

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: 518-522-0944
ON THE WEB: WWW.HOLYNAMENCC.ORG

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY

2021



BUT DO NOT OVERLOOK THIS ONE FACT, BELOVED, THAT WITH THE LORD ONE DAY IS AS A THOUSAND YEARS, AND A THOUSAND YEARS AS ONE DAY.

Here we are, eight days into the forty day celebration of Christmas, and one day into 2021 and the celebration of our one-hundredth anniversary as a parish. Celebration is what it is all about.

Some people might find that trite. With so much suffering and evil in the world, how can you talk about celebrating? Do you remember that line from the beginning of Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town, the businessman saying, "How can they talk about Christmas when there is so much unhappiness in the world?"

We could certainly focus on the bad and let that be our motivating force, but why, when we have so much to celebrate? Why, when we hold the greatest gift of all time?

Our celebration is founded on the most important event in history - the incarnation of God as man in Jesus. God has come among us, to dwell with us and to remain with us. God gave His all as sacrifice and atonement for our sins, to free us. God remains among us to lead and inspire us, and to build up His Holy Church, His beacon of light in the

world and right here in Schenectady.

We therefore have every right and duty to celebrate.

St. Peter reminds us of God's perception of time. In 2 Peter 3:8-9 we are told that God does not perceive time as we do and *is patient with us, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance*. So He gives us time to carry out His work which we have done so very faithfully for one-hundred years and which we will do in 2021 and beyond.

You see, it is not that we ignore the bad, the suffering, and the pain around us, but that we have the answer and antidote to it - Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit. We have the hands, minds, and hearts to address it. It is why we were organized one hundred years ago and why we continue to work today, as church right here in Schenectady.

So, brothers and sisters, celebrate this day and every day, give thanks to God for His gifts, and be His light into the future.

HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY



This year we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our parish's founding, in Schenectady.

Our parish was initially founded as St. Joseph's parish on Raymond Street in Schenectady in 1921 and was formally incorporated on June 5, 1922.

St. Joseph's parish experienced a fire on Good Friday in April 1935, and it had hoped to remain open to serve the Northside neighborhood. At that time land had also been purchased on Pearl St. in the Mont Pleasant neighborhood for the foundation of a second parish, Holy Name of Jesus.

Work started immediately on the construction of a new parish based on architectural drawings by E.G. Atkinson. The members of the new parish built the edifice by hand. Construction costs were initially estimated at \$261,625.

Unfortunately, the continuance of St. Joseph's parish could not be fulfilled, so the two parishes were combined and Holy Name of Jesus was formally incorporated on July 27, 1937.

We will continue to bring you snippets of history throughout 2021

and will keep you informed as to the many spiritual, liturgical, and social events planned for the celebration.

2021 - Year of Discipleship

DISCIPLESHIP

2021

PNCC



Our Holy Church will once again focus on discipleship. The discipleship messages of 2021 will help us to prepare for a post Covid world, to reengage and recommit ourselves as the Body of Christ. We will examine the lives of some of the prophets, disciples of our Lord, saints, bishops, and their discipleship virtues to see what we can learn from them to apply in our daily living.

For January we focus on Daniel in the Lion's Den.

Scripture reading: Daniel Chapter 6

Reflection and Action Item:

Daniel was raised to high office by King Darius. His jealous rivals tricked the King to decree that no prayers should be addressed to anyone but the King. Daniel continued to be steadfast in his prayer to God. Thus, he was thrown into the lion's den and as we know God protected and saved him because of his great faith. As

Daniel said "My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight." (6:22)

This story teaches us that no one or no thing is a match for the True God and that God provides for those who are faithful and devoted to Him. So even in the midst of difficult and challenging times such as this ongoing pandemic – let us continue to put our faith and trust in God.

Be steadfast in your daily prayer and encourage others to put their faith and trust in God, Who will guide us through this storm. Do not lose heart but be strong in your faith and encourage others to do the same.

