on, or abandoned their relationship with Him. When they walked away from God in stubborn refusal to follow His ways, He continually reminded them that He truly desired circumcision of their hearts - the physical act of circumcision was not nearly as important as

having a true relationship founded in faith and love for His ways.

We start the new year reminded that God desires faith offered by hearts signed with loving desire; a true sign in us showing that we never want to be separate from Him. God came seeking our acceptance. Let us start the new year off right by pledging true witness to and joyful acceptance of our relationship with Him.



---

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

### Annual Meeting & Parish Offices Will You Step Forward to Lead?

---

Our annual congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, February 14th along with the election of a new Parish Committee.



So much good has been accomplished in 2015 – and it will be a great meeting filled with thankfulness for the good fruit that has been produced by having you in our family of faith!!!

**We have been faithfully served by a great, ethical, and cooperative leadership team. That said, many have served for years and really deserve a break. We need other members to step forward and pick up their mantle. Please consider this and have the courage to walk in their shoes.**

Please write your name down along with the office (Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Secretary, Trustee, Diocesan Synod Delegate) you would like to run for and drop them in the collection

basket in an envelope marked nominations.

Anyone may attend the annual meeting to share in the information provided, but please note that only paid parish members may cast a vote or run for office.

---

### Membership and Dues

---

Our Church is unique among all Churches in this regard - where all members have a voice and a vote, where they are guaranteed accountability, where money doesn't go into hidden accounts, and where no one can close their parish.

Membership requires the payment of annual dues which support the larger Church, our Diocese, and our Parish.

\$  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
PAY YOUR  
DUES**

Dues are \$137 per year (\$2.63/week) for adult members, \$112 for seniors 65 and over.

Payment of dues gives you a voice and a vote

and the ability to run for a position on the Parish Committee. It also allows you to represent the parish and vote at Diocesan and General Church Synods.

---

### Holy Mass Schedule Success

---

At the beginning of 2015 we added a second Holy Mass every Sunday at 11:30am. Mid-year we added a Healing Holy Mass with Anointing of

the Sick on the 3rd Monday of each month. Both have been a success with a dedicated and loyal group of worshipers.

Each person's presence and worshipful prayer at Holy Mass shows forth the honor and glory owed to God and our thankfulness. The graces received that are sowed in our hearts, minds, and bodies help us in carrying out God's will more fully once we step out of the church and into the world.

If you have suggestions for other services, Holy Masses, or events please let Fr. Jim or a member of the Parish committee know.

---

## Envelopes and Tax Statements

---



God bless you for your generosity and support of our parish in 2015. Because of you and your sacrifice we have been greatly blessed. Donation envelopes for 2016 have arrived and are available in the back of the church. Each envelope packet is marked with a family name. Please take your packet home and avail yourself of these envelopes in the coming year. Doing so allows the parish to provide you with a

statement for accounting and income tax purposes.

Annual statements for income tax purposes will also be available this month.

---

## The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

---

Make February 2016 – the month of love – a month to win in more ways than one!

This effort supports the youth of our parish and will help us in saving for Kurs and CONVO 2016 - two great events coming this summer.



We need your support to give our young people a great beginning in 2016. As God has told us, starting our children off right in the knowledge of the Lord will cause them to bear much good fruit in their lives.

Each ticket for the Outrageous Valentine's Raffle gives the purchaser a chance to win up to \$1,220 (more this year because of the Leap Year). The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle will include drawings for \$40 daily prizes and a \$100 daily prize on Valentine's Day. The raffle is drawn each day of the month, giving the ticket holder **29** chances to win! Winners are returned to the raffle bucket, making them eligible to win again and again.

We mailed out tickets in November

and ask that you continue to sell them and get them into the parish office by January 31st so that everyone may be entered. Tickets cost only \$10 each. Feel free to contact Stephanie Dominy at 518-369-1346 with any questions or to get more tickets if needed.

We thank you for your support and wish you good luck!

---

## The Holy Name of Jesus

---

January 2nd marks the annual



celebration of the Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus. Our parish was established and dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. Join us on January 2nd at

4pm for Holy Mass in celebration of our patronal feast. Let us always honor and praise the Holy Name of Jesus in all we do - in our witness to His Holy Name and our mutual affection, fellowship, love, and charity.

