



# Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – FEBRUARY 18, 2024

## 1st Sunday in Lent

### I Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

February 18, 2024

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

First reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Psalm: Ps 25:4-9

**R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.**

Epistle: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Tract: Behold the rainbow! Then bless its Maker, for majestic indeed is its splendor. **R. It spans the heavens with its glory, this bow bent by the mighty hand of God.**

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Intention: For all parishioners.

Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Joe Kaczynski.

- Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite, Sung Litany, pg. 63).
- Coffee Hour.
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, Pew Missal pg. 15).
- Gorzkie Żale / Lamentations at 3pm.

#### THIS WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. Noah, found just and perfect, renewed the race in the time of devastation. Because of his worth there were survivors, and with a sign to him the deluge ended;

**R. A lasting agreement was made with him, that never should all flesh be destroyed.**

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: B1, Hymn Of Faith.
- Sacrament of the Word: R155, Spirit Of The Living God.
- Offertory: B100, I Have No Fear.
- Communion: Deep Within (instrumental).
- Communion Reflection: B159, Jesus, My Lord And Savior.
- Recessional: B114, Forty Days And Forty Nights.

## +++ Reminders & Notes +++

- **Keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.**
- **Valentine's Raffle:** Is underway. Thank you to all who have supported this effort and to Linda for leading it.
- **Souper Bowl Sunday Thank You:** You filled up the soup pot. We collected \$200 which is being donated to Schenectady Community Ministries (SiCM).
- **Lent:** Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 3pm. Bitter Lamentations/Gorzkie Żale will be held Sundays at 3pm. You may leave your charitable and sacrificial gifts of food by the Mary Altar. May each of our Lenten journeys be blessed.
- **Our Seniorate Lenten Retreat** is Saturday, March 16th in Syracuse. Please plan to attend as part of your Lenten observance.
- **Fr. Jim – the days ahead:** Father has been asked to give a Lenten Retreat at St. Peter's Armenian Apostolic Church in Watervliet on Wednesday on the topic of "The purpose of Lent in our life's journey." He will also be attending the installation of Rev. Jeremiah Williamson as the Tenth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany on Saturday.

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 Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan.*

Welcome on this First Sunday in Lent. As many of you heard on Ash Wednesday, our theme for this Lent is struggle.

This Lent we will consider the stories of those who have struggled to the point of giving up on God and faith in Him. We will see in these stories moments where people may have given up for a time, and who, in the end, were fortified because of their struggle. We may not see these people ever overcoming their struggles, but still committed to overcoming.

Through these stories we will realize that our struggles are evidence of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives. The Holy Spirit moves in us and because of that we struggle against the things that separate us from Christ. We are not abandoned.

We hear of Jesus' desert journey today. He fasts and is constantly tempted - the temptations did not just come at the end. The fast and journey were a struggle for Jesus, He did not just glide through it. He was spiritually and physically hungry and tired each day of the journey, beset by the same temptations we face in struggle – you'll never make it, you're not strong enough, give up. That is how we know He gets us, understands what we face, and why He gives us, through the Holy Spirit, the grace of perseverance.

I have printed and left for you the poem Ithaka by Constantine Cavafy. Please take it home and read it. Use it as an opportunity for prayer.

I first encountered this poem when it was read at Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis' funeral by her longtime companion, Maurice Tempelman.

Ithaka describes the journey of Odysseus, and in turn each of our journeys, to our homeland. For us that homeland is heaven.

In the poem we encounter a prolonged journey. Along the way the good things in our life are increased if we keep our eye on the goal, face the struggles head on, refuse to focus on the negative, refuse to hurry, and relish each day necessary to get there. Along the way we encounter the unknown – making new discoveries about ourselves.

Each of us has their struggles on the road to our Ithaka and in Lent. In the poem's epigram we hear: "Keep Ithaka always in your mind. / Arriving there what you're destined for." Let us hear that as "Keep heaven always in your mind. / Arriving there what we are destined for."

In the end, as the poem speaks, we will understand what the struggle and journey has meant.

## Memory Verse

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

**Psalm 119:105**

## Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Jeremiah 29:11  
MONDAY: Proverbs 3:5-6  
TUESDAY: Romans 8:38-39  
WEDNESDAY: Psalm 121:8  
THURSDAY: Psalm 23:4  
FRIDAY: Matthew 11:28  
SATURDAY: Proverbs 16:9

### Pray the week:

Lord Jesus, As I journey toward heaven and full unity with Your Father and mine, grant me strength such that the struggles and adversaries along the way may not overcome me. Give me the grace of perseverance.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Jasmine Russo, Laura Covari, Stan Podkulski, Mariea Chase, Kelly Noble, Elizabeth Węglinski, Claudia Bertasso, John Clas, Virginia Lamb, Curtis Sczepakowski, Joshua Moraski, Jessie Feathers-Ostrowski, Joanne Bauer, Madison Sheridan, Tom Abbot, Derek Westcott, Karen Kisch, Gregory Henderson, Theresa Ordon, Michelle Zawistowski, 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, Mary Walters, Tom Walters, and all in need of God's healing grace.

- 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 people and clergy of All Saints parish, Viareggio, Italy.

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

## Upcoming

- **February 18: 1st Sunday in Lent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski. Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale at 3pm.**
- **February 19: President's Day. NO Holy Mass. Parish Committee Meeting at 6pm.**
- **February 20: Holy Mass at Noon. Infant of Prague Chaplet (in Polish).**
- **February 21: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **February 22: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **February 23: Holy Mass at Noon. Stations of the Cross at 3pm.**
- **February 24: Feast – St. Matthias, Apostle**
- **February 25: 2nd Sunday in Lent Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale at 3pm.**