

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC
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NEWSLETTER

JANUARY

2023



FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO.

Imagine if you will, an asteroid falls to earth. Upon investigation scientists discover a new element, one unknown throughout history. There is just so much of the element and it is removed and taken to a lab.

The element is found to have a beautiful appearance, an infinite number of valuable uses, and in-and-of-itself is rare. Everyone has heard of the element via the news and social networks and that news causes it to further increase in value. Everyone would love to have it in their possession.

With all this going on, people are talking about the new element all-the-time, they are doing all they can to pursue it, and there is no work or sacrifice people would not expend to have it in their possession.

Jesus tells us as recorded in Matthew 6:21 that where a person's treasure is, so is their heart there.

Eight days ago we recalled the precious gift that came down from heaven, like our imaginary asteroid element one-of-a-kind, filled with light/luminous, rare, and infinitely present and perfect in all situations.

That gift is Jesus, God with us, ever present.

Now one thing about our journey through the liturgical year, following in the footsteps of Jesus and the key moments and teachings given to us is how we live because of them.

We could consider our experience of Jesus disconnected and one-off, of no more value than perhaps a few hours on a Sunday and a few occasional holidays, but if we see the truth of the treasure we have, its preciousness, we do all we can and even more to fully possess Him.

If we do indeed see the value of Jesus and we make His value central in our lives, we will talk about Him all-the-time. We will pursue Him in our reading of Scripture and in times of dedicated prayer. We will count no work or sacrifice too much if we dedicate them to carrying out Jesus' commands. If Jesus is our treasure than our hearts will be focused on Him alone.

Let our continuing celebration of the forty days of Christmas cause us to reflect on the gift we have received and how we treasure it.

DOING LOTS OF GOOD



CarePortal creates connections within the Circles of Care around the isolated child. Families, churches and communities are brought together to create a healthy approach to caring for kids. Because **EVERY** child matters.

Holy Name of Jesus is a member of the CarePortal project. CarePortal exists to help vulnerable children and families. Requests submitted through CarePortal come from caseworkers at government child welfare agencies or other child-serving organizations. Churches respond to these needs from their resources.

At a basic level we gather needed items, deliver them, set them up, and talk about our church. In some situations we collaborate with other churches when the need is very great.

What difference do these requests make for these children and their families? Every single time a caseworker submits a request on behalf of a child in their community, they let us know the purpose behind the request. Our response to these requests help achieve goals like: preventing a child from entering foster care, keeping a family together, providing necessities to

families fleeing abusive situations, making an adoptive placement, or supporting a youth aging out of foster care.

Our project leads are Lauren DeBlois and Paul Zawistowski. Several parishioners have joined in to help in making deliveries. We could use more help.

Since June 13, 2022 we have responded to 12 requests, served 33 children, with an economic impact of over \$12,632. Based on our work, over \$1,000 has been anonymously donated to us to obtain needed items.

Again, help is needed in doing this valuable work. Please join in. See Paul or Fr. Jim.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT GROUP



Our Women's Empowerment Group meets every second Saturday of the month led by Evangelist Julia Banks.

This group is women led and is a safe

place where women can gather, discuss issues they face, and find help in an environment of prayer.

The next meeting is January 14th and starts at 10am and goes until noon. You can stop in anytime in-between.

YMSOFR CHRISTMAS EVENT

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.

Annual Meeting & Parish Offices



Our annual congregational meeting is planned for Sunday, February 5th along

with the election of a new Parish Committee. We will also offer the ability to participate virtually via Zoom.

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.

THIS IS IMPORTANT: 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

\$
**KEEP
CALM
AND
PAY YOUR
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.

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

If anyone faces such severe financial difficulties that \$2.40 per person per week is unaffordable, please see Fr. Jim privately.

Envelopes and Tax Statements

God bless you for your generosity and support of our parish in 2022. Because of you and your sacrifice we have been greatly blessed. Donation envelopes for 2023 are 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 for last year 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 21 years our parish has raised over \$2,600 as part of the SouperBowl of Caring effort. This year's collection will be held on February 5th.

