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NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER

2014



THE NATURAL PERSON DOES NOT ACCEPT THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD, FOR THEY ARE FOLLY TO HIM, AND HE IS NOT ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THEM BECAUSE THEY ARE SPIRITUALLY DISCERNED.

Beginning September 29th our Holy Church will gather for its 24th Holy Synod in Erie, PA. As our prime Bishop has noted: "During this upcoming Synod we are going to have a special opportunity to be able to discuss and decide upon matters, programs and directions for the future of the Church. We are going to take some time to examine exactly where the Church is, as a church and as a people, and try to work together to spread, share and strengthen this wonderful gift that we have been given in God's Holy Church."

St. Paul notes that: *The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit.* The "natural man" here is the person who does not know the Spirit, who does not have faith in Jesus Christ, who sees only himself. He holds no hope in the things that are transcendent and promised to those who have faith in Jesus. Because he does not know the Spirit he cannot understand true hope. What we have can only be spiritually discerned. Faith and the

power of the Holy Spirit are foolish fiction to the worldly person.

The power of the Holy Spirit has been revealed to us. We experience it in our parish every day. It is in our unity as the family of Christ. It is in the big and small miracles we experience. It is in the prayer, worship, and mutual love we share.

The Holy Spirit guides and enlightens our Church as we face the future. We know this by faith! He calls us to prepare. There are four things we must do: (1) pray: *O Spirit of Wonder, come to us. Guide and bless our work in Holy Synod.* (2) take part by considering the constitutional changes before the Holy Synod and let your delegate, Robert Dominy know your thoughts. (3) suggest - things that the Church can do to assist us at the local level in carrying out Her work and in bringing many to know, love, and serve the Lord. (4) be confident: *The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to anyone who seeks help from Him.*

Back to Church Sunday

So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. - Romans 12:5

"WHEN YOU WORSHIP THE RISEN CHRIST EVERY SUNDAY AT YOUR CHURCH, YOU ARE TELLING THE WORLD THAT IN YOUR LIFE, FOR THIS MOMENT, CHRIST IS ULTIMATE. HE IS TO BE WORSHIPPED ABOVE ALL ELSE."

REAL, DANIEL DARLING, AUTHOR AND VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE ERLC

#MYCHURCHSTORY

Join us on Sunday, September 21st for National Back to Church Sunday. Return to the place where you are loved unconditionally and are one family with all who have faith in Jesus.

- Not been in a while - **here's an opportunity to come back.**
- Never been - **you're invited.**
- Looking to help - **here's a chance to join in doing good for each other and our community.**

Did you know that 82% of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited. We invite you! In turn, invite someone. We can and will do wonderful things together - at our little church.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 Joan Kaminski
- 3 Cindy Houser, Melissa Horton, Chris Zostant, Eric Esner
- 4 Alicja Chrobok
- 12 Robbie Heins
- 14 Callie Lennon
- 15 Beverly Limmer
- 16 JoAnne Houser
- 24 Lynn Maliszewski
- 26 Edward Panfil, Donna Panfil, Nicholas DeMidio, Chad Smith
- 28 Angela Jorczak

Anniversaries

- 3 Robert & Stephanie Dominy
- 4 Jason & Christine Lennon, Thomas & Kathleen Caulfield
- 21 Timothy & Christine DeCocco

Wishing you all many years! Sto Lat!

This Labor Day - Celebrate the Sacredness of Work

"But let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an everlasting stream." — Amos 5:24



On Labor day weekend we are reminded of God's call to practice justice, mercy and compassion.

Labor Day comes out of a long history of workers organizing to

secure their rights, safety, and dignity. Our Holy Church stood strong with workers from the coal miners and steel workers of Pennsylvania, the grain millers and meat packers of Buffalo, and the auto workers of Detroit.

