



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JANUARY 1, 2023

Solemnity of the Circumcision Uroczyście Obrzezania Pańskie

January 1, 2023

Rite: Pew Missal, page 15, Canon, page 28.

First reading: Genesis 17:9-14

Psalm: Ps 19:8-11

R. The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing my soul.

Epistle: Galatians 5:3-6

Gospel: Luke 2:21

Intention: 10am and Noon, for all parishioners.

Celebrant: Rev. James Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Joe Kaczynski

- Mattins at 9:55, Holy Mass at 10am (Traditional Rite, pg. 15).
- Coffee Hour Reception
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, Pew Missal pg. 15).

THIS WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. This is My covenant with you and your descendants after you that you must keep: every male among you shall be circumcised.

R. I will not violate My covenant; the promise of My lips I will not alter. By My holiness, I swore once for all.

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 Humble Shepherds Uroczystość Ubogich Pasterzy

January 8, 2023

Rite: Pew Missal, page 15, Canon, page 28.

First reading: Genesis 17:9-14

Psalm: Ps 19:8-11

R. The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing my soul.

Epistle: Galatians 5:3-6

Gospel: Luke 2:21

Intention: 10am and Noon, for all parishioners.

Celebrant: Rev. James Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Larry Panfil.

- Mattins at 9:55, Holy Mass at 10am (Traditional Rite, pg. 15).
- Coffee Hour Reception
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, Pew Missal pg. 15).

NEXT 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.

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

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Upcoming...

- **January 1: Solemnity – Circumcision of our Lord. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.**
- **January 2: Solemnity – Holy Name of Jesus. Parish Feast. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 3: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 4: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 5: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 6: Solemnity – Epiphany of our Lord. Holy Mass at Noon with blessing of chalk and incense.**
- **January 8: Solemnity – Humble Shepherds. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.**
- **January 9: Solemnity – Baptism of our Lord. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 10: In the Octave. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 11: In the Octave. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 12: In the Octave. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 13: Octave of the Epiphany. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 14: Women's Empowerment Group Meets 10am till Noon.**

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, the Body and Blood of Christ, by placing the elements on the tongue, never in the hand.

Sick Calls and Hospital Visits – If someone is in need, please let Pastor Jim know so he might visit, pray with, and anoint them. Call Pastor Jim at 518-522-0944.

My heart changed.

When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus

Thank you for joining as we continue in the celebration of the Christmas Season and in our expectation of the Lord's return in glory.

The question on everyone's mind – why celebrate this? I mean, think about it. This ceremony performed probably in Joseph and Mary's home and all it entails – well it seems both minor and kind of gross.

The Roman Church got rid of this celebration and converted it to a Marian Feast. That cleaned it all up, right? They do not have to think about all this, and they thought they made it all pretty. Unfortunately, they lost the point.

So why do we celebrate our Lord's circumcision? There are several very important reasons to celebrate.

One reason is that it is factual. January 1st is eight days from December 25th, and in accord with God's instruction to Abraham which Joe so elegantly read, *every male among you, when he is eight days old, shall be circumcised.*

Another reason, and this is particularly important for us, is that the fact of the circumcision, the pain and loss of blood, was testament to Jesus' humanity. Indeed, God had become man. Jesus laid down His Deity and took on our flesh so He could deliver on all the Father's promises to us.

Jesus as man was the only One Who could save us from our sins by paying their penalty, Who could redeem us, and Who could make us new and co-heirs with Him to eternity in the Kingdom now and to come.

How privileged we all are that God became man, that His humanity was one-hundred percent real and full. Many ancient heresies tried to downplay or outright rejected Jesus' humanity, but without that humanity we could not have been saved, our debt would not be paid, we would remain our old fallen selves.

In the circumcision we are reminded that this baby boy, Jesus, faced all we face. He was not some magical figure, sitting up in the manger and doing calculus, or speaking, or anything other than what 8-day old babies do – eating, crying, and needing a diaper change.

Finally, the circumcision is a sign in the old covenant, the covenant that Jesus, as God, enjoined on the Jewish people and all in their nation.

Jesus took on this sign of the old covenant in His flesh to declare that He was of Israel, its true son, and just as the sign of the old covenant was in His flesh so would the sign of the new covenant be in His flesh – in nail marks, scars, and a pierced side.

