



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – JANUARY 8, 2023

Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds Uroczystość Ubogich Pasterzy

January 8, 2023

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

First reading: Jeremiah 31:10-14

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

R. 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 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).

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.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

II Niedziela zwykła

January 15, 2023

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

First reading: Isaiah 49:3,5-6

Psalm: Ps 40:2,4,7-10

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel: John 1:29-34

Intention: 10am and Noon, for all parishioners.

Celebrant: Rev. James Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Joe Kaczynski

- Mattins at 9:55, Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite, pg. 63).
- Coffee Hour Reception
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, Pew Missal pg. 15).

NEXT WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. Here is My Servant Whom I uphold, My chosen One with Whom I am pleased,

R. Upon Whom I have put My Spirit; He shall bring forth justice to the nations.

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

Contact



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Upcoming...

- **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.**
- **January 15: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10am and Noon.**
- **January 16: Martin Luther King Day. Holy Mass at Noon. Parish Committee Meets at 6pm.**
- **January 17: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 18: Feast – St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 19: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 20: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **January 21: Week of Christian Unity Ecumenical Prayer at 5pm.**
- **January 22: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10am and Noon.**

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.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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.

This unique Solemnity in our Holy Church dedicates a Sunday in the early Christmas season to the remembrance of those shepherds who first heard of the Lord's birth from the angels. This Solemnity is so important that it displaces all other Solemnities of the Christmas season excepting the Circumcision, Holy Name of Jesus, and Epiphany should they occur on a Sunday. In most years, this Solemnity occurs on the Sunday after the Nativity. In years like this one with Christmas on a Sunday, this Solemnity is celebrated on the 8th of January.

This Solemnity is wonderful on so many levels for it shows how God interacts with humanity. God sent His angels to the poor workers of the region to announce His salvation, the fulfillment of the entire Old Testament. In fact, He chose the

lowest of the low to receive this news.

We can assess their humility from the fact they were not people of pretense. They could not fool anyone about who they were – they even smelled like their work – the sheep, the pastures and woodland.

A lack of pretense is one sign of humility. Oxford notes that humility is: Having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's own importance. Of low social, administrative, or political rank.

Another sign of humility / humbleness is what the Shepherd's did with the news. They trusted and went, then having seen told people about it directly and honestly. The Shepherds experienced God and didn't have to think about it, philosophize, theologize, or seek the local descendent of Aaron, a Levite, or religious leader to interpret for them.

In the Letter of St. James (James 4:10) we hear: *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.* Good advice! The more like these Shepherds we are the better off we will be

because God will be holding us up.

If we are hanging on to any pretense, let's wash ourselves of it in confession. If we are grasping after the straws the world offers, know they will snap and break, and we will be alone. So, if we are grasping, let us stop and grasp onto Jesus. If we are holding off in talking about Jesus or waiting for the advice of philosophers, theologians, priests, or best sellers, let us stop waiting and get to work. Speak of Him.

Last week we spoke of being changed, having changed hearts and lives. Here we see the practical model of people who are transparent, honest, and humble about what God has done. God sent His Son Jesus to save us. Let us live as saved and humble as those Shepherds who declared the Lord.

Pray too for all present and these future humble shepherds of our Church: Alfonsito, Nick, Sean, David, Jason, Todd, Adam, Zach, Kevin, Zach, James, Nick, Rodryg, and all Deacon candidates.

And all the people shall hear and fear and not act presumptuously again.

Deuteronomy 17:13

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: 1 Peter 2:1-2
MONDAY: Ephesians 2:8-9
TUESDAY: Proverbs 3:5-6
WEDNESDAY: 1 Peter 5:8
THURSDAY: John 3:16-21
FRIDAY: 2 Timothy 2:15
SATURDAY: Romans 9:20

Pray the week

Lord Jesus, Grant that I might be like the Humble Shepherds, without pretense and bold in proclaiming the Good News of Your gospel. Amen.

Praying for:

Today's Music

- Entrance: R193, O Come All Ye Faithful.
- Gloria: R164, Hark The Herald.
- Gospel: B71, In A Manger He Is Lying.
- Offertory: B61, Shepherds Hurried Unto Bethlehem.
- Communion: Little Drummer Boy (instrumental).
- Communion Reflection: R179, The First Noel.
- Recessional: R171, Joy To The World.

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- **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.
- **SPECIAL PRAYER EVENT:** The Churches of Mont pleasant and beyond will gather at our parish on Saturday, January 21st at 5pm for prayer during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Please plan to attend.
- **Eternal Rest:** Peter Zobre. Memory eternal!
- **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 St. Hedwig Mission Parish, Chicago, IL.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobjogslaw im, O Boze!

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."* --