National Discipleship Virtual Retreat

A Church-wide Discipleship Retreat will be held on Wednesday, January 20th at 7pm. More information will be forthcoming on this virtual gathering. Watch our Weekly Bulletin as well as our Facebook page and website for updates.

Annual Meeting & Parish Offices

Our annual congregation meeting is tentatively planned for Sunday, February 7th along with the election of a new Parish Committee. We will finalize the date and advise you of it through the weekly bulletin and announcements system. We will also likely offer the ability to participate

virtually via Zoom.

While this past year has presented unique challenges, it has also



proven to be wonderful and positive. We all pulled together to sustain the parish, helping it to grow

and prosper in spite of the obstacles before us.

As we prepare to meet, pray for God's continued care and grace for all who serve or intend to serve in positions of leadership. We really need you to disciple in this.

If you, or someone you know, wishes to serve, please write down your or their name along with the office (Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Secretary, Trustee) you/they would like to run for and drop them in the collection basket in an envelope marked nominations.

Anyone may attend the annual meeting to share in the information provided, but please note that only paid parish members may cast a vote or run for office.

Membership and Dues

Membership requires the payment of annual dues which support the larger Church and our Diocese. Certain benefits of the parish, including burial in our cemeteries, are reserved to members.

Dues are \$125 per year for each adult member regardless of age.

\$
**KEEP
CALM
AND
PAY YOUR
DUES**

\$2.40 per person per week is unaffordable, please see Fr. Jim privately.

Pay your dues with joy and thank God that we have our Church.

If anyone faces such severe financial difficulties that

Envelopes and Tax Statements

God bless you for your generosity and support of our parish in 2020. Because of you and your sacrifice we have been greatly blessed. Donation envelopes for 2021 will soon arrive and will be available in the back of the church. Please take a packet home and avail yourself of these envelopes in the coming year. Doing so allows the parish to provide you with a statement for accounting and income tax purposes.



Annual statements for income tax purposes will also be available this month.

SOUPERBOWL OF CARING

"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

Over the past 19 years our parish

has raised \$2,300 as part of the SouperBowl of Caring effort. This year's collection will be held on February 7th. The soup pot is out. Please continue your generosity in this worthy effort which helps Schenectady Community Ministries in feeding the hungry.



Thank YOU for Your Food Offerings

Thank you to all who donated so generously. 338 pounds of food was delivered to Schenectady Community Ministries. We are making a difference locally.

*Thank
You*

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

Make February 2021 – the month of love – a month to win in more ways than one!



This effort supports the youth of our parish and will help us in saving for Kurs and the postponed CONVO 2020 - two great events our youth will attend this summer.

We need your support to give our

young people a great beginning in 2021. As God has told us, starting our children off right in the knowledge of the Lord will cause them to bear much good fruit in their lives.

Each ticket for the Outrageous Valentine's Raffle gives the purchaser a chance to win up to \$1,180. The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle will include drawings for \$40 daily prizes and a \$100 daily prize on Valentine's Day. The raffle is drawn each day of the month, giving the ticket holder **28 chances to win!** Winning tickets are returned to the raffle bucket, making them eligible to win again and again.

We ask that you sell them and return them to the parish office by February 7th so that all tickets may be entered. Tickets cost only \$10 each. Feel free to contact Fr. Jim or Linda DePaula with any questions or to get more tickets if needed.

We thank you for your support and wish you good luck!

Epiphany Visitations - Koleđa - House Blessings

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated on Wednesday, January 6th.

Due to the current crisis, we will not be doing visits to the interior of homes. If you would like your home blessed, Fr. Jim will offer the traditional Epiphany home blessing outdoors. Please see him to make an appointment. Blessing appointments

are available through February 16th (prior to Ash Wednesday).

The Holy Name of Jesus



January 2nd marks the annual celebration of the Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus.

Our parish was established and dedicated to the Holy

Name of Jesus. Join us on January 2nd at 10am for Holy Mass in celebration of our patronal feast. Let us always honor and praise the Holy Name of Jesus in all we do – in our witness to His Holy Name and our mutual affection, fellowship, love, and charity.

