

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
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NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2026



THEREFORE, CONFESS YOUR SINS TO ONE ANOTHER AND PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER, THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED. THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON HAS GREAT POWER.

As we begin our Pre-Lenten journey of preparation for the Great and Holy Lent and then enter that blessed season, let us take a moment to first rejoice.

Now we might think, Pre-Lent and Lent - rejoicing. To me it seems like a rather somber season focused on penance and sacrifice. Shouldn't I be sad?

If we listen to our Lord, as we will hear in Ash Wednesday's gospel, we are not to appear to be fasting, not to show off our charity, nor to make a spectacle of our prayer. This is key, we are to look like a people who have security and assurance, inwardly and outwardly rejoicing for the abundance of blessings God gives us through his Son, Jesus.

As those who are citizens of the Kingdom we are given the opportunity in these seasons to recall all our God has done for us and to set our eyes to better fulfilling our role as citizens. Where we fall short we are given an opportunity to make it right. We do that by getting back to basics.

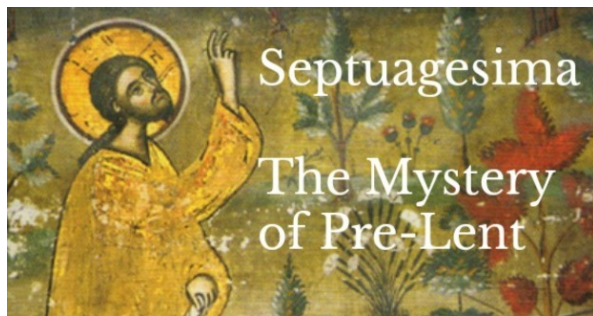
Our scripture above, taken from the letter of St. James, one of the earliest letters written to the first Christians only about six years after Pentecost, reminds us of essential basics (we read a lot of James' Epistle in the Pre-Lenten season).

The basics start with what we practice at every Holy Mass. We confess our sinfulness publicly to one another and we pray for one another. Then as Holy Mass progresses, we continue in our prayer for each other. It is in the Intercessions and even in the Canon of the Mass (called the Commemorations). We then carry those prayers forward individually throughout the week.

What comes from that? It is what is promised, healing. It is also an assurance of the great power we have to overcome the world.

Let us accept rejoicing this Lent as we practice those disciplines of penance, sacrifice, and prayer. In these lie our hope and assurance, our healing and joy, and our powerful Kingdom life.

PRE-LENTEN SEASON



The pre-Lenten season begins early this year, starting on Sunday, February 1st. The Pre-Lenten Season of Septuagesima is a period of preparation before the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Septuagesima includes three Sundays: Septuagesima Sunday (70 days to Passion Sunday), Sexagesima Sunday (60 days to Passion Sunday), and Quinquagesima Sunday (50 days to Passion Sunday). We are called to make a special point of self-examination, of considering the things we need to repent of so we may enter our Lenten discipline on Ash Wednesday fully prepared and head on.

THEN... LENT



Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18th. Holy Mass with the blessing and distribution of ashes will take place at Noon and 7pm that day. Please join us.

Our Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 1st**. Holy Mass is at 10am ONLY. Please make an effort to attend if you can.

Annual Financial Meeting - March 1st

Our annual financial meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 1st** following Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Please attend and help decide on our financial matters.

A Prayer for Sexagesima



*Lord God,
Heavenly
Father, we
thank you
that you
have sown
your
Blessed*

*Word among us through your Son,
Jesus Christ. We beseech you that
you would so prepare our hearts
through your Holy Spirit that we
would hear this Word with diligence,
keep it in noble and good hearts,
and with patience bring forth fruit.
Mercifully grant that we may not be
choked by sins, but that by your
merciful help we smother them. In
every kind of danger may your
grace and eternal consolation hold
us steady and give us sure comfort.*

The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle



February 2026 – the month of love. Thank you to all who purchased and donated tickets for our Outrageous Valentine's Raffle.

