



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 24, 2023

4th Sunday of Advent

IV Niedziela Adwentu

December 24, 2023

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

First reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14-15

Psalm: Ps 89:2-5,27,29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Epistle: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Intention: For all parishioners living and deceased.

Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Lauren DeBlois.

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

THIS WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. Hail favored one! The Lord is with you. Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

R. You are the glory of Jerusalem, the surpassing joy of Israel! You are the splendid boast of our people.

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: Like A Shepherd (instrumental).
- Communion Reflection: B24, There's A Voice.
- Recessional: R169, O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- **Keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.**
- **Reminder:** 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.
- **Christmas Wishes:** "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn 1: 14). Dear Parishioners and Benefactors of our parish, Dear guests, Together with Mary and Joseph, imitating their simplicity and humility, tonight we will kneel in front of the Word made flesh: Jesus Christ, our Savior. We bow in silent adoration before the great mystery of the Incarnation Who offers joy and peace to everyone who allows His re-Advent within themselves. Breaking the Christmas Eve wafer this evening, we pray that the newborn Christ will fill your heart with the steadfast hope that overcomes all difficulties; will give you faith that will conquer even in the darkest of days; and will fill you with the greatness of his joy and love. We would like to thank all our benefactors; all who take such great care of our home, this parish church, and who are dedicated to building God's presence in our community. May the Child Jesus reward you with abundant graces for your open and generous hearts. May your Christmas season be filled with love, joy, and peace both at home and among your family and friends. May the blessings of the Child Jesus accompany you throughout 2024! With a prayer and blessing, Fr. Jim and family.

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."* ---

The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me."

Welcome as we enter the fourth week of this Advent. In actuality, this fourth week of Advent lasts only seventeen hours, from midnight until 5pm when the Vigil of the Nativity begins.

For some of us who have Polish ancestry, the Vigil or Wigilia starts when the youngest child sees the first star in the sky – a fitting reminder of the star appearing this night over Bethlehem.

As we recognize, this year's Advent was short and the Church accounts for the varying length of Advents by

calling this time Late Advent.

Lateness carries various meanings – but the key meaning for us is that time is running short in our preparation for Jesus' re-advent in our lives. Are we prepared to welcome Him anew into our lives? Are we expecting Him with the eagerness of a child? And... once reborn in our lives what do we plan to do with this great grace He will impart to us?

Throughout this week we have heard from the Prophet Samuel. We saw the parallels between Hannah, the barren woman who by the grace of God becomes the mother of Samuel the prophet and how she offered her son back to God for His service and Mary the virgin who would bear the Son of God Who would be offered for us. Both sang a canticle of joy to God.

Today in Samuel we reach toward the other end of things begun with Hannah. David is at rest in Jerusalem, having overcome his enemies and resolves to build a Temple for God.

God speaks to David through Nathan. "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?' The question may seem odd to us – wouldn't God want a Temple? Well, yes, He does – but not as David envisioned.

Indeed, God longs for a Temple and the one He desires exists within us.

As we approach Him in the manger tonight at Midnight or tomorrow or throughout the forty-day season ahead, let the feelings in us, the tear we may shed, be for the joy of welcoming Him anew into the Temple of our hearts.

Memory Verse

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

Romans 13:11

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: 2 Peter 3:8-9

MONDAY: Galatians 4:4

TUESDAY: Revelation 3:20

WEDNESDAY: Galatians 6:9

THURSDAY: Revelation 3:11

FRIDAY: Luke 12:40

SATURDAY: Revelation 22:12

Pray the week:

Lord Jesus, Thank You for Your re-Advent within me. Grant that seeing the lateness of the hour I may use Your grace for complete dedication to Your work. 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 National Women's Society for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

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

Upcoming

- **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.**
- **December 27: Feast – St. John, Apostle and Evangelist. Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of Wine (bring a bottle or two).**
- **December 28: Commemoration – Holy Innocents. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 29: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 30: Solemnity – Holy Family. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 31: Solemnity – Humble Shepherds. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil.**
- **January 1: Solemnity – Circumcision. Holy Mass at Noon.**