

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
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NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER

2018



"ASK, AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU; SEEK, AND YOU WILL FIND; KNOCK, AND IT WILL BE OPENED TO YOU."

The month of November is dedicated to remembering our dearly departed. As I reflect on this month, I cannot help but pause to consider what will happen to me. I do not do this to be morbid or to dwell on dark things, in fact I try to focus on those I will leave behind. I guess that's one of those habits of a part time genealogist. I also like to annoy my family by telling them the songs I would like played at the post funeral repast.

The one song I would love to have played is "Knocking On Heaven's Door." Any version is fine: Bob Dylan, Guns N' Roses, or Eric Clapton. I particularly like Warren Zevon's version or the Polish version by Babsztyl - "Pukając do nieba bram."

We often feel we are standing just outside heaven's door. We stand there knocking. This takes two forms.

One form of knocking is the kind we do every day - looking for reasons, seeking help, trying to get to an answer. The other form of knocking is the one we anticipate doing. What

it will be like when I get there. Will I be left on the porch, at the gate, knocking and waiting?

The hardest thing to get in our walk of faith is the sort of confidence that tells us 'the door will be open.' Yet, that is what Jesus promises us. The words above, taken from Matthew, Chapter 7, are the start of His promise. Jesus goes on to say: "*For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.*" He goes on to describe how our Heavenly Father will provide good to those who ask. He didn't say these things so we would wonder or be fearful.

In the Polish version, the singer cries out: Błagam Panie otwórz mi Zanim mrok pochłonie mnie. [I beg You, Lord, open the door Before darkness consumes me.]

As we face this month of memory, and perhaps some self-reflection, let us take time to ask Jesus to reinforce our confidence. Let us realize we are never outside the door. We don't have to knock, He has already opened the door for us.

Rt. Reverend śp. Stanley M. Bilinski
July 11, 1953 - November 2, 2018



Very early in the morning of November 2nd, All Souls Day, just after the end of All Saints Day, our beloved former pastor, the Rt. Rev. śp. Stanley M. Bilinski reposed in the Lord.

Bishop śp. Stan, as a priest, served in the Capital Region for over twenty years.

He began pastoring in the area at Blessed Virgin Mary of Częstochowa Parish when it was located in Albany. He led the parish through its move to Latham, NY and oversaw the building of the new parish facility. He first came to Holy Name of Jesus parish to assist Fr. śp. Jonathan Trela during his time of

illness and continued his pastoral leadership through 2011.

Besides his immediate pastoral leadership in parishes, Fr. Stan was active in area ecumenical activities. He oversaw the Albany International Airport prayer room on behalf of the Capital Area Council of Churches. He taught in area schools, putting his education degree to good use with the family he most loved - youth. He was involved in many charitable activities lending mental and physical labor to various projects.

He was the Church's National Youth Chaplain for many years and was also active in the Church's bowling and music programs. He was the Church's lead in Orthodox-PNCC dialogs.

Bishop śp. Stan was the beloved husband of Deborah, nee Petrosky; loving father of Joshua and Hannah; dearest brother of Charles (Cathy), Robert (Christine) and the late Karolyn Alexis; cherished uncle of James, Jake, David and Lauren.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Bishop śp. Stan's memory may be made to the Clergy Pension Fund 920 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068. Eternal rest grant unto Your servant O Lord!



Month of All Souls



The Holy Church sets aside the month of November to commemorate those who have preceded us in

holy death.

As Christians we recognize that death is not an ending, but rather a change. We pass through death into everlasting life. We remain joined with all those who have died. We rely on them for their intercession on our behalf. They rely on our prayers and intercession to ease their transition, their journey into the glory of heaven.

We will remember our dearly departed all month according to age old Catholic custom of commemoration and prayer...a custom known as "wypominki."

We will remember all those entrusted to our prayer prior to every Holy Mass in November.

We will hold our annual blessing of graves at Good Shepherd Cemetery on Sunday, November 4th at 2pm.

Event Cancellations

The parishes of the Mohawk Valley Seniorate were to join together at Holy Cross parish, Syracuse, NY on Saturday, November 10th for a Thanksgiving Holy Mass followed by

a Luncheon.

The following day, November 11th, we were to hold Confirmation of two of our youth and the formal installation of Fr. Jim as pastor.

Due to the passing of Bishop śp. Stan, these events have been cancelled. The Confirmation and installation will be rescheduled at a more appropriate time.

Constant Thanksgiving

To all who planned, helped, baked for, organized, and supported our Rummage Sale.



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!!!!

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

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

God bless you and reward you! Bóg zapłać! Grazie mille! Thank you!!!