Your generosity and love on behalf of our youth was over-the-top amazing!!!!!!

Your generosity and support helps our young people attend the annual KURS summer encampment and CONVO in 2026.

We wish you the best of luck this month. We will send winners their checks right away and announce all the winners in March's newsletter.

Souper Bowl Sunday



For the 25th year in a row, our parish is participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Through the Souper Bowl of Caring we are providing food help for those in need in our local community. We ask for your support and deeply appreciate your generosity!

Your monetary donations in church on Super Bowl Sunday – February 8th - will support the work of Schenectady Shares which provides food resources through all Schenectady food pantries and emergency food providers.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. — Matthew 25:35

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

2 Christine Spooner, Jean Martin
5 Suzanne Heins
9 Christine Caden
11 Bob Shufelt, Justice Smith, Joseph Ruchalski
12 Kristen Smith-Prusky
16 Celina Maliszewski
18 Paul Podkulski
20 Kelly Supinski, Lisa Kaminski
21 Casey Carroll
25 Mike Emanuele
28 Patrick Clas

Wedding Anniversaries

17 Tom & Kelly Supinski

Wishing you all many years!

Epiphany Visitations - Kołęda - House Blessings

Fr. Jim is available to come to your homes for the traditional Epiphany home blessing. Please see him to make an appointment.

Blessing appointments are available through February 17th (prior to Ash

Wednesday).

To prepare your home for the blessing please have the blessed chalk and incense available as well as your blessed candle (gromnica).

Scout Sunday



On Sunday, February 8th Scouting celebrates Scout Sunday, Interfaith. This is a special interfaith day set aside by the Scouting movement for all

Scouts to reflect on

their acknowledgement of duty to God in the Scout Oath or Promise and the 12th point of Scout Law - *A Scout is Reverent.*

We invite all Scouts both youth and adult members to wear their Scout uniforms. We will acknowledge the Scouts in uniform and also ask any former Leaders or Scouts who are present to stand and to be recognized.

We also offer a reminder to all Scouts of the religious awards of the Polish National Catholic Church that can be earned. Fr. Jim and the National Scout Chaplain, Fr. Adam, can assist Scouts in requesting award requirements.

God loves His creation, and His goodness sustains the universe. Let us pray that He will bestow His blessing upon all scouts and their

families. May they be renewed and supported with His strength.

Thank you, Merci, Dziękuję, Āčiū, Gracias, Mahalo, Grazie!

To all who assisted throughout the Christmas season, attending liturgies, and who assisted in the taking down of our Christmas decorations in the midst of the oncoming storm on January 25th.

To our wonderful organist and choir director Liz Battaglia and Mike Emanuele.

To the families who have welcomed me to their home for Epiphany visitations/Kolęda. Your hospitality and graciousness are greatly appreciated. You are a blessing.

To our Parish Chair Paul for installation of new smoke and CO2 detectors.

To all who continue to pray, sacrifice, and serve in Christian love and charity on behalf of our parish.

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

Lenten Retreat

Our Seniorate Lenten Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 14th at Sacred Heart & Holy Cross at 206 Main Street, New York Mills starting at 11am.

Please let Father Jim know if you are attending so Fr. Rafal's parish may make adequate preparations.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to attend as part of our Lenten Discipline.

Lenten Devotions

We encourage all parishioners to take part in at least one of our additional weekly devotions and so deepen their connection with our Lord and Savior in prayer this Lent. These devotions begin Friday, March 7th.

Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday in Lent at 3pm. **Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale** will be held each Sunday at 3pm.

Lenten Disciplines



There are various Lenten Disciplines we are called to engage in.

The first is fasting. As used in the context of our

Church, fasting means abstinence from meats. We are called to fast on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout Lent.

The other discipline of Lent, beside additional prayer as noted above in our article on Lenten Devotions, is charity. We encourage all to make a sacrifice of food items by donating such for those in need in our local community.

