

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
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NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2020



WHO IS IT THAT OVERCOMES THE WORLD EXCEPT THE ONE WHO BELIEVES
THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD?

I see tons of advertising every day. Of course it comes through television and radio - old school advertising. Being so involved in life online between emails, social media, work and websites I feel inundated! Looking at something on Amazon is typically followed by months of emails and online targeted ads pushing that product I happened to stumble on.

February 2nd brings the celebration of all advertising, the Super Bowl. I think more people watch for the ads than for the game. One of my clergy friends used to say that if he won the lottery we would all see an ad for our Church in the midst of the Super Bowl. I hope he wins really big because it now takes \$5.6 million for a thirty second ad spot.

Yesterday, I received another one of those Valentine's Day ads coming through almost every minute. Its point: 'It is not too late. Jim, you've still got time to pull off a great romantic dinner at one of the local spots that couples love.'

Well, I'm glad for that chance. We

luckily already have a plan for that day.

We worry about being too late all the time. Even St. Paul recalled sadly that he was one born untimely, too late, out of time as the least of the Apostles, and as one who had done wrong before that moment of conversion. He saw himself as diminutive and weakly.

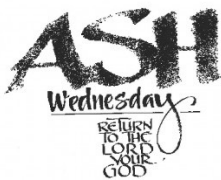
If St. Paul left it there, constantly worrying about being too late, we would only see a sad and pathetic figure. Instead, he finds confidence and reassures us in saying "*But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect.*"

In this 'month of love' and month that begins this year's Great and Holy Lent, St. John reminds us that the message and trick in advertising - you're going to miss out - is untrue. St. James and St. Paul both tell us that we cannot be too late. Our victory is assured because we believe in Jesus, the Son of God, and because His grace is alive in us to great effect.

THE PRE-LENTEN SEASON

The pre-Lenten season begins February 9th. The Pre-Lenten Season of Septuagesima is a period of preparation before the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Septuagesima includes three Sundays, Septuagesima Sunday (70 days to Easter), Sexagesima Sunday (60 days to Easter), and Quinquagesima Sunday (50 days to Easter). We are called to make a special point of self-examination, of considering the things we need to repent of, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth we need God's help to accomplish. Make this time worthy and blessed by asking for God's never too late grace.

...AND LENT BEGINS



Lent begins on Wednesday, February 26th. Holy Mass with the blessing and distribution of ashes will take

place at 7pm that day. Please join us.

Our Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2nd. There will be one Holy Mass that day at

10am. Breakfast will be served. Please make an effort to attend and celebrate the great blessings we have received and commit to the discipleship work laid out for us.

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

February 2020 – the month of love. Thank you to all who purchased and donated tickets for our Outrageous Valentine's Raffle. Your generosity and support helps our young people attend the annual KURS summer encampment and CONVO 2020.

We wish you the best of luck this month. We will send winners their checks right away and will announce all the winners in March's newsletter.

Our Annual Financial Meeting - March 1st

Our annual financial meeting will be held on Sunday, March 1st. There will be one Holy Mass that day at 10am. Breakfast will be served. Please attend and help decide on our financial matters.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

For the 19th year in a row, our parish is participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Through the Souper Bowl of Caring we are providing food help for those in need in our

local community. We ask for your support and deeply appreciate your generosity!

Your monetary donations in church on Super Bowl Sunday – February 2nd - will support the work of Schenectady Community Ministries.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. — Matthew 25:35

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

2 Christine Spooner, Jean Martin
5 Suzanne Heins
9 Christine Caden
11 Bob Shufelt, Justice Smith, Joseph Ruchalski
12 Kristen Smith-Prusky
16 Celina Maliszewski
18 Paul Podkulski
20 Kelly Supinski, Lisa Kaminski
21 Casey Carroll
28 Patrick Clas

Wedding Anniversaries

17 Tom & Kelly Supinski
18 Stefan & Elizabeth Węglinski
26 Michael & Kimberly DonVito
Wishing you all many years!

Thank you, Merci, Dziękuję, Ąčiū, Gracias, Mahalo, Grazie!

To all who assisted in the taking down of our Christmas decorations.

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

Battaglia, and to all who supplied our ministry of hospitality.



To the families who have welcomed me to their home for Epiphany visitations/Kolęda. Your hospitality and graciousness are greatly appreciated. You are a blessing.

To all who continue to pray, sacrifice, and serve in Christian love and charity on behalf of our parish.

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

Epiphany Visitations - Kolęda - House Blessings

Fr. Jim is available to come to your homes for the traditional Epiphany home blessing. Please see him to make an appointment.

Blessing appointments are available through February 25th (prior to Ash Wednesday).

To prepare your home for the blessing please have the blessed chalk and incense available as well as your blessed candle (gromnica).