*O Lord Jesus Christ, You have said, "Ask and you shall receive, seek, and you shall find, knock, and it shall be opened to you." Grant, we beg of You, to us who ask it, the gift of Your most*

*divine love, that we may ever love You with our whole heart, in word and deed, and never cease praising You. Amen.*

---

**THANK YOU, MERCI,  
DZIĘKUJE, ĄČIŲ, GRACIAS,  
MAHALO, GRAZIE!**

---

**There is so much to be thankful for.** To all who blessed Fr. Jim with

their presence, prayer, and gifts at the dinner and celebration on his first anniversary of ordination to the Holy Priesthood. To those who prepared food for both this dinner and

our annual parish vigil dinner.

To all who joined in to decorate the parish so beautifully for Christmas.

To Stephanie, Joanne, Joan and Ed for making and selling pierogi and golumbki.

To those who have worked so tirelessly over the past year: our parish officers and committee members, our jurors, nomination committee members, members of the ANS, YMSofR, and choir, Mrs. Liz Battaglia for her service as our organist and music director, our altar servers, lectors, and those who cared for the maintenance and upkeep of the parish facilities (Aleksandra, Pete, Bob, Stephanie).

To all who provided for our weekly coffee hour - a ministry of service of

*Thank  
You*

hospitality. To our event planners and volunteers at our Basket Social, Rummage sale, breakfasts, Lunch on Sunday, other special fundraisers, and to all those who gave of their time and treasure to build up the ministry and community of our parish and the wider Church.

A special thank you to our youth and their parents/grandparents for your dedication and hard work and participation in Kurs 2015.

May God bless and reward you for all you have done!

---

### **Milestones to Celebrate:**

---

#### Birthdays

- 1 John Linscott
- 3 Logan Slezak
- 4 Zach Bixler, Zachary Prusky, Courtney Carroll
- 5 Derrick D'Amico
- 8 Alex D'Amico, Lawrence Panfil, Christine DeCocco
- 11 Cyndie Williams
- 14 Karen DeMidio
- 18 Stephanie Dominy, Darian Topolski
- 22 Catherine Martucci
- 23 Christina Naumowicz, Laurie Lee Woodworth
- 25 Richard Maliszewski, Richard Okonsky
- 26 Cadence Smith
- 27 Eric Kaminski, Jack Kaminski
- 29 Judi Horton

#### Wedding Anniversaries

- 20 Alice and George Houser

**Wishing you all many years!  
Sto Lat!**

---

### **Epiphany Visitations - Kolęda - House Blessings**

---

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated on Wednesday, January 6th. In observance of the Solemnity, Holy Mass will be held at 7pm.

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 10th (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.

---

### **Early Pre-Lent, Ash Wednesday, Lent, and Easter**

---

The pre-Lenten season of Septuagesima begins on Sunday, January 24th. The Great Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10th. This year marks one of the earliest possible dates for these events. Please make plans to participate in all our Lenten events so that we may face the new day, the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior, with great joy.

---

## *Where Charity lives, Love prevails*

---

In scripture, the word charity is synonymous with love.

Our annual holiday food collection amounted to **166lbs of food**. The food was donated in the name of our parish to SICM. God bless you for your generosity and care for those in need in our local area.

Thank you for sacrificing and honoring the time of preparation for God's coming. You have blessed those in need through your efforts.

---

## **Planning Ahead**

---

- Jan 1: Solemnity of the Circumcision - Holy Mass at 9:30am.
  - Jan. 2: Solemnity: Holy Name – our Parish Feast – Holy Mass at 4pm.
  - Jan. 3: Feast of the Holy Family. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am
  - Jan. 6: Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord – Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense at 7pm.
  - Jan. 10: Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Parish Committee Meeting.
  - Jan. 18-25: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Holy Mass for healing at 6:15pm.
  - Jan. 17: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am for those remembered with Memory Crosses. Free lunch.
  - Jan. 24: Septuagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
  - Jan. 27: Bible study at 7:30pm
  - Jan. 31: Sexagesima Sunday, Music Scholarship Sunday, Holy Mass at 11:30am ONLY.
  - Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation, Holy Mass with Blessing of Candles and Throats at 7pm.
  - Feb. 7: Quinquagesima Sunday, SouperBowl Sunday, Holy Mass with Confirmation celebrated by Bishop Bernard at 11:30am ONLY. Brunch to follow.
  - Feb. 10: Ash Wednesday, Beginning of the Great Lent. Holy Mass with Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 7pm
  - Feb. 14: 1st Sunday of Lent, Holy Mass at 9:30am ONLY. **Parish ANNUAL Meeting & Elections.**
  - Feb. 15: Presidents' Day
  - Feb. 16: 63rd Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur
- 

## **Looking further into 2016**

---

Here are some things we will do in 2016:

- Annual Basket Social, Kurs, CONVO, Diocesan Synod, MLK Oratory Contest, Craft Fair



---

## Music Scholarship Sunday

---

Sunday, January 31st is Music Scholarship Sunday. Our parish has been blessed with great musicians and aspiring musicians. We had 4 winners last year. Scholarships are available to both youth and adults. 2016 scholarship applications will be available soon. God bless those who add musical beauty to the worship of God.



