



# Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 16, 2018

## 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.

## 4th Sunday of Advent IV Niedziela Adventu

December 23, 2018

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

First reading: Micah 5:1-4

Psalm: Ps 80:2-3,15-15,18-19

**Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

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, Greening of the Church at 10:30am.
- Holy Mass at 11:30am (Traditional Rite).

***Prayer changes from entreaty to thanksgiving, and meditation on the divine truths of faith fills the heart with a sense of jubilation and unimpeachable hope. This hope is a foretaste of future blessings, of which the soul even now receives direct experience, and so it comes to know in part the surpassing richness of God's bounty, in accordance with the Psalmist's words, 'Taste and know that the Lord is bountiful.' For He is the jubilation of the righteous, the joy of the upright, the gladness of the humble, and the solace of those who grieve because of Him. – St. Gregory Palamas***

**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 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.**
- **December 28: Commemoration of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs.**
- **December 29: Feast of the Holy Family. Holy Mass at 10am.**

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. He is near!

*The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*

Two weeks ago 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. Last week we took that message a step further. When we are plugged in and prepared we are able to step out into the world announce the kingdom, calling sinners to a renewed and joyful life. Plugged in people have God's true joy, a joy that doesn't leave us.

The faithful, truly plugged in and ready for the Lord's return, filled

with joy, have a unique gift. It is the gift of hope bringing awareness.

Awareness is a unique gift. It is a gift that implies knowledge and insight giving us hope. Look at the awareness and hope evident in today's readings and Gospel.

Zephaniah was a prophet living in very dark times. Most of his message was dark. People had closed their hearts and minds to an awareness of God. They unplugged, and lived in unjust and abusive times. They pursued what they thought would buy them happiness. Zephaniah spoke of devastation and death, Divine judgment on the "day of the Lord." Yet, in his plugged-in-ness, Zephaniah stayed aware – This is not the real end. He acclaims with great hope: *Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult, the King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have*

*no further misfortune to fear.*

Similarly, St. Paul reminds us that our awareness leads to the same joy and that joy provides us with steadfast hope. He says: *Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all.*

John went out with joy and hope. Because of that, he did amazing things. He provided sinners with a taste of that hope and joy, the removal of anxiety, freedom from desolation in promise of the Messiah Who was on the horizon.

The promise of Jesus is on the horizon. Set aside anxiety. See the peace and hope that is ours, not just on Sunday, or in Advent, or in the coming of Christmas, but everyday, every moment. Let us stay hopefully aware, on top of Jesus' closeness. He is near!

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.*

**Romans 12:12**

## Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Jeremiah 29:11  
MONDAY: Romans 15:13  
TUESDAY: Isaiah 40:31  
WEDNESDAY: Hebrews 11:1  
THURSDAY: Romans 5:2-5  
FRIDAY: Romans 15:4  
SATURDAY: 1 Peter 1:3

### Pray

Lord Jesus, grant me the gift of awareness and in awareness strength of hope.

## Advent Continues

Today is the start of the Third 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, Advent Events

Several events occur in the pre-Christmas season.

Today, we hold one Holy Mass at 10:30am. We then hold our annual youth musical presentation (and this year's presentation will be particularly beautiful). Following the youth presentation, we will hold our annual meatless vigil dinner. Thank you to all who brought a dish to share.

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.

## Invitation

From our friend, Bishop Judy Murphy-Jack: There will be a fundraiser to support Ebenezer Baptist Church, 140 Second Street in Albany on Saturday, December 22nd. Starting time is at 5pm. Refreshments will be served after the program. I encourage all to come out to support this worthy endeavor.

## YMSofR Project

This year, the YMSofR Christmas service project is to take care of one of our own. In 1929, Bishop Hodur had a vision for Spójnia Farm, to educate youth at retreats. In 2019, The Farm turns 90! The Y project is to raise funds to continue the work of the Farm. The 90 for 90 campaign aims to raise \$90,000 to do this work. We have brochures outlining the need and ask our YMSofR brothers to plan events to raise funds. The funds will be given on July 4, 2019.

## 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, Mariae 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 All Saints Parish, Carnegie, PA.

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

**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.

**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 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* ---