



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – AUGUST 17, 2025

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time XX Niedziela zwykła

August 10, 2025

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 88.

Entrance Hymn: V. Where can I hide from your spirit? From Your presence, where can I flee? If I ascend to the heavens, You are there; if I lie down in Sheol, You are there too. **R. Surely darkness shall hide me, and night shall be my light. Darkness is not dark for You, and night shines as the day.** 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.**

First reading Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10

Psalm: Psalm 40:2-4,18

R. Lord, come to my aid!

Epistle: Hebrews 12:1-4

Gospel: Luke 12:49-53

Intention: For śp. Marilyn 'Lyn' Podkulski.

Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Larry Panfil.

- Holy Mass at Noon (Contemporary Rite, pg. 63).
- Parish and Community Picnic.

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

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Today's Music

- Entrance: B1, Hymn Of Faith (v. 1, 2, 4).
- Word of God: B145, Come Holy Spirit.
- Offertory: R546, We Are God's People.
- Communion: I Am The Bread Of Life (instrumental)
- Communion Reflection: Look Beyond (handout).
- Recessional: R338, We Sing The Greatness Of Our God.

R=Red Hymnal, B=Blue Hymnal

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- Please keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.
- **Before Holy Mass** – Undertake a proper examination of conscience beginning on page 1 of the Pew Missal. Also please observe some quiet time to prepare yourself, and support others as they prepare for the sacraments.
- **Parish Picnic**: today. Please stay and enjoy.
- **Fall Soup Sale**: We seek volunteers to make soup at home. We will provide quart containers for you. Make any soup you choose and bring 4 or 5 quarts to church. We will sell them frozen. Let Paul know if you can help.
- **Altamont Fair Thank You**. We had an awesome turn out for Holy Mass at the fair on the Solemnity of the Dormition this past Friday. Thank you to all who came, greeted people, and represented our parish.
- **Trip to Scranton**: Fr. Jim would like to organize a trip to Scranton this Fall, likely in September. We will see the cathedral, visit the seminary and National Church Center, the tomb of Bishop Hodur, and spend some time and have a picnic at Spojnia Farm in Waymart. There is a sign-up sheet for those interested.

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."* ---

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus,

Our faith is hard, yet faithfulness leads to a life that is no longer hard, but full, joyous, and everlasting.

An even casual read though of the scriptures for today shows a central theme, we must be willing to endure to the end.

Jeremiah was hated because he proclaimed God's word, he called people on their sinfulness and spoke of its consequences.

I ask myself and I ask you to consider, do we do that at all? Do we really proclaim God's word and way, and do we live it fully, or do we prefer shortcuts and compromises?

This is a universal problem among many professed Christians today, we prefer polite Christianity, non-accountable Christianity, the theology of nice.

Jesus did not come to earth, take on our human form, and go to the cross so we could be soft, warm, fuzzy, and nice. Rather He came to bring a fire.

The fire of Christ starts in love. Love is different than nice. Love calls us first to hold ourselves accountable, to live the faith fully within our own lives and homes. We are called to set aside false beliefs; the things the world tells us are ok and that we should or must accept. We must say no to those things.

Love then calls us to extend our hands and our hearts to others, to help them along the way, not by criticism, hurtful

words, or meanness, but by setting forth the truth.

There are not two truths, but one truth. That truth is Jesus and His way. It is about rejecting sin, living holy and sanctified lives, and adherence to a sacrificial way of life.

King Zedekiah was weak; he was a wimp. He was timid and cowardly – the embodiment of nice – giving in to those he perceived as stronger. His sin was failing to realize that God was with him.

We have God at our side and an awesome future. We can start today by strengthening our resolve, by doing the little things – daily prayer, reading scripture daily, fasting on Fridays. Let us *persevere in running the race* with our *eyes fixed on Jesus*,

Memory Verse

Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

1 Timothy 4:16

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Romans 11:24
MONDAY: Romans 8:26
TUESDAY: 1 John 2:20
WEDNESDAY: Ephesians 6:4
THURSDAY: John 3:2-3
FRIDAY: Matthew 18:15-20
SATURDAY: John 3:19-21

Pray the Week:

Lord Jesus, grant me full faithfulness. May Your way be my way and may the fire of Your love carried by the Holy Spirit permeate all I do. Protect me from being false, worldly, and from accepting nice in the face of sin. Amen.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Laura Covari, Stan Podkulski, Kelly Noble, Curtis Sczepakowski, Joshua Moraski, Tom Abbot, Karen Kisch, Gregory Henderson, Theresa Ordon, Michelle Zawistowski, Susan Jones, Garry Packer, Gary & Sandra Tatlock, Fred Hendricks, Theresa, Carla, Francine, Eileen, Joyce Colson, Helen Spencer, Michael Clough, Frances Gary, Dan Crawley, Bob Chelkowski, Brian Rohan, Tom Walters, Dawn Main, Fran Muscatello, Zosia Wieczorek, Bob Giczkowski, Bishop John, Bishop Paul, Gordon Lamb, Aimee, Liz, Dorothy Morrison, Jennifer, Daniel & Julia Byrnes, Gail Swart, and all needing 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, Fr. Nadeem Yaqoob, Fr. Mariusz Mularczyk.
- 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
- The residents and staff of Pathways.
- All members of the Civil Air Patrol.
- All who have asked for our prayers for any need or intention.

This week we pray for the people and clergy of Our Saviour parish, Woonsocket, RI.

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

Upcoming

- **August 17: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Holy Mass at 10am. Lector: Larry Panfil. Parish Picnic Follows.**
- **August 18: Food Pantry, 3 till 6pm.**
- **August 19 - 22: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **August 24: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time: Holy Mass at 10am. Lector: Joe Kaczynski. Second Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **August 25: Feast - St. Bartholomew. Food Pantry, 3 till 6pm.**
- **August 26 - 29: No Holy Mass.**
- **August 31: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time / Youth Sunday: Holy Mass at 10am. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. Second Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **September 1: Labor Day. Holy Mass at Noon. No Food Pantry.**
- **September 2 - 5: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **September 7: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Holy Mass at 10am. Lector: Larry Panfil. Second Holy Mass at Noon.**