

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC
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NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2023



BY FAITH NOAH, BEING WARNED BY GOD CONCERNING EVENTS AS YET
UNSEEN, IN REVERENT FEAR CONSTRUCTED AN ARK FOR THE SAVING OF HIS
HOUSEHOLD.

The text above is from Hebrews 11:7, wherein the writer is reminding people who knew the Hebrew Scriptures, of Noah's faithfulness to God's instruction and the fact that by being faithful he *became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith*.

This year, the Pre-Lenten season begins right on the first Sunday in February, and by the time this two-and-a-half week season passes on we are in Lent. It will go by quickly.

This year, let us liken ourselves to Noah. We all know the account found in Genesis Chapter 5 - 9.

Scripture says that Noah *was a righteous man, blameless in his generation* and that he *walked with God*. While this was true of Noah, and because of Noah was also true in his family, the rest of the world *was corrupt, violent, and filled with continuous evil* (sound familiar?).

The question to ask - Am I faithful like Noah, and how will my faithfulness affect this age?

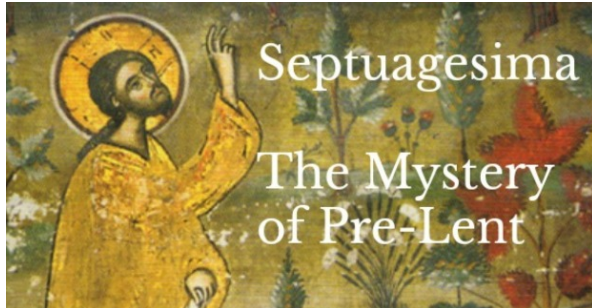
Noah certainly did not know what to

do with the corruption of his time. While he acted properly, was *righteous* and *blameless*, he made no impact on those around him. God had to intervene to change the situation. For us, we live in the light of God's greatest intervention. Not the flood, but the sending of His Son Jesus. That means we now know what to do and we have the power to do it (no flood needed).

Jesus showed us the way to go. He gave us the gospel that is life. He enjoined on us the Beatitudes as a way of life along with all the other instruction from the Sermon on the Mount. If we do as Jesus taught, we will deeply impact our time, culture, and the people around us. As with the early Christians, people will be amazed and enter the kingdom.

Like Noah, let us use this time to prepare, to grow in faithfulness, to build a way of life consistent with the gospel. Where we have succeeded, let us build further. Where we have fallen short, let us prepare to fix it now, and fix it this Lent.

THE PRE-LENTEN SEASON



The pre-Lenten season begins February 5th. The Pre-Lenten Season of Septuagesima is a period of preparation before the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Septuagesima includes three Sundays, Septuagesima Sunday (70 days to Easter), Sexagesima Sunday (60 days to Easter), and Quinquagesima Sunday (50 days to Easter). We are called to make a special point of self-examination, of considering the things we need to repent of and clean out.

THEN... LENT



Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22nd. Holy Mass with the blessing and distribution of

ashes will take place at Noon and 7pm that day. Please join us.

Our Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held

on Sunday, February 5th. Holy Mass is at 10am ONLY. Please make an effort to attend if you can. Instructions for attending via Zoom will be sent by E-mail to those requesting such access. Please keep that information confidential.

Annual Financial Meeting - March 5th

Our annual financial meeting will be held on Sunday, March 5th following Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Please attend and help decide on our financial matters.

Prayer of St. Clement of Alexandria - A Prayer to the Divine Teacher

Be kind
to Your
little
children,
Lord;
that is
what we
ask of
You as



their Tutor, You the Father, Israel's guide; Son, yes, but Father as well. Grant that by doing what You told us to do, we may achieve a faithful likeness to the Image and, as far as is possible for us, may find in You a good God and a lenient Judge.

May we all live in the peace that

comes from You. May we journey towards Your city, sailing through the waters of sin untouched by the waves, borne tranquilly along by the Holy Spirit, Your Wisdom beyond all telling. Night and day until the last day of all, may our praises give You thanks, our thanksgiving praise You: You who alone are both Father and Son, Son and Father, the Son who is our Tutor and our Teacher, together with the Holy Spirit..

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle



February 2022 – the month of love. Thank you to all who purchased and donated tickets for our Outrageous Valentine's Raffle.