In our community and throughout our nation and world, workers continue to struggle for fair pay, time off, safety on the job, access to healthcare and education, and the right to organize. As workers and worker advocates, people of faith have been and continue to be an important part of the movement for worker justice. Here are some ways we can be involved:

PRAY for all workers, especially those in low-wage and unsafe jobs. Pray also for employers and business owners, that they may value people over profit. Pray for our elected leaders, that they place those struggling on the margins at the center of their deliberations.

EDUCATE yourself and other members of your community on worker and economic justice issues. Connect with a worker center in your area and visit www.iwj.org or www.labor-religion.org for more resources on faith and labor.

PAY AND TREAT WORKERS WELL. Seek to ensure that all the workers employed by your congregation are paid wages that can support families and provide family health coverage.

ADVOCATE for public policies that seek justice for all workers,

including decent wages and health care benefits.

SUPPORT workers who are organizing for better wages and working conditions.

Prayer for Workers

Spirit of Love and Life, on this Labor Day weekend, we ask your special blessing on all people who labor, either to provide a living for themselves and their families or as volunteers enhancing the life of their community. Today we honor and acknowledge the work of all people, in jobs or in pursuit of education, in the workplace or at home, in the U.S. and around the world. We especially pray for your blessings on workers who labor at low wages. We celebrate their hard work and mourn the ways that workers' worth and dignity are devalued. We lament that laborers work hard and yet still go hungry. Creator God, help us to build a new world in the midst of the old, a world where all workers are uplifted, a world where those who clean houses can afford housing, a world where those who grow food can also provide nourishment to their families. Fill us with courage and strength to walk with love in the workplace and the marketplace, as well as in our place of worship. Amen.

Need a job?

Check out our website at

www.holynamencc.org. We are posting job opportunities regularly and there is a feed of job openings from the NYS Department of Labor as well. Have questions? See Deacon Jim.

With Thanks

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

To the members of our Parish Committee for their hard work and sacrifice.

To all parents who supported their children's involvement in Kus and CONVO.

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

To Bob, Stephanie, and Pete for all they have done to improve the look at our parish cemetery.

For Joanne, Bob, and Stephanie for their dedication to our Free Lunch on Sunday ministry.

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

God bless you and reward you!!!

What happening with Deacon Jim?

As you may know, Deacon Jim has been studying and preparing in anticipation of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood. The day of his canonical examination is not too far

off. The Prime Bishop is also making preparations for his ordination should he be successful in the exams. Please pray for Deacon Jim and his family in the days ahead.

Coffee Hour Returns

Our weekly coffee resume September 14th. Thank you to Ed Bertasso and God bless him for his continuing ministry of hospitality in providing for this time to gather after services every week. Ed truly helps to build the family of God as we gather for physical substance on Sunday morning.

Music Scholarship Winners



Congratulations to Victoria Konicki and Christina Supinski who received National United Choirs (NUC) Music Scholarships this year. The awards were announced at

the annual Youth Convocation held in Tilfin, Ohio in July.

Victoria was awarded the Bishop Eugeniusz Magyar and Adam Pikulski Awards, which will be used to support her piano lessons. Christina was awarded the Bishop Eugene Magyar Award which will be used to support her continued advancement in viola.

Seventeen scholarships were awarded in 2014, totaling \$8,450. Since inception, 1,037 scholarships

have been awarded in the amount of \$288,035.

Information on the scholarship program can be obtained by visiting the NUC website:

nucmusicsscholarship.weebly.com.

Application information and forms for the 2015 scholarships will be available on the website no later than January 1, 2015. Deadline for applying is May 15, 2015.

First Communion



We have tentatively scheduled Sunday, September 28th for the celebration of Holy Mass at 9am and the First Holy Communion of Gabby and Skylar. A celebratory breakfast will follow.

Both will make her First Confession on Saturday, September 27th at noon. All are invited to attend for private confession and the Sacrament of Penance and/or for anointing of the sick on September 27th

Please pray for Gabby, Skylar, and their families.