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 and Clothing Offerings

*Thank
You*

Thank you to all who donated so generously. 207 pounds of food was delivered to Schenectady

Community Ministries.

Branch 56 of the YMSofR took part in the National YMSofR clothing drive. This event involves all branches of the Church's YMSofR in a friendly competition for good. The collection ends January 8th, the

Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds. Based on data to date, we have been exceptional humble shepherds to those in need in our community. Thank you to Larry, Donna, Jeff, Lauren, Paul, Kyle, Denise, Liz, and other Branch 56 members who sorted, counted, and bagged items. Thus far, items have been donated to City Mission of Schenectady, Street Soldiers, Booth House, the YWCA, and Schenectady High School. We will report the total number of items next month.

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle



Make February 2023 – the month of love – a month to win in more ways than one!

This effort supports the youth of our parish particularly in their attendance at Kurs this and next summer and CONVO in 2024.

We need your support to give our young people a great beginning in 2023. 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 5th 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 Friday, January 6th.

If you would like your home blessed in the traditional Epiphany home blessing between January 6th and February 21st, please see Fr. Jim to make an appointment.

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 Sunday, January 2nd 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 and to NEVER take His Name in vain.

**THANK YOU, MERCI,
DZIĘKUJE, ĄČIŰ, 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, Christina, and Victoria for your beautiful music unto the Baby Jesus.

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

Thank you to Adam Konicki for his service at the altar.

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, Liz Battaglia, Mike Emanuele, Christina Supinski, and Victoria Konicki for service in music, our lectors, and Kyle, Andrea, Alyssa, Paul, Paul Z., Pete, Mike, and all who cared for the maintenance and upkeep of the parish facilities (often extraordinarily) as well as Pete for taking care of things at the cemetery and Joe for mowing at

both cemeteries. To Alyssa for all her work on the Easter Basket project. Donna for the Basket Social. To Joan for representing us at Holy Synod.

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 Kurs.

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

Daily Holy Mass

Daily Holy Mass is held most weekdays, Monday through Friday at noon.

Each day's Holy Mass is for a special intention. Monday's intention is for the youth of our parish and church. Tuesday's intention is for vocations and those in discernment.

Wednesday's intention is for great fruit from our parish's evangelistic efforts. Thursday's intention is for any parishioner with particular needs and all those on our parish prayer list. Friday's intention is for our benefactors living and deceased.

Please stay tuned to the weekly bulletin and Facebook in case there is a schedule change on

certain days of the year. Please join in as you are able.

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!

Planning Ahead

Sunday Holy Masses at 10am and Noon unless otherwise noted. Daily Holy Mass at Noon Monday through Friday.

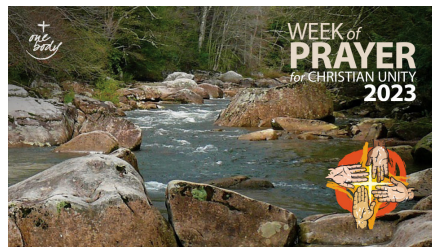
- Jan. 1: Solemnity of the Circumcision: Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 2: Solemnity: Holy Name – our Parish Feast – Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 3 - 5: Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 6: Solemnity of the Epiphany

of our Lord: Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense at Noon.

- Jan. 8: Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 9: Solemnity - Baptism of the Lord: Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 10 - 13: Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 14: Women's Empowerment Group, 10am till Noon.
- Jan. 15: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Daily Holy Mass at Noon. Parish Committee Meeting at 6pm.
- Jan. 17: Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 18: Feast - St. Peter's Chair in Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins. Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 19 - 20: Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 21: Mont Pleasant Prayer Service for Christian Unity at Holy Name of Jesus at 5pm.
- Jan. 22: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 23 - 24: Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 25: Feast - Conversion of St. Paul. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends. Daily Holy Mass at Noon.

