

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC
1040 PEARL STREET
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12303-1846
PARISH AND HALL: 518-372-1992
REV. JIM KONICKI: 518-765-2134 OR
518-522-0944

ON THE WEB: WWW.HOLYNAMENCC.ORG

NEWSLETTER

MAY

2019



MARY RESPONDED, "OH, HOW MY SOUL PRAISES THE LORD. HOW MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOR!"

Mary spoke seven times as recorded by scripture. While I am sure she spoke more than that, that is all that is recorded. In those seven moments (depending on the Bible translation), Mary spoke a grand total of 189 words.

Of the 189 words, 180 were spoken before Jesus was born and through His childhood. Only 9 were spoken when He was an adult, and only as a precursor to His launching His ministry.

We tend to place a lot of emphasis on words, and perhaps not enough on action. However, the action is where it is at. That's where we want to be, taking part in what's happening.

The Magnificat - a fancy way of saying Mary's Prayer - gives us an example of one who really wants to be part of the action. Mary is proclaiming how her very being, her soul and spirit, are intent on magnifying and rejoicing in the Lord. She is throwing her whole self into God's way of living, God's way of being, God's way of changing

everything. She saying - I just don't want to be part of that, I am fully in, onboard.

Throughout the rest of scripture, we occasionally meet Mary. She is there as her Son ministers, she is along the Way of the Cross, at the foot of the Cross, a witness to His burial, and with the disciples on Pentecost. She made herself all-in. She did this by her service, by her willingness to follow, by her letting her Son's precious words and actions shine forth.

As we enter the month of May, Mary's month, recall that the Holy Church sets her example forth not as some long ago tale, as some stale devotion, or as words for the sake of words, but so we may live her engagement as a disciple. Mary did not sit back and let words come before her action of magnifying and rejoicing in the Lord.

This May, as we mow, tend to new blooming gardens, and honor mom, let us redouble our action and engagement, placing our whole selves into Jesus work, like Mary.

Basket Social Thank You



Our 17th Annual Basket Social was a wonderful event. It was our biggest fundraiser ever. Our Gross

proceeds totaled over \$8,500 and our net income was \$7,814.39. This would not have been possible without Donna Panfil's leadership and so many hands that joined together in work and prayer. To everyone who donated such beautiful baskets and gifts, the food makers, the cooks, dessert makers, set-up chauffeurs and workers, greeters - WOW!!! YOU ARE THE BEST! To all of our loyal patrons. THANK YOU.

Mother's Day and Good Shepherd Sunday



Sunday, May 12th, marks both Mother's Day and Good Shepherd Sunday.

Please come to church with mom, your grandmother, or godmother on this special day. We will have flowers for mom and most

importantly the flowers of our prayers for her. If these special women have passed into eternal life, we will offer prayer for entry into the eternal kingdom, that their post-death journey may be shortened. We can buy gifts; we can go to breakfast or dinner - but all that will pass. Our presence with them, and for them, at Holy Mass will never be erased and will persist eternally.



We will also offer prayer for all living and deceased members of the former Good Shepherd Parish in Amsterdam, NY. We are particularly connected as many continue to faithfully worship here at Holy Name. We work diligently to maintain the heritage, traditions, and the legacy they have left us. This, of course, is a hard moment in the year for our members. Be in church to show your love and support.

EVENTS GALORE IN MAY

Solemnity of the Ascension

The church celebrates the Solemnity

of the Ascension on the 40th day after Easter as is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Why is this day important to us? It isn't only that Jesus is returning to His rightful place of honor in heaven. Rather it shows us that Jesus, who emptied Himself and came as a man, who lived, ate, laughed, cried, suffered, and died as a man, Whose human body was glorified in the resurrection also ascended in that glorified body into heaven. This is our assurance that we too will rise and live in heaven eternally with Him in our glorified bodies. The parish will hold Holy Mass on Thursday, May 30th at 7pm in celebration of the Solemnity.

Mother's Day



During Mary's month of May, the nation celebrates Mother's Day and so do we as Church. The crowning of the statue of the Blessed

Virgin along with special prayers and Holy Mass offered for our mothers living and deceased will be held on Sunday, May 12th. Please start that day in church in prayer as a special thanksgiving for mom.