Your generosity and love on behalf of our youth was over-the-top amazing!!!!!!

Your generosity and support helps our young people attend the annual KURS summer encampment and CONVO.

We wish you the best of luck this month. We will send winners their checks right away and announce all the winners in March's newsletter.

Souper Bowl Sunday



For the 22nd year in a row, our parish is participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Through the Souper Bowl of Caring we are providing food help for those in need in our local community.

We ask for your support and deeply appreciate your generosity!

Your monetary donations in church on Super Bowl Sunday – February 12th - will support the work of Schenectady Community Ministries.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. — Matthew 25:35

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

2 Christine Spooner, Jean Martin
5 Suzanne Heins
9 Christine Caden
11 Bob Shufelt, Justice Smith, Joseph Ruchalski
12 Kristen Smith-Prusky
16 Celina Maliszewski
18 Paul Podkulski
20 Kelly Supinski, Lisa Kaminski
21 Casey Carroll
25 Mike Emanuele
28 Patrick Clas

Wedding Anniversaries

17 Tom & Kelly Supinski

Wishing you all many years!

**Thank you, Merci, Dziękuję,
Āčiū, Gracias, Mahalo, Grazie!**

To all who assisted throughout the Christmas season, attending liturgies, and who assisted in the taking down of our Christmas decorations.

To our wonderful organist and choir director Liz Battaglia and Mike Emanuele.

To the families who have welcomed me to their home for Epiphany visitations/Kolęda. Your hospitality and graciousness are greatly appreciated. You are a blessing.

To all who continue to pray, sacrifice, and serve in Christian love and charity on behalf of our parish.

To every parishioner, visitor, and member -- you are a blessing, a treasure, and a joy!

**Epiphany Visitations - Kolęda -
House Blessings**

Fr. Jim is available to come to your homes for the traditional Epiphany home blessing. Please see him to make an appointment.

Blessing appointments are available through February 21st (prior to Ash Wednesday).

To prepare your home for the blessing please have the blessed chalk and incense available as well as your blessed candle (gromnica).

Planning For —

Holy Mass each Sunday is at 10am and Noon and Daily Holy Mass is held Monday through Friday at Noon both unless otherwise noted.

- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation. Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of Candles/Gromnica.
- Feb. 3: Commemoration – St. Blaise of Sebastea, Bishop and Martyr. Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of Throats.
- Feb. 5: Septuagesima Sunday. Scout Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Breakfast, Annual Meeting, and Elections.
- Feb. 12: Sexagesima Sunday.
- Feb. 14: Commemoration - St. Valentine. Holy Mass at Noon.
- Feb. 16: 70th Anniversary of the death of Prime Bishop Ś+P Francis Hodur. Holy Mass at Noon.
- Feb. 19: Quinquagesima Sunday.
- Feb. 21: Last Day for Epiphany Home Blessings.
- Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass with blessing and distribution of ashes at Noon and 7pm.
- Feb. 24: Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.
- Feb. 26: 1st Sunday on Lent.

[**NOTE:** Stations of the Cross Fridays at 3pm. Bitter Lamentations Sunday at 3pm]

Scout Sunday



On Sunday, February 5th Scouting celebrates Scout Sunday, Interfaith. This is a special interfaith day set aside by the Scouting movement for all Scouts to reflect on their acknowledgement of duty to God in the Scout Oath or Promise and the 12th point of Scout Law - *A Scout is Reverent*.

We invite all Scouts both youth and adult members to wear their Scout uniforms. We will acknowledge the Scouts in uniform and also ask any former Leaders or Scouts who are present to stand and to be recognized. Scouts attending in uniform will receive badges.

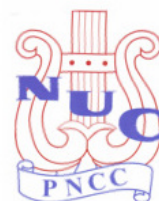
We also offer a reminder to all Scouts of the religious awards of the Polish National Catholic Church that can be earned. Fr. Jim and the National Scout Chaplain, Fr. Adam, can assist Scouts in requesting award requirements.

Financial Security?



The PNUA and Spójnia Credit Union offer great tools for financial management. If you are considering getting your financial house in order in 2023 contact the PNUA and SCU or see Fr. Jim. Our Branch of the PNU has been reactivated. Remember too that PNUA policies make great gifts for newlyweds and newborns. Call the PNUA office at 1-800-724- 6352 or again please see Fr. Jim.

