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NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER

2015



LET BROTHERLY LOVE CONTINUE.

We approach a very historic event in our Holy Church. For the first time ever, our Prime Bishop will be holding a nationwide webinar so that all the Church's faithful might gather together to reflect on the theme of brotherly love. See more later in this issue about this event and where we will gather to view the webinar. Even if you cannot join in with the group, you can sign up to view the webinar on-line.

Why the all-out effort on this theme? Hebrews 13:1 states: *Let brotherly love continue.* And this is why we care - to fulfill Jesus' command to love now and always.

As Christ's people, members of His body, recipients of all His good gifts, we are called to honor Jesus' command to act with brotherly love toward one another. Scripture does not treat this command lightly. Both the Old and New Testament call us to love as God loves: *My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.* - John 15:12; *Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.* - Romans 12:10; *Let no*

debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. - Romans 13:8; ... *and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.* - Ephesians 5:2; and *Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters.* - Hebrews 13:1.

The idea and theme of love is as old as God, that is, it is timeless. It wasn't invented when we heard Dionne Warwick sing "What the World Needs Now Is Love"

We are called to sacrificial love - a love so strong that each and every one of us would find the love, kindness, forgiveness, honor, and freedom of God in each other's presence and homes. We must find in our community not license, but rather the true freedom that love provides. We need to find the freedom to do God's will, to sacrifice and carry His cross with each other; to bear it together. Certainly, the world needs love - to find Jesus' love made real in us.

BROTHERLY LOVE WEBINAR



Just prior to the Solemnity of Brotherly Love Prime Bishop Mikovsky will host a webinar for our entire Church on Wednesday – September 9th at 7 pm.

The intent of the webinar is to bring as many PNCC members and others together to hear Prime Bishop's spiritual address and to prepare for the Solemnity through prayer, reflection, music, and meditation. This is the first time in the history of our Holy Church that such an event is taking place. This is very important for our life in Jesus and our Church. I ask all parishioners to take part in this faith filled and historic event.

Our neighboring parish, Blessed Virgin Mary of Częstochowa has Internet connectivity and has invited us to take part with them. There will be a potluck dinner as well. Come down to 250 Old Maxwell Rd., Latham at 6pm. If it is impossible to make it there, you may register and take the webinar online. To register, visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1084478373868742145>.

Back to Church Sunday

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

We will be participating in **Back to Church Sunday** once again on **Sunday, September 20th**. This campaign is strategically designed to help us reach out and invite everyone to try church again. We empower you (part of our democratic tradition) to invite your neighbors, friends and loved ones to enjoy a special Sunday service designed just for them. In 2014, we were once of 26,400 churches participated in this growing national movement! Let us continue to work together to bring spiritual renewal to our families and community through Back to Church Sunday!

- 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.**

We can and will do wonderful things together - at our little church.

Healing Holy Masses Continue

We hold a monthly healing Holy Mass. Check out our schedule and your weekly bulletin. The next is scheduled for Monday 9/14 at 6:15pm.

Music Scholarship Winners



Congratulations to Victoria Konicki, Christina Supinski, and Skyler Dee who received National United Choirs (NUC) Music Scholarships this year. The awards

were announced at the National United Choirs Convention and Workshop held in Dupont, Pennsylvania in July.

Victoria was awarded the Emil Swantkowski and Polish National Union Awards, which will be used to support her piano lessons. Christina was awarded the Bishop Eugeniusz Magyar Award which will be used to support her continued advancement in viola. Skyler was awarded the Junior Incentive Award.

Twenty-five scholarships were awarded in 2015 to twenty-two recipients. Since inception, 1,059 scholarships totaling \$297,185 have been awarded.

Information on the scholarship program can be obtained by visiting the NUC website: nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com.

Application information and forms for the 2016 scholarships will be available on the website no later than January 1, 2016. Deadline for applying is May 15, 2016.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 Paul Zawistowski, 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 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!

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 Fr. Jim.

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, to 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 support workers:

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. If you are in a position to make or influence decisions on worker pay, seek to ensure that all workers 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.

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 Kurs.

To our wonderful altar servers, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia.

To Pete for all he has 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 all who did so much to make our Parish and Community picnic a great success.

To all who donated food during our summer food collection.

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

God bless you and reward you!!!

Kurs Report

Our youth, Adam, Victoria, Christina, Nick, and Erickaa had a great time at Kurs Camp from July 4th through 11th. The camp theme was Take a Chance on God. Fr. Jim presented on God taking a chance in calling Paul to be an apostle and Fr. Jim invited Matt Zawisza of Living Gospel Ministries to present on St. Peter.

Take a moment to ask them about taking a chance on God. They're sure to tell you it is well worth the time and risk.

New friendships were made, and our Church grows ever stronger through our youth.

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

Coffee Hour Returns

Our weekly coffee resume September 13th. Thank you to all who contribute to continuing this ministry of hospitality. This gives us the time to gather after services every week.

SOCL News

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

SOCL classes for all parish youth begin on Sunday, September 27th at 10:30am.

First Communion



We have tentatively scheduled Sunday, September 27th for the celebration of Holy Mass at 9:30am and the First Holy Communion of Eden and Erickaa. A celebratory breakfast will follow.