Men's Spiritual Retreat



Following the lead of last year, the men of the United YMSofR would like to formally invite you to

the YMSofR Bishop Bilinski Memorial Men's Spiritual Retreat, "Defeating Evil in Your Life: Finding Truth", to be held May 16-18 at historic Spojnia Farm in Waymart, PA. The cost for the retreat is \$100, which will cover room, board, and food. This retreat is aimed at us men, and is open to PNCC and non-PNCC members alike, YMSofR/non YMSofR, clergy, whomever - in fact, we are hoping for a few different viewpoints on the Christian Faith. Our invitation, then, is open. You should go. Your YMSofR Branch should consider sponsoring someone to go. This is a good thing, and the time spent together will be memorable, enlightening, and shared! We plan on examining aspects of a masculine spirituality, at defining and re-defining our roles at our individual parishes, sharing stories, our burdens, a few meals, and wonderful fellowship. Our speakers this year include Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop Emeritus John Swantek, Rev. Jason Soltysiak, Rev. Carmen Bolock, and more! But fear not - the retreat is not just speaker-based. Activities, ranging from a guided scriptural walk, time with the Blessed Sacrament, and a (holy) bonfire will allow you to dwell on your relationship with Christ, self, and your neighbor in a memorable setting. The retreat begins Thursday late afternoon and ends Saturday with Mass & lunch.

Holy Mass for Healing

Our next monthly Holy Mass for healing accompanied by anointing will be held Monday, May 20th at 6:15pm. Come join us.

Memorial Day



The Holy Church joins the nation in the solemn remembrance of Memorial Day. We will gather for Holy Mass at our parish cemetery (or in our parish church in the case of inclement weather) on Monday, May 27th at 10am for Holy Mass. In doing so we pray for all of those who have died in combat defending our nation and all of our veterans who have also been called to their eternal rest.

Summer Events

Planning is underway for the summer events including:

- The **74th Annual National Bowling Tournament** will be held in Stratford, CT. If you would like to put a team together and go, please see Fr. Jim for registration documents. They are also available online at <http://www.ymsrbowl.org>.
- **Kurs 2019** with the theme "*What I received, I passed on to you.*" *Challenge Accepted!* will be held at the Bishop Hodur Retreat

and Recreation Center, Spojnia Farm, Waymart, PA from July 4th through 13th (9 days).

- The **34th Convention and 26th Workshop of the National United Choirs** will be held at Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral in Lancaster, NY from July 31st through August 2nd.
- The United Y.M.S. of R. **5th Annual Golf Outing** will be held on August 17th at the Panorama Golf Course, Forest City PA. Stay tuned for additional information.

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

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 Kimberly DonVito, Roni Bylina, Mary Tate
- 2 Eileen Kupiec
- 9 Melissa Morrison
- 12 James DeMidio
- 16 Loryn DonVito
- 19 Brenda Boyland
- 22 Cameron Goehrig
- 24 Angie Bray
- 25 Karoline Trela, Jack Hamilton
- 26 Karen Maliszewski
- 27 Jayson Caden
- 28 Marianne Węglinski

Anniversaries

- 22 Kenneth & Jennifer Brown

Wishing you all many years! Sto Lat!

God bless you!

To all who prayed, sacrificed,

Gracias
MERCI
ARIGATO
thank you

abstained, and who join in the weekly Eucharist, the greatest act of thanksgiving ever. God bless you!

To all who worked so hard throughout Holy Week in serving, cleaning, preparing the altars, singing, and just being there for Jesus.

To Kyle and Alyssa for their butter lambs. Yummy!!!

To Linda, Kyle, Alyssa, and all who have worked to clean up around the church and care for our grounds in preparation for our gardens.

To our wonderful altar servers, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia, and to all who have contributed to coffee hours and the ministry of hospitality.

To Donna and Linda for their special work. To every parishioner, visitor, and member -- you are a blessing and a treasure. Thank you!!!

Bishop Joseph Padewski, Martyr

On Tuesday, May 10th, we commemorate the 68th anniversary of Bishop Joseph Padewski.

