

**HOLY NAME OF JESUS**  
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC**  
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# NEWSLETTER

## JULY/ AUGUST 2023

AND THE LORD OPENED THE MOUTH OF THE ASS, AND SHE SAID UNTO BALAAM, WHAT HAVE I DONE UNTO THEE, THAT THOU HAST SMITTEN ME

**B**alaam's ass is one of two animals in the Bible that can speak. She is also one of two who are a blessing to their human companions. I encourage you to read the whole story found in Numbers, Chapters 22 through 24. This story has much to tell us about our walk of faith.

Balaam was a soothsayer or magician. The King of the Moabites had called on Balaam to curse Israel who were coming out of Egypt into his land. At first Balaam would not go, listening to God, but later relented under much pressure. All along God tells Balaam not to go, but he later chooses to go, agreeing to say only what God tells him.

Along the journey Balaam's ass bows humbly and will go no further. Balaam beats the animal three times. Finally the ass speaks and asks Balaam why he has hit her. He gets angrier and tells her he would kill her. Then God opens Balaam's eyes and he sees the Angel of the Lord with sword drawn standing in the road. The angel tells Balaam: *Wherefore hast thou smitten thine*

*ass? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me: And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive.*

This is a story of faithfulness and of weakened faith. The Angel (of course) and the ass are absolutely faithful to God, and in terms of the ass, to Balaam. This loyalty failed in Balaam. He chose to neglect God's command, preferring to try making a deal with God so he could please the King of the Moabites. He also chose to hit his animal.

Balaam's disloyalty causes God to show that He is the One in charge. He can send angels and cause animals to speak. Balaam (and we) are reminded that we must follow God's instruction. We cannot double-deal. We cannot bargain out of doing as God asks without consequences.

Our walk of faith is to be a life of loyalty to God's command, His Word Who is Jesus, the Holy Spirit's work in the Church. Let us not veer!

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## Fr. Jim Away

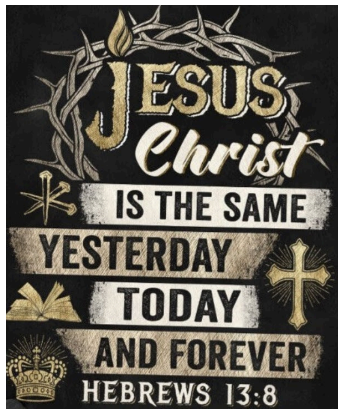
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Fr. Jim will be Chaplain at this year's Kurs Encampment. He will be away from July 1st through July 8th. If there is an extreme emergency during this period, please call Fr. Mark Gnidzinski at 518-453-2258.

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## MEN'S RETREAT THANK YOU

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The YMSofR Men's Spiritual Retreat concluded June 17th. It was a joy to be together with the men of the Church in prayer, adoration, and

learning. Adam Konicki from the parish also attended.

This year's focus was on our life in Jesus which is eternal and was based on Hebrews 13:8, "*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*" Each aspect of Jesus' eternal universality was covered on a different day.

The dedication to prayerful devotion existed throughout before the Holy Eucharist. We placed special emphasis on invocation to Jesus' Most Sacred Heart.

Stay tuned for an article in an upcoming issue of God's Field which

will cover each day's highlights.

I express my heartfelt thanks to all who participated and to Prime Bishop Anthony, Fr. Jason, the retreat master, the Central Committee of the YMSofR, and to all my brothers for sharing in this time; doing this work. The doors of grace were indeed opened for us and the whole church.

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## Summertime Events

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We welcome all to great summer events including:

- **Kurs 2023** with the theme Kurs 2.0, Level Up Your Faith which will be held at the Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center, Spojnia Farm, Waymart, PA from July 1st through 8th (8 days).



- **August 9 - 11: National United Choirs Convention and Music Workshop**, Dupont, PA. View the National United Choirs Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/nucpncc> or God's Field for registration information.
- **YMSofR Golf Outing** will be held August 26 - 27 at the Briarwood Golf Course, 2737 W. Edgerton Rd., Broadview Heights, OH

44045.

- **YMS of R Convention**, October 13-15, Divine Providence Parish in Norwich, CT.

Talk to Fr. Jim if you have any questions or need assistance...

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## Our Annual Parish Community Picnic

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*Church Picnic*



Our annual picnic will be held on the parish grounds on Sunday, August 20th starting at 11:15am. Invite friends and family. Bring a dish to share.

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## Happy Summer

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We wish all of our young people and all the youth of our neighborhood a joyful and blessed summer season.

As we reflect on the successes and challenges of this past school year, may we see them as opportunities for growth.

Let us pray especially that our Lord watch over and protect our young people and children this summer.

