



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JANUARY 28, 2018

Septuagesima Sunday Niedziela Siedemdziesiątnica

January 28, 2018

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 82.

First reading: Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

Psalm: Psalm 32:1-2,5,11

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

Intention: 11:30am for all parishioners

Celebrant: 11:30am Rev. Mark Gnidzinski

Lector: 11:30am Derek Westcott

- Matins at 11:20am. Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Please join to help take down Christmas decorations.

Sexagesima Sunday Niedziela Sześćdziesiątnicy

February 4, 2018

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 82.

First reading: Isaiah 43:18-19,21-22,24-25

Psalm: Ps 41:2-3,4-5,13-14

Lord, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Intention: 10am for our parish.

Celebrant: 10am Rev. James Konicki.

Lector: 10am Marilyn Hietala

- Matins at 9:50am and Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite). Exposition and Benediction, Blessing of Throats.
- Breakfast, Annual Meeting.

According to thy mercy, pour out upon me, who am miserable, at least one small drop of grace to make me understand and be converted, that I might make at least some small effort to correct myself. For if thy grace does not illumine my soul, I will not be able to see the carelessness and negligence that the passions have produced in me through my apathy and recklessness. – St. Ephraim the Syrian.

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...

- **January 28: Septuagesima Sunday/Music Scholarship Sunday.** Holy Mass at 11:30am ONLY.
- **February 2: Solemnity of the Presentation.** Holy Mass at 7pm with blessing of candles.
- **February 3: Commemoration of St. Blaise.**
- **February 4: Sexagesima Sunday.** Holy Mass at 10am ONLY, Blessing of Throats. Breakfast and Annual Meeting follows.
- **February 11: Quinquagesima Sunday.** Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- **February 12: President's Day.**
- **February 14: Ash Wednesday.** Holy Mass with blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 7pm. Commemoration of St. Valentine.
- **February 16: 65th Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur.** Stations of the Cross at 7pm.
- **February 18: First Sunday of Lent.** Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- **February 21: Feast – St. Matthias.**

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.

Will we live big?

Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please all men in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd playing Jake and Elwood Blues had just been released from prison. They went back to visit the orphanage in which they were raised. They find out that creditors are about to foreclose on the orphanage. Suddenly, the understood the big thing they had to do. They were going to pay off the debt. Their oft repeated statement of purpose was: “We’re on a mission from God.”

Paul was certainly on a mission from God. Yet, he says something very odd – especially on point for us in this day and age – *give no offense*. Many people tend to think (by our failure to live like Jesus) that giving offense is what the

Church is all about!

Paul was focusing on the difference between insignificant matters, small ‘t’ traditions and practices and the essentials of faith. Don’t quibble, don’t focus on the small things, don’t create offense for anyone over small things. Rather, come together in unity on the big things, the essentials. In doing that, show off Jesus. Set an example of humility. Shine forth like Jesus – be like Him. Open the door to all in need of the big healing, big peace, big confidence, and big security only Jesus can give.

Think of what Jesus taught about the things that are key. Two things only. Two commandments. Love God, love each other. Any minor issues there, anything insignificant? Not at all.

Paul’s experience helped him to really understand what Jesus taught. Paul often focused on the greatness of the mercy that was shown to him. Paul saw and experienced, in a flash of blinding light, what Jesus focused on. It was never the small. Paul had

been focused, in his pharisaical ways, on minutia. It his encounter with Jesus, Paul saw where he fell short in understanding. He finally got God’s big mercy. What counts is that God wipes out our small and the big mess of sins – our failure to love God and to share in that love as an act of love – so we can start anew.

If barriers are raised to our neighbors, by arrogance, being bound to the small and insignificant, then the path to Jesus’ big mercy is blocked.

As we begin our Pre-Lenten preparation, let us consider how we may remove any block on the way to Jesus. Are we opening the path to mercy? How will we live? What mission from God are we on? Who will we *be imitators of*?

Jesus healed the leper, and he couldn’t stand not to tell of the big mercy he received. ...*he went out and began to talk freely about [Jesus] and the people came to Him from every quarter.*

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

Time to Study God’s Word

SUNDAY: James 2:13
MONDAY: Luke 6:36
TUESDAY: Matthew 5:7
WEDNESDAY: Matthew 9:13
THURSDAY: 1 John 1:9
FRIDAY: 1 Peter 1:3
SATURDAY: Psalm 23:6

Pray

Lord Jesus, Your mercy has enveloped and saved me. Grant that I may look away from the small and only share Your mercy.

Take Note –We Need You

Please note that Holy Mass on February 4th is at 10am followed by breakfast and our annual meeting. We need you there!

Welcome to the Pre-Lenten Season

Today we begin the brief transitional season of Pre-Lent or the Season of Septuagesima. This three-Sunday season allows us to move from the joys of the Christmas/Epiphany Season to the solemn tones of Great Lent. The season serves as our remote preparations for Holy Week and Easter. During Pre-Lent, the church begins to take on a more reserved appearance. Accordingly, we will no longer have flowers adorning the Sanctuary.

Home Blessings

Let us make a special effort to celebrate Jesus’ coming with true joy for each of its forty days (i.e., until February 2nd). Note the various observances of the season on our calendar. If you would like to have your home blessed after the Solemnity of the Epiphany (January 6th), please see Fr. Jim to set up a time. All home blessings must be concluded prior to Ash Wednesday, February 14th.

SouperBowl Sunday

Our new food and money collection is for Souper Bowl Sunday, February 4th. Souper Bowl Sunday supports local charities feeding the hungry. This is our 17th year participating. Please leave your donations in the soup pot or by the manger. God bless you for your spare change and generosity!!!

Valentine’s Raffle

Our Outrageous Valentine’s raffle is just around the corner. Prizes total \$1,180! Each entry gives one multiple chances to win. Tickets should be returned by Sunday, February 4th. Thank you for supporting this effort, which pays for our summer youth programs – Kurs and CONVO.

HELP Need

I want to reach out at this special time of the year and ask some things of you. In order to live as a parish (not just survive) we need these things from you. First, **prayer**. We need your continued prayers for the parish and for our mission in Schenectady. Second, **membership**. In 1972, there were over 150 members of our parish. Did you know that our mailing list for newsletters is addressed to nearly 200 people? That is 160 possible members, we are actually growing, but only 40 maintain a membership. If you are not a member, we need you to take up membership. Third, **involvement**. If church is just for Sunday we have missed the entire point. Churches thrive on parishioner activity. Join the parish committee, take up a project, participate in the many ministries available. I ask these gifts from you in this Christmas season and throughout 2018. God bless you!

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 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, Tina Haq. 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, Fr. Stan Jasiurkowski, Fr. Robert Pleczkowski, Fr. Andrew Bilinski.
- 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 Our Savior, Stockholm, Sweden.

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...

--- Holy Name: Living Victory in Jesus ---