

**HOLY NAME OF JESUS**  
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# NEWSLETTER

JUNE

2018



I HAVE MUCH MORE TO SAY TO YOU, BUT RIGHT NOW IT WOULD BE MORE THAN YOU COULD UNDERSTAND.

Jesus spoke those words in His final instructions to His Apostles and disciples, the night of the Last supper.

Jesus, in His infinite wisdom and love, knew they were not quite ready for everything He had to tell them. It remains that way today. Jesus has many things for us to understand and to accomplish. He does not just lay it all on us at once, but rather, as we are ready.

In the verse after this one, Jesus goes on to say: *The Spirit shows what is true and will come and guide you into the full truth.*

That is great consolation - that the Holy Spirit would come, has indeed come - to guide us and train us in all of God's truth and in Jesus' desire for our future.

As parents, grandparents, and family members we hold great expectations for our children's futures. Obviously, we don't lay it all on them at the age of two - 'this is everything I expect you to accomplish.' It would be too much, and frankly too presumptuous.

Rather, we instruct and guide, pave the way forward. We watch as our children evolve. As young people, we come to realize that the expectations of others, and those we place on ourselves, may not often turn out the way anyone expects - but yet in a way we have been prepared for all along.

During the month of June we take pause to consider God's desire for us. We hopefully stop, shut out the noise, and listen to the things He is revealing to us. His revelation is now. Stop, listen, and feel the prompting of the Holy Spirit, His nudge in a certain direction and for a glorious purpose.

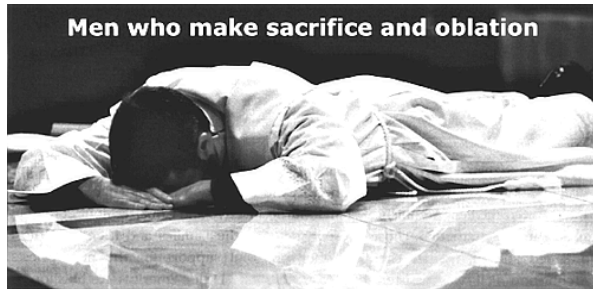
Jesus puts His desires on our hearts and minds, He leads us by the sending forth of the Holy Spirit. We have to realize that when He says we are ready - we indeed are ready.

Jesus and the Spirit are never before the right time, never before we can bear it, but when we are ready. Have we heard Him speak? Will we take up His charge? Having heard, it is time to say 'Yes LORD.'

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## **NEEDED: STRONG, DETERMINED, BRAVE, AND FAITHFUL MEN**

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Our Holy Church sets the month of June aside and encourages the faithful to pray for the clergy of our Holy Church and for an increase of vocations. We also remember those who spent their lives serving God and His people, being now retired and in need of our financial support.

Men who respond to Jesus' call are strong, determined, brave, and faithful. Are you ready to respond to God's call? Now is the time to respond to His revelation. Take action.

To respond, please contact the Savonarola Theological Seminary of the Polish National Catholic Church, 1031 Cedar Ave, Scranton, PA 18505. School, (570) 961-9288, Office, (570) 343-0100.

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## **Father's Day**

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On June 17th we honor all fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, spiritual fathers, and those special men in

our lives that exemplify the strength and dedication of fatherhood in our lives.



Within the family community, the man is called upon to live his gift and role as husband and father. We can look to the example of sacrificial love exemplified by St. Joseph and if we see these traits in the men around us we know that they are working with God.

Join us for Holy Mass that day at 9:30am or 11:30am and also for a special breakfast at 10:45am. Let us pray for God's blessing on our faithful fathers - those who are with us and for the eternal rest of those who have merited eternal life.

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## **Desperately Pray for Vocations**

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June is the month we devote to prayer for vocations. It is not hard to fathom the desperate situation the Church is in. If you and I do not pray now, and every day for vocations, who will? If we do not care enough to encourage our sons, grandsons, husbands, nephews, and cousins to the altar, who will? If we are willing to let die all that has been built here and across the world, what will be left for the future? Any Church is good enough, it doesn't really matter? Then people gave their labor and lives for nothing and our weekly Holy Mass

attendance here as well as our faith is an empty shell. There are hard decisions to be made. We have to pick ourselves up by the bootstraps, gather courage, and set to rebuilding for if we do not, who will?