Bishop Padewski was born in a small farming village near Radom in Poland. He emigrated to the United States in 1913 and moved to Detroit. He was ordained to the priesthood on December 16, 1919 by Prime Bishop Francis Hodur.

In 1942 Bishop Padewski was arrested by the Nazis and was held at the Montelupich prison in Krakow. He was then transferred to the Tittmoning POW Camp in Germany where he was held for 18 months. Through the intervention of the Swiss Red Cross he was freed and returned to the United States in March 1944. Between 1944 and 1946 Bishop Padewski served as pastor of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa Church in Albany, New York.

Bishop Padewski returned to Poland on February 20, 1946 to resume his duties as Bishop of the Polish branch of the PNCC. Shortly after his return, in this atmosphere of Stalinist terror, he was arrested, interrogated, and tortured. Bishop Padewski died under torture on May 10, 1951.

Bishop Padewski, martyr for the faith, pray for us.

Planning For:

Remember - Holy Mass is held every Sunday at 9:30am and 11:30am

- May 1: Feast, Ss. Philip & James, Apostles.
- May 3: Solemnity – Finding of the Holy Cross, Polish Constitution Day.
- May 5: 3rd Sunday of Easter. Normal Holy Mass schedule.
- May 10: 68th Anniversary, Martyrdom of Bishop Joseph Padewski

- May 12: Good Shepherd Sunday. May Crowning. Mother's Day. Normal Holy Mass schedule.
- May 16-18: Men's Retreat, Waymart, PA.
- May 18: Armed Forces Day - honor our service members.
- May 19: 5th Sunday of Easter. Normal Holy Mass schedule.
- May 20: Healing Mass at 6:15pm. Parish Committee Meeting follows.
- May 23: Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Jerome Savonarola.
- May 26: 6th Sunday of Easter. Normal Holy Mass schedule.
- May 27: Memorial Day - Holy Mass at the Parish cemetery (weather permitting) at 10am
- May 30: Solemnity of the Ascension. Holy Mass at 7pm.

Parish Organizations and Ministries

Did you know that our Parish has many organizations that need you? Ask Fr. Jim how you might help.

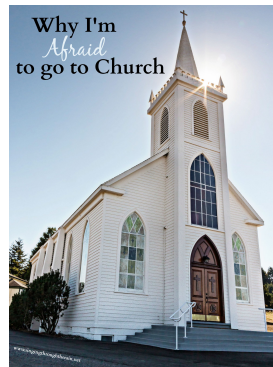
Join In

There is a ton of work and projects around the parish - and we need help. See Fr. Jim for suggestions and join in.

I'm afraid

As a pastor, I collect things. I try not to be a hoarder (don't look at

my office or basement), but I think it comes with the work of pastoring.



One thing I love to collect is stories of tremendous faith in the face of the worst odds, and how God breaks into those moments and changes the outcome (See John Gray's

coverage of the Madison Dunlap story). I love being there as a miracle is happening, and you feel as if you are on another level of existence. The Lord 'takes you up.'

One thing that falls into my collection as a pastor are stories of fear. PEOPLE ARE AFRAID TO GO TO CHURCH. It is almost too silly to believe - but very real. When I hear such things, the words of Jesus scream in my ears - *Be not afraid, etc. etc. etc. I came to give life and life to the full, etc. etc. etc.*

I want to look the person in the eyes and say, "Really!" Knowing what I know, and having gone through a life that would make any church roof collapse, you ain't got nothing on me.

Unfortunately, I cannot do that, because I often hear of these fears second, or third, or fourth hand.

The common fears:

Because I can't _____ (fill in the word - give, sing, pray, stay awake).

Well really, don't fear. No one cares because we are all self-conscious enough about our own giving, singing, praying, and abilities to stay awake. We are not a family of Christ for those reasons - we are family because the Blood of Jesus flows through our veins.

Because people will _____ (fill in the word - see me use the stair lift, think of me differently because of my sexuality or gender, dislike my poor clothes, hair, fingernails). Well really, don't fear. No one cares. Use that stair lift - you are a hero because we know it is harder for you. Show the world how important Jesus's family is. Come as-you-are. Seek to find unaffected, non-judgmental love here. Challenge us to love as Jesus loves, and if we fail, it is on us, not you.