The following are suggestions for each week of Lent:

1st Week, FEELING FRUITY: Canned Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail, Pineapple or Applesauce, 100% Juice in Cans.

2nd Week, VEGGIE MANIA: Canned Corn, Canned Peas, Canned Beans, Canned Potatoes, Canned Sweet Potatoes.

3rd Week, DINNER IS SERVED: Canned Beef Stew, Canned Pork and Beans, Instant Potatoes/Stuffing Mix, Macaroni and Cheese, Spaghetti or other Pasta, Canned Spaghetti Sauce.

4th Week of Lent, SCHOOL NEEDS: Pencils and Pens, Folders and Notebooks, Crayons, Tape and Elmer's Glue.

Passion Week, BABY MAKES THREE: Disposable Diapers, Baby Wipes, Liquid Formula, Jars of Baby Food.

Holy Week, SPECIAL NEEDS DIET: Low Sodium Soups, Canned Fruit in Juice (not in syrup), Canned Tuna in Water, Low Sodium Crackers, Organic Applesauce.

Music Scholarship Applications



A special collection was accepted on January 25th to benefit the National United Choir's Music Scholarship Fund.

These scholarships are available to any parishioner of our denomination who is studying music. This is with the hope that as

these musicians continue to advance they will share their musical talent with the church. If any parishioner is studying music, consider applying for a scholarship. Applications and information are available through Cathy Bilinski at nucscholarship@gmail.com or online at <http://nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com>.

To date, the Church has provided 1,156 scholarships totaling \$367,285.

2026 Scholarship applications must be submitted no later than May 1st. Winners will be announced at Convo in the summer of 2026. See Fr. Jim for assistance in applying.

Prayer for St. Valentine's Day



"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love

one another." — John 13:34

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, You gave Saint Valentine the courage to witness to the gospel of Christ, even to the point of giving his life for it. Help us to endure all suffering for love of you, and to seek you with all our hearts; for you alone are the source of life and love. Grant that we may have the courage and love to be strong witnesses of your truth to our friends and family and to the

whole world. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Parish Ministry Is For You

We need people to step forward to take up various ministries in the parish, particularly as Lectors and adult Altar Servers. We are each called to leadership, so let those called step forward with courage.

Basket Social Around the Corner

It is time to get ready for our Annual Basket Social - April 26th. We really need your help to make this year's Social a success. Can you donate a basket, or two, or three? They don't have to be huge - anything will do. Through your love and charity we are able to touch the lives of others and maintain a vibrant faith community.

National Mission and Evangelism Conference

The Twenty-Fifth Mission & Evangelism Workshop will be held Friday, May 29th through Sunday, May 31st at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Manchester, New Hampshire. Let's get a group together to go. See Fr. Jim.

Some Churchy Reminders - Practice These

Over time, we as humans tend to forget or even neglect certain practices. The less we do them now, the less we will do them going forward. As such, we offer these reminders. Please use them to reacquaint yourself with proper church practices.

The Blessed Sacrament, the Body of Jesus, His flesh for us, is always reposed in the Tabernacle, right in the center of the high altar. This is why there is a red candle, the sanctuary lamp, above the tabernacle as a reminder of Christ's light with us.

Genuflection: When you enter church, prior to getting in the pew, please genuflect, bending the right knee. When leaving also genuflect. This is not just a sign of respect for our King, but also a form of prayer, adoration, worship, and humility. If unable to genuflect, a profound bow from the waist is a proper substitute. FYI - in olden days one genuflected on the left knee for kings and queens. The member of a military honor guard at a funeral will genuflect on his or her left knee when presenting the flag to a seated spouse or survivor.

Processions: When there is a procession in church or even outdoors, when the processional crucifix passes one is to bow their head. When the Blessed Sacrament passes whether in a monstrance, ostensorium, or ciborium, one is to kneel.