*PRAY EVERYDAY: O Almighty God, look mercifully upon Thy Church and incline the hearts of many of her sons to offer themselves for the work of the sacred priesthood, so that by their labors Thy light may shine in the darkness of the world and the coming of Thy kingdom may be hastened by the perfecting of Thine elect. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. — A Prayer for the Increase of Priests from A Book of Devotions and Prayers According to the Use of the Polish National Catholic Church.*

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## **Clergy Pension – Donate and Pray**

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Did you know that our priests receive a pension from the Church? On Father's Day, we are asked to make donations toward that pension fund. They are so very needed.

Why pray – because, frankly, the picture says it all – pennies. Our pension plan is so poor that our retired clergy often end up impoverished. A retired priest and his spouse receive a total of \$600 per month. They lose their housing

and all the other benefits they had as active clergy and must venture out to live on that meager amount. They sacrificed their lives for their flock, they must sacrifice again. Should the priest die, the widow is left with \$300 a month. What a shame!

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## **BISHOP BERNARD'S PASTORAL LETTER ON VOCATIONS**

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June 1, 2018

To the Very Reverend, Reverend Fathers and the Reverend Messrs., and my dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus our Lord:

¡Viva el mes de junio! That's Spanish for "Long live June," "Hurray for June." Hurray, indeed! And welcome to the month of vocations in the Polish National Catholic Church: June is Sacred Vocations month for us. June is the month we focus on our great need for priests, and on the need for significant donations throughout the PNCC to be made to the Clergy Pension Plan.

Our need of priests is dire and critical, but I am nonetheless hopeful and optimistic. Even though no Polish National Catholic families have sacrificed even one of their men, young or old, to our altars in the past twelve years, (and it doesn't look like any family will in the near future), I remain optimistic. Even though our seminary has been empty for that period of time, except for the

occasional priest from another Church orienting himself there to work as a priest in the PNCC, I have good reason to hope because I have experienced God's providence. Our parish in Denver was declining but was pulled back from the brink of closure by an Hispanic priest from Mexico and 90 people of Mexican heritage who now comprise the great majority of that parish. St Francis, Denver, is growing, and is enthusiastically PNCC, and is flying 18 young people and 6 adults to Convo 2018 here next month.

Because Father Alfonso Castillo needs pastoral help there, I enthusiastically agreed to review applications from priest friends of his in Mexico to provide assistance to him, and subsequently serve our American parishes desperate for priests. In our Diocese, two priests, in fine parishes, are retiring next year. I have no one to fill them. A priest in our Diocese is on three parishes in Jersey. Three priests are on two parishes each. And there are ailing and aging priests all over the place! And yet I am hopeful. So I say, ¡Viva México!

With the increase in aging clergy comes the need for our Clergy Pension Plan to support them all. We collect for this vital entitlement throughout the year and especially in the month of June. We need more capital to invest, the interest from which the pension payments are made. From age 70, a PNCC priest can look forward to a monthly check in the amount of \$600; and his

widow, a check in the amount of \$300. Please be generous in this drive. And so I say, in my optimism, ¡Viva el Plan de Pensión del Clero! (Hurray for our Clergy Pension plan!)

I believe God is showing us a potential direction for the future of our Church; and that pathway seems to be presenting itself from south of the border. For the Methodist Church, that pathway is from South Korea, and for the Roman Catholic Church, from India among other sources. In light of all of this, Bishop Hodur has indeed blessed us with a most optimistic motto for our Church when he penned: *A través de la Verdad, el Trabajo y las Dificultades ¡Venceremos!*

Yours in Christ,  
Bishop Bernard

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## On humility

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From the writings of St. Isaac the Syrian (7th century), monk near Mosul (present day Iraq). "Whoever humbles himself will be exalted"



*God's providence, which is ever watchful to give each one of us what is for our good, has guided all things in our direction to lead us to humility. Since, if you take pride in the graces of providence, it will forsake you and you will fall back... Take note, then, that it belongs neither to you nor your virtue to resist evil inclinations, but that grace alone holds you in hand to keep you from being afraid... In time of testing groan and weep and call to mind your failings that you may be set free from pride and win humility. All the same, don't despair. Humbly beg God to forgive you your sins. Even without works, humility wipes out many faults. Without it, on the other hand, works are useless – they even lead to many evils. Therefore, obtain by your humility forgiveness for your unrighteousness. What salt is to every food, humility is to every virtue; it can break the strength of numberless sins... If we possess it, it can make us children of God and lead us to God even without the help of good works. That is why, without it, our works are of no value, our virtues are vain, and vain, too, is all our effort.*

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## **Summertime Events**

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We welcome all to attend these great summer events including the:

- KURS 2018 with the theme "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race" will be held at the Bishop Hodur Retreat and

Recreation Center, Spojnia Farm, Waymart, PA from June 30th through-July 7th.

