



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 17, 2017

3rd Sunday of Advent

III Niedziela Adwentu

December 17, 2017

Rite: Pew Missal, page 15, Canon, page 28.

First reading: Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

Canticle: Luke 1:46-50,53-54

My soul rejoices in my God.

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

Intention: 10:30am for all parishioners.

Celebrant: 10:30am Rev. James Konicki

Lector: 10:30am Daniel DiLanne, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 10:20am. Advent Wreath Lighting, Holy Mass with Advent Penitential Service at 10:30am (Traditional Rite).
- Youth Christmas Presentation
- Vigil Pot-luck Dinner
- Greening of the church

4th Sunday of Advent

IV Niedziela Adwentu

December 24, 2017

Rite: Pew Missal, page 15, Canon, page 28.

First reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Psalms: Ps. 89:2-5,27,29

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Epistle: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Intention: 9:30am and 11:30am for All Souls remembrances.

Celebrant: 9:30am and 11:30am Rev. James Konicki

Lector: 9:30am Larry Panfil, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 9:20am. Advent Wreath Lighting. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Traditional Rite).
- Coffee Hour/First Communion/Confirmation classes.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite).
- Vigil of the Nativity Holy Mass at 4pm (Contemporary Rite)

Therefore Abraham also, knowing the Father through the Word, who made heaven and earth, confessed Him to be God; and having learned, by an announcement [made to him], that the Son of God would be a man among men, by whose advent his seed should be as the stars of heaven, he desired to see that day, so that he might himself also embrace Christ; and, seeing it through the spirit of prophecy, he rejoiced. Wherefore Simeon also, one of his descendants, carried fully out the rejoicing of the patriarch. – St. Ireneaus.

Sick Calls and Hospital Visits – Please know that hospitals will not advise parishes when an individual is admitted. Confidentiality regulations prevent them from doing so. If someone is admitted please let Father Jim know so he might visit, pray with, anoint, and bring Jesus' healing presence to them. Call Fr. Jim at 518-522-0944. You may also call Fr. Mark Gnidzinski at 518-453-2258.

Contact



Holy Name of Jesus

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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

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Upcoming...

- **December 17: 3rd Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass with Penitential Service at 10:30am followed by Youth Presentation and Vigil Dinner. Greening of the church follows.**
- **December 18: Holy Mass for Healing with Anointing at 6:15pm.**
- **December 21: Feast – St. Thomas.**
- **December 24: 4th Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Vigil of the Nativity with Holy Mass at 4pm**
- **CHRISTMAS BEGINS**
- **December 25: Solemnity of the Nativity. Holy Mass at Midnight and 10am.**
- **December 26: Feast – St. Stephen, Proto- Martyr.**
- **December 27: Feast – St. John, Apostle & Evangelist. Holy Mass at 7pm with Blessing of Wine.**
- **December 28: Commemoration – Holy Innocents.**
- **December 30: Feast of the Holy Family. Holy Mass at 10am.**
- **December 31: Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. New Year's Eve.**

We invite all who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist to partake. It is our practice to distribute the Holy Eucharist by intinction. The Body and Blood of Christ are placed on the tongue, never in the hand.

Time for doing.

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

Today’s message from scripture is one of doing (while rejoicing).

As we listen to Paul’s instructions to the Thessalonians, it sounds much like the instruction of every parent when they drop their children off somewhere. “Always be respectful. Listen closely. Pick up after yourself. Say ‘please’ and ‘thank you.’ Call me if you need anything. In fact, just call me period.” The list goes on. Most of the time those words are not even heard, because our children know them by heart. They have heard them repeatedly. But, like Paul, we have to wonder if they connect. Hearing is different from grasping and doing.

Reading Paul’s list of final exhortations, we are called to tune in attentively. Not only to listen, but to put these easy to remember admonitions into practice: REJOICE, PRAY, GIVE THANKS, DO NOT QUENCH, DO NOT DESPISE, TEST EVERYTHING, REFRAIN FROM EVIL.

Like to Letter of St. James, the First Letter to the Thessalonians is

thought to be one of the earliest writings in the Christian community. Paul is laying out directions for how Christians are to live. What are we to do every day? These things: REJOICE, PRAY, GIVE THANKS, DO NOT QUENCH, DO NOT DESPISE, TEST EVERYTHING, REFRAIN FROM EVIL.

We do not really hear it in English, but in Paul’s Greek, he laid these out in poetic form, a sort of mnemonic device, with a special rhythm so they would be easily remembered. He wanted the faithful to have this in their ears, on their tongues every day, like a song you cannot get out of your head.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all things! These imperatives are to be our individual response toward God. We are to recognize God as the source of our daily joy and we are to offer Him thanksgiving. We are to do so regardless of what is going on around us or even very close to us. We are to find joy and reason to give thanks ALWAYS.

Especially telling, the Thessalonians were facing tragedies and deaths at the time of this letter. Things that were not joyful were shaking their faith, darkening their hearts. Paul reminds them as he reminds us - If these human and earthly things, which have no power over the person faith, over people with the promise of eternal life, and who look to the immanent return of Christ can shake us, what value is our faith, our devotion, our worship? People of real faith cannot be shaken

because we stand on Christ Jesus. We own His salvation.

