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# NEWSLETTER

## JULY/AUGUST

# 2014



COME NOW, YOU WHO SAY, "TODAY OR TOMORROW WE  
WILL GO INTO SUCH AND SUCH A TOWN..."

This is going to be a summer of travels. July 4th our youth and some parishioners will be traveling to Waymart, PA for the Church's annual Independence Day Holy Mass and picnic. Five of our youth are staying for the KURS Camp whose theme is "Miracles." Later in July, three youth and Deacon Jim are attending CONVO in Tiffin, OH whose theme is "In the beginning..." Summer ends with the annual YMSofR Track and Field Meet in Scranton. Many of us will be traveling for family vacations.

St. James notes: *Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."*

We have all sorts of plans, but we are reminded that our plans are completely dependent of God's will.

We need to keep Him as our Center regardless of where we are or what we are doing. If you are away from home, find out where the nearest PNCC parish is - we are all over the United States and Europe. If you cannot find a parish, find another Catholic parish, but keep our discipline - fast for 2 hours before receiving, receive communion only from a bishop, priest, or deacon and never in your hands - respect Jesus.

Consider strongly the reasons to attend church when you are away from home: (1) It shows your family that church is as much a priority away as at home. (2) You can find some neat ideas to try right here - bring those ideas back and share them. (3) You feel what it is like to be a visitor and therefore can relate better to visitors in our parish. (4) It's really fun to worship God with a different group of believers. When you worship with another group of Christ-followers, you are always home, worshipping the same God! Place your plans and vacation in God's hands and it will be awesome!

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## A Neighborhood Tragedy and Our Response

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On Friday, June 27th at 1am, police were called to our neighborhood. 28-year old Angel Carrion was dead. Killed by a gunshot wound to the chest.

Angel was a father of three, a friend to many in the area, someone who was brother to those who weren't even his family. His childhood friend Jorge said, "He was a good friend. He was a good father. He helped out the community. Nobody is perfect in this world, but he didn't deserve this."

Indeed, and this was a tragedy for our neighborhood which calls for a response. Respond we did. Our parish was filled on Sunday the 29th. We stood together in prayer for the repose of Angel's soul and for our neighborhood, especially its



youth and children. It is not grand gestures that will make a difference, but rather our prayer in faith and the little things we do in speaking a friendly word to our neighbors, in showing care for the young people in our neighborhood.

The whole parish took to the streets following services to pray for and bless our neighborhood. We called upon the power of God to care for

all its residents, to end violence, to free it of drugs, to grant justice for all, and to wrap it in His mantle of protection. We also prayed for the soul of Angel - Eternal rest grant unto him.

Prayers offered with the confidence of faith are heard by our Heavenly Father. He will grant what we ask.

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## Congratulations Graduates and Students

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We offer our congratulations to Claudia Bertasso on her graduation



from Schenectady High School and to Megan DonVito on her graduation from Colonie Central High School. We wish them every success as they continue

their education.

Their loving parents Ed and Claudia Bertasso and Mike and Kim DonVito made a commitment to raising their children as Christian young woman. When considering all they have accomplished and their dedication to their faith and families we recall the words from Proverbs 22:6 - *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.* May our dear Lord continue to protect them and keep them faithful.

We also congratulate all of our young people for their achievements this past school year - Adam,

Victoria, Christina, Nick, Loryn, Skylar, Alicja, Gabby, Traviss, and Erikaa, as well as all the youth of our neighborhood.

Let us pray that our Lord watch over and protect our young people and children this summer.

*Almighty and Eternal God, Father most kind, Who in Thy plan of Salvation of mankind did resolve, that one generation shall follow another in fulfilling the tasks of temporal life, and prepares wisely and good everything in the universe; keep in Thy tender care the youth of our Church, individually and collectively, that our youth may always understand those things which are in harmony with Thy holy Will and bring true happiness; - and that service to Thee in our youth is the only assurance of tranquility in the sunset of life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

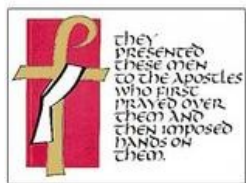
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## God bless Deacon Anthony

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On Saturday, June 21st, the Rt Rev. Bernard Nowicki ordained

Subdeacon  
Anthony Prince to  
the diaconate at  
Holy Cross Parish  
in Lakeland, New  
York.



The liturgies, Holy Mass, and music were beautiful and so meaningful. Deacon Jim was among the clergy who attended and assisted in these liturgies.

The prayer of our bishop and the laying on of hands – conferring the Holy Spirit – is more than words and gestures; it is the power of grace in our lives and Jesus’ continuing ministry among us through His ordained ministers – who baptize, who proclaim the gospel, and fulfill their sacred ministry. Let us pray for Anthony as he sets forth to carry out his ministry among us. Let us also pray for more vocations so God’s Holy Church may have the workers it needs. Are you called to respond?

