

HOLY NAME OF JESUS

NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC

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NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, WHATEVER YOU BIND ON EARTH SHALL BE BOUND IN HEAVEN, AND WHATEVER YOU LOOSE ON EARTH SHALL BE LOOSED IN HEAVEN.

Jesus said these words twice, in the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Once was to the Apostles on the occasion where Jesus had asked them: "*Who do people say I am?*" They confessed their faith. Jesus then gave them an awesome and awful power, to loose and bind sin.

The second time was when Jesus was explaining how the Church was to deal with sin. First, go to a person privately and confront them - try to turn them. Next go with two witnesses and confront them - try again to turn them. Finally, bring them before the whole Church, and if they refuse to change, to turn away from sin, they are to be treated as an outsider. Jesus reminded them of the awesome and awful power He had given them, the power to loose and bind sin.

Why say awesome and awful?

We frequently encounter the awesome part of Jesus' gift to His Apostles and their successors. It is the power to loose sin, to free people from what binds them down. It is the ability to grant freedom.

That is the greatest thing! We use this awesome gift a lot. Because of that, and because we hear it from the pulpit, 'forgive one another,' we kind of take forgiveness for granted. It seems it is always there for us.

The other side, the awful side of Jesus' grant is that we have been given the authority to bind. That is one fearful power, to leave someone in their sins, to effectively condemn them to their burden. Yet, Jesus gave us this power for a very important reason.

The reason for this gift is some people's refusal to turn around - the literal meaning of repent. Some just won't repent, wont turn around and go the other way. If someone persists in their sin(s), we should not just give forgiveness.

The faithful must reflect on both aspects of the power Jesus gave us. The call is to turn, and live as Jesus showed. We must take Him seriously. We must be aware and responsibly use both the awesomeness and fearfulness of Jesus' gift to teach and correct.

A Place To Belong!



Back to Church Sunday is coming up on Sunday, September 16th. Join us for 9:30am or 11:30am special Holy Masses specifically designed to welcome new and returning people back to church. We'll have a relevant message on this Sunday called **"You Belong Here."**

"You Belong Here," is relevant to the felt need in today's culture. The fact is that 75% of Americans admit to feeling deep loneliness. In addition, the number of Americans with no close friends has tripled since 1985.

We know that there has never been a better time than now for people to come back and get plugged in to church. Church offers friendships, opportunities to serve the community, and the chance to grow spiritually through a journey of personal faith. Church connects us.

We'll also have coffee and snacks to help all of us get to know each other, and it will be a blast!

This is the perfect opportunity to

invite your friends, family, neighbors and coworkers to join you and grow deeper in their faith, and to eliminate loneliness and isolation.

Check out www.holynamencc.org or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HolyNameOfJesusSchenectady/ for more information and all the details.

XXV Holy Synod



The XXV Holy Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church will take place at Our Lady of the Snows Monastery in Bellville, Illinois from Monday, October 1st through Wednesday,

October 3rd.

The upcoming Holy Synod is the fullest expression of our Church's ecclesial democracy. Our voice and vote will be represented by Fr. Jim and Claudia Bertasso, your elected representative.

The Holy Synod will work to build on what was accomplished at the Synod four years ago. At that Synod a general plan of action was laid out to select five areas of focus: 1) Growth and Membership, 2) Increase Spirituality, 3) Lifelong Learning, 4) Sacred Vocations and

5) Community Involvement and Presence. In an effort to build upon this plan we will have a number of sessions during this Synod in which we will: 1) evaluate the work of the past four years and make suggestions for improvement, 2) discuss successes and challenges in each of the 5 areas, 3) further develop the 5 areas and create further directions of implementation and lastly 4) make a more concrete plan for the years 2018-2022.