Please Help - Basket Social - April 26th

It is time to get ready for our annual basket social. We really need your help to make this year's

Social a success. Can you donate a basket, or two, or three? They don't have to be huge - anything will do. Through your love and charity we are able to touch the lives of others and maintain a vibrant faith community. Need ideas - check out Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/cmk1953/basket-party-ideas/>

Adult Religious Ed Classes

One of this year's discipleship challenges is to hold adult religious education classes. This has been quite successful in many parishes where adults come to more fully appreciate the faith of our Holy Church and where questions are welcome. Let's get a class going.

Planning For —

Holy Mass each week at 9:30 and 11:30 am unless otherwise noted.

- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation. Holy Mass at 10am with Blessing of Candles and throats. Breakfast and Annual Meeting.
- Feb. 9: Septuagesima Sunday.
- Feb. 14: Commemoration - St. Valentine.
- Feb. 16: Sexagesima Sunday. 67th Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Francis Hodur.
- Feb. 17: President's Day. Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm.

- Feb. 23: Quinquagesima Sunday.
 - Feb. 24: Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle.
 - Feb. 25: Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass with blessing and distribution of ashes at 7pm.
 - Feb. 28: Stations of the Cross at 7pm.
 - Feb. 29: Requiem Anniversary Holy Mass for sp. Marilyn Hietala at 11am. Black History Month: Celebrating Black Gospel Music at 4pm.
 - Mar. 1: 1st Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Breakfast and Annual Financial Meeting.
 - March 4: Commemoration of St. Casimir.
-

Black History Month: Celebrating Black Gospel Music



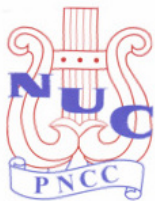
Come celebrate Black History Month with a return of the Black Diamond Performance Group to Schenectady, New York **on stage at Holy Name on Saturday, February 29th at**

4pm. See this retrospective on Black Gospel Music. Bring a canned or dry food offering as admission, which will be donated to a local charity. Feel free to also bring a dish to share with everyone for a potluck dinner. Come early! Celebrate!

Financial Security?

The PNUA and Spójnia Credit Union offer great tools for financial management. If you are considering getting your financial house in order in 2020 contract the PNUA and SCU. Remember too that PNUA policies make great gifts for newlyweds and infants. Call the PNUA office at 1-800-724- 6352 or see Fr. Jim.

Music Scholarship Applications



A special collection was accepted on January 26th to benefit the National United Choir's Music Scholarship Fund.

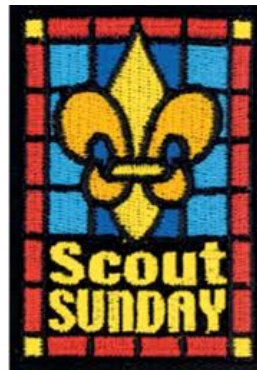
These scholarships are available to any parishioner of our denomination who is taking music lessons. This is with the hope that as these musicians continue to advance they will share their musical talent with the church. If any parishioner is studying music, consider applying for a scholarship. Applications and information are available through Cathy Bilinski at nucscholarship@gmail.com or online

at <http://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com>.

To date, the Church has provided 1,103 scholarships totaling \$322,885.

2020 Scholarships applications must be submitted no later than May 1, 2020.

Scout Sunday



On Sunday, February 9th Scouting celebrates Scout Sunday, Interfaith. This is a special interfaith day set aside by the Scouting movement for all Scouts to reflect on

their acknowledgement of duty to God in the Scout Oath or Promise and the 12th point of Scout Law - *A Scout is Reverent*.

We invite all Scouts both youth and adult members to wear their Scout uniforms. We will acknowledge the Scouts in uniform and also ask any former Leaders or Scouts who are present to stand and to be recognized.

We also offer a reminder to all Scouts of the religious awards of the Polish National Catholic Church that can be earned. Fr. Jim and the National Scout Chaplain, Fr. Adam, can assist Scouts in requesting award requirements.

Prayer for St. Valentine's Day

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." — John 13:34-35

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, You gave Saint Valentine the courage to witness to the gospel of Christ, even to the point of giving his life for it.



Help us to endure all suffering for love of you, and to seek you with all our hearts; for

you alone are the source of life and love. Grant that we may have the courage and love to be strong witnesses of your truth to our friends and family and to the whole world. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

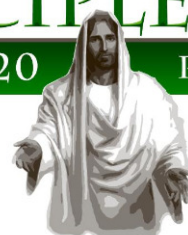
2020 Year of Discipleship 2.0

The PNCC Future Direction plan of action plan for parishes is based on the efforts of the 24th and 25th Holy Synods of our Church. Continue to develop and emphasize Discipleship through

2020: Our purpose is to strengthen all members in their following of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This will give us a better sense of ourselves as the Church. During 2020 we will examine the lives of some of the early disciples of our Lord and their discipleship virtues to see what we can learn from them and apply to our daily living.

