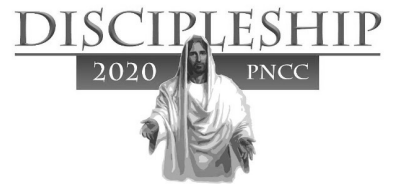


Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 27, 2020



Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds Uroczystość Ubogich Pasterzy

December 27, 2020

Rite: Pew Missal, page 39, Canon, page 52.

First reading: Jeremiah 31:10-14

Psalm: Ps 97:1,6,11,12

A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

Epistle: Titus 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:15-20

Intention: 10am, for all called.

Celebrant: 10am Rev. James Konicki.

- Mattins at 9:50am. Holy Mass at 10am (Hodur Rite). Blessing of Wine.

THIS WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. For when peaceful stillness compassed everything and the night in its swift course was half spent, Your all-powerful Word from heaven's royal throne bounded, a fierce warrior, into the doomed land.

R. Your throne stands firm from of old; You are from everlasting, Lord.

V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Solemnity of the Holy Family Święto Świętej Rodziny Jezusa, Maryi i Józefa

January 3, 2021

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 82.

First reading: Sirach 3:2-6,12-14

Psalm: 128:1-5

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Epistle: Corinthians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Intention: 10am, for parishioners, for śp. Fred Wheeler.

Celebrant: 10am Rev. James Konicki.

- Mattins at 9:50am. Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite), Exposition and Benediction for the intention of God's Blessing on our 100th Anniversary.

NEXT WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. The shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

R. So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Infant lying in the manger.

V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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.

Contact



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Upcoming...

- **December 27: Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds. Holy Mass at 10am. Also, Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist. Blessing of Wine.**
- **December 28: Commemoration of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs.**
- **January 1: Solemnity – Circumcision of our Lord. Holy Mass at 10am. Happy 2021.**
- **January 2: Solemnity – Holy Name of Jesus (our parish feast/odpust). Start of our 100th Year. Holy Mass at 10am.**
- **January 3: Solemnity of the Holy Family. Holy Mass at 10am.**
- **January 6: Solemnity of the Epiphany. Holy Mass at 7pm with blessing of charcoal, chalk, and incense.**
- **January 10: Solemnity of the Baptism of our Lord. Holy Mass at 10am.**
- **January 17: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am.**
- **January 18: Feast – St. Peter's Chair at Antioch/Martin Luther King Day. Start of the Week of Christian Prayer for Unity.**

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 Pastor Jim know so he might visit, pray with, anoint, and bring Jesus' healing presence to them. Call Pastor Jim at 518-522-0944.

Elevation.

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior was revealed, He saved us. It was not because of any good deeds that we ourselves had done, but because of His own mercy

Much in the realm of Theology has been written about elevation, the ability we have, because of Jesus, God among us, to approach God and to become like Him.

In Orthodox Theology, this process is called Theosis (also referred to as deification, or divinization, or illumination). It is in essence the transformative process by which we grow into likeness to, or union with, God. Human beings – that’s us - can have real union with God and become like God in the way we love as well as in our holiness.

Our goal is to become perfect in our love, to love as God does, through His grace and the awesomeness of His redemption. We might also call this sanctification – a process of growing godward.

In Mere Christianity, C.S. Lewis wrote:

He will make the feeblest and filthiest of us into a god or goddess, dazzling, radiant, immortal creatures, pulsating all through with such energy and joy and wisdom and love as we cannot now imagine...

St. Paul, writing to Titus, goes on to say: *God poured out the Holy Spirit abundantly on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that by his grace we might be put right with God and come into possession of the eternal life we hope for.*

Today we encounter the feeble and filthy – the Humble Shepherds stationed out in the field. Like us, God poured out His grace upon them, revealing to them this opportunity to not only *go and see*, but more so to become, to be elevated.

As with us, they had the choice. Literally, chill in the field or *go and see*. By trusting God and going, by saying yes, they came to *see and understand*.

Those Humble Shepherds were elevated. They became dazzling, radiant, immortal creatures, pulsating with energy, joy, wisdom and love. What a great model to follow.