At each Synod the membership of National Commissions is set for the following four year period. These names come from volunteer Synod delegates. Although it is often only Synod delegates who become members of these Commissions, this is not required. Anyone who is interested in working to help the Church on a Synodal Commission may submit their name. Those submissions will be evaluated by the Prime Bishop and then presentation will be made to the General Synod. The list of National Commissions is: 1) Constitution, 2) Mission and Evangelism, 3) Budget and Finance, 4) School of Christian Living, 5) Liturgy, 6) Church Doctrine, 7) Clergy Salary and Benefits, 8) History and Archives and 9) Sacred Vocations. Please consider if your talents may help the Church in serving on one of these Commissions. You may contact the Office of the Prime Bishop at 1006 Pittston Ave, Scranton, PA 18505 in writing should you wish to volunteer.

Please pray for the Holy Synod, for the bishops and all the clergy, and for all lay delegates. There is much important work that needs to be done as we chart a way forward to continue to build up the Kingdom of God with our Polish National Catholic Church. Pray the following each day through October 3rd:

Let us pray: O Holy Spirit, as the moments of Holy Synod approach, inspire and enlighten our bishops, clergy and delegates. As You descended upon our Lord Jesus Christ at the moment of His baptism, descend once again upon His body, the Church. In the preparations that will take place and in the proceedings that will occur, let all gathered in Holy Synod, listen to Him Who is our Lord. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with the Father and the same Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Special Upcoming Events

September 9th, Solemnity of Brotherly Love. Holy Masses at 9:30am and 11:30am.

September 11th, Prayer Service of Remembrance on the 17th Anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy at 7pm.

September 16th, Back to Church Sunday – You Belong Here. Holy Masses at 9:30am and 11:30am.

**Polish Dinner – September 22nd
from 4pm – 7pm at the
Rotterdam Senior Citizens’
Center, 2639 Hamburg St.,
Schenectady.**

**Rummage, Bake, and Bag Sale -
Saturday, October 13th from
9am until 3pm.**

HELP NEEDED - POLISH DINNER AND RUMMAGE SALE EVENTS

We need help prior to and at both our Polish Dinner and Rummage Sale events.

Our Polish Dinner will be held on Saturday, September 22nd from 4pm – 7pm at the Rotterdam Senior Citizens’ Center, 2639 Hamburg St., Schenectady. Dinner includes: Kielbasa, 2 Pierogi, Kapusta, Gołąbki, Rye Bread, and a Drink for \$14. Polish pizza and homemade desserts will also be available. Please sign up to help at the parish.

Our annual Rummage, Bake, and Bag Sale will be held on Saturday, October 13th from 9am until 3pm. You may begin dropping off items any Sunday. Alyssa is leading this year’s effort. Please lend her your support and assistance. There is a sign up sheet in church.

Kurs Report

Our youth, Adam, Victoria, Christina, Nick, Erickaa, and Traviss

had a great time at Kurs Camp. The camp theme was from 2 Timothy: *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.*

Take a moment to ask our young people about keeping the faith through every challenge.

God bless our youth!!!!!! On to Kurs 2019!

Convo 2018 Report

The National Youth Convocation of the Polish National Catholic Church is held every even year, rotating the four American Dioceses of our denomination.

This year, it was the Central Diocese’s turn, and we chose to have it right in the backyard of our Cathedral at the University of Scranton. This year’s theme was Anointed Lifeguards. We studied the Book of the Prophet Nehemiah and how God has anointed each of us to be lifeguards - to rebuild the Church and our communities.

Our representatives at Convo were Adam, Victoria, Christina, Nick, and Erickaa. Fr. Jim was the chaplain.

Pictures for the Convo are on the Facebook group titled “Convo 2018.” Please feel free to ask any of the attendees about their experience.

Music Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to Victoria Konicki and Christina Supinski who received

National United Choirs (NUC) Music Scholarships this year. The awards were announced at Convo 2018 held in Scranton, Pennsylvania in July.

Information on the scholarship program can be obtained by visiting the NUC website:
nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com.