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

3 Tiffany Martucci, Andrew DeCocco

4 Elizabeth, Gary, and Walter

Węglinski
12 Kayla Boyland, Ariel Dopp
14 Scott Bard, Tom Caulfield
19 Victoria Konicki
20 Anthony Heins
21 Tania Boniecki
23 Jan Shufelt, Oswald Martucci
26 Julie Slezak
28 Alice Houser
30 Fr. Jim

Wishing you all many years! Sto
Lat!

Coffee Hour

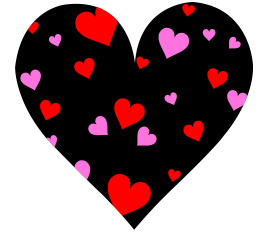
Don't you love our time together for coffee, snacks, fellowship, conversation, and catching up after Holy Mass on Sunday? It really is a special and very important part of our parish life. It is a time where we can share with each other, educate our youth, and welcome newcomers and seekers (people looking for a church home). Without it, we would be cutting off a very essential part of our life and ministry.

Frankly – coffee hour needs some help. Please prayerfully consider signing up to assist and provide for a week. Please sign up to bring items in a set up on any particular week. REMEMBER: Nothing fancy is needed. The parish reimburses all costs if you wish. We really need your help.

Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

This coming year, 2019, we will once again hold our Outrageous

Valentine's raffle to support the youth of our Church and our parish. including support for the annual KURS summer encampment and Convo 2020.



We need your support to give our young people a great beginning. Each Outrageous Valentine's Raffle ticket gives the purchaser a chance to win up to \$1,180. The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle will include drawings for \$40 daily prizes and a \$100 daily prize on Valentine's Day. The raffle is drawn each day of the month, giving the ticket holder 28 chances to win. Winners are returned to the raffle bucket, making them eligible to win again and again.

Tickets will be mailed out this month. Each family is being asked to sell a total of 10 tickets. Tickets cost only \$10 each. They also make a great gift for Christmas – add one to a card for that special person.

Kindly do your best in selling as many tickets as you possibly can. Your effort is truly appreciated and is very important to our young people. Feel free to contact Fr. Jim at 518-372-1992 or 518-522-0944 with any questions or concerns.

We thank you for your support and wish you good luck!

Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Collection

We are collecting dry and canned goods throughout November and December for donation to those in need in our community. Please make a prayerful donation in thankfulness. Please place your donation by the Mary altar in the church. Bless you!

Planning For:

- November 1: Solemnity of All Saints - Special Holy Mass at 7pm with a reading of the names of our dearly departed.
- November 2: Observance of All Souls.
- November 4: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Cemetery Service at Good Shepherd Cemetery in Amsterdam at 2pm. Daylight Savings Ends.
- November 6" Election Day.
- November 7: Commemoration – St. Willibrord of Utrecht.
- November 11: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Veteran's Day/ Remembrance Day/Polish Independence Day - 100th Anniversary.
- November 18: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- November 19: Holy Mass for Healing with Anointing at 6:15pm.

Parish Committee Meeting, 7pm.

- November 21: Solemnity of the Presentation of the B.V.M.
- November 22: Thanksgiving
- November 25: Solemnity of Christ the King. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.
- November 30: Feast - St. Andrew the Apostle
- December 2: 1st Sunday of Advent/Cycle C Begins. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.

Stay tuned for:

- St. Nicholas Day
 - Our Parish Vigil Dinner/Wigilia and Youth Performance
 - Greening of the Church
 - Christmas
 - St. Stephen's Day
 - 2019!!!!
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THREE LIES WE BELIEVE ABOUT SHARING OUR FAITH

By Chip Ingram

Advertisers know that the greatest marketing strategy in all the world is word-of-mouth advertising. That's because we always share what we love.

If you've found a great restaurant, you're most likely to say to your friends, "I was at this place the

other night, and you've gotta go there! It was so good!"

Or if you bought a new phone that you love, you might say to people you know, "Oh, you've got to get this!"

If it's so easy to share what we love, then why do most of us struggle with sharing our love of Christ?

I'm baffled sometimes why I have a hard time sharing the most important love relationship in my life. God saved me, forgave me, gave me a new life and infinite grace, yet I find myself in situations where sharing is difficult.

The reason?

We often believe a lie.

The father of lies is Satan. And he wants to get very subtle lies ingrained into our thinking so they become the lens through which we look at other people. This lens keeps us from loving people and sharing Christ with them.

The Bible says we're in a spiritual battle for the souls of people. "The weapons of our warfare, or the weapons that we fight with, are not of this world. On the contrary, the weapons we have, have Divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that's set up against the

knowledge of God and we take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ." (2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

Here are three lies – or "strongholds" – that we often believe that go "against the knowledge of God," and three truths we can use to combat them.