- Jan. 26 - 27: Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 29: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time and Music Scholarship Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 30 - Feb. 1: Daily Holy Mass at Noon.
- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation - Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of Candles.

Week of Prayer and Prayer Event



We will be hosting prayer for

Christian

Unity at our parish on Saturday, January 21st at 5pm for the Mont Pleasant Christian Churches. This event is traditionally celebrated between January 18th to 25th the feasts of St Peter and St Paul. Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "*they may be one so that the world may believe*" (John 17.21).

This year's theme is: Do good; seek justice (Isaiah 1:17).

Please come out Saturday afternoon for prayer and fellowship with brothers and sisters as we profess Christ together.

Music Scholarship Sunday



Sunday, January 29th is Music Scholarship Sunday. Our parish has been blessed with great musicians and aspiring musicians.

Scholarships are available to both youth and adults. 2023 scholarship applications are available now at <https://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com>. God bless those who add musical beauty to the worship of God.

IMPORTANT: Upcoming

There are a lot of great events ahead of us for 2023. Please take note of the following and stay tuned for updates:

- Pre-Lent: February 5 - 21.
- Scout Sunday: February 5.
- Virtual Youth Gathering: February 17th at 7pm.
- Ash Wednesday: February 22.
- Palm Sunday: April 2.
- Easter: April 9.
- Mission and Evangelism Workshop: Reading, PA. April 28 - 30.
- National Convention of the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament Society: Plantsville, CT. May 19 - 20.
- Bowling Tournament: Scranton area. June 2 - 3.

- YMSofR Men's Retreat: Waymart, PA. June 14 - 17.
 - National United Choirs Convention and Music Workshop: TBD.
 - YMSofR Golf Tournament: Parma, OH. TBD.
 - YMSofR Convention: Norwich CT. Dates TBD.
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The BASKET SOCIAL

The annual **Basket Social** will be held on Sunday, April 30th at the South Schenectady Fire House, 6 Old Mariaville Rd, Schenectady. This beautiful and very large venue will comfortably accommodate all our guests.

Please consider donating one or more baskets for the raffle that supports our parish. Polish Food will be available too. Stay tuned.

Happy 2023!

On behalf of Fr. Jim, his family, and our parish Committee we wish you all the best for 2023!



January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Solemnity of the Circumcision, Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski	2 Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus – Parish Feast. Holy Mass at Noon.	3 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dzieciątko Jezus.	4 Holy Mass at Noon	5 Holy Mass at Noon	6 Solemnity of the Epiphany - Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense, Noon	7
8 Solemnity – Humble Shepherds. Holy Mass, 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil.	9 Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord. Holy Mass at Noon. YMSofR Gathering.	10 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dzieciątko Jezus.	11 Holy Mass at Noon	12 Holy Mass at Noon	13 Octave of the Epiphany. Holy Mass at Noon	14 Women's Empowerment Group. 10am till Noon.
15 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski.	16 Holy Mass at Noon	17 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dzieciątko Jezus.	18 St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins. Holy Mass at Noon	19 Holy Mass at Noon	20 Holy Mass at Noon	21 Mont Pleasant Prayer Service for Christian Unity at Holy Name of Jesus, 5pm.
22 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil.	23 Martin Luther King Day. Holy Mass at Noon Parish Committee Meeting at 6pm.	24 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dzieciątko Jezus.	25 Conversion of St. Paul Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends. Holy Mass at Noon	26 Holy Mass at Noon	27 Holy Mass at Noon	28
29 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Music Scholarship Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski.	30 Holy Mass at Noon	31 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dzieciątko Jezus.				

EVENTS

Starting Jan. 7th:

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

February Upcoming

- Feb. 2nd – Solemnity of the Presentation. Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of Candles.
- Feb. 5th – Pre-Lent Begins.
- Feb. 22nd – Ash Wednesday.

All of February - Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

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