The next set of admonitions apply to us as a faith community, as the Church. We together are to recognize God working right here, among us. Do not quench the Spirt, do not despise prophetic words, test everything and retain what is good! God is at work here, and we see it daily, weekly. We are to take full part in that and re to do it together. We are to be open to God’s voice through the work of the Holy Spirt while at the same time testing to ensure we are consistent with scripture and Holy Tradition.

We are not to be passive or complacent in this time of waiting. We are to sing Paul’s song of God-centered action - rejoicing, praying, giving thanks, discerning, and testing. We are to live this song, this poem. It is to be the rhythm of our lives – our imperative as Jesus’ people. Let’s be His!

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Philippians 4:4

Time to Study God’s Word

SUNDAY: Acts 16:34
MONDAY: Luke 10:20
TUESDAY: Isaiah 65:18
WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 2:8
THURSDAY: Isaiah 61:10
FRIDAY: Psalm 113:1-9
SATURDAY: John 3:36

Pray

Lord Jesus, I rejoice in Your tremendous gift of salvation, freely given. Grant that I may be generous in sharing your love.

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice Houser, Angela Kaminski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan Weglinski, Robert & Stephanie Dominy, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Bishop Stanley, Brian Soos, Virginia Lamb, Virginia Rogers, Curtis Szczepkowski, Dolores Konicki, Pastor Tom Kendall, Joshua Moraski, Sue & Roger White, Chris Tatlock, Helen Pasiak, Jessie Feathers-Ostrowski, Lucas Taylor, Joanne Bauer, Shirley Greene, Madison Sheridan, Sean and Jessie Wilcox, Snyder Family, Amber Tatlock, Kathleen Hietala, Joe Barratiere, Tom Abbot, Donnie Wright, Derek Westcott, Karen Kisch, Joe Emmanuel, Gregory Henderson, Vince Cacamo, Theresa Ordon, Robert Baia, Michelle Zawistowski, Faith, Adam, Allyson Keyser, Richard and Suzette Place, Amanda Carr, Tyler Hoffman, the Hoffman Family, Daniel DiIanne, Warren Tatlock, Susan Jones, Vincenzo DiIanne, Cassandra Wade, Garry Packer, Madison Dunlap, Sandra Tatlock, Crystal Haley, Linda DePaula, Michelle & Eric. All in need of God’s healing grace.

- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States esp. Michael Angehr, Mark Collins, Pattric Jones. Fr. Joseph Kolek
- All those in Public Service, Police Officers and Fire Fighters.
- All Active and Retired Clergy of the Holy Polish National Catholic Church.
- All Students and Teachers at Mont Pleasant Middle School
- The residents and staff of City Mission of Schenectady
- All who have asked for our prayers.

We continue in prayer and intercession for one of the parishes or ministries in the Polish National Catholic Church. This week we remember and pray for the clergy and people of All Saints Parish Parish, Lucca, Italy and its pastor, Gastone Bernacchi.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobjłogosław im, O Boże!

Coffee Hour: Please join us for Coffee. Your support and assistance are needed for this ministry of hospitality. Please sign up to take a week.

Parish Organizations: Did you know that our Parish has many organizations that need you? The YMSofR - Men’s Society of the Resurrection Branch 56, ANS – Women’s Adoration Society, Choir, Parish Committee, and a hopefully reconstituted branch of the PNU (Spójnia) all need your help. See Father Jim.

Advent Continues

The season of preparation for Jesus’ return continues. What is most important is that we use this time to cleanse our hearts and minds through fasting and penitential practices. These practices should include Devotional Reading – get a good Christian book. Listening in Prayer – learn to end talking at God and to listen for His voice. Christian Music – turn off secular Christmas tunes. Give – alms and food for the poor and those in need. Learn – about the Saints of the season including Nicholas, Lucy, Barbara, Bibiana, and Thomas the Apostle. Gain Patience – need the tree up now? Really?!? When Christ returns what will He find in and around us? Let Him find us with hearts prepared and filled with longing for His Kingdom only.

Join us for Dinner and Help Prepare

Join us for our annual Vigil Dinner and youth presentation today. After our youth presentation and dinner, please stay to help with preparation in the sanctuary. Your help and support is very much appreciated.

Food Collection

We will be collecting dry and canned goods throughout November and December for donation to those in need in our community. Please make a prayerful donation in thankfulness. Please place your donation by the Mary altar in the church. Bless you!

Spaghetti Dinner

Join us for our 2nd annual spaghetti dinner which has been moved to Saturday, January 20th from 4pm till 7pm hosted by Joanne Bauer, her three daughters, and three granddaughters.

Christmas Pies

Joanne Bauer and Helen Spencer are selling Christmas pies. All pies are 9 inches. Pies are \$15 each or 2 for \$25. To order, call 518-377-1806.

Valentines Raffle

Stay tuned for our annual Outrageous Valentines Raffle.

Youth Commission Raffle

The PNU is hosting a raffle to benefit its College Stipend Program. Donations for tickets are \$5 each or 3 tickets for \$10. Tickets on the back table.

Of note...

-- Holy Name: Approaching the Kingdom --