DISCIPLESHIP

2020 PNCC



For February 2020 we focus on Ss. SIMEON AND ANNA IN THE TEMPLE and the virtues of PIETY and COMPASSION

Scripture for the month: Luke 2:22-38.

Reflection Question: Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as the promised Messiah and told others in the Temple about Him. Can you come up with 2 practical ways by which you can do the same?

Event to schedule Soup, Sandwich & Sermon or Wine and Cheese Gathering – Adult Education.

We are seeking leadership to help in organizing a February event.

How to Deepen Your Communication With God

By Chip Ingram

Do you yearn to know the God of the universe deeply? Do you want to know Jesus and communicate with him as a close personal friend?

The process for doing so is simpler than you might think. There is a pathway to intimacy with your Creator. The best first step is with communication. In other words, prayer.

All relationships are built on communication, right? Prayer is simply communicating with God. Anyone can pray; it doesn't take a special language or a degree from a Bible college. All it takes is a willingness to make the time to talk with God.

Maybe, though, you have always felt as if God helps other people who are more holy or more kind or more pure than you are. Maybe you view God as hard to please, quicker to say no than to say yes. You keep trying to follow the rules or practice the rituals or join the right religion. If only you could get God to get on your team!

But the path of deep communion with the Father is not about



performance. It's not about keeping rules. It's not about saying the right words at the right time with the right emphasis. It's not having all your life in order so that you never mess up and you can say, "Okay, God. Now will You answer my prayer?"

Being close to God is all about understanding who God really is.

See, most of our focus on communication with God is all about us. What we do, or what we don't do. But communion with God is about Him. Maybe you view God as hard to please, as begrudging you a positive response. But God is eager to bless. He loves you. He is warm and receptive. And for Him, following rules, ritual, or religious performance mean nothing. He sees through all that and looks right into your heart and says, "*Come unto Me all you that labor and are heavy laden and I will refresh you.*"

Remember, He is the God who left the glory of heaven, and took on human flesh to walk for 30 or so years on earth, and then die upon a

cross and be raised from the dead. All this was to let you know, *"This is what God the Father is like."*

So yes, God wants to bless you and be a companion to you. Here's what I suggest. When you wake up – before you've checked social media or made breakfast or done 30 minutes on your Peloton – pause for prayer. Remind yourself that *"The God of all the universe, He's my God and He's with me and He's powerful to deliver."*

"For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him" (Psalm 103:11-13).

He is waiting. He knows everything that's going to happen to you today, and He's waiting for you to say, "Lord, help me." He knows your heart, your hopes and fears, and He's waiting for you to say, "Lord, I need You." He sees your future, and He's waiting for you to say, "Lord, guide me."

You are the object of His affection, purchased by the blood of Christ. Talk to Him.

On being late...

"How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon.

December is here before it's June.

My goodness how the time has flown. How did it get so late so soon?" — Dr. Seuss

"I have noticed that the people who are late are often so much jollier than the people who have to wait for them." — E. V. Lucas

"Ah, Nothing is too late, till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate." — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

"A delayed game is eventually good, a bad game is bad forever." — Shigeru Miyamoto

"And you're late." "I prefer chronologically challenged." — Victoria Aveyard,

"It ought to be plain how little you gain by getting excited and vexed. You'll always be late for the previous train, and always on time for the next." — Piet Hein

"That's the funny thing about old people: they never seem in a hurry. I think old people have figured out that being five minutes late really doesn't matter much." — Shannon Wiersbitzky.

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Solemnity of the Presentation, Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Lector: Joe Kaczynski. Breakfast. ANNUAL MEETING.	3 Commemoration of St. Blaise	4	5	6	7	8
9 Septuagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Lauren DeBlois, Claudia Bertasso.	10	11	12	13	14 Commemoration of St. Valentine	15
16 Sexagesima Sunday. 67th Anniversary of the death of S+P Prime Bishop Franciszek Hodur. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Larry Panfil, Claudia Bertasso.	17 Presidents' Day Holy Mass for Healing with Anointing at 6:15pm Parish Committee Meeting	18	19	20	21	22
23 Quinquagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 9:30 and 11:30am. Lectors: Joe Kaczynski, Claudia Bertasso.	24 Feast – St. Matthias, Apostle.	25 Last day for Epiphany Home Blessings	26 Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass at 7pm.	27	28 Stations of the Cross at 7pm.	29 Requiem Anniversary Holy Mass for sp. Marilyn Hietala at 11am. Black History Month: Celebrating Black Gospel Music at 4pm.

EVENTS

All of February - Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

March Upcoming

Mar. 1st – 1st Sunday of Lent, one Holy Mass at 10am. Breakfast. Annual Financial Meeting.

Mar. 8th – Solemnity, Institution of the PNCC.

Holy Name of Jesus
National Catholic Church – P.N.C.C.
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