*Almighty and Eternal God, Father most kind, Who in Thy plan of Salvation of mankind did resolve, that one generation shall follow*

*another in fulfilling the tasks of temporal life, and prepares wisely and good everything in the universe; keep in Thy tender care the youth of our Church, individually and collectively, that our youth may always understand those things which are in harmony with Thy holy Will and bring true happiness; - and that service to Thee in our youth is the only assurance of tranquility in the sunset of life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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## With Thanks

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

To the members of our Parish Committee for their hard work and sacrifice.

To Liz, Traviss, Karina, and Mari for their service each Sunday.

To all who attended our Eucharistic Holy Hour for vocations and prayed for vocations throughout June. Keep it up!

To the men of the parish who attended the YMSofR Men's Spiritual Retreat.

To every parishioner, virtual visitor, and member -- you are a blessing and a treasure.

God bless you and reward you! Bóg zapłać! Thank you!!!

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## Our Church and A Prayer For Our Country

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Independence Day held a special

place in the hearts of the founding generation of our Church. The call to freedom and independence from oppression was vivid in the minds of our organizers. So often the church looks for a religiously significant occasion on which to perform her special rites. Our organizers saw the promises and opportunities of this nation as blessings from God and determined to specifically celebrate this day. In honor of the 246th birthday of our country let us pray:



*We thank Thee, Lord, for America, our home. We bless Thee for the liberty, the opportunity, and the abundance we share. But above all we praise Thee for*

*the traditions which have made our country great, and for patriots who have laid the foundations through faith, courage, and self-sacrifice. Teach us in our own day the meaning of citizenship, and help us to be faithful stewards of the responsibility which Thou entrusted to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

A Prayer for our Country from A Book of Devotions and Prayers According to the Use of the Polish National Catholic Church.

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### **Milestones to Celebrate:**

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#### July Birthdays

2 Gayle Clas  
3 Jaime Bylina, John Clas, Kimberly

Maliszewski, Richard Okonsky Jr.  
4 Ken Brown  
7 Eva Kubinska  
8 Michael Ruchalski  
12 Stanley Podkulski  
16 Lawrence Panfil Jr.  
19 Jason Lennon  
22 Matthew Zebrowski  
26 Alexander Oravsky  
27 Sebesany Rios, Kathleen Maliszewski  
28 Mel Prusky  
29 Ronald O'Connor

#### July Anniversaries

14 Chad & Amber Smith  
20 Edward & Claudia Bertasso  
27 Zachary Prusky & Kristen Smith

#### August Birthdays

1 Wendy Williams  
5 Christine D'Amico  
7 Karen Cimmino  
8 Taylor Garrison  
10 Matthew Hines, Renee Konicki, Joanne Bauer  
12 Ginny Dinsmore  
14 Stephanie Konicki-Ferguson  
15 Roger Jarosz  
18 Carson Hobson  
19 Joanne Hernick  
25 Alyssa DePaula Carlson  
29 Tyme LaPorte Smith  
30 Gabriella Martineau  
31 Teresa Mazzone

Wishing you all many years! Sto Lat!

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### **Planning For:**

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**Holy Masses on Sundays are at 10am and Noon and Daily at noon unless otherwise noted.**

- July 1: Annual Independence Day Holy Mass & Picnic at Spójnia Farm, Waymart, PA starting at 11am. Kurs Begins.
- July 1 - 8: Kurs Encampment, Waymart, PA.
- July 2: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Holy Mass at 10am ONLY**
- **July 3:** Solemnity – Visitation of the B.V.M.

### **No Daily Holy Masses July 3 - 7**

- July 6: Commemoration of John Hus, Priest and Martyr
- July 8: Women's Empowerment at 10am.
- July 9: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- July 10 - 14 Holy Mass at Noon.
- July 16: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- July 17 - 21 Holy Mass at Noon.
- July 23: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- July 24 Holy Mass at Noon. Parish Committee Meets at 6pm.
- July 25: Feast of St. James the Greater, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.
- July 26: Commemoration of Ss. Joachim & Ann, Parents of the B.V.M. Holy Mass at Noon.
- July 27 - 28: Holy Mass at Noon.
- July 30: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- July 31 - August 2: Holy Mass at Noon.

- August 3: Feast – Finding of the Body of St. Stephen. NO Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 4: NO Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 6: Solemnity – Transfiguration of the Lord. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- August 7 - 11: Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 9 - 11: National United Choirs Convention and Workshop, Dupont, PA.
- August 12: Women's Empowerment at 10am.
- August 13: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- August 14: Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 15: Solemnity - Dormition of the B.V.M. Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of flowers, herbs, fruits, and vegetables.
- August 16 - 18: Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 20: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time. **One Holy Mass at 10am. Parish Picnic follows.**
- August 21 - 23: Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 24: Feast - St. Bartholomew, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 25: Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 26: Solemnity - Our Lady of Częstochowa.
- August 26 - 27: YMSofR Golf Outing. Parma, OH.
- August 27: 21st Sunday in

Ordinary Time. Youth Sunday.

