



# Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 17, 2023

## 3rd Sunday of Advent

### III Niedziela Adwentu

December 17, 2023

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 84.

First reading: Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

Canticle: Luke 1:46-50,53-54

**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

Intention: For all parishioners living and deceased.

Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Joe Kaczynski.

- Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite, pg. 63).
- Coffee Hour.
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, pg. 15)

#### THIS WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.

**R. You are near, O Lord; by Your edict give me life. I rejoice at Your promise, as one who has found rich spoil.**

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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## Today's Music

- Entrance: B18, Advent Longing.
- Sacrament of the Word: R166, Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence.
- Offertory: B19, Hail O Blessed Mary.
- Communion: My Soul In Stillness Waits (instrumental).
- Communion Reflection: B24, There's A Voice.
- Recessional: R168, Come Though Long Expected Jesus.

## +++ Reminders & Notes +++

- **Keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.**
- **YMSofR Clothing Drive.** Please help. Count your own items, donate them where you wish, and turn in the count sheets.
- **THANK YOU!!!!:** Thank you to all who prepared for, cooked for, set-up, obtained the fish, and joined in last Sunday for our Vigil / Wigilia Dinner. It was a wonderful event for us as a family of faith.
- **Christmas Vigil Raffle:** Congratulations to our winner, Denise.
- **2023 Fiscal Year End: A reminder that** the parish books will close on Sunday, December 31st. Any contributions/donations you want counted toward your 2023 tax statement must be in by December 31st. All dues for 2023 must also be paid-in-full by December 31st. We thank you for your continued giving and loving support!
- **Reminder:** The 4th Sunday of Advent is December 24th. We will have a normal Sunday morning schedule. Because of this year's calendar Catholics have a dual obligation – Holy Mass on Sunday the 24th and the Nativity, Monday the 25th. Similarly next Sunday the 31st and Monday, January 1st. The first Holy Mass for Christmas is the Shepherd's Mass / Pasterka at midnight followed by Holy Mass at 10am on the 25th. On the 31st we celebrate the Solemnity of Humble Shepherds with a normal Sunday schedule and on January 1st, the Solemnity of the Circumcision at 10am. These are obligatory.

**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.**

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

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome as we enter the third week of our new Church year and this Advent.

We have been focusing on our call to active engagement and preparation, both for Jesus' return at the end of time and on our need for renewal for Jesus' re-advent within us.

As Peter did last week, St. Paul writes in his letter to the Church at Thessalonica in relation to the kind of people Jesus' followers – Christians – are to be, a people: *holy and blameless* in their entirety. Preserved *blameless*.

Well, thanks Father, great advice, Now, how are we to do that? I know that I try and fail much more than I would like.

When confronted by stress and life's everyday goings on I seem to slip back into old habits and sinfulness. When I know I should say something or do something, especially if I am unsure of a relationship, I get afraid and draw into myself. I can hear the priests and Levites asking me: *"What do you have to say for yourself?"*

Now we must be careful. We could let the facts of our current life, and the times we fail and sin, cause us to give up, to say I just cannot do it. We must not do that because as Isaiah proclaimed and Jesus admitted: *the LORD has anointed Me; He has sent Me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners.* We had recourse to that renewal in today's Advent Penitential service

You see, we can check

ourselves, we can say I can and will, I will not give up but rather rejoice in the very fact that Jesus came to set me free from my old ways and most particularly from being down on myself.

The practicalities, taking it one item or step at a time. I get mad driving – admit that and then practice exchanging curses for blessings and prayers. Overly critical of others, offer to help instead. Afraid to speak, take the risk. It won't be easy, but it is possible especially when we keep an attitude of rejoicing in our freedom in Christ. He will not blame us, but rather grant us the grace to overcome.

The Baptist and Forerunner said: *"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord.'"* So let us remind ourselves to rejoice as we make our ways ever straighter, holy, and blameless in our entirety.

## Memory Verse

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

**Romans 15:13**

## Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Romans 12:12  
MONDAY: Philippians 4:4  
TUESDAY: Psalm 28:7  
WEDNESDAY: Psalm 100:2  
THURSDAY: Nehemiah 8:10  
FRIDAY: 1 Thessalonians 5:16  
SATURDAY: Zephaniah 3:17

## Pray the week:

Lord Jesus, As I encounter each day, grant me cognizance of Your call to holiness and blamelessness in my entirety. Allow me to see every reason I should rejoice in You. Amen.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Stan Podkulski, Mariea Chase, Joseph Peplowski, Kelly Noble, Elizabeth Węglinski, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Virginia Lamb, Curtis Szczepkowski, Joshua Moraski, Sue & Roger White, Helen Pasiak, Jessie Feathers-Ostrowski, Joanne Bauer, Madison Sheridan, Joe Barratiere, Tom Abbot, Derek Westcott, Karen Kisch, Gregory Henderson, Vince Cacamo, Theresa Ordon, Robert Baia, Michelle Zawistowski, Allyson Keyser, Amanda Carr, Susan Jones, Garry Packer, Gary & Sandra Tatlock, Shirley Maliszewski, Fred Hendricks, Theresa, Carla, Francine, Eileen, Joyce Colson, Karen Weyant, Charles Hobbib, Helen Spencer, Steve and Claudia Miller, Michael Clough, Frances Gary, Dan Crawley, Bob Chelkowski, Lyle, Ralph Zell, Phil Wielewinski, Brian Rohan, 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.

This week we remember and pray for the work of the Supreme Tribunal of our Church.

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

## Upcoming

- **December 17: 3rd Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon with Advent Penitential Service. Greening of the Church. Lector: Joe Kaczynski.**
- **December 18: No Holy Mass.**
- **December 19: No Holy Mass.**
- **December 20: Rorate Holy Mass at 7:30am.**
- **December 21: Feast – St. Thomas, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 22: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 24: 4th Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois.**
- **December 25: Solemnity – Nativity of our Lord. Shepherd's Holy Mass / Pasterka at Midnight and of Christmas Day at 10am.**
- **December 26: Feast – St. Stephen, Protomartyr. Holy Mass at Noon.**