

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC
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NEWSLETTER

JANUARY

2024



FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON, AND A TIME FOR EVERY MATTER
UNDER HEAVEN

A number one hit with the oldest lyrics? That is Pete Seeger's song Turn, Turn Turn covered by the Byrds in 1965. The lyrics from Ecclesiastes ca. 300 BC The first eight verses of Chapter 3 tells us that everything is suitable for its time. God is in control, indeed sovereign, and that gives us reassurance and a sense of sobriety. We cannot necessarily fathom the mystery of God, but we can say that we are ok with the mystery He offers if we have faith in His goodness - the goodness of God Who gave His Son Jesus so that we might be saved. We just celebrated that beginning by allowing Jesus to be reborn into our lives.

I remember my mom talking about songs like Turn, Turn Turn with some sense of amazement - 'they're singing about the Bible,' or words to that affect. Truthfully, it wouldn't take too much effort in going through the pop and rock songs of the 1960's and 1970's and even beyond to see the influence of faith, the Church, and scripture in a good number of those hits.

I suppose my memory of my mother's talking about scripture in pop and rock music attuned my ear, gave me an awareness of God permeating every time and season, every method of expression.

It is a positive practice for us, as Christians, to remain aware, to listen and look, for God is continually making Himself known through ordinary means and in each time and season. We will find Him in music, literature, the beauty of nature, and in each other.

Speaking of times and season, we just experienced a very short Advent which kicked-off the new Church year. Now we will experience a somewhat shorter Christmas season because Pre-Lent begins January 28th. Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent is just around the corner - February 14th.

As we wend our way through God's seasons and times, as we keep our eyes, ears, and hearts open to the revelation of His mystery and His timeless grace, let us meet each season in this new year both reassured and open to Him.

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 continues as 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.

If you have items you would like to donate, please see Paul Zawistowski or fill out one of the donation forms in the back of the church.

Since June 13, 2022 we have responded to 33 requests, served 142 children, with an economic impact of over \$45,400.

Thank YOU for Your Generous Food and Clothing Offerings

Thank you to all who donated so generously. 205 pounds of food was delivered to Schenectady Community Ministries.

Branch 56 of the YMSofR will be closing out its work for the National YMSofR clothing drive as of January 6th. This event involves all branches of the Church's YMSofR in a friendly competition for good. Based on data to date, we have been exceptionally generous to those in need in our community. We will report the total number of items next month.

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 13th and starts at 10am and goes until noon. You can stop in anytime in-between.

SOUPERBOWL OF CARING

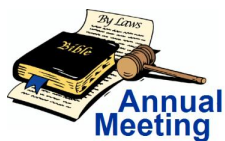


"LORD, EVEN AS WE ENJOY THE SUPER BOWL FOOTBALL GAME, HELP US BE MINDFUL OF THOSE WHO ARE WITHOUT A BOWL OF SOUP TO EAT"

TACKLE HUNGER
with the
SOUPERBOWL OF CARING

Over the past 22 years our parish has raised over \$2,800 as part of the SouperBowl of Caring effort. This year's collection will be held on February 11th. The soup pot is out. Please continue your generosity in this worthy effort which helps Schenectady Community Ministries in feeding the hungry.

Annual Meeting & Parish Offices



Annual Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting is planned for Sunday, February 4th along

with the election of a new Parish Committee. We will also discuss and vote on updated rules and regulations for our parish cemeteries. They should be a lot simpler and clearer now. 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 2023. Because of you and your sacrifice we have been greatly blessed. Donation envelopes for 2024 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.

Epiphany Visitations - Kolęda - House Blessings



The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated on Saturday, January 6th.

If you would like your home blessed in the traditional Epiphany home blessing between January 6th and February 13th (a much shorter period of time this year), please see Fr. Jim to make an appointment.

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

Make February 2024 – 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 this year's Kurs and CONVO.

We need your support to give our young people a great beginning in 2024. 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 \$1,220. 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 **29 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 completed stubs to the parish by February 4th 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!

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. 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!**

*Thank
You*

**There is so much
to be thankful for.**

To all who joined in to decorate the parish so beautifully for Christmas.

Thank you to all who attended the Holy Masses of Advent, Rorate Holy Mass on Wednesday mornings, the Masses of Christmas Day. Thank you to Liz, Christina, and Victoria for your beautiful music unto the Baby Jesus.