---

## Jobs Galore

---

Our parish website at [www.holynamencc.org](http://www.holynamencc.org) features job openings. Jobs are posted daily on our news page (<http://www.holynamencc.org/our-blog/>) in the right hand column and weekly in the main column. If you, or anyone you know, is in search of a new job please check it out.

---

## SOUPERBOWL OF CARING

---



*"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."*

Over the past 14 years our parish has raised \$1,700, 129 food items

and 114 lbs. of food as part of the SouperBowl of Caring effort. This year's collection will be held on February 7th. Please continue your generosity in this worthy effort which helps Schenectady Inner City Ministries in feeding the hungry.

---

## New Year's Resolution - 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. Special 2016 programs are now available, but for a limited time. Call the PNUA office at 1-800-724-6352 or see Fr. Jim.

---

# Happy 2016!

---

On behalf of Fr. Jim and our Parish Committee we wish you and yours the blessings of joy in Jesus for 2016.



---

## Themes

---

For the past several years we have set a yearly theme for our parish. In 2013 it was Jesus + You + Community = Success, in 2014 it was being a Family of Faith, in 2015 it was Abundant Life. In the year ahead we want to make a special effort to focus on Joy in Jesus.

---

## Future Direction Committee Update

---

The Future Direction committee established by the Church's Holy Synod is continuing to build on the work from our Holy Synod and now presents our Action Plan for 2016: **"A Year of Reverence."**

The components of this 2016 action plan include:

- Greater Understanding of Church Solemnities – Christian Family 2016
- Lenten Day of Retreat
- Completion of at least three community service projects
- Implement the Reverence Component
- Implement the Lay Ministry Program within the PNCC
- Presentation to Diocesan Synods
- Continue to utilize the PNCC Future Direction You Tube channel
- Stewardship Component
- Church wide survey

To view the complete 2016 Action Plan - [click here](#).

We will be starting in January with Reverence and Prayer and are encouraging all our faithful to use their prayer books daily – prayer

books are available from the PNCC Book Department through the Office of the Prime Bishop. Call 570-346-9131.

Please think about and share with your pastor and Parish Committee new and innovative ways of sharing the Gospel and presence of Christ with others through our Polish National Catholic Church.

Please feel free to contact our Future Direction committee at [FutureDirection@pncc.org](mailto:FutureDirection@pncc.org) should you have any questions, concerns or challenges with this plan. Our committee is here to help you.

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. We wish you and your family a blessed Christmas Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Most Rev. Anthony A. Mikovsky*

*Right Rev. Stanley M. Bilinski Jr.*

*Right Rev. John E. Mack*

*Right Rev. Bernard J. Nowicki*

*Right Rev. Paul Sobiechowski*

*Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Jr.,  
Chairman*

*Diane Hollinsworth*

*Dr. Shirley Mietlicki-Floyd*

*Michael Mietlicki*

*Kathryn Nemkovich*

*George Urciuoli*



# January 2016

Sunday						Saturday
					1 Solemnity of the Circumcision, Holy Mass, 9:30am	2 Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus – Parish Feast, Holy Mass, 7pm
3 Feast of the Holy Family, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Derek Westcott, Claudia Bertasso.	4	5	6 Solemnity of the Epiphany - Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense, 7pm	7	8	9
10 Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala, Claudia Bertasso.	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil, Claudia Bertasso. Free Lunch on Sunday	18 St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins.  Martin Luther King Day  Holy Mass for Healing with Anointing at 6:15pm	19	20	21	22	23
24 <b>Music Scholarship Sunday</b> Septuagesima Sunday Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Derek Westcott, Claudia Bertasso.	25 Conversion of St. Paul Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends	26	27 Bible study at 7:30pm	28	29	30
31 Septuagesima Sunday Holy Mass, 11:30am <b>ONLY</b> Lector: Marilyn Hietala						

## EVENTS

### Starting Jan. 7th:

Blessing of Homes Begins – See or Call Fr. Jim.

### All of February

Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

### February Upcoming

Feb. 2nd – Presentation

Feb. 3rd – St. Blaise

Feb. 10th – Ash Wednesday – 7pm

Feb. 16th – 63rd Anniversary of the death of Š+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur

Feb. 17th – President's Day