**THANK YOU, MERCI,
DZIĘKUJE, ĄĆIŰ, GRACIAS,
MAHALO, GRAZIE!**

There is so much to be thankful for. To all who joined in to decorate the parish so beautifully for Christmas.

To all who attended Holy Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Thank you to Liz, Mike, Christina, Victoria, Kyle, and Alyssa for your beautiful music unto the Baby Jesus.

Thank you Alyssa for your representation in ministry, bringing in the Baby Jesus.

Thank you to our altar servers for

being present and assisting and to Adam Konicki for his faithful service throughout the year.

To those who have worked so tirelessly over the past year: our parish officers and committee members, our jurors, nomination committee members, members of the ANS, YMSofR, and choir, Mrs. Liz Battaglia, Mike Emanuele, Christina Supinski, and Victoria Konicki for service in music, our altar servers, lectors, and Kyle and Alyssa who cared for the maintenance and upkeep of the parish facilities as well as Pete, Larry, and Darryl for taking on special repair and installation projects.



For everyone's work on our Gospel Concert with special thanks to Penny Meachum and Bishop Judy Murphy-Jack.

To everyone who worked to provide a wonderful take-out goulash dinner.

For your support of the ornament project.

To all who gave of their time and treasure to build up the ministry and community of our parish, Seniorate, and the wider Church.

A special thank you to our youth and their parents/grandparents for your dedication and hard work and participation in virtual Kurs.

May God bless and reward you for all you have offered and done!

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

1 John Linscott
3 Logan Slezak
4 Zach Bixler, Zachary Prusky, Courtney Carroll
5 Derrick D'Amico
8 Alex D'Amico, Lawrence Panfil, Christine DeCocco
11 Cyndie Williams
14 Karen DeMidio
18 Darian Topolski
22 Catherine Martucci
23 Christina Naumowicz, Laurie Lee Woodworth
25 Richard Okonsky, Adam Konicki
26 Cadence Smith
27 Eric Kaminski
29 Judi Horton

Wishing you all many years! Sto Lat!

Planning Ahead

Sunday Holy Masses at 10am unless otherwise noted.

- Jan 1: Solemnity of the Circumcision - Holy Mass at 10am.
- Jan. 2: Solemnity: Holy Name – our Parish Feast – Holy Mass at 10am.
- January 3: Solemnity of the Holy Family - normal Sunday schedule.
- Jan. 6: Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord – Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense at 7pm.
- Jan. 10: Solemnity - Baptism of

the Lord - normal Sunday schedule.

- Jan. 17: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - normal Sunday schedule. Parish Committee Meeting.
- Jan. 18: Feast –St. Peter’s Chair in Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins. Martin Luther King Day. Holy Mass for Healing at 6:15pm.
- Jan. 24: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - normal Sunday schedule.
- Jan. 25: Feast - Conversion of St. Paul. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends.
- Jan. 31: Septuagesima Sunday. Start of Pre-Lent. Music Scholarship Sunday - normal Sunday schedule.
- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation - Holy Mass at 7pm with Blessing of Candles

Music Scholarship Sunday

Sunday, January 31st is Music Scholarship Sunday. Our parish has been blessed with great musicians and aspiring musicians. Scholarships are available to both youth and adults. 2021 scholarship applications will be available soon. God bless those who add musical beauty to the worship of God.

Happy 2021!

On behalf of Fr. Jim, his family, and our parish Committee we wish you all the best for 2021!

Writers Corner: *Poetry and Reflection*

Hush Don't Cry by Francine Farina

Little baby laying in the hay
Your Mother's breast is near
A humble beginning for the
Lord of all
Hush don't cry
Hush don't cry

Your Father is here too guarding
His family
Hush don't cry
Hush don't cry

The sheep are next to your tiny crib
Keeping out the drafts
Hush don't cry
Hush don't cry

One day kings will bow to you
And heavenly hosts will sing
Your praises
Hush don't cry
Hush don't cry

The Savior of mankind
You will become
Hush don't cry
Hush don't cry

Feel Like You Need a Makeover?

