



# Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 9, 2018

## 2nd Sunday of Advent II Niedziela Adventu

December 9, 2018

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 92.

First reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm: Ps 126:1-6

**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

Epistle: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

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

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

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

- Matins at 9:20am. Lighting of the Advent Wreath, Holy Mass at 9:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Coffee Hour, Confirmation Class at 10:30am.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite).

## 3rd Sunday of Advent III Niedziela Adventu

December 16, 2018

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 92.

First reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6

**Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.**

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

Intention: 10:30am for all parishioners.

Celebrant: 10:30am Rev. James Konicki.

Lector: 10:30am Marilyn Hietala

- Matins at 10:20am. Lighting of the Advent Wreath, Holy Mass at 10:30am (Contemporary Rite).
- Youth Musical Presentation, Parish Vigil Dinner.

***Such are the souls of the saints: they love their enemies more than themselves, and in this age and in the age to come they put their neighbor first in all things, even though because of his ill-will he may be their enemy. They do not seek recompense from those whom they love, but because they have themselves received they rejoice in giving to others all that they have, so that they may conform to their Benefactor and imitate His compassion to the best of their ability; 'for He is bountiful to the thankless and to sinners' – St. Peter of Damascus***

**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.

You  
**BELONG**  
Here!



### Contact

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### Upcoming...

- **December 9: 2nd Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am.**
- **December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe.**
- **December 16: 3rd Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass at 10:30am ONLY. Youth Musical Presentation, Parish Vigil Dinner.**
- **December 17: Holy Mass with Anointing for Healing.**
- **December 21: Feast – St. Thomas the Apostle.**
- **December 23: 4th Sunday of Advent with Advent Penitential Service. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Greening of the church.**
- **December 24: Vigil of the Nativity. Holy Mass at 4pm.**
- **December 25: Solemnity – Nativity of the Lord. Holy Mass at Midnight. Holy Mass at 10am.**
- **December 26: Feast – St. Stephen, Protomartyr.**
- **December 27: Feast – St. John, Apostle and Evangelist. Holy Mass at 7pm with Blessing of Wine.**

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.

## Checked in and joyful.

*And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.*

Last week, we discussed our call to stand up, to hold our heads high for the Day of the Lord. Our hearts focused on plugging in and being ready, rather than on giving up and checking out.

If indeed we plugged in and walked in the path of readiness, something wonderful happened. I know I felt it.

It was a long week for me. I left on Tuesday morning for San Diego. Everyone encouraged me, Oh, you'll have fun, its sunny and

warm. Well after about six hours of traveling, I arrived to a setting sun. Not as warm as I expected, but I packed wisely, just in case. Two days of rain and flooding later, it got sunny and warm, just as I entered the airport for the trip home on Friday.

I knew I'd be home late – actually early Saturday morning. I'd be exhausted. As you might imagine, traveling is no joy in this day and age. My trip had its share of what normally would be annoyances. There were a few additional things that go thrown on my plate mid-week as well. But something was different. Expecting Jesus really changed my days and turned annoyances into moments of prayer. Jesus turned times of dread into opportunities. I am so thankful.

Dreading being alone, eating alone, away from friends and family – a brother priest happened to be in the same city

at the same time. Neither of us had to be alone. The person snoring on the plane, directly across the aisle from me, for three hours? I had the chance to pray for that person, for healing and better health.

There were other moments like that too.

Like the Israelites returning to the Promised Land, we who are checked in and preparing are able to hold our heads high, to march forward with joy knowing the Lord has us in the palm of His hand; is protecting and guiding us.

Like John the Baptist, we are taking charge and doing God's work with joy. In many ways we announce the kingdom, call sinners to a renewed and joyful life, and heal hurt. Even when the work is hard, and we are down to our last few locusts for dinner, the light of true joy doesn't leave us.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

**Romans 15:13**

## Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Romans 12:12  
MONDAY: Philippians 4:4  
TUESDAY: Psalm 28:7  
WEDNESDAY: Psalm 100:2  
THURSDAY: Nehemiah 8:10  
FRIDAY: 1 Thessalonians 5:16  
SATURDAY: Psalm 5:11

### Pray

Lord Jesus, grant me your reinforcing joy so I may sing out of Your return in gladness.

## Advent Continues

Today is the start of the Second Week of Advent. Advent is a season of penitence and reflection. We should take that seriously. Rather than gather, sacrifice. Rather than imbibe and eat, donate. Rather than increase in frustration under the pressure of deadlines, consider the Lord's return. Add prayer and scriptural reading to your schedule. The gifts you and others will receive as a result will exceed your wildest expectations – indeed they will show forth God's promises in abundance!

## Parish Vigil, Other Advent Events

Several events occur in the pre-Christmas season.

On Sunday, December 16th, there will only be one Holy Mass at 10:30am. We will then hold our annual youth musical presentation. We have so many talented young musicians among us (don't forget – apply for those music scholarships and incentive awards) and this year's presentation will be particularly beautiful. Following the youth presentation, we will hold our annual meatless vigil dinner. The parish is providing the main dish of fish as we always do. Please bring a meatless dish to share. Sign up sheets are available at the back of the church and downstairs.

On Sunday, December 23rd, we will have a normal Holy Mass schedule. During each Holy Mass, we will hold our Advent penitential service, a chance to get right with the Lord before Christmas begins. Between Holy Masses, we will 'green' the church, arranging our flowers and decorations for the Lord's coming.

## 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. Tickets will be in the mail shortly. They make a great gift!

## Food Collections

Our annual Thanksgiving and Christmas food collection for those in need in our local community is underway. Please leave your offerings by the Mary Altar.

## PNU Winners

This year's PNU Education & Youth Stipend Fundraiser Raffle winners are: 1st Prize of \$400 - Gary Kott; 2nd Prize of a Fitbit Charge 2 - Sandra Dobrovolskis; 3rd Prize of a Google Home Speaker - Deborah Parknavy. Congratulations to the winners. Please remember that monetary donations are graciously accepted towards these endeavors, as we continue our mission of providing funding and enabling our youth members the benefit of this stipend towards their educational goals. Donations can be sent directly to: Education and Youth Commission, 1006 Pittston Ave, Scranton, PA 18505.

## Gift of Intentions

At this time of the year we try to think of what we can give to our loved ones for Christmas. Want to offer the best gift? Request Holy Mass be celebrated in their honor, for health and healing, for blessings, or for the departed. See Fr. Jim to schedule a time.

## Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice Houser, Angela Kaminski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan Węglinski, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, 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, 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, Paul Griswold, Amanda Carr, Tyler Hoffman, the Hoffman Family, Daniel DiIanne, Warren Tatlock, Susan Jones, Vincenzo DiIanne, Garry Packer, Madison Dunlap, Sandra Tatlock, Crystal Haley, Michelle & Eric, Tina Haq, Louis Kiernan, Jan Shufelt, Shirley Maliszewski, Allen Panfil, Fred Hendricks, Jeanmarie Vollmer, Nicholas Emanuele, Marysia, Theresa, Kit Yarrow, Chris Gancarz, Sal Madalone, and 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. Sr. 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 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, Lilly, PA.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobłogosław im, O Boże!

Of note...

**Coffee Hour:** Thank you to all who supported our ministry of hospitality. It will return in September. Please sign up to take a week when the new weekly list is posted.

**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 140 of the PNU (Spójnia) all need your help. See Father Jim.

--- *And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us* ---