Both will make their First Confession on Saturday, September 26th at noon. All are invited to attend for private confession and the Sacrament of Penance.

Please pray for Eden and Erickaa and their families.

Other Great Summer Events

As is our parish tradition, throughout July we took up a summer food collection for those in

need locally. 142 pounds of food was donated to Schenectady Inner City Ministries. God bless your generosity!

Our Parish and Community Picnic was such a great success. We had excellent food, a popcorn machine, bouncy-bounce and lots of love, hard work, and witness. We made our neighbors feel welcome. We showed forth love of God and neighbor. Thank you to Bob and Stephanie for setting up and cooking, to Joanne for great salads, Linda for amazing cupcakes, and to all who brought and shared their food and friendship.

Great Upcoming Events

**September 11th Remembrance
Prayer Service**

Friday, September 11th at 7pm

**Worship and Healing Service
Monday, September 14th at
6:15pm**

**Monthly Bible Study starting
Wednesday, September 30th**

**Free Lunch on Sunday - 9/20,
10/18, 11/15, 12/20**

**Schenectady Middle School
Oratorical Contest**

Night of Gospel and Praise Music

Planning For:

- September 6: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am
- September 7: Labor Day
- September 8: Nativity of the BVM
- September 9: **National Webinar on Brotherly Love**, 7pm
- September 11: 9/11 Memorial Prayer Service at 7pm
- September 13: **Solemnity of Brotherly Love**. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Special Breakfast
- September 14: Solemnity – Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Healing Holy Mass at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting.
- September 15: Solemnity – Holy Mother of Sorrows
- September 19: PolkaFest 2015 sponsored by Holy Spirit Parish, East Herkimer Fish & Game Club 1-5pm.
- September 20: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Back to Church Sunday**. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch
- September 21: Feast - St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
- September 26: **First Confession**, Confession at noon
- September 27: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time/**First Holy Communion**/Spójnia Sunday
- September 29: Feast - St. Michael

the Archangel

- September 30: Bible study at 7:30pm
- October 2: Feast - Guardian Angels
- October 4: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Commemoration - St. Francis of Assisi/Blessing of Pets

Future Direction Subcommittee of the Supreme Council - Update

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

Our commemoration of the Solemnity of Brotherly Love is quickly approaching as "A Year of Regeneration" continues across our Holy Church. The Future Direction subcommittee of our Polish National Catholic Church monthly update keeps us up to date with implementation of the 2015 Action Plan. We welcome those who have requested to be a part of this important work for the building of our Holy Church.

Our Bishops have spoken about the importance and significance of Brotherly Love in our Church and in our daily lives. Visit <https://youtu.be/q-BOO6BBIhw> to see the video of Bishop Stanley Bilinski of the Western Diocese. May we take his message to heart.

The Solemnity of Brotherly Love – September 13, 2015 will be here in a few short weeks. Just prior to this commemoration Prime Bishop

Mikovsky will host a webinar for our entire Church on Wednesday – September 9th at 7 pm (EST). The intent of the webinar is to bring as many PNCC members and others together to hear Prime Bishop's spiritual address and to prepare for the Solemnity through prayer, reflection, music, and meditation.

You must register in order to view the webinar at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1084478373868742145>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

While many will view the webinar on their home computers, we encourage parishes and groups to make arrangements to "host" and broadcast the webinar so that those who may not have access to a computer can still participate in this event.

A brochure has been created to help us understand and commemorate the Solemnity of Brotherly Love and will be available in church.

If you need any assistance, please reach out to our subcommittee. We are here to help with this important work – email us at FutureDirection@pncc.org should you have any questions, concerns or challenges with this plan.

As we approach our Church wide commemoration of Brotherly Love you will receive additional Future Direction email updates reminding you of the webinar and this special

day across our PNCC. Please keep this work in your daily prayers – asking God to bless this work and allow it to bear fruit for the building of His Holy Church. Have a blessed late summer day.

The five themes the 2014 General Synod determined for our future direction are:

- Growth and Membership
- Increase Spirituality
- Lifelong Learning
- Sacred Vocations
- Community Involvement and Presence

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

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. 107 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.

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 Fr. Jim.

September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
September 6: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am Lector: Marilyn Heitala/Claudia Bertasso	Labor Day	Solemnity – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	National Webinar on Brotherly Love, 7pm		14th Anniversary of 9/11/2001 Prayer Service at 7pm	
Solemnity of Brotherly Love. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Special Breakfast Lector: Larry Panfil/Claudia Bertasso	Solemnity – Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Healing Holy Mass at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting	Solemnity – Holy Mother of Sorrows				PolkaFest 2015 sponsored by Holy Spirit Parish, East Herkimer Fish & Game Club 1-5pm.
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Back to Church Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch Lector: Derek Westcott/Claudia Bertasso	Feast - St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist					First Confession and Private Confession for all - Noon
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Spójnia Sunday First Holy Communion Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Free Lunch Lector: Marilyn Heitala/Claudia Bertasso SOCL Begins			Bible study at 7:30pm			

EVENTS

October Upcoming

- 2nd – Guardian Angels
- 4th – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time/St. Francis, Blessing of Pets
- 11th – Solemnity – Christian Family