



VMFC
A VETERAN/MILITARY FRIENDLY CONGREGATION

Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Solemnity of Brotherly Love

Święto Braterskiej Miłości

September 13, 2026

Rite: See Worship Aid.

Entrance Hymn: V. Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. **R. In this way the love of God was revealed to us; God sent His only Son into the world so that we might have life through Him.** 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 31:31-34

Psalm: Ps 15:2-5

One who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Epistle: 1 John 4:7-9

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

Intention: For Service Members and Veterans

Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Lauren DeBlois

- Mattins, Holy Mass at 10am (Worship Aid).
- Picnic

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

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YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@HolyNameOfJesusNCC>

Today's Music

- Communion Hymn: Be Not Afraid (instrumental).

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- Please keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.
- **PLEASE PRAY EACH DAY:** Come Holy Spirit. Pour out Thy blessings upon our parish and the entire Church, especially considering Holy Synod this Fall. On Friday, September 18th, we will begin a nine-day novena in preparation. Take a copy with you and please pray along.
- **Week Ahead:** Fr. Jim will, be at seminary for the start of the semester. Please keep our new seminarian Jonah in your prayers. Also please pray for Fathers James, Jude, and Emmanuel as they are accepted into the Church.
- **Some Saints for this Week:** Eugenia, Adam of Caithness, Cornelius and Cyprian, Ludmila, Columba, Hildegard of Bingen, Thomas of Villanova, Edith of Wilton, Theodore of Canterbury. May they pray for us so we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
- **Parish/Community/Veterans Picnic:** Our annual picnic is today, Brotherly Love Sunday. Holy Mass will be at 10am only. There will be all the great food we usually enjoy plus special gifts for veterans and servicemembers and their families. Please join in honoring those who gave and are giving so much for us.
- **Something to Reflect On:** As we approach Holy Synod in only 13 days, consider how we might work together on how to make this Church less 'our church' and more Christ's Church.
- **Thank You:** To all who joined in Friday as we commemorated the 25th Anniversary of the attacks of 9/11/2001. Holy Mass was held for the intention of all victims, first responders, military members, the grieving, and all those still affected by the effects of the attacks.

Baptized Christians who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist and have prepared themselves through the Sacrament of Penance are invited to partake of this Holy Sacrament. It is the practice of the PNCC to distribute the Holy Eucharist through the method of intinction. The Body of Christ is immersed into the Precious Blood and is placed on the tongue and not in the hand of the communicant. Come and let us be one with our Lord.

He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And [Jesus] said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

What is it all about? Why am I here? What am I to do?

Those are all worthy questions. I suppose we ask them more when we are younger. Perhaps when we get older, we have figured a lot of that out or at least have settled on who we are. Then again, perhaps not.

In any event, these questions should remain in front of us. We should remain always slightly unsettled, maybe even uncomfortable. Searching for an answer is a process.

The lawyer goes to Jesus with a planned test. I imagine behind the scenes he too was a little uncomfortable with those exact

questions of What is it all about? Why am I here? What am I to do?

We call the lawyer's response to Jesus the 'Greatest Commandment.' Factually, Jewish sages and teachers, including the lawyers did discuss and rank the most important principles of the Torah long before Jesus. They knew this well. Seeking to summarize the Law's 613 individual commandments into its core meaning was the result. To this day devout Jews recite the Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4-5, "Love the Lord your God...") twice every day, viewing it as the foundational.

For us, the Greatest Commandment is not just a summary, it is more than foundational, it is the answer to What is it all about? Why am I here?

What am I to do?

For life as God's Kingdom people it is all about love. We are here (and not just in church) to love. We are to do love.

We can go through all of Jesus' teachings and instructions and that is what it boils down to. Go the extra mile – love. Give more than what is asked – love. Pray – love. Serve – love. Turn the other cheek – love. Be generous – love. Teach and preach the Kingdom – love. Baptize – love. Give our all, even unto our lives for our brothers and sisters – love.

In Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan, we see the antithesis of love. The priest and Levite saw love as turned completely to self and

those like themselves. Their love never turned outward. The Shema they prayed twice a day was not a lived reality for them. It was all about them. They were here for themselves. Their doing – taking care of themselves.

The Samaritan shows the Greatest Commandment lived in practical reality -being about love, there for love, doing love.

Let us remember Jesus' conclusion: *"do this, and you will live."*

Memory Verse

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

1 John 4:16

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Laura Covari, Stan Podkulski, Kelly Noble, Curtis Szczepkowski, 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, Bob Giczkowski, Bishop John, Bishop Paul, Gordon Lamb, Aimee, Liz, Dorothy Morrison, Jennifer, Steve Snyder, Susan D'Ameco, Ed Sargalis, Chip, Jacqueline Lawrence, Dewey & Barbara Rogers, Jeremy Spencer, Ross Jenkins, Joe Horton, Jr., Deb Plantier, Tom Nowak, Amanda, 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, Charlie Prothero, Fathers Joseph, Andrew, Nadeem, Andrew, Mariusz, Kes, Gerald, Dominic, Michael, 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.

We pray for our entire Church as we approach Holy Synod. Bless them, O Lord! Pobłogosław im, O Boże!

Upcoming

- **September 13: Solemnity of Brotherly Love. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. Veterans & Community Picnic.**
- September 14: Solemnity – Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Food Pantry, 3-5pm. Seminary Semester Starts. Fr. Jim at Seminary.
- September 15: Solemnity – Holy Mother of Sorrows. Fr. Jim at Seminary.
- September 16 – 17: Fr. Jim at Seminary.
- September 18: 1st Day of the Novena.
- September 19: 2nd Day of the Novena.
- September 20: 25th Ordinary Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski. 3rd Day of the Novena.
- September 21: Feast – St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. Holy Mass at Noon. Food Pantry, 3-5pm. Parish Committee Meets, 5pm. 4th Day of the Novena.