- The Church's Annual Fourth of July Celebration will begin with Mass at the chapel at the former Manor at Waymart on **SATURDAY, JUNE 30th**.
- CONVO 2018 - Anointed Lifeguards will take place from July 23-27, 2018 at the University of Scranton.
- The United Y.M.S. of R. 4th Annual Golf Outing will be hosted by Y.M.S. of R. Branch 20 at Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral, Lancaster, NY on August 18th.

See Fr. Jim and sign-up to go. These are great events!!!

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## **Raffle Tickets**

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We have very few Convo raffle tickets left. Win up to two \$500 gift cards.

The National YMSofR is holding a golf raffle with some great golf items as winnings.

If interested, please see See Fr. Jim.

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## **Milestones to Celebrate:**

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### Birthdays

- 1 Christine Griessler, Cody Houser
- 5 Caleb Johnson, Marc Wienclawski
- 6 Peter Battaglia, Linda Carringi, Frances LaGreca, Amber Laporte-Smith, Ryder Prusky
- 8 Jenna DonVito, Sabrina Brook
- 10 Henry Carringi III
- 11 Claudia Bertasso

15 Michael Houser  
16 Timothy Olsen, Mikaela Hoefer  
19 Amber Oravsky  
22 Edward Bertasso  
24 Seth Garrison  
30 Nicholas Badovinac

#### Anniversaries

22 Peter & Elizabeth Battaglia  
22 Larry & Donna Panfil  
28 Philip & Angela Jorczak

Wishing you all many years! Sto  
Lat!

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## On sacrifice

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Here is an example from the writings of St. Gregory of Nyssa (4th century). These acts of mercy are the "sacrifices" which increase our holiness.

*Even the night must not interrupt your works of mercy. Do not say: "Go, come back tomorrow and I will give it to you" (Prov 3:28). Nothing must come between your intention and your carrying out your act of kindness... "Share your bread with the hungry; bring the afflicted and the homeless into your house" (Is 58:7) and do so with joy and alacrity. "One who does acts of mercy, says Saint Paul, let him do so with cheerfulness" (Rom 12:8). Then your good deed is doubled by your readiness. On the other hand, what is offered reluctantly and under constraint is unwelcome and unadorned. Good deeds must be cheerful, not doleful... "Then your light shall break forth like the dawn*

*and your wound shall be quickly healed" (Is 58:8). No who is there who does not long for light and healing?...*

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## **I often wonder - on "saints" who hate us and feasts that do not exist**

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As members of our Holy Church, we have a beautiful array of saints and of solemnities and feasts - those honored by the historic Church prior to the corruption and evil brought about by papal infallibility - and those specific to our Church.

Alleged Marian Feasts and Appearances - As members and faithful of the Church we should use great care in rejecting alleged doctrines and feast that are inconsistent with the historic Church.

Specifically, we must reject the doctrines of the alleged Immaculate Conception and the Assumption of the B.V.M. We are also called to reject anything that allegedly 'adds' to Jesus' teaching and Divine revelation. Jesus gave us all instruction and the Father poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit for our understanding. As such, things like alleged Marian appearances at places like "Fatima, Lourdes, Knock, La Salette, Medjugorje" and others hold nothing for us and in fact detract from Jesus as our teacher and Savior.

Divine Mercy - We should always trust and put our faith in God's mercy and we should rightly fear His justice. That is natural for every Christian.

Another false and destructive Roman Catholic practice we must reject is the alleged appearances of Jesus to a Roman Catholic nun in Poland. Even the Roman Church rejected the fantasies of Sr. Maria Faustyna Kowalska until Karol Wojtyła became Bishop of Rome and instituted the nun as a saint and elevated her fantasy to a feast. He beatified 1,340 people and canonized 483 'saints,' more than the combined tally of all his predecessors in five centuries. Included therein are 'saints' and special observances from his native land. This unfortunate venture into nationalist ego has mislead many. The Sunday after Easter in our Holy Church is called Low Sunday.