Kurs and CONVO Report

Our youth, Adam, Victoria, Christina, Nick, and Erickaa had a

great time at Kurs Camp from July 4th through 12th. The camp theme was miracles. Take a moment to ask them about miracles. They also learned practical things, had fun, ate well, and saw the many ways Jesus changes our lives through the big and small miracles of love in our lives.

Erickaa was elected "Princess of Kurs." New friendships were made, and our Church grows ever stronger through our youth.

Adam, Victoria, and Claudia attended CONVO 2014 at Heidelberg University in Tilfin, Ohio.

CONVO observed its 50th anniversary this year. This year's theme was "In the beginning." In each session different beginnings were discussed – Creation, the coming of Jesus and the beginning of the Church, the beginning of the Holy Mass, how we begin falling into sin, how to begin letting Holy Scripture shape our lives, the beginning of the CONVO movement, and a synthesis presented by the Prime Bishop – each beginning is created for us – not the collective us – but each of us individually. The world, Jesus coming, the Church, the Holy Mass, God's word are for me. God counts me that important to Him.

CONVO was also filled with fun times – a trip to the Kalahari Water Park, game night, a dance, good food, a performance by the Christian music and comedy group Lost and Found, and time for

fellowship. Holy Mass was celebrated daily along with beautiful music performed by participants and chaperones. Victoria added her musical talents by playing flute.

God bless our youth!!!!!! On to CONVO 2016!

Adam Konicki elected



Adam was one of four elected to represent the Central Diocese of the PNCC on the National United

Youth Association Board.

Congratulations to Adam. Let us support him and the Board in their efforts and ministries.

Church Fathers for the Month

From the Synodal Letter of the Synod of Antioch in Encaeniis (341 A.D.)

The holy and most peaceful Synod which has been gathered together in Antioch from the provinces of Cœle-Syria, Phœnicia, Palestine, Arabia, Mesopotamia, Cilicia, and Isauria; to our like-minded and holy fellow Ministers in every Province, health in the Lord.

The grace and truth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has regarded the holy Church of the Antiochians, and, by joining it together with unity of mind and concord and the Spirit of Peace, has likewise bettered many other things; and in them all this betterment is wrought by the

assistance of the holy and peace-giving Spirit. Wherefore, that which after much examination and investigation, was unanimously agreed upon by us bishops, who coming out of various Provinces have met together in Antioch, we have now brought to your knowledge; trusting in the grace of Christ and in the Holy Spirit of Peace, that you also will agree with us and stand by us as far as in you lies, striving with us in prayers, and being even more united with us, following the Holy Spirit, uniting in our definitions, and decreeing the same things as we; you, in the concord which proceeds of the Holy Spirit, sealing and confirming what has been determined.

Solemnity of Brotherly Love

In 1906 when our Holy Church was not even through her first decade since being organized, a Special Synod needed to be convened. The First Synod was held in 1904 and the Second Synod was planned for 1909. Events would not prove as orderly, however. The very young church was threatened by external and internal opponents. A democratic Catholic Church agitated many around her and those opponents worked to discredit our denomination. Some of our own clergy proved disloyal as well and tried to subvert the Church from within. These events necessitated the calling of a Special Synod in 1906.

This Synod convened to counteract

acts of sabotage against the Church resulted not in declarations of war, counter-plots, or counter-attacks, but rather a declaration of love. The Holy Synod's lay members and clergy created the Solemnity of Brotherly Love so that each year all of our parishes would celebrate and reinforce the Christian commandment to love one another.

Continuing in the spirit of this holy day, we will accept a special collection on the Solemnity (using your to Brotherly Love envelopes) to benefit Safe Inc. of Schenectady.

The purpose of Safe is to serve youth and young adults who are at risk of sexual exploitation or have been sexually exploited. Safe also serves youth and young adults who are runaways, "throwaways," and homeless. The agency is designed for the betterment of youth and young adults to become self-sufficient and productive with the attention to good citizenship. The agency provides quality outreach, case management, and therapeutic programs both residential and non-residential with the aim of instilling the importance of self dignity and enduring relationships.