Healing Holy Masses Continue

We hold a monthly healing Holy Mass. Check out our schedule in your weekly bulletin. The next is scheduled for Monday, September 17th at 6:15pm.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 Paul Zawistowski
- 3 Cindy Houser, Melissa Horton, Chris Zostant, Eric Esner
- 4 Alicja Chrobok
- 12 Robbie Heins
- 14 Callie Lennon
- 15 Beverly Limmer
- 16 JoAnne Houser
- 24 Lynn Maliszewski
- 26 Donna Panfil, Nicholas DeMidio, Chad Smith
- 28 Angela Jorczak

Anniversaries

- 4 Jason & Christine Lennon, Thomas & Kathleen Caulfield
 - 21 Timothy & Christine DeCocco
- Wishing you all many years! Sto Lat!

This Labor Day - Celebrate the Sacredness of Work

"But let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an everlasting stream." — Amos 5:24

On Labor day weekend we are reminded of God's call to practice justice, mercy, and compassion toward all workers.

Labor Day comes out of a long history of workers organizing to secure their rights, safety, and dignity. Our Holy Church stood strong with workers. We did so with the coal miners and steel workers of Pennsylvania, the grain millers and meat packers of Buffalo, and the auto workers of Detroit.

In our community and throughout our nation and world, workers continue to struggle for fair pay, time off, safety on the job, access to healthcare and education, and the right to organize. As workers and worker advocates, people of faith have been and continue to be an important part of the movement for worker justice.

JOIN NOW - YOUR FRIENDS ARE...

YMSofR: 10 members so far. Thank you. All men of the parish are asked to take up a membership. Dues are \$6/year. We will be hosting the national YMS of R convention in 2019 and want to make sure the men of our Holy Church experience our great hospitality.

ANS: All women of the parish are asked to take up a membership in the Adoration Society. Please see Marilyn or Liz for more information.

The **PNUA** is a fraternal benefits organization that supports the work of our Church. Many valuable and beneficial programs are offered including college stipends for students who have been members for at least five years. Check it out.

Ask Fr. Jim about any of these.

I WON'T WASH!

A pastor was thinking about all the reasons people give for not going to church. He'd certainly heard many of those reasons throughout his ministry. He figured, if he changed church into wash, maybe people would see that reasons make little sense. Come to church and get renewed, clean, and ready for eternity. Invite someone too.

Reasons why I don't go to church translated into "Reasons Why I Never Wash:"

- I was forced to wash as a child.
- People who wash are hypocrites - they think they are cleaner than everybody else.
- There are so many different kinds of washing; I can't decide which one is best.
- I used to wash, but I got bored and stopped.
- I wash only on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter.
- None of my friends wash.
- I'll start washing when I get older and dirtier.
- I can't spare the time.
- People who make soap are only after your money.
- I can clean myself perfectly well whenever I pass a sink, so I don't need a bathtub.
- I know how to stay clean without washing.
- The last time I washed, someone was rude to me.
- What I do doesn't affect anybody but me.
- I know someone who washes every day and still smells bad.
- I don't believe in soap. I sat beside a whole case of it for an hour once, and nothing happened.
- Washing was invented by people who knew nothing about science.
- I'm so dirty now that if I washed, the drain would clog.
- Cats, dogs, and chickens never wash, and they are happy all the time.
- Prehistoric humans were happy all the time until the first soap salesman made them feel guilty.
- If I start washing again, my friends will think I am trying to conform to middle-class standards.
- Washing is for women and children.
- Washing is for people much dirtier

than I am.

- I will wash when I find the bathroom that is exactly right for me.
- I only believe in things I can see, and I can't see bacteria.
- Children need to see that it is OK to be different.
- Children need to see a few bad examples.
- Washing may have been OK in my grandfather's day, but it's not practical in today's world.
- I watch other people washing on TV.
- There are lots of clean people who never wash.
- We've just moved here six years ago and haven't had a chance.
- I bought a bad bar of soap once, so I swore I would never wash again!
- I feel as close to washing on the golf course as I do in the bathroom.
- I never wash when I have company.
- Washday is the only day I have to sleep in.
- My wife washes enough for the whole family
- I know people who wash but don't act very clean.

With Thanks

To all who continue to pray,

sacrifice, and serve in Christian love and charity on behalf of our parish.