- August 28: Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 29: Solemnity - Beheading of St. John the Baptist. Holy Mass at Noon.
- August 30 - September 1: Holy Mass at Noon.
- September 3: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- September 4: **Labor Day. Holy Mass at Noon at Good Shepherd Cemetery (weather permitting, otherwise at church).**

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## The Church Organ

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If you hadn't noticed, there is a new organ in place in the back of the church.

Our original organ was purchased by the Harmonia Choir through their fundraisers in late 1951 for \$3,000. The old organ, which has been discarded, was a Baldwin Model 5. That organ was no longer serviceable and could not be properly played.



We had the opportunity to acquire an Allen Organ (Theater Type C) which was being donated to us.

Thank you to the team of Paul, Jeff, John Costello, and Fr. Jim who moved the new organ in.

To what end? As you may know SUNY Schenectady has an organist program in its music Department. Fr. Jim has been in touch with them to arrange to have students play on an internship basis. We will also have the opportunity for concerts and fundraisers which will prayerfully draw people in.

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## Food Bank

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**Regional  
Food Bank**  
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

We have partnered with the Regional Food Bank, Schenectady Foundation, and Nationally Touching Greatness to offer a food bank serving the Mont Pleasant neighborhood. Our first pop-up food bank was held on June 27th. We were able to serve many. We thank parish volunteers Meagan and Lauren for their help. Another event will be held in July and they will hopefully become more frequent.

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## Care Portal

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Our community impact continues. Due to Alyssa's Easter Basket Fundraiser, funds were set aside that help fulfill needs. People from our wider community are connecting to donate items needed by families. These provide for a stable home environment for families who need them to stay together and safe.



# July & August

# 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>July 1</b> Kurs begins. Holy Mass and Picnic, Waymart, PA at 11am.
2 13th Sunday in OT. <b>Holy Mass at 10am ONLY.</b> Lector: Joe Kaczynski. Kurs Camp	3 Solemnity – Visitation of the B.V.M. (trans;ated). Kurs Camp	4 Independence Day. Kurs Camp	5 Kurs Camp	6 Commemoration – John Hus, Priest & Martyr Kurs Camp	7 Kurs Camp	8 Women's Empowerment Group at 10am. Kurs Camp Ends
9 14th Sunday in OT. 10am & Noon. Lector Lauren DeBlois.	10 Holy Mass at Noon.	11 Holy Mass at Noon.	12 Holy Mass at Noon.	13 Holy Mass at Noon.	14 Holy Mass at Noon.	15
16 15th Sunday in OT. 10am & Noon. Lector Larry Panfil.	17 Holy Mass at Noon.	18 Holy Mass at Noon.	19 Holy Mass at Noon.	20 Holy Mass at Noon.	21 Holy Mass at Noon.	22
23 16th Sunday in OT. 10am & Noon. Lector Joe Kaczynski.	24 Holy Mass at Noon. Parish Committee Meets at 6pm.	25 Feast of St. James the Greater, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.	26 Commemoration Ss. Joachim & Ann, Holy Mass at Noon.	27 Holy Mass at Noon.	28 Holy Mass at Noon.	29
30 17th Sunday in OT. 10am & Noon. Lector Lauren DeBlois.	31 Holy Mass at Noon.	<b>August 1</b> Holy Mass at Noon.	2 Holy Mass at Noon.	3 Feast – Finding of the Body of St. Stephen.	4	5
6 Solemnity – Transfiguration of the Lord. 10am & Noon. Lector Larry Panfil.	7 Holy Mass at Noon.	8 Holy Mass at Noon.	9 Holy Mass at Noon.	10 Holy Mass at Noon.	11 Holy Mass at Noon.	12 Women's Empowerment Group at 10am.
13 19th Sunday in OT. 10am & Noon. Lector Joe Kaczynski.	14 Holy Mass at Noon.	15 Solemnity – Dormition. Holy Mass at Noon.	16 Holy Mass at Noon.	17 Holy Mass at Noon.	18 Holy Mass at Noon.	19
20 20th Sunday in OT. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Lector Lauren DeBlois. <b>Parish Picnic.</b>	21 Holy Mass at Noon.	22 Holy Mass at Noon.	23 Holy Mass at Noon.	24 Feast - St. Bartholomew, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.	25 Holy Mass at Noon.	26 Solemnity - Our Lady of Częstochowa. YMSofR Golf Outing. Parma, OH.
27 21st Sunday in OT/Youth Sunday. 10am & Noon. Lector Larry Panfil.	28 Holy Mass at Noon.	29 Solemnity – Beheading of St. John the Baptist. Holy Mass at Noon.	30 Holy Mass at Noon.	31 Holy Mass at Noon.		

**September 4: Labor Day. Holy Mass at Noon at Good Shepherd Cemetery (weather permitting, otherwise at church).**

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