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### Milestones to Celebrate:

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#### July Birthdays

2 Gayle Clas  
3 Genevieve Binkowski, Jaime Bylina, John Clas, Kimberly Maliszewski, Richard Okonsky Jr.  
4 Ken Brown  
5 Wayne Wienclawski  
7 Eva Kubinska  
8 Michael Ruchalski  
9 Tammy Dominy  
12 Stanley Podkulski  
16 Lawrence Panfil Jr.  
19 Jason Lennon  
22 Matthew Zebrowski  
26 Alexander Oravsky  
27 Sebesany Rios, Kathleen Maliszewski  
29 Ronald O’Connor

#### July Anniversaries

7 John White IV & Kathy Dominy-White  
14 Chad & Amber Smith  
20 Edward & Claudia Bertasso  
27 Zachary Prusky & Kristen Smith

August Birthdays

- 1 Wendy Williams
- 5 Christine D'Amico
- 6 Emjai Dominy
- 7 Karen Cimmino
- 8 Taylor Garrison
- 10 Matthew Hines
- 12 Ginny Dinsmore
- 15 Roger Jarosz
- 18 Carson Hobson
- 19 Joanne Hernick
- 20 George Houser
- 21 Ruth Collins
- 27 Derek Westcott
- 29 Megan DonVito, Tyme LaPorte  
Smith, John Kaminski
- 31 Teresa Mazzone

August Anniversaries

- 7 Jack & Joan Kaminski

Wishing you all many years! Sto Lat!

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

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

God bless you and reward you! Bóg zapłać! Thank you!!!

**Summer Coffee Hour Break**

We are taking a break from our weekly coffee hours for the summer months. Thank you to Ed Bertasso and all those who provided for coffee hour. God bless you for your ministry of hospitality in providing for this time to gather after services every week. You truly help to build the family of God as we gather for physical substance on Sunday morning.

**Parish Youth To Attend Kurs and CONVO**



Five parish youth will attend the annual Kurs encampment at the Bishop Hodur Retreat & Recreation Center in Waymart, PA. starting July 4th.

We thank Adam, Victoria, and Christina, Nick, and Erikaa for participating in this event which will include great faith formation, fun, a

few pranks, good food, and lots of new friendships.

Adam, Victoria, and Claudia will be attending CONVO along with Deacon Jim. This - now international - event brings together youth from across the United States and Europe for a week focused on growth in faith and commitment to Jesus and His Holy Church.

We thank our parents for allowing their children's participation, and for encouraging their growth in faith.

We thank those who who donated through our Outrageous Valentine's Raffle that provides the support necessary for our youth to attend these events.

The friendships that begin at these events last forever because membership in Christ is forever.

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### **A Prayer for our country**

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In honor of the 238th birthday of our country

*We thank Thee, Lord, for America, our home. We bless Thee for the liberty, the*

*opportunity, and the abundance we share. But above all we praise Thee for the traditions which have made our country great, and for patriots*

*who have laid the foundations through faith, courage, and self-sacrifice. Teach us in our own day the meaning of citizenship, and help us to be faithful stewards of the responsibility which Thou entrusted to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

A Prayer for our Country from A Book of Devotions and Prayers According to the Use of the Polish National Catholic Church.

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### **SOCL News and Confirmation**

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We have a wonderful group of students who continue their preparations for Confirmation and First Communion. 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 will have class time available for younger students again during the next school year.

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### **Planning For:**

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- July 2: Solemnity – Visitation of the B.V.M.
- July 4: Independence Day - Holy Mass and Celebration at Spójnia Farm in Waymart, PA 11am to 8pm.
- July 4-12: KURS Encampment, Waymart, PA
- July 6: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time and Commemoration of John

Hus, Priest and Martyr

- July 13: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- July 20: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- July 21–25: CONVO, Tiffin, OH
- July 25: Feast of St. James the Greater, Apostle
- July 26: Commemoration of Ss. Joachim & Ann, Parents of the B.V.M.
- July 27: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- August 3: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- August 4: Feast – Finding of the Body of St. Stephen (translated)
- August 6: Solemnity – Transfiguration of the Lord
- August 10: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- August 15: Solemnity - Dormition of the B.V.M.
- August 17: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- August 24: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time,
- August 25: Feast - St. Bartholomew, Apostle (translated)
- August 26: Solemnity - Our Lady of Czestochowa
- August 29: Solemnity - Beheading of St. John the Baptist
- August 31: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Youth Sunday
- September 1: Labor Day

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## Parish Organizations and Ministries

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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.