Exposition and Benediction: One is to kneel throughout since the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. When the priest or deacon makes the Sign of the Cross he does not say any word, sign he is not performing the blessing, but rather Jesus Himself is. One should make the Sign of the Cross at this blessing.

The Holy Name of Jesus: It is proper practice, and one long honored and practiced at our parish that at the Name of Jesus one bows their head. This is done when the Name of Jesus or the Holy Trinity is invoked. This again serves as a sign of respect and, for many, a way to 'bend the knee of the heart.' It is also a commendable practice of atonement for the many times the Holy Name is used in vain or disrespectfully.

God's Field

If you are subscribed to or interested in a subscription to the printed version of God's Field, it is now time to renew your

subscription. The subscription rate is \$58 per year (March through February). Send your check to God's Field, Polish National Catholic Church, 1006 Pittston Ave., Scranton, PA 18505-4109. We maintain printed copies in our parish library as well.



Parish Named a Veteran/ Military Friendly Congregation



Holy Name of Jesus has been added to the list of Veteran/Military Friendly Congregations (VMFC).

The wish of Veteran/Military Friendly Congregations is to come alongside veterans whenever they are in need of prayer and support.

Veteran Military Friendly Congregations (VMFC) is a program that promotes community, acceptance, and

support for Veterans and their families. Faith is a proven and fundamental component to healing, recovery, and the mental health well being of Veterans. As such, the mission of VMFC is to bring our servicemen and women closer to God and highlight the healing power of God. We work to provide crucial support and love to Veterans and their family members.

We stand ready to honor and recognize Veterans for their service; Pray for our Veterans and Service members; Advocate for Veterans so they receive the benefits they need and want; and Increase awareness of Veteran resources.

Our pastor, Fr. Jim Konicki, is a Chaplain in the Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and part of the Air Force's Total Force and a member of the Military Chaplains Association. Our Church's Military Vicar, Very Rev Robert F. Pleczkowski is a Brigadier General, USA Retired who is also the current President of the Military Chaplains Association.

If you wish to join the support team, please let Fr. Jim know.

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Septuagesima Sunday, Holy Mass at 10am ONLY with blessing of candles and throats. Lector: Larry Panfil. ANNUAL MEETING.	2 Solemnity of the Presentation. Fr. Jim at Seminary	3 Commemoration of St. Blaise. Fr. Jim at Seminary	4 Fr. Jim at Seminary	5 Holy Mass at Noon.	6 Holy Mass at Noon.	7
8 Sexagesima Sunday. Scout Sunday. SouperBowl Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski.	9 Daily Bread Food Pantry, 3pm until 5:30pm.	10 Holy Mass at Noon.	11 Holy Mass at Noon.	12 Holy Mass at Noon.	13 Holy Mass at Noon.	14 Women's Empowerment Meeting, 10am till Noon.
15 Quinquagesima Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois.	16 73rd Anniversary of the death of Prime Bishop S+P Franciszek Hodur. Commemoration – Bl. Francis Hodur. Holy Mass at Noon. Presidents' Day. Parish Committee Meets at 5pm.	17 Holy Mass at Noon.	18  Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass at Noon and 7pm with Blessing and Distribution of Ashes.	19 Holy Mass at Noon.	20  Stations of the Cross and Private Confessions at 3pm.	21
22 1st Sunday in Lent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil. Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale at 3pm.	23 Daily Bread Food Pantry, 3pm until 5:30pm.	24 Feast – St. Matthias, Apostle. Holy Mass at Noon.	25  Holy Mass at Noon.	26 Holy Mass at Noon.	27  Stations of the Cross and Private Confessions at 3pm.	28

EVENTS

**All of February - Outrageous
Valentine's Raffle**

March Upcoming

March 1st: 2nd Sunday of Lent. Holy
Mass at 10am ONLY. Annual Financial
and Budget Meeting.

Lenten Devotions

Stations of the Cross on Lenten Fridays
at 3pm.

Bitter Lamentations on Lenten Sundays
at 3pm.

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