



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – FEBRUARY 25, 2018

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).

3rd Sunday in Lent III Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

March 4, 2018

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

First reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm: Ps 19:8-11

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Intention: 11:30am for all parishioners.

Celebrant: 11:30am Rev. Mark Gnidzinski.

Lector: 11:30am Joe Kaczynski

- Matins at 11:20am. Holy Mass at 11:30am (Contemporary Rite).

Observe, therefore, how perfectly beautiful is the method which our Lord Jesus Christ uses here also for the benefit and edification of the holy Apostles. For He had said unto them, "Whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross every day, and follow Me. For he that will save his life shall lose it; and he that will lose his life for My sake shall find it." The commandment is indeed both for the salvation and honor of the saints, and the cause of the highest glory, and the means of perfect joy: for the choosing to suffer for the sake of Christ is not a thankless duty, but on the contrary makes us sharers in everlasting life, and the glory that is prepared. – St. Cyril of Alexandria

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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In an emergency: Fr. James Konicki at

518-522-0944 or 518-765-2134

On the Web: www.holynamence.org



Upcoming...

- **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.**
- **March 23: Stations of the Cross, 7pm.**
- **March 25: Palm Sunday. Holy Mass with Liturgy of the Palms at 9:30 and Holy Mass at 11:30am.**
- **March 27: Holy Tuesday. Clergy Conference and Holy Mass of Christ at St. Stanislaus Bishop & Martyr Cathedral.**

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.

Encountering

Him.

He was transfigured before them, and His clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus.

The absolute purity, perfection, wisdom, and justice of God make encounters with Him a fearful event. None of us is really worthy of such an opportunity. Additionally, what would we say? How could or would we explain ourselves. His all-knowing presence would see into the deepest parts of our hearts and minds. All would be revealed. We would be crushed in our own sins.

Very few in Old Testament times sought out an encounter with God. Those who knew Him either lived in fear and trembling or ignored Him and went their own way. Yet, God did not let Himself remain distant and unknown.

In Old Testament times, God set forth to walk with men and women

He encountered them, called to them, and led them. Among those who encountered God were: Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham (as we hear in today's first reading and at other times in his life), Sarah, Hagar, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, Solomon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, Daniel, and many of the prophets.

With Jesus coming, all who saw and met Him met God in the flesh. The people who recognized Him as Messiah prior to His resurrection included: Mary, John the Baptist (in the womb and when they met at Jesus at the Jordan), Simeon and Anna, Peter, the Samaritan woman at the well, Martha and Mary, the Thief on the Cross, the Centurion at the cross. After the resurrection, the remaining Apostles and 500 disciples and the two traveling to Emmaus recognized who He was.

We, like those who met Jesus after His Ascension (Stephen, Paul, and Ananias) are also able to encounter God. He remains close and accessible to us

St. Paul offers us the same reassurance he had. He does not say that that we are somehow perfect or worthy of encountering God on our own, but that God has extended Himself to us. He has chosen us and has reconciled us so that we may encounter Him in love and fellowship. By His effort – the graces won by his Son, Jesus – we are able to freely draw close to Him. Our sins no longer crush us. In fact, they have been washed away.

Today we see the three accompany Jesus up the mountain. There, they are treated to the Divine vision; the eternal breaking into the world. Jesus is completely revealed to them. Again, God reaches out to us. The encounter with God did not kill the three. Instead, they saw all God is and all He offers.

This Lent is the chance. It is the time to draw close encountering God, to remain with Him and to enter into His Divine life in new freedom without fear.

For from days of old they have not heard or perceived by ear, Nor has the eye seen a God besides You, Who acts in behalf of the one who waits for Him.

Isaiah 64:4

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Psalm 34:8
MONDAY: Job 42:5
TUESDAY: Jeremiah 31:34
WEDNESDAY: Joshua 24:31
THURSDAY: 2 Peter 1:16-18
FRIDAY: Acts 4:13
SATURDAY: Psalm 71:18

Pray

Lord Jesus, thank you for bringing me into relationship with You. Help me to remain close to You and declare You boldly.

A New & Improved Hall

Thank you to Pete, Darryl, Joe, and Larry for your wonderful work in refurbishing (sanding, washing, preparing, and painting) our parish hall. Along with the new floor, this work has renewed this vital space. Thank you to Larry and Donna for finding beautiful new window coverings. It really looks beautiful!

The Great and Holy Lent

We enter the second 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, 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 Parish of St. St. Michael, Dachau, 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 ---