For us, the new covenant in Christ's flesh and blood frees us, as St Paul says, from the Law and its prescriptions. We live a new changed existence in grace.

St. Paul is being very careful in exhorting the Galatians and us so we might perceive our new reality – who we really are as a changed people. The Galatians, and some today, believe that they can do stuff – be circumcised, cook a certain way, carry out lists of activities and be saved. How wrong they are!

Our salvation is in the God/man Jesus. He completed that work. Now we must accept Him, live changed lives, and walk His way in faith working through love.

Circumcise yourselves to the Lord; remove the foreskin of your hearts, O men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; lest my wrath go forth like fire, and burn with none to quench it, because of the evil of your deeds."

Jeremiah 4:4

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: 1 Corinthians 7:19
MONDAY: Romans 4:11
TUESDAY: Galatians 2:3
WEDNESDAY: Romans 2:29
THURSDAY: Philippians 3:3
FRIDAY: 1 Corinthians 7:18
SATURDAY: Colossians 2:11

Pray the week

Lord Jesus, You have made me new, reborn to a life of grace. Grant that I might perceive this new reality in which I live and live it more fully. Amen.

Praying for:

Today's Music

- Entrance: R193, O Come All Ye Faithful.
- Gloria: R164, Hark The Herald.
- Gospel: R194, Infant Holy
- Offertory: R185, Away In The Manager.
- Communion: Do You Hear What I Hear (instrumental).
- Communion Reflection: R180, What Child Is This.
- Exposition and Benediction: B147-150.
- Recessional: B84, Another Year Is Dawning.

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- **Happy 2023 from Fr. Jim, his family, and the Parish Committee.**
- **Christmas Continues:** Stay on course for the forty-day celebration of the Christmas Season. It began last Sunday and continues until February 2nd. Join in each week as we continue the celebration and especially on the Solemnities of the season which include our parish feast this Monday, January 2nd.
- **YMSofR Gathering:** The YMSofR of Blessed Virgin Mary parish has invited the members of our Branch 56 to join them for dinner on Monday, January 9th at the Italian American Community Center, 257 Washington Ave Ext, Albany starting at 6:30pm. The cost is \$20 per person and includes the meal, non-alcoholic drinks, and gratuity. Please let Fr. Jim or Paul know if you are attending so a count can be provided.
- **Envelopes for 2023:** Are available in the parish hall.
- **Keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.**
- **Annual Meeting / Election of Officers.** Our annual meeting and election of officers is scheduled for Sunday, February 5th. Please consider becoming a Trustee / Board Member. The Ministry of Administration is an important one and we could use your skills.
- **Valentine's Raffle:** Tickets will be going out shortly. Please help in this endeavor which supports our youth.
- **NUC Scholarships.** Music scholarship applications are available at <https://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com>

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Ed Jakubiak, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Elizabeth Węglinski, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Virginia Lamb, Curtis Sczepakowski, 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, Allyson Keyser, Amanda Carr, Warren Tatlock, Susan Jones, Garry Packer, Madison Dunlap, Sandra Tatlock, Shirley Maliszewski, Fred Hendricks, Nicholas Emanuele, Theresa, Carla, Maggie, Susan, Linda, Carolyn, Francine, Eileen, Joyce Colson, Karen Weyant, Charles Hobbib, Helen Spencer, Steve and Claudia Miller, Barbara Rogers, Michael Clough, Frances Gary, Dan Crawley, all suffering due to Coronavirus, flu and RSV, and all in need of God's healing.

- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States esp. Michael Angehr, Mark Collins, Patric Jones, Timothy Olsen, Charlie Prothero, Fr. Joseph Kolek, Fr. Andrew Bilinski, Fr. Stan Jasiurkowski, Fr. Andrew Tenus.
- All those in Public Service: Civil Servants, 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 for any need or intention.

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 clergy and faithful of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Ellisville, MO.

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

Coffee Hour: Thank you to all who support our ministry of hospitality. Please sign up to support a week. We are also in need of people to serve for 6 months as kitchen coordinators.

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 Branch 140/168 of the PNU (Spójnia) all need your help. See Fr. Jim.

Of note . . .

-- *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation."* --