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## This Summer – Consider the PNUA

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Summer is a time for many celebrations – like Weddings, Graduations, and First Holy Communion. What a great time to share the many benefits of the Polish National Union/Spójnia with your family and friends. Endowments, insurance policies, and annuities are just some of the many gifts ideas the PNU can offer to help you provide for those you care about. It is not just insurance protection, but college stipends, a great Credit Union, and being part of an organization that does so much for our Holy Church. Contact the PNU Home Office at 1-800-724-6352 for more information on their Gifts of Summer program.

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## Remember in your prayers

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Those on our parish prayer list, our neighborhood, our city, our servicemen and women, the congregation of Bridge Church also in Mont Pleasant.

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## **A Summer of Solemnities, Feasts, and Commemorations**

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Every summer contains a group of special days in the life of the Church. We begin on July 2nd with the celebration of the Solemnity of the Visitation of the B.V.M. On this day we remember the day that Mary arrived at her cousin Elizabeth's door. She came to serve Elizabeth and help her through her pregnancy. Elizabeth received Mary's help with graciousness. We too are called to respond to the needs of others with generosity and respond to those who step forward to pray for and help us with graciousness.

On July 6th we commemorate John Hus, Priest and Martyr who was an early advocate of reform in the Church. He stood against bishops, and particularly the Bishop of Rome, who were taking up the sword in the name of the Church. He encouraged them to pray for enemies and bless those that curse them. He also urged reform, denouncing payment for indulgences noting that people obtain forgiveness of sins by true repentance, not money. He was burned at the stake for heresy against the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church on July 6, 1415. Our Church commemorates him and his efforts toward reform which our Church later carried out.

On July 25th we celebrate the Feast of St. James the Greater, Apostle. James, son of Zebedee is traditionally considered the first apostle to be martyred. He was a

son of Zebedee and Salome, and brother of John the Apostle. He was one of the first disciples to join Jesus. James was one of only three apostles whom Jesus selected to bear witness to his Transfiguration. The Acts of the Apostles records that "Herod the king" had James executed by sword. James the Greater is the patron saint of Spain and of veterinarians, equestrians, furriers, tanners, and pharmacists.

On July 26th we commemorate Ss. Joachim & Ann, Parents of the B.V.M., particularly for their faithfulness in raising Mary. On August 4th we celebrate the Feast of the Finding of the Body of St. Stephen. This feast commemorates the finding of the body of Saint Stephen, the first martyr, in 416. Let us proclaim Jesus in word and deed today as boldly as Saint Stephen did, no matter the cost.

August 6th is the Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord. August 15th is the Solemnity of the Dormition of the B.V.M. when we commemorate her earthly death and entry into eternal life with her son, Jesus which the Church counts as miraculous.

August 25th is the Feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle. August 26th is the Solemnity of Our Lady of Częstochowa, Patroness of Poland

On August 29th we celebrate the Solemnity of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. John preached repentance and was therefore very unpopular. Let us do as John did!

# July 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Solemnity – Visitation of the B.V.M.	3	4 Independence Day Holy Mass, Picnic, and KURS, Waymart, PA	5 KURS, Waymart, PA
6 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Commemoration of John Hus, Priest and Martyr Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Larry Panfil KURS, Waymart, PA	7 KURS, Waymart, PA	8 KURS, Waymart, PA	9 KURS, Waymart, PA	10 KURS, Waymart, PA	11 KURS, Waymart, PA	12 KURS Ends Waymart, PA
13 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Holy Mass, 9:30am Lector: Marilyn Hietala	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, First Communion Holy Mass, 9am Lector: Claudia Bertasso	21 CONVO 2014, Tiffin, OH	22 CONVO 2014, Tiffin, OH	23 CONVO 2014, Tiffin, OH	24 CONVO 2014, Tiffin, OH	25 Feast of St. James the Greater, Apostle CONVO 2014, Tiffin, OH	26 Commemoration of Ss. Joachim & Ann, Parents of the B.V.M.
27 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Larry Panfil	28	29	30	31		

## EVENTS

### August Upcoming

- August 3: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- August 4: Feast – Finding of the Body of St. Stephen (translated)
- August 6: Solemnity – Transfiguration of the Lord

- August 10: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- August 15: Solemnity - Dormition of the B.V.M.



# August 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Marilyn Hietala	Feast, Finding of the Body of St. Stephen		Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord		8	9
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Claudia Bertasso					15	16
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Larry Panfil					22	23
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Marilyn Hietala	Feast – St. Bartholomew, Apostle	Solemnity of Our Lady of Częstochowa			29	30
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Youth Sunday, Service of Worship and Holy Communion, 9:30am Lector: Claudia Bertasso						

## EVENTS

### September Upcoming

- 1st – Labor Day

- 14th – Solemnity of Brotherly Love
- 21st – Back to Church Sunday