By helping our neighbors here in Schenectady we put into action the lesson of the Good Samaritan who offered his help to a complete stranger for no other reason than brotherly love. Please be generous as the basket is extended.

SOCL News

We have a wonderful group of students who continue their preparations for their first communion and confirmation.

SOCL classes for all parish youth begin on September 14th.

Planning For:

- September 1: Labor Day
- September 7: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Holy Mass at 11am
- September 8: Solemnity - Nativity of the B.V.M.
- September 11: 13th Anniversary of 9/11/2001. Prayer Service at 7pm
- September 14: Solemnity of Brotherly Love/SOCL Classes begin
- September 15: Solemnity - Exaltation of the Holy Cross (translated) and the Solemnity of the Holy Mother of Sorrows
- September 21: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Back to Church Sunday
- September 22: Feast - St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist (translated)
- September 27: First Confession, Confession, Anointing of the Sick at noon
- September 28: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time/First Holy Communion/Spójnia Sunday
- September 29-October 3: 24th Holy Synod of the PNCC

- September 29: Feast - St. Michael the Archangel
- October 2: Feast - Guardian Angels
- October 4: Commemoration - St. Francis of Assisi
- October 5: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Blessing of Pets

SPÓJNIA SUNDAY



The fourth Sunday of September is designated by our Church as Spójnia Sunday. Spójnia - the Polish National Union - is the Church's fraternal organization that was founded in 1908 by Bp. Hodur and our first generation of parishioners. 106 years ago many first generation Americans did their banking and insurance business with fraternal organizations. When many of our parishioners were rejected by established fraternal societies due to their membership in our Church, many of them suffered a great deal of financial hardship. Our Church responded with the creation of our own fraternal insurance company and eventually credit union. We saw it as part of our Christian and Church obligation to nurture the spiritual person and also to care for the practical needs of our members as well.

Since 1908 Spójnia has stood right beside our Church. It is the largest contributor to the National Catholic

Church. It has assisted the youth of the church, the clergy and the elderly, not to mention the financial and insurance services it provides at a competitive price to our families.

This is why on the fourth Sunday of September we pray for our fraternal each year. We also encourage our members to look into Spójnia's insurance and financial offerings. For more information, please call them at 1- 800-724-6352 or visit www.pnu.org.

The Polish National Union offers You...

Five, Ten, or Twenty-Pay Life; Single Premium Life; Paid-Up at Age 85 Life; Twenty-Year Endowment; Tax Deferred Annuities

For more information call the offices of the PNUA at 800-724-6352.

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. Want to help or join in? Please see Deacon Jim.

COME HOLY SPIRIT, BLESS OUR HOLY SYNOD. ENLIGHTEN AND GUIDE YOUR HOLY CHURCH IN OUR DAY AND FOR ALL ETERNITY. AMEN!

September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Labor Day 1	2	3	4	5	6
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Holy Mass at 11am Lector: Marilyn Heitala 7	Solemnity – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (trans.) 8	9	10	13th Anniversary of 9/11/2001 Prayer Service at 7pm 11	12	13
Solemnity of Brotherly Love Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Larry Panfil SOCL Classes begin 14	Solemnity – Exaltation of the Holy Cross [trans.] Solemnity – Holy Mother of Sorrows 15	16	17	18	19	20
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY , Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Claudia Bertasso Welcome Breakfast 21	Feast - St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist [trans.] 22	23	24	25	26	27 First Confession and Private Confession for all - Noon
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Spójnia Sunday First Holy Communion Holy Mass, 9am Lector: Marilyn Heitala 28	24th Holy Synod of the PNCC, Erie, PA Feast - St. Michael the Archangel 29	24th Holy Synod of the PNCC, Erie, PA 30				

EVENTS

October Upcoming

- 2nd – Guardian Angels
- 4th – St. Francis

- 5th – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Blessing of Pets
- 12th – Solemnity – Christian Family

- 19th – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Heritage Sunday