

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC
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NEWSLETTER
APRIL
2024



IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, SO THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GIVE GLORY TO YOUR FATHER

We entered the Easter Season with great joy on the cusp of this new month. We are living in the joy and radiance of the Easter Season — and guess what — it is Basket Social time.

The text above from Matthew 5:16 is part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. He began speaking about His people being salt (i.e., flavor) and light before the world. We are to be that which changes the as-is way of doing things to His new way, a way that gives hope, light, and flavor to life - a life very much worth living now and through eternity.

We may fall into the trap of thinking these themes of radiance, hope, light, and flavor are something we must reserve for church and being around churchy people. Jesus would differ. After all, He told us to let our light shine before others. He spoke of these things before huge crowds of people — working to grow His Father's Kingdom.

Efforts at being radiance, hope, light, and flavor definitely start internally, in our own community. Our working together, our

generosity, creativity, and the joy that surrounds us as we prepare together - from the making of pierogi and gołąbki to the creation of baskets, and our working together in so many ways show us to be what Jesus desires we be. Our work upholds each other as we stand together even when things may seem stressful.

Then we let our light shine out to all those we encounter — our public. The Basket Social is the perfect occasion for fun, for that radiance and joy human interaction elicits. In the midst of the fun something becomes apparent — people see the difference that Jesus makes in our lives and they are drawn to that.

We Easter people are different because we choose patience when we might be impatient. We select kindness when others might not be kind. We smile even though we might be tired, and at the end of our rope.

Now, and into the future, let us together be the Easter difference all we encounter need - light and flavor, and be joy-filled in the doing.

The 50 Days of Easter

We so look forward to your being with us as we continue to



celebrate the Easter season that begins March 31st and does not conclude until May 19th (for 50 days!). Continue to rejoice in His resurrection with the

apostles, our Holy Church, and our entire family in faith.

How to say Happy Easter

The Paschal greeting is an Easter custom among Christians. Instead of saying "hello," "good morning," or some other greeting we are to greet each other with "Christ is Risen!" The proper response is "Truly, He is Risen." Here is the Pascal greeting in several languages:

- English: *Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!*
- Spanish: *¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡En verdad ha resucitado!*
- Italian: *Cristo è risorto! È veramente risorto!*
- Polish: *Chrystus zmartwychwstał! Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!*
- Swahili – *Kristo Amefufukka! Kweli Amefufukka!*

- German: *Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!*
 - Norwegian: *Kristus er oppstanden! Han er sannelig oppstanden!*
 - Rastafarian – *Krestos a uprisin! Seen, him a uprisin fe tru!*
 - French: *Christ est ressuscité! Il est vraiment ressuscité!*
 - Greek: *Χριστός ανέστη! Αληθώς ανέστη!*
 - Ukrainian: *Христос воскрес! Воістину воскрес!*
 - Scottish: *Tha Crìosd air èiridh! Gu dearbh, tha e air èiridh!*
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Basket Social is April 21st



There is a sign-up sheet for baskets. Free baskets are available if you need them. This year's Basket Social (along with the

GREATEST BESTEST Polish Food) will be held on Sunday, April 21st at the spacious and beautiful South Schenectady Firehouse, 6 Old Mariaville Road, Schenectady. Please start bringing your baskets in. Thank you.

National Church Activities

April 12 - 14: Mission and Evangelism Workshop - The Ambassador's Toolbox:

Houtzdale, PA.

April 19: PNCC 2024 Scholars' Conference. Scranton, PA.

May 24 - 26: 77th Annual YMS of R/PNCC Bowling Tournament. Parma, OH.

June 12 - 15: Men's Retreat, Waymart, PA.

July 4: Independence Day Holy Mass, Celebration of the 95th Anniversary of Spójnia Farm, Dedication of the Great Hall stating at 11am. Waymart, PA.

July 4 - 13: Kurs, Waymart, PA.

July 22 - 25: Convo 2024 - Running the Race, Mercyhurst University, Erie, PA.

August 22 - 25: Annual YMS of R Golf Tournament. Buffalo, NY.

National Youth Activities

Fr. Jim has once again been appointed chaplain for this year's **Kurs Encampment** being held July 4th through 13th (10 days!) at the Bishop Hodur Retreat and recreation Center in Waymart, PA. Sign up forms will be available in mid-April.

Music Scholarships



The Church's Music Scholarship Program was instituted on August 8, 1964 by the Sixth General Convention of the National United Choirs of the Polish National

Catholic Church held in Carnegie, PA. The program was implemented at the Seventh General Convention held in Cleveland, OH, on August 4, 1966, when the first awards were presented. The Music Scholarship Program was instituted and tailored to develop musicians within the Polish National Catholic Church.