Lie #1: People aren't open.

Most of the time, we've already determined in our minds that people aren't open. Since we assume this, we just think, "Why bother talking to them?"

Truth: Jesus, and the research, would say that most people do want to hear about Christ's love more than we're willing to tell them.

But Jesus said this, "*I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together.*" (John 4:35-36)

A recent study has shown that 66 percent of unchurched adults ages 18-29 agree that Jesus died and came back to life. That means two out of three people are ready to talk about Jesus!

Most unchurched people don't have a problem with Jesus! They

do have a problem with the Church acting like hypocrites – preaching one thing but living something completely different.

We don't have to have it all together. We just need to live like Christians and start having some spiritual conversations with those around us.

Lie #2: Sharing Jesus' love is reserved for spiritual superstars and people with outgoing personalities.

Many of us believe, down deep, that the power of our message is in the messenger. So, if you're not an outgoing person with great people skills, there won't be any results.

Truth: The power is in the message, not the messenger.

The Apostle Paul says in Romans 1:16, "*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God for salvation to the Jew first and also to the Gentile.*"

Lie #3: Witnessing is something I do versus something that I am.

Some of us come from church backgrounds where we're taught to pray, read our Bibles and witness. It's just something we do! And most of us feel guilty that we don't do it enough. But that isn't what the Bible teaches.

Truth: It's not about whether we do or don't. What it boils down to is this – are we being good witnesses or bad witnesses?

Before He ascended into heaven, Jesus said, "*But you, my followers, will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be My witnesses...*" (Acts 1:8)

Notice Jesus said we will "be" His witnesses.

People need to see the message of the gospel through our life. And they need to hear the message of the gospel through our words. It's those things together.

Never assume that anybody is outside of what God might do, as He desires for "*all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.*" (1 Tim 2:4)

Thanksgiving Prayer

O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,



And remembering,
help me to destroy my
complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and help me be concerned enough
to help;
By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take
for granted.
Amen.

Share and Be a Missionary

Sharing on Facebook can make you a missionary and witness to Jesus. If you have Facebook and like our page at <https://www.facebook.com/HolyNameOfJesusSchenectady/> you will notice our daily Outreach Social postings. These are automatically posted beautiful, inspirational graphics. Some are Bible verses, inspirational sayings and quotes, as well as conversation starters. All we need you to do is like, comment and share them with your friends. That's it - see I told you it was easy! Of course, if any of your friends ever ask why you are sharing these graphics, tell them about your faith, our church, and invite them to come with you!

Is God Really in Control?

By Chip Ingram

How can we possibly explain

Christians who...

- Forgive ISIS as they're about to be beheaded
- Exude joy in the midst of life confined in a wheelchair
- Trust again after their mate has been sexually unfaithful
- March into the Coliseum in ancient Rome singing praises to Christ for the privilege to suffer

Someone has wisely stated that we don't know what we really believe until it's tested. The history of the Church – both today and in times past – has been grounded in those whose faith and belief have been tested and responded in ways that have astounded the world.

Most of our challenges are not as difficult or as extreme as the ones cited above, but I assure you that we will ONLY pass "our tests" by having the same kind of view of God that these Christians had in their times of crisis. I suggest that we need to rediscover the aspect of God's character that provides supernatural comfort and hope in life's most challenging circumstances.

It is only when we understand the sovereignty of God and the reality of heaven that we will experience a comfort and a hope that can weather the worst that this world has to offer.

Confidence



November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Solemnity of All Saints - Holy Mass at 7pm.	2 Commemoration of All Souls	3
4 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala, Claudia Bertasso. Cemetery Service at Good Shepherd Cemetery in Amsterdam at 2pm.	5 Election Day – please vote	6	7 Commemoration – St. Willibrord of Utrecht	8	9	10 Seniorate Thanksgiving Holy Mass and Luncheon - CANCELLED
11 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Joe Kaczynski, Claudia Bertasso. Narodowe Święto Niepodległości – 100th Anniversary	12 Veteran's Day (observed)	13	14	15	16	17
18 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil, Claudia Bertasso.	19 Holy Mass and Anointing for Healing at 6:15pm	20	21 Solemnity - Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25 Solemnity of Christ the King - Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Marilyn Hietala, Claudia Bertasso.	26	27	28	29	30 Feast – St. Andrew the Apostle	

EVENTS

December Upcoming

- 2nd – 1st Sunday of Advent
- 6th – St. Nicholas/Św. Mikołaj
- 8th – Conception of the B.V.M.
- Vigil Dinner
- Greening of the Church
- Wigilia and Christmas