Music Scholarship Applications



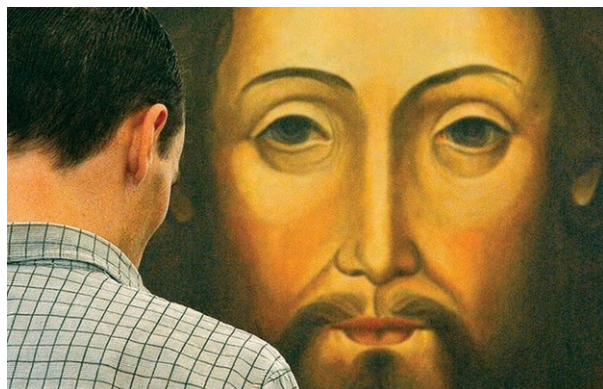
A special collection was accepted on January 29th to benefit the National United Choir's Music Scholarship Fund. These scholarships are available to any parishioner of our denomination who is studying music. This is with the hope that as these musicians continue to advance they will share their musical talent with the church. If any parishioner is studying music, consider applying for a scholarship. Applications and information are available through Cathy Bilinski at nucscholarship@gmail.com or online at <http://>

nucmusicsscholarship.weebly.com.

To date, the Church has provided 1,124 scholarships totaling \$346,535.

2023 Scholarship applications must be submitted no later than May 1, 2023. See Fr. Jim for assistance in applying.

Prayer for St. Valentine's Day



"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." — John 13:34-35

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, You gave Saint Valentine the courage to witness to the gospel of Christ, even to the point of giving his life for it. Help us to endure all suffering for love of you, and to seek you with all our hearts; for you alone are the source of life and love. Grant that we may have the courage and love to be strong witnesses of your truth to our friends and family and to the whole world. We ask this through

our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lenten Devotions

We encourage all parishioners to take part in at least one of our

additional weekly devotions and so deepen engagement with our Lord

and Savior in prayer this Lent.

Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday in Lent at 3pm. **Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale** will be held each Sunday at 3pm.

FOR YOUTH

NYC PRESENTS!
YOUTH COMMUNITY GET TOGETHER!
FRIDAY, FEB. 17TH 2023
4:00PM PST/5:00PM MT/6:00PM CT/7:00PM ET
THROUGH ZOOM USING THIS CODE
ICE BREAKERS, Q&A SESSION,
GAMES AND MUCH MORE!
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Friday, February, February 17th at 7pm, we are holding a **National Youth Community Get Together** via Zoom. This is exclusively for youth and provides an opportunity to get together and to get to know

other Church youth across the country. Please be there!

On March 4th from 11am to 1pm we are holding a **Seniorate Youth Bowling Day**. This will be in the Utica/Rome area. The event is free for youth. Pizza and wings will be served. Stay tuned for the exact location.

The YMSofR team is already preparing for **KURS 2023**, July 1st through 8th. Start planning to attend.

Basket Social Around the Corner

It is time to get ready for our annual basket social - April 30th. We really need your help to make this year's Social a success. Can you donate a basket, or two, or three? They don't have to be huge - anything will do. Through your love and charity we are able to touch the lives of others and maintain a vibrant faith community. Need ideas - check out Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/cmk1953/basket-party-ideas/>.

PIZZA/GAME NIGHT

Our next Pizza and Game Night will be Saturday, March 18th starting at 5pm. Come join in on this fun evening. Invite a friend or two.

College Stipends and a New Scholarship

Now is the time to start gathering all the necessary paperwork needed to complete the **stipend application** for the academic year 2022/2023. This is for any student who is a member of the PNU in good standing and is currently enrolled in a college or university for the Fall of 2022 and Spring of 2023. A timeline and application can be found on the website of the PNU under the Education and Youth Commission information. The deadline to submit the stipend application is April 15th, 2023.

The John and Dorothy Mankiewicz Scholarship is a new offering open to anyone who is a member of the PNU in good standing for at least five years and is currently enrolled as a graduate or undergraduate in a college, university, or vocational school full time focused on healthcare.

Coming to Grips with the Real You

By Chip Ingram

"Who do you think you are?"