By Chip Ingram

Feel like you need a makeover? An extreme makeover, perhaps?

Go to Wikipedia and type in "makeover TV shows." You might be amazed. The original "Extreme Makeover" has over the last decade spawned countless spinoffs and copy-cats—some you probably don't want

to watch! (I'm going to bet there's more to come, too. "Extreme Makeover: COVID Home" edition, anyone?)

Why are these reality shows so popular? Why do millions of viewers watch as big money gets tossed around to take something imperfect and damaged and recreate it into something whole and beautiful?

First, I think people love to see positive change. We enjoy watching something old get turned into something new. Secondly, it's fun to see what skills and creativity can make it happen.

A third and biggest reason, though, is this: I believe we all secretly long for an extreme makeover in some area of our lives or relationships.

I know I do. I'd like to be different. I'd like to take something broken in me and make it whole. I'd like to be made over into something magnificent.

I don't think this is a case of not "accepting yourself." I believe it's a God-given imprint on our hearts. It's rooted in the spiritual DNA of your Creator, whose image we are created in. We want to change because we know we're not 100 percent who God created us to be.

I'm going to suggest that the ultimate extreme makeover artist is Jesus Christ. And the ultimate extreme makeover is His work in a human heart.

In fact, it's God's desire is to do an extreme makeover in the heart of every single person on this planet. And boy, do we all need it.

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. (Ephesians 2:1-3)

I notice three truths about how you used to

be before Christ—or where you are at right now if you don't know Him personally.

First, it says we were dead in our transgressions. That's what happens when sin blocks us from a life-giving relationship with the God who made us.

Second, we were prisoners of the world's system—imprisoned by the evil power that manipulates our culture; and to the resulting materialism, selfishness, dysfunction, temptations, and addictions.

And third, we were deserving of wrath. Because justice is part of God's nature, there are consequences to living in a way that hurts people.

But notice: in Christ, who are you now? How have you been transformed?

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:4-8)

You used to be dead; now, you are alive.

You used to be a prisoner; now, you're delivered from sin's power, from Satan's grip, and from past mistakes.

You used to be an object of wrath; now you have a new standing with God. You are righteous. You're cleansed. You have a new identity. You have new power. You have a new future, a new purpose, a new family, new privileges. And then, very excitingly, you have a new inheritance.

This is the ultimate extreme makeover!

Through the infinite love and sacrifice of God's Son, Jesus, the ultimate makeover artist, you have a new heart, a new life, a new future, and a new peace.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Solemnity of the Circumcision, Holy Mass, 10am.	2 Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus – Parish Feast, Holy Mass, 10am.
3 Solemnity of the Holy Family, Holy Mass at 10am.	4	5	6 Solemnity of the Epiphany - Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense, 7pm	7 Together in Faith and Love Zoom Meeting at 7pm.	8	9
10 Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord. Holy Mass at 10am.	11	12	13	14 Together in Faith and Love Zoom Meeting at 7pm.	15	16
17 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am. Parish Committee Meeting	18 St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins. Martin Luther King Day. Holy Mass for Healing with Anointing at 6:15pm	19	20	21 Together in Faith and Love Zoom Meeting at 7pm.	22	23
24 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am.	25 Conversion of St. Paul Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends.	26	27	28 Together in Faith and Love Zoom Meeting at 7pm.	29	30
31 Septuagesima Sunday. Pre-Lent begins. Holy Mass at 10am. Music Scholarship Sunday.						

EVENTS

Starting Jan. 7th:

Blessing of Homes Begins – See or Call Fr. Jim.

All of February - Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

February Upcoming

Feb. 2nd – Solemnity of the Presentation. Holy Mass at 7pm with Blessing of Candles.

Feb. 16th – Last Day for Home Blessings.

Feb. 17th – Ash Wednesday. Great Lent begins.

Holy Name of Jesus
National Catholic Church – P.N.C.C.
1040 Pearl Street
Schenectady, NY 12303-1846



FIRST CLASS

We thank God for:

Address Correction Requested
Return Postage Guaranteed