Including the 2023 Scholarships, the Church has given out 1,136 scholarships totaling \$353,085.

Applications for the 2024 Scholarship Program are available at <http://nucmusicsscholarship.weebly.com/music-scholarship-application.html> and Junior Incentive Award applications are available at <http://nucmusicsscholarship.weebly.com/junior-incentive-application.html>.

We strongly encourage all who qualify to apply. The deadline for applying is May 1, 2024.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

- 1 Kendell and Shirley Maliszewski
- 3 Patricia Gustuvson, Mark Caulfield
- 4 Timothy J. Olsen
- 5 Kathleen Caulfield
- 7 Albert Rios
- 8 Denise Broza
- 9 Lisette Rios
- 10 Timothy DeCocco
- 14 Trevor Wheelock
- 16 Debbie Martucci
- 18 Kyle Carlson
- 19 Philip Jorczaak
- 22 Kathy Smith, Nancy Heins
- 23 Michael Wienclawski

28 Linda DePaula
30 San D'Amico

Anniversaries

13 Paul & Michelle Zawistowski

Wishing you many years! Sto Lat!

**Thank you, Merci, Dziękuję, Āčiū,
Gracias, Mahalo, Grazie! God
bless you!**

To all who lived the disciplines of Lent and prayed more fervently through Lenten devotions, who engaged in acts of charity, and practiced acts of Christian love and concern.

To everyone who chipped in and worked so hard throughout Holy Week in serving, cleaning, preparing the altars, playing, singing, and just being there for Jesus.

Thank you to all who are so generously giving through our Lenten directed giving program. We collected 208 pounds of food.

To all who attended our annual budget meeting. You honor the sacrifice of our ancestors who built this democratic model of Church and keep their hope alive by your participation.

To our wonderful altar servers, Traviss and Karina who with Adam's help offered service with great dignity and respect, our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia with Mike Emanuele who make our Lenten reflection, Holy Week, and Easter all the more meaningful and beautiful.

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

Planning For:

Sunday Holy Masses are at 10am and Noon unless otherwise noted. Daily Holy Mass is Tuesday through Friday at noon. Chaplet to the Infant of Prague on Tuesdays following Holy mass.

The Easter Season

- April 1-5: Bright Week.
- April 6: Parishioners attend Jesus Christ Superstar at Proctor's Theater, Schenectady.
- April 7: Low Sunday.
- April 8: Solemnity of the Annunciation. Holy Mass at Noon.
- April 9-12: Normal weekday schedule.
- April 13: Women's Empowerment Meeting at 10am. Thursday Musical Club performance of Roots and Branches at First Reformed Church, Schenectady at 2pm.
- April 14: 3rd Sunday of Easter.
- April 16-17: Normal weekday schedule.
- April 18-19: Fr. Jim in Scranton for the Scholar's Conference.
- April 20: Basket Social Set-up/
- **April 21: Good Shepherd Sunday. ONE HOLY MASS at 8:30am. Basket Social starting at noon.**
- April 22-24 Meeting of the PNCC

Bishops and Meeting of the Supreme Council.

- April 23-24: Normal weekday schedule.
- April 25: Feast – St. Mark the Evangelist. Holy Mass at noon.
- April 26: Holy Mass at noon.
- April 28: 5th Sunday of Easter.
- April 30: Solemnity – St. Joseph the Workman. Holy Mass at Noon.
- May 1: Feast - Ss. Philip and James, Apostles. Holy Mass at Noon.
- May 3: Solemnity - Finding of the Holy Cross. Holy Mass at Noon.

Participating Online

We broadcast daily and Sunday Holy Masses and devotional services live online on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HolyNameOfJesusSchenectady/> and on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@HolyNameOfJesusNCC>.

Confirmation and First Communion Classes

Classes can start at any time. If any adult or youth would like to participate, please let Fr. Jim know.

The Infant of Prague

As a child did you have an Infant Jesus statue in your room or somewhere in the home?: Do you



recall dressing the infant in different color gowns depending on the season? Maybe you remember your grandmother doing so.

Devotion to the Infant Jesus is centuries old. In

Spain, He is known as Santo Niño de Atocha. In the Philippines, He is known as Santo Niño de Cebu. Although each culture has its own rich traditions and celebrations, at the heart of the Devotion is the opportunity to increase our relationship with our Heavenly Father with the humility of a child.

Devotion to the Infant Jesus is widespread, but the most promulgated in Western Culture is the Devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague.

Devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague is veneration of the Son of God, who in the form of an infant chose a stable for a palace, manger for a cradle, and shepherds for worshippers. Our Savior grants special graces to all who venerate His sacred Infancy.

According to sources, the statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague originates in Spain. It was probably made in Spain sometime in the second half of the 16th century.

Legend says that the Infant Jesus miraculously appeared to the monk

who molded the statue based on his vision. A different legend tells us that the statue was owned by Saint Teresa of Jesus who greatly venerated Jesus' childhood and spread the veneration of the Infant Jesus throughout Spain. She is said to have given the statue to a friend whose daughter was getting married in Prague.

The statue of the Infant Jesus was brought to Prague by the Spanish Duchess Marie Manriquez de Lcara, who married Vrastislav of Pernstejn in 1556. She gave the statue to her daughter Polyxena of Lobkovic as a wedding gift. She greatly venerated the statue and received consolation and help from it many times.

Polyxena of Lobkowicz donated the statue as a precious gift to the monastery of Discalced Carmelites at the Church of Our Lady of Victory. She presented her beloved statue to the religious with these prophetic words: "I hereby give you what I prize most highly in this world. As long as you venerate this image you will not be in want"

Blessings poured forth in the community, but once the devotion became relaxed, the abundant blessings went away.

Father Cyrillus a Matre Dei was very devoted to The Infant Jesus because of the consolation he had received from Him. Suddenly the devotion ceased altogether because the Carmelites fled the monastery. The Infant Jesus was damaged, its arms broken, and it was discarded as

junk.

When the Carmelites were able to return to Prague, Father Cyrillus remembered the powerful intercession of The Infant Jesus and found the statue. During prayer he heard the Infant Jesus say: "Have mercy on me and I will have mercy on you. Give me my arms and I will give you my peace. I will bless you as much as you will venerate me!"

It is in this repair of the statue that the real story takes place. Father Cyrillus had to persevere in finding a way to acquire the funds for it to be restored. When he had the funds, his superior suggested purchasing a new statue all together.

Today, the statue is enshrined on a side altar in the church of Our Lady of Victory in Prague.

The Infant Jesus, like priests at the altar, is dressed in robes in accordance to the color of the liturgical season.

The heart of this devotion is a humbled heart. A heart with confidence such as that of a child. It's knowing that whatever we ask of Jesus, as long as it benefits us, He will grant to us. Just like when our own children come to us we do what they ask of us out of love. This littleness in prayer helps us grow in our spiritual lives and helps us to see just how much we depend on having a steady relationship with the Lord. Join us for Holy Mass and this devotion each Tuesday at Noon.

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Bright Monday ¹ Birth of Bp. Francis Hodur (1866).	Bright Tuesday ² Holy Mass at noon. Infant of Prague Chaplet	Bright Wednesday ³ Holy Mass at noon.	Bright Thursday ⁴ Holy Mass at noon.	Bright Friday ⁵ Holy Mass at noon.	Bright Saturday ⁶ Jesus Christ Superstar at Proctor's Theater at 2pm.
Low Sunday – Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. ⁷	Solemnity – Annunciation. Holy Mass at Noon. ⁸	Holy Mass at noon. Infant of Prague Chaplet ⁹	Holy Mass at noon. ¹⁰	Holy Mass at noon. ¹¹	Holy Mass at noon. ¹² Mission & Evangelism Workshop, Houtzdale, PA.	Women's Empowerment Group at 10am. ¹³ Mission & Evangelism Workshop, Houtzdale, PA. Thursday Musical Club Spring Performance at First Reformed at 2pm.
3rd Sunday of Easter – Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil. ¹⁴	Parish Committee Meets at 6pm. ¹⁵	Holy Mass at noon. ¹⁶	Holy Mass at noon. ¹⁷	Fr. Jim in Scranton, PA. ¹⁸	Scholar's Conference in Scranton, PA. Fr. Jim attends. ¹⁹	Basket Social Preparation. ²⁰
Good Shepherd Sunday – Holy Mass at 8:30am ONLY . Lector: Joe Kaczynski. BASKET SOCIAL @ 12pm. ²¹	Meeting of PNCC Bishops. ²²	Holy Mass at noon. Meeting of Supreme Council. ²³	Holy Mass at noon. Meeting of Supreme Council. ²⁴	Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist. Holy Mass at noon. ²⁵	Holy Mass at noon. ²⁶	²⁷
5th Sunday of Easter – Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. ²⁸	Holy Mass at noon. ²⁹	Holy Mass at noon. ³⁰				

EVENTS

May

Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Ascension, Pentecost

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