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

Thank you so much to everyone who attended our summer picnic. Thank you to all who did so much to prepare and who donated such great food. It was the best and largest picnic ever.

To our wonderful altar servers, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia.

To all who donated 108 pounds of food during our summer food collection.

To every parishioner, visitor, and member -- you are a blessing and a treasure.

God bless you and reward you!!!

Coffee Hour Returns

Our weekly coffee resume September 9th. Thank you to all who contribute to continuing this ministry of hospitality. If you can, please pitch in to host one. This gives us the time to gather after services every week. A time to belong to each other in Christ.

Planning For:

Holy Mass each Sunday at 9:30am and 11:30am unless others noted.

- September 2: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- September 3: Labor Day

- September 8: Nativity of the BVM
- September 9: **Solemnity of Brotherly Love.** Coffee hour resumes.
- September 11: 17th Anniversary Memorial Prayers at 7pm.
- September 14: Solemnity – Exaltation of the Holy Cross,
- September 15: Solemnity – Holy Mother of Sorrows
- September 16: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Back to Church Sunday.** Invite Someone.
- September 17: Healing Holy Mass at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting.
- September 21: Feast - St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist.
- September 22: Polish Dinner, 4-7pm.
- September 23: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Spójnia Sunday.
- September 29: Feast - St. Michael the Archangel.
- September 30: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Blessing of Pets at Holy Mass. **ONE HOLY MASS at 8AM.**
- October 13: Rummage Sale, 9am - 3pm.

Spójnia Sunday & Contest

On September 23rd we commemorate the historic association of the PNU and Polish National Catholic Church and serve as reaffirmation of the commitment of the

PNU in the many fields of Christian endeavor. As we celebrate Spójnia Sunday – let us always remember to support the efforts of our sister organization as the PNU continues to support the members, clergy and parishes of the PNCC. For more information on the Polish National Union please contact your PNU Branch Secretary, visit the web site www.pnu.org, or call the PNU Home Office at 800-724-6352 for more information.

This year's Spójnia Sunday contest will celebrate our 100% PNU families and aligns to the PNCC 2018 Future Direction "Year of the Family." Send us a family photo where everyone in the picture is a PNU member. It can be any combination of your family and extended family, but the photo must contain two or more people and PNU members only. Social membership counts as PNU membership. Provide the full names for everyone shown in the photo and mail the photo to: Kathy Nemkovich, 37 Winthrop St., Fall River, MA 02721, or email to kathynemkovich@gmail.com. Deadline to receive photos is November 1, 2018. All photos will be entered into a drawing to win \$250 and may be used in future PNU materials. The drawing will be held in December at the PNU Board meeting.

If you are not yet a 100% PNU family, you can sign up for PNU membership on Spojnia Sunday or at any time before November 1, 2018 by contacting your Branch Secretary or District Director, visiting us online at www.PNU.org, email us at info@pnu.org, or call the home office at 800-724-6352.

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am Lector: Marilyn Hietala / Claudia Bertasso	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	8 Solemnity – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9 Solemnity of Brotherly Love. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lector: Joe Kaczynski / Claudia Bertasso	10	11 17th Anniversary of 9/11/2001 Prayer Service at 7pm	12	13	14 Solemnity – Exaltation of the Holy Cross	15 Solemnity – Holy Mother of Sorrows
16 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Back to Church Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lector: Larry Panfil / Claudia Bertasso	17 Healing Holy Mass at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting	18	19	20	21 Feast - St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	22 Polish Dinner, 4pm – 7pm
23 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Spójnia Sunday Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lector: Marilyn Hietala / Claudia Bertasso	24	25	26	27	28	29 Feast – St. Michael the Archangel
30 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Blessing of Pets Holy Mass at 8am ONLY. Lector: Joe Kaczynski / Claudia Bertasso						

EVENTS

October Upcoming

- 1st through 3rd XXV Holy Synod
- 13th Rummage Sale 9am to 3pm

INVITE SOMEONE FOR BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY