



VMFC
A VETERAN/MILITARY FRIENDLY CONGREGATION

Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – FEBRUARY 22, 2026

1st Sunday of Lent

I Niedziela Wielkiego Postu

February 22, 2026

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

Entrance Hymn: V. You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, say to the Lord, "My refuge and fortress, my God in Whom I trust." **R. Keep me as the apple of Your eye; hide me in the shadow of Your wings.** 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: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Psalm: Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Epistle: Romans 5:12-19

Tract: V. God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial He will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it. **R. Do not subject us to the final test, but deliver us from the evil one.**

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Intention: For all parishioners.

Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Larry Panfil.

- Matins, Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite, Pew Missal pg. 63).
- Coffee Hour / SOCL
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, Pew Missal pg. 15)

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

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Today's Music

- Entrance: B1, Hymn Of Faith.
- Litany: Sung Ordinaries pg. 9.
- Word of God: R155, Spirit Of The Living God.
- Offertory: B100, I Have No Fear.
- Communion: Deep Within (instrumental).
- Communion Reflection: B175, Lord, Forsake Us Not.
- Recessional: B114, Forty Days And Forty Nights.

R=Red Hymnal, B=Blue Hymnal

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- Please keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.
- **It is here!!! Lent has arrived.** Our Lenten devotions include Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 3pm and Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale on Sundays at 3pm. Your newsletter includes suggestions for Directed Giving of foods for Lent. Leave your donations by the Mary Altar. Remember that Wednesdays and Fridays are days of abstinence (no meat – beef, pork, chicken).
- **Official Announcement: Our Annual Financial / Budget Meeting will be held next Sunday, March 1st. There will be only one Holy Mass that day.**
- **The Soup Pot: For operation Souper Bowl is still out. Please help in this effort.**
- Are you Veteran? Do you have questions about services and benefits? Let us know, we can help.
- Please keep our seminarians and the other 20 men seeking to serve in your prayers.

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.

--- Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed ---

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry.

As many of you know, and others will discover, each Lent I select a central theme for this graced time of reflection and teaching. On Ash Wednesday I spoke of this theme: living sacrificially. That will be our concentration this Lent.

We also touched on the fact that sacrifice is covenantal, and we will explore that too. In our sacrifices we enhance the pre-existing relationship we have with God. We acknowledge our agreement with God's plan and rule, find joy in that, reinforce our acceptance of it, and tear away at the things that stand in the way of a deeper union with God.

After Jesus' baptism in the Jordan, He is led by the Spirit

into the desert. He spends forty days and nights there emptying Himself of everything in preparation for His sacrificial mission. He sets an example for us so that we might use this Lenten dessert time to tear away the transgressions, habits, sins, and over-indulgences that block our path and the pull us down.

After being emptied in that dessert what happens? Jesus is confronted by the devil. Now we would think, here is this exhausted and hungry man being set upon in His weakness. Certainly, the devil thought it was that way. It is why he used food, power, and testing in his temptations.

What the devil and many of us do not realize is that our sacrifice – fasting, charity, greater prayer and

devotional practices, and the giving up of things not really good for us anyway does not make us weaker – it strengthens us as Jesus was strengthened. We come out of Lent powerful to face evil and fully rejoicing in what Jesus bought for us on that Holy Cross.

We unfortunately are caught up in transgression just as the first humans were. Yet now we have a graced choice because of Jesus. So we are called to engage in sacrificial practices to strengthen us so we can joyfully receive as St. Paul says: *the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.*

Memory Verse

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 12:1

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Ephesians 5:2

MONDAY: Hebrews 13:16

TUESDAY: John 15:13

WEDNESDAY: Psalm 51:17

THURSDAY: Mark 10:45

FRIDAY: Hebrews 13:15

SATURDAY: Luke 9:24

Pray the Week:

Lord Jesus, Grant me a heart filled with sacrificial love. For all that I set aside, fill me with what is so much better in Your eyes. Through the course of this Lent bring me to the strength You have in the face of evil. 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, Michael Clough, Frances Gary, Dan Crawley, Bob Chelkowski, Brian Rohan, Tom Walters, Dawn Main, Fran Muscatello, Zosia Wiczorek, Bob Giczkowski, Bishop John, Bishop Paul, Gordon Lamb, Aimee, Liz, Dorothy Morrison, Jennifer, Daniel & Julia Byrnes, Steve Snyder, Susan D'Ameco, Ed Sargalis, Chip, Jacqueline Lawrence, 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. Andrew Tenus, Fr. Nadeem Yaqoob, Fr. Mariusz Mularczyk, and for all Veterans.
- All those in Public Service: Civil Servants, Police Officers, and Fire Fighters.
- All Active and Retired Clergy of the Holy 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 Ss. Cyril & Methodius parish, Chicago, IL.

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

Upcoming

- **February 22: 1st Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil. Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale at 3pm.**
- February 23: Food Pantry, 3pm until 6pm.
- February 24: Feast – St. Matthias, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.
- February 25 – 26: Holy Mass at Noon.
- February 27: Stations of the Cross at 3pm.
- **March 1: 2nd Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Lector: Joe Kaczynski. Annual Parish Financial and Budget Meeting. Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale at 3pm.**
- March 2: Food Pantry, 3pm until 6pm.
- March 3: Holy Mass at Noon.
- March 4: Commemoration of St. Casimir of Poland and Lithuania. Holy Mass at Noon.
- March 5: Holy Mass at Noon.
- March 6: Stations of the Cross at 3pm.