



# Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 24, 2017

## 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

Psalm: 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 śp. Dennis Kopec.

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).
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite).
- Vigil of the Nativity Holy Mass at 4pm (Contemporary Rite)

## Solemnity of the Nativity Uroczystość Narodzenia Pańskiego

December 25, 2017

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

For readings and psalm – see special program.

Intention: All Holy Masses – for all those who are special in our lives.

Celebrant: 12am and 10am Rev. James Konicki

Lector: 12am Larry Panfil, 10am Claudia Bertasso

- Procession to the Manger and Christmas Proclamation
- Solemn High Holy Mass at Midnight (Traditional Rite).
- Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite).

## Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds Uroczystość Ubogich Pasterzy

December 31, 2017

Rite: Pew Missal, page 39, Canon, page 52.

First reading: Jeremiah 31:10-14

Psalm: Ps 97:1,6,11,12

**A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us**

Epistle: Titus 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:15-20

Intention: 9:30 – for all Bishops, priests, and deacons of our Holy Church

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

Lector: 9:30am Derek Westcott, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (PNCC Rite).
- Coffee Hour.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (PNCC Rite).

**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



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## Upcoming...

- **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.**
- **January 1: Solemnity of the Circumcision. Holy Mass at 10am. Happy 2018!!!**
- **January 2: Solemnity of the Holy Name (Parish patronal feast), Holy Mass at 7pm.**
- **January 6: Epiphany of our Lord. Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense, 10am.**

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 rethinking.

"Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?' 'It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel.'"

So here we are. In about six hours we enter into the Vigil of the Nativity. Six hours after that, we join in the celebration of the Lord's coming, His Nativity, in candlelight and soft tears – our hearts alive with the spectacle of extreme love made real.

When we face extreme love, when we experience the power of God, we are left to stand in awe. Wow, look what God did for me, look how He guided my steps. The next thing you know, we want to do good, to repay

God. David felt that way. He was humbled by all that God had done for him and wanted to reward God. God was not amused.

God says, look at all I did, I have complete and ultimate power to accomplish all things. I took a shepherd boy from nowhere and made him king. I protect my people, and you're going to build Me a house?

God proceeded to tell David what would happen. I am going to build the house. I am going to establish the kingdom. From your people, your lineage, will come the King, the Messiah. *I will raise up your Heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make His kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.*

The rest of today's scripture flows from this promise. Paul, writing as an Apostle of the promise delivered, tells his people, *Give praise and glory to Him who can strengthen you.* Rely on God to deliver – because He already did. He will make you strong in the face of everything. Don't worry about

what you can do for Him – but rather just praise Him, glorify Him for what He has done.

That reaction, that praise comes from our attitudes, our hearts, minds, souls, and bodies. We are to be ready to give this witness of praise. Our praise is to be a living portrayal of the glory of the Nativity, the freedom bought by the Cross, the promise of the Resurrection, and the Ascension. It is living in advent expectation for His return in glory.

The end of our Advent journey is the beginning of a new and more powerful journey. It is time to rethink our reaction to God. God chose what would be done and He fulfilled all he promised to do. We can give Him nothing except to live differently, to listen like Mary and to react as she did - "Behold, I will do what the Lord asks, I will do His will. Let all things in my life be according to God's word."

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

**John 3:16**

## Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Revelation 22:12

MONDAY: Hebrews 9:28

TUESDAY: Matthew 24:44

WEDNESDAY: Revelation 1:7

THURSDAY: John 14:3

FRIDAY: 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

SATURDAY: 1 Corinthians 15:52

## Pray

Lord Jesus, I rejoice in Your Nativity. I long for Your return.

## Advent concludes...

The season of preparation for Jesus' return concludes at 4pm today when we begin observation of the Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord. I pray that this time of reflection and penance has prepared our hearts, minds, and bodies for the arrival of our Savior.

## ...The Season of Christmas arrives

The season of Christmas begins at midnight. It is a 40-day celebration of the Lord with us. Just as Easter is celebrated for 40 days, so is Christmas. Join us for all the wonderful our wonderful worship opportunities. May God with us always be in the forefront of our lives.

## Christmas Wishes

This Christmas may you find Jesus, born again within you. May your hearts, homes, and families experience the true joy of God among us, opportunities new and everlasting. May He find you ready to meet Him upon his return.

Życzę Wam wszystkim błogosławionych, dobrych, spokojnych i pełnych duchowej radości świąt Bożego Narodzenia. Niechaj rodzący się podczas Eucharystii Jezus znajdzie godne mieszkanie w naszych sercach, gdzie zostanie przyjęty z wiarą i miłością. Niech Wasze rodziny i domy obdarzy hojnie łaską i pokojem. A światło Gwiazdy Betlejemskiej niech będzie znakiem na naszym szlaku do prawdziwego szczęścia.

On behalf of my family and myself, thank you for all your wonderful Christmas wishes, cards, gifts, and expressions of support. May the newly born King reward you richly upon His return.

Fr. Jim, Renee, Adam, and Victoria.

## Vigil Dinner, Greening Thank You!

This year's Vigil Dinner and youth presentation was simply excellent. Joyful sharing, great food, beautiful children and youth. Thank you so much!!! Also, to those who remained and worked so hard to prepare our parish for Jesus – God bless you for your efforts and work.

## Food Collection Thank You!

Our November-December collection of dry and canned goods was delivered to Schenectady Inner City Ministries. 212 pounds of food was collected and donated. God bless you. Our next collection starts in January for Souper Bowl Sunday.

## 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.

## Valentines Raffle

Stay tuned for our annual Outrageous Valentines Raffle.

## Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice Houser, Angela Kaminski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan Węglinski, Robert & Stephanie Dominy, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Bishop Stanley, Brian Soos, Virginia Lamb, Virginia Rogers, Curtis Sczepkowski, 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, Patricia 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 the Parish of St. John the Baptist, Oslo, Norway.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobłogosław 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.

Of note.: