



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – FEBRUARY 18, 2018

1st Sunday in Lent I Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

February 18, 2018

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 84.

First reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Psalm: Ps 25:4-9

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Epistle: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Intention: 9:30am and 11:30am for all parishioners & all suffering with the flu

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

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

- Matins at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee Hour, SOCL/Confirmation/First Communion Classes
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite).

2nd Sunday in Lent II Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

February 25, 2018

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 84.

First reading: Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

Psalm: Psalm 116:10,15-19

I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Epistle: Romans 8:31-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Intention: 9:30am and 11:30am for all parishioners

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

Lector: 9:30am Marilyn Hietala, 11:30am Claudia Bertasso

- Matins at 9:20am. Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee Hour, SOCL/Confirmation/First Communion Classes
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite).

“At the door of Your compassion do I knock, Lord; send aid to my scattered impulses which are intoxicated with the multitude of the passions and the power of darkness. You can see my sores hidden within me: stir up contrition—though not corresponding to the weight of my sins, for if I receive full awareness of the extent of my sins, Lord, my soul would be consumed by the bitter pain from them. Assist my feeble stirrings on the path to true repentance, and may I find alleviation from the vehemence of sins through the contrition that comes of Your gift, for without the power of Your grace I am quite unable to enter within myself, become aware of my stains, and so, at the sight of them be able to be still from great distraction.” – St. Isaac 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

National Catholic Church, PNCC

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Schenectady, New York 12303-1846

Parish and Hall: 518-372-1992

In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

518-522-0944 or 518-765-2134

On the Web: www.holynamence.org

Upcoming...

- **February 18: First Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **February 19: Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meets. President’s Day.**
- **February 23: Stations of the Cross at 7pm.**
- **February 24: Feast – St. Matthias.**
- **February 25: Second Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **March 2: NO Stations of the Cross**
- **March 4: Third Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 11:30am ONLY.**
- **March 9: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.**
- **March 10: Lenten Retreat, 10am.**
- **March 11: Solemnity of the Institution of the PNCC. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Breakfast and Annual Financial Meeting. Daylight Savings Begins.**
- **March 16: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.**
- **March 18: Passion Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **March 19: Solemnity – St. Joseph, Spouse of the B.V.M.**

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.

I give up.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days

We know that the human body needs food and water to survive. A human can go for more than three weeks without food, but water is a different story. At least 60% of the adult body is made of water. The maximum time an individual can go without water is about one week in ideal conditions, less in more difficult conditions, like the broiling heat of a desert.

Jesus in His humanity is just like us (except for sin). It is unlikely that He gave up all food and water during His fast. What He did give up in the desert experience was any hint of self will. There, He fully connected with the Father and conformed Himself to the Father's will. He accepted the hard road ahead as His mission. This experience, separated from human company, barely existing, the ultimate in aloneness, prepared Him and strengthened Him such that no

temptation, no allure could pull Him off the Kingdom mission.

Believers are often called into a profound and mystical desert journey. It is a certain time of aloneness and apartness where we face the big roadblocks that are in the way of our journey to heaven. In that time, we break down the roadblocks, grind down the speed bumps, burn away self-interest, and commit to the road toward the kingdom. In the desert, we find God's mission for us and learn to differentiate between the things that keep us on mission or draw us away.

This week we faced a horrible tragedy in Florida. Lives taken, young, beautiful lives that will never have the opportunity to experience the desert journey of growth. Rather, they were pulled away from all of life's experiences and opportunities.

Jenny Rapson, writing at For Every Mom, notes that seventeen souls lost their lives on the first day of Lent. She asks us to seriously consider what we are giving up for Lent as

individuals and as a nation. Reflecting on Jesus' desert journey, she says: "Let's give up, as a country, as a nation, let's give up whatever it is" that blocks us from doing what is right; "whatever it is that allows people armed with assault rifles and shotguns to keep coming into schools time and time and time and time and time again to murder our children and their teachers. Let's give that up. Let's identify that thing and then let's lay it down and sacrifice it so no more children have to die."

Her poignant words call us to rise to the challenges we face as individuals, communities, and as a nation. They remind us that the desert experience must be part of our everyday lives. We must take the desert road to determine what we must give up, the actions, thoughts, and words that do not live up to the Father's will and His Son's example of resisting temptation, bringing healing, offering peace, and living anew.

My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways.

Proverbs 23:26

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: James 4:7
MONDAY: Romans 12:2
TUESDAY: James 4:10
WEDNESDAY: Galatians 2:20
THURSDAY: Matthew 7:21
FRIDAY: James 1:22
SATURDAY: Deuteronomy 6:5

Pray

Lord Jesus, grant me the grace to surrender to Your will. Draw me into the desert with You and conform me to Your will.

THANK YOU

For your Souper Bowl Sunday generosity. Over \$130 was raised and was donated to Schenectady Inner City Ministries

For your support of our Valentine's Raffle. Thus far over \$1,000 has been raised to support our youth.

The Great and Holy Lent

We mark the beginning of the first full week of Great and Holy Lent.

Please remember the Church's requirements for Lent include fasting and abstaining from meats on Wednesdays and Fridays. Doing these small disciplines help us to prepare for the greater challenges we will face in the years to come.

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday in Lent at 7pm except for March 2nd.

Seniorate Lenten Retreat

Our parish is hosting this year's Seniorate Lenten Retreat. The retreat will be held on Saturday, March 10th starting at 10am. This event is always well attended and is a great opportunity to show the faith and dedication of one of the smallest Seniorates in our Church. Please plan to attend and if possible, volunteer to help in preparation for this event. See Fr. Jim.

Lenten Directed Giving

Please see our Newsletter article on Directed Giving. It provides a nice checklist to assist in providing for those in our local community as part of our Lenten sacrifice. Your offerings can be left by the Mary altar in the front of the church. God bless your generosity!

Gospel Jubilee Concert

The largest continuing gospel celebration in the Capital Region, Gospel Jubilee, is back at Proctors on Friday, April 20th at 7pm, with a highly-anticipated seventh edition sure to bring great joy and uplifting music to all in attendance. The Union College Gospel Choir "Heavenly Voices" will be joining the Gospel Jubilee Mass Choir again this year! Let's get a group together.

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 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, Tina Haq, Louis Kiernan, Jan Shufelt. 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, Patric 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 Parish of St. Patrick, Karlstadt, Germany.

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.

Of note...

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.

--- *Holy Name: Preparing for the Kingdom* ---