...and they hate us - I have seen members of your Holy Church hold devotion to some recently invented saints. This is ironic, since as a rule, these Roman Catholic 'saints' hated us as a Church and as people. They sought only our 'conversion' and subjugation. For instance:

The mission Maximilian Kolbe entrusted to his 'Knights of the Immaculata' was converting the whole world to the Catholic Church. He said, "Only until all schismatics **[you and me]** ...profess the Catholic Creed with conviction, - only then will the Immaculata have reached its goals."

Sr. Faustina created a novena and taught her adherents to pray: "Today bring to Me the souls of heretics and schismatics... During My bitter Passion they **[that is you and me]** tore at My Body and Heart... As they return to unity with the Church My wounds heal and in this way they alleviate My Passion. Most Merciful Jesus... receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of heretics and schismatics. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart... Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of heretics, and schismatics, who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces obstinately persisting in their errors **[do we feel this way about ourselves?]**."

The alleged Fatima apparitions taught: "Refute schismatics **[that is you and me]**."

Before picking up some 'saint,' do some research and find out - what would they say about me?

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### **With Thanks**

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To all who continue to pray, sacrifice, and serve in Christian love and charity on behalf of our parish.

To all who prayed with us this past Memorial Day both at the cemetery and at home.

To the members of our Parish Committee for their hard work and

sacrifice.

To our wonderful altar servers, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia, and to all who help with the ministry of hospitality.

To Alyssa, Kyle and all volunteers who welcomed children and youth to PolishFest at B.V.M. parish from June 1-3. A special thanks to the PolishFest committee for inviting us. \$619 was raised for our parish youth.

To Bishop Judy Murphy-Jack, Larry, Donna, Linda, Derek, and all who performed at, attended, and prepared food for our first ever Gospel Concert. You lifted all hearts and minds to God.

To Joanne and her family for preparing a wonderful Mother's Day breakfast.

To every parishioner, visitor, and member -- you are a blessing and a treasure. God bless you and reward you! Thank you!!!

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### **A Fathers' Day Prayer**

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*God our Father, In your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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### **Planning For:**

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Holy Mass on Sundays is at 9:30 and 11:30am unless otherwise noted.

- June 1: Sacred Vocations Month Begins.
- June 1-3: PolishFest at B.V.M. of Częstochowa Parish
- June 3: Sunday in the Octave of Corpus Christi.
- June 8: Solemnity - Sacred Heart of Jesus.
- June 10: 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- June 11: Feast - St. Barnabas.
- June 13: Commemoration - St. Anthony of Padua.
- June 17: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Father's Day. Father's Day Breakfast at 10:45am.
- June 18: Healing Holy Mass at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting at 7pm.
- June 24: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- June 24: Solemnity - St. John the Baptist (translated).
- June 29: Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul, Apostles.
- June 30 - July 7: KURS at Waymart, PA.
- June 30: Independence Day, 4th of July Holy Mass and Picnic, Waymart, PA.
- July 1: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time. **HOLY MASS at 11:30AM Only.**



# June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 PolishFest, BVM of Częstochowa Parish	2 PolishFest, BVM of Częstochowa Parish
3 Sunday in the Octave of Corpus Christi. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil and Claudia Bertasso.	4	5	6	7	8 Solemnity - Sacred Heart of Jesus	9
10 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Joe Kaczynski (sub) and Claudia Bertasso.	11 Feast - St. Barnabas	12	13 Commemoration - St. Anthony of Padua	14	15	16
17 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala (sub) and Claudia Bertasso. Father's Day. Father's Day Breakfast at 10:45am.	18 Healing Holy Mass at 6:15pm.  Parish Committee Meeting at 7pm.	19	20	21	22	23
24 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil and Claudia Bertasso.	25 Solemnity – St. John the Baptist (translated).	26	27	28	29 Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul, Apostles	30 Kurs Begins. Independence Day Holy Mass and picnic, Waymart, PA.

## EVENTS

### July Upcoming

- July 1 – Holy Mass at 11:30am only.
- Convo – July 23-27.