I really want to collect stories and experiences that speak of the genuine love of Jesus' body, His family, all of us. Help me do that, become richer in the process, and start collecting those marks of love we all need so very badly.

Why the Resurrection IS Important

by Chip Ingram

What does the resurrection of Jesus mean to you? Is it central to your faith? Perhaps you or someone you know claim to be a Christian, but you're not quite sure about the evidence for the resurrection - could it be fact or could it be myth?

Regardless of where we stand on this issue, what I've learned is that both Christians and atheists agree that the resurrection is the central issue to Christianity. That's because if the resurrection isn't true then we're still in our sins, and following Christ is meaningless! Both believers and non-believers agree that if Jesus rose from the dead then we have an intellectually feasible argument that the claims of Christianity are true. If he didn't, then all of Christianity falls.

The Apostle Paul wrote about the importance of the resurrection in his letter to the Corinthians. He wrote, *"If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith... For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins."* (1 Cor. 15:13-14, 16-17)

Believing in Jesus' resurrection is not optional for us as Christians. There is no other name under heaven by which one can be saved, and no other method of salvation other than belief in and identification with Jesus' death, burial, resurrection and ascension.

So how can we know if Jesus really rose from the dead? This has been the question for the last two millennia and continues today, especially in the past few centuries with the advent of progressive historical, archeological and textual

fields of study. The Bible and its claim of resurrection continue to be under intense criticism and attack, yet the evidence of the resurrection is convincing.

And here's I want you to know: You don't have to throw your "brains in the trash" to be a Christ follower. The fact is, we can know the truth. The reality is we most likely have all the information we'll ever have about Jesus' life, death and the subsequent events, contained in the Scriptures.

Consider for a moment just some of the most compelling evidence for Jesus' resurrection:

- Old Testament prophets predicted it.
- Jesus predicted it openly and numerous times.
- After Jesus rose from the dead he appeared 12 different times to over 500 eyewitnesses in multiple locations and times over a 40-day period.
- The transformation of the disciples was radical. They went from being fearful cowards to confident followers who weren't afraid to die for their faith. People don't knowingly die for a lie.
- The explosion of the church started in Jerusalem, the same place where we could document that the resurrection happened. For 25 years, right where Jesus did his teaching, people could ask questions and get answers from hundreds of eyewitnesses.

So what does this mean to us?

Here are three implications for examining the evidence of the resurrection:

- It validates Jesus' claim that He is *"the way the truth and the life."* (John 14:6)
- It gives us a hope for the future. Jesus said, *"Because I live, you will live also."* (John 14:9)
- It offers spiritual life right now. *"By the acceptance of this good news you are saved."* (1 Cor. 15:2) *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16-19)

In the end, rejecting or accepting the work of Jesus is not an intellectual issue – rather, it's always a moral issue. What matters, is not only what happened nearly 2,000 years ago, but also its implications for today. The good news is that those who are in Christ can expect their own resurrection from the dead and life with God for eternity.



May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Feast – Ss. Philip & James, Apostles	2	3 Solemnity – Finding of the Holy Cross Polish Constitution Day	4
5 3rd Sunday of Easter – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Joe Kaczynski/Claudia Bertasso Memorial Holy Mass – PACC, 4pm	6	7	8	9	10 Commemoration of the Holy Martyr and Bishop Joseph Padewski	11
12 Good Shepherd Sunday and Mother's Day – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil/Claudia Bertasso, May Crowning at 9:30am	13	14	15	16 Men's Retreat	17 Men's Retreat	18 Men's Retreat Armed Forces Day
19 5th Sunday of Easter – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Joe Kaczynski/Claudia Bertasso.	20 Holy Mass and Anointing for Healing at 6:15pm Parish Committee Meets	21	22	23 Commemoration of Jerome Savonarola	24	25
26 6th Sunday of Easter – Holy Mass at 9:30am and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil/Claudia Bertasso.	27 Memorial Day – Holy Mass at the Parish cemetery (weather permitting) at 10am	28	29	30 Solemnity of the Ascension Holy Mass at 7pm	31	

EVENTS

June Upcoming

- Sacred Vocations Month
- Clergy Appreciation Month in the PNCC
- Father's Day

- Corpus Christi