We have been called, and I also offer a special word in this moment to all those called in a special way to be priests and deacons of our Holy Church. Each of us must decide whether we will go and see. If we say yes, we will see and understand. Having seen and understood, we will become dazzling, radiant, immortal creatures, pulsating with energy, joy, wisdom and love.

I want that. Do you want that?

God’s grace and mercy are such that this opportunity is ever present. Elevation, illumination, becoming like unto God is a chance awaiting our yes. Let us pick it up and move forward with energy, joy, wisdom and love just as those Humble Shepherds did.

Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

2 Timothy 2:21

Time to Study God’s Word

SUNDAY: 1 Thessalonians 5:23
MONDAY: John 17:17
TUESDAY: 2 Thessalonians 2:13
WEDNESDAY: Hebrews 10:14
THURSDAY: 1 Corinthians 6:11
FRIDAY: Romans 6:6
SATURDAY: Philippians 1:6

Pray the week

Lord Jesus, by Your great grace draw mew closer into union with You. Help me to be like unto You in love, holiness, and service.

The Christmas Season Continues

Today is the Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds and also the Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist. Holy Mass is at 10am along with the blessing of wine. This week starts our 100th Anniversary year. Holy Mass on January 1st, the Solemnity of the Circumcision, will be at 10am. Our parish feast/odpust, the Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus, occurs every January 2nd. Holy Mass is at 10am. Next Sunday is the Solemnity of the Holy Family – Holy Mass at 10am.

Sacrificial Giving – Amazing Goodness

We gathered food donations totaling 338 pounds. These were delivered to Schenectady Community Ministries where they were received with great joy. Thank you for your outstanding generosity!

Seventeen ornaments were taken from our giving tree. Beyond individual family donations that provide for food, water, medicine, and bible for families and children, a total of \$225 in combined cash donations were also sent for those purposes. God bless your goodness!

If you have good unneeded clothing to donate, it may be dropped off downstairs. The YMSofR will take these donations to local charities through the end of January.

Our 100th Anniversary – Almost Here

In 2021 we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of our parish. All ideas and input are welcome. Please contact our Anniversary Chairperson, Alyssa. Send your input to Alyssa.DePaula@gmail.com. Please turn our for Holy Mass at 10am on January 2nd, our parish feast.

Reminders

Valentine’s raffle tickets will be going out shortly. Any questions, please see Linda or Fr. Jim.

Envelopes and tax statements for 2021 will be arriving shortly.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. Inflame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

Praying for...

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Alice Houser, Angela Kaminski, Ed Jakubiak, Rick Kaminski, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Stefan & Elizabeth Węglinski, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Virginia Lamb, Curtis Szczepkowski, Dolores Konicki, Joshua Moraski, Sue & Roger White, Helen Pasiak, Jessie Feathers-Ostrowski, Joanne Bauer, Madison Sheridan, Amber Tatlock, Joe Barratiere, Tom Abbot, Derek Westcott, Karen Kisch, Gregory Henderson, Vince Cacamo, Theresa Ordon, Robert Baia, Michelle Zawistowski, Faith, Allyson Keyser, Amanda Carr, Warren Tatlock, Susan Jones, Garry Packer, Madison Dunlap, Sandra Tatlock, Shirley Maliszewski, Fred Hendricks, Nicholas Emanuele, Theresa, Stanley Ordon, Greg Kaczmarek, Carla, Joanne Houser, Ewelina Filyushchenko, Dave Micka, Grace Lewis, Maggie, Susan, Fr. Sr. Don, Linda, Ed Casey, Virginia Rogers, all suffering due to Coronavirus, 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, Pattric Jones, Timothy Olsen, Fr. Joseph Kolek, Fr. Andrew Bilinski, Fr. Stan Jasiurkowski, and Fr. Andrew Tenus.
- 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/Union of Scranton. This week we remember and pray for the people and clergy of St Justin Martyr, Trondheim, Norway

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

Coffee Hour: Thank you to all who support our ministry of hospitality. One day we will gather again and give thanks.

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 reconstituted branch 140/168 of the PNU (Spójnia) all need your help. See Pastor Jim.

Of note...

--- For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. ---