This is not an easy question for most of us to answer. But it is a question that we're all unconsciously asking, and it's one that we will grapple with all the days of our lives.

That's because most of us struggle with seeing ourselves accurately. Some of us don't know who we are and, if the truth

is known, we might admit that we don't like who we are either. Then there are some of us who see ourselves as better than others, and there are some of us who struggle with feeling inadequate, constantly seeking the approval of others.

I'm convinced that the extent to which we're able to accurately see ourselves affects not only our relationships but also the contentment in our lives. And as Christians, this is even more important.

In order to discover God's unique purpose for each of our lives, we must learn how to see ourselves for who we really are — not who we want to be or who we think we are.

This question is not a new one. In fact, the Apostle Paul addresses this very issue in his letter to the Romans. He instructed them to first get an accurate self-assessment. He wrote, "Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment." (Rom. 12:3)

Having "sober judgment" means that we see ourselves neither too highly or too lowly. It also means we need to know both our strengths and weaknesses. It requires taking an honest look at how our family backgrounds, environment, significant others, personalities, and values shape the ways we think about ourselves.

Remember Moses? He had quite the journey trying to figure out who he was. We read in Ex. 2-4 that over the course of Moses' life he had to come to terms with his warped view of himself — first it was too high and then it was too low. When God called him to lead God's people out of slavery in Egypt, he put up quite a protest and begged God not to send him.

But God knew Moses was the perfect person for the job. He used Moses'

desires to help the Israelites, as well as his background, education and all of his experiences growing up in Pharaoh's house as the needed preparation to fulfill His divine design for Moses' life.

So how can we begin to come to grips with our true self? Here are a few ways to get started:

1. Ask God to help you recognize the warped mirrors of the world that have helped shape an inaccurate view of yourself.
2. Get God's view of yourself through reading His word. Focus on the passages that specifically talk about how God sees you as his beloved son/daughter.
3. Talk to others. Ask one or two trusted friends to help you see yourself the way they see you.
4. Discover your primary spiritual gift.
5. Celebrate daily that you are unique, loved, accepted and being prepared to fulfill your divine assignment.

No one can give a more accurate view of your life than God. You're His tapestry — a work of art! God created you uniquely. There is no one else in the universe with DNA like yours. And He wants to use everything in your past and all of who you are in the present to accomplish His divine assignment for your life! *"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."* (Eph 2:10).

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Holy Mass at Noon.	2 Solemnity of the Presentation, Holy Mass at Noon with blessing of candles.	3 Commemoration of St. Blaise. Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of Throats.	4
5 Septuagesima Sunday. Scout Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY . Lector: Larry Panfil. ANNUAL MEETING follows in person and via Zoom.	6 Holy Mass at Noon.	7 Holy Mass at Noon.	8 Holy Mass at Noon.	9 Holy Mass at Noon.	10 Holy Mass at Noon.	11
12 Sexagesima Sunday. SouperBowl Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski.	13 Holy Mass at Noon.	14 Commemoration of St. Valentine. Holy Mass at Noon.	15 Holy Mass at Noon.	16 70th Anniversary of the death of Prime Bishop Š+P Franciszek Hodur. Holy Mass at Noon.	17 Holy Mass at Noon. NYC Youth Zoom Gathering	18 Central Diocese Music Commission Workshop at BVM Parish, Latham.
19 Quinquagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil.	20 Presidents' Day. Holy Mass at Noon. Parish Committee Meets at 6pm.	21 Holy Mass at Noon. Final Day for Epiphany Home Blessings.	22 Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass at Noon and 7pm.	23 Holy Mass at Noon.	24 Feast – St. Matthias, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon. Stations of the Cross, 3pm.	25 Women's Empowerment Meeting, 10am till Noon.
26 1st Sunday in Lent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski Bitter Lamentations, 3pm.	27 Holy Mass at Noon.	28 Holy Mass at Noon.				

EVENTS

All of February - Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

March Upcoming

Mar. 5th: 2nd Sunday in Lent. Holy Mass at 10am **ONLY**. Annual Financial Meeting.
Mar. 12th – Solemnity, Institution of the PNCC.

Stations of the Cross on Lenten Fridays at 3pm.

Bitter Lamentations on Lenten Sundays at 3pm.

Holy Name of Jesus
National Catholic Church – P.N.C.C.
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