Thank you Laura for your representation in ministry, bringing in the Baby Jesus and Adam Konicki for his service at the altar.

Thank you 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 Andrea, 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. Thank you to Alyssa for all her work on the Easter Basket project, Donna for the Basket Social, and Joe for his work on the annual Vigil Raffle.

Thank you 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!

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 Tuesday 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: 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. 7: Solemnity - Baptism of the Lord: Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 9 - 12: Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 13: Women's Empowerment Group, 10am till Noon.
- Jan. 14: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 15: Martin Luther King Jr.

Day. Parish Committee Meeting at 6pm.

- Jan. 16 - 17: Holy Mass at Noon (subject to change).
- Jan. 18: Feast –St. Peter's Chair in Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins. Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 19: Holy Mass at Noon (subject to change).
- Jan. 21: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 23 - 24: 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: Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 28: Septuagesima Sunday, Pre-Lent Begins and Music Scholarship Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 30 - Feb. 1: Holy Mass at Noon.
- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation - Holy Mass at Noon with Blessing of Candles.

Music Scholarship Sunday



Sunday, January 28th is Music Scholarship Sunday. Our parish has been blessed with great musicians and aspiring musicians.

Scholarships are available to both youth and adults. 2024 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 2024. Please take note of the following and stay tuned for updates:

- Pre-Lent: January 28 - February 13.
 - Scout Sunday: February 4.
 - Ash Wednesday: February 14.
 - Palm Sunday: March 24.
 - Easter: March 31.
 - Mission and Evangelism Workshop: Houtzdale, PA. April 12 - 14.
 - 23rd Conference of Scholars: Scranton, PA. April 19.
 - YMSofR Men's Retreat: Waymart, PA. June 12 - 15.
 - Kurs: Waymart, PA. July 4 - 13.
 - Convo: Mercyhurst University, Erie, PA. July 22 - 26.
 - Annual Bowling Tournament: TBD.
 - YMSofR Golf Tournament: TBD.
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The BASKET SOCIAL

The annual **Basket Social** will be held on **Sunday, April 21st** 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.

Lenten Schedule Preview



Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14th. We will hold two Holy Masses that day at Noon and 7pm with the blessing and imposition of ashes. Every Friday we will hold Stations of the Cross at 3pm. Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale will be held Sundays at 3pm.

Please remember that Wednesdays and Fridays in Lent are days of fasting/abstinence from meat.

Poetry for the New Year

IN HIS NAME

*This Month the New Year begins in
His Name;
With ringing bells of gladness to
proclaim
That in Him is Eternal Love and
Peace—
That conquers hate and will make
all wars cease.*

*All promises of faith in His Sight
made,
Must not through apathy, hopelessly
fade;
May the Message—the Manger did
impart —
Permeate, with His Spirit, every
heart.*

*In His Glory—make our voices as
one,
Rejoicing in victory that God has
won—
In bringing hearts together near and
far,
In the miracle radiance of His Star.*

*Then His Message of Good Will here
on earth,
Will echo new joys of Hope—give
rebirth
To a world greatly disturbed, sorely
tried,
That looks for the Star as its Lasting
Guide.*

PRAISE GOD EACH DAY

*If I do not feel God in my heart each
day—*

*If my soul fails to uplift itself in
flight
To Heaven . . . be it morning . . .
noon or night—
Then my ears have failed to hear—
lips failed to pray,
My eyes have become blind in Dear
God's Sight,
Then I shall have lost beauty of day
—new light,
New wonders—new joys—that made
the day so bright;
I will then have forgotten blessings
received—
What then have I accomplished—or
achieved?*

*I shall raise my eyes to my Father
on High.
I shall glory in the beauty of His sky
That shall reflect its warmth on the
spacious earth . . .
Within my heart and soul I shall feel
new birth.
My lips shall praise His Wonders . . .
my ears shall hear
The Voice of God—to me so precious
. . . so dear.*

Notes: Taken from Ode To Great Men and Great Things in Poetry and Prose by Rev. Walter Andrew Hyszko (1908 - 2002, ordained 1934). Fr. Hyszko was educated at Brown, Northeastern, the New England Conservatory of Music, and the Savonarola Theological Seminary.

Happy 2024!

On behalf of Fr. Jim, his family, and our parish Committee we wish you all the best for 2024!

January 2024

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

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. 14th – Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass at Noon and 7pm.

All of February - Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

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

We thank God for:

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FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON, AND A TIME
FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

