

HOLY NAME OF JESUS
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NEWSLETTER
MARCH
2026



PUT ON THE NEW SELF, CREATED AFTER THE LIKENESS OF GOD IN TRUE
RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS.

The wonderfully reflective Season of Lent offers us that opportunity to do as St. Paul's Letter to the Church at Ephesus calls us to: *put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*

I had opportunity to reflect on the idea of newness on several levels.

The first is St. Paul's direct call based in Jesus' call to repentance. That is something we are all called to do during Lent.

We begin in our Lenten disciplines of fasting, increased prayer, reading of scripture and holy books, sacrificial giving, devotional practices, and more are part of the process of tearing away what is corrupt or caught up in improper (deceitful) desires.

We recognize that time for change is short. This month ends on Holy Tuesday, two days short of the Pascal Triduum. We need to get to becoming new.

Another area of newness is a sort-of what is old is new again. A wonderful group of women have stepped forward to reconstitute the Adoration Society. While we have always had the Adoration Society present in our parish, it was on the down low. Now we once again see them right up front, holding candles on high in adoration of our Savior. It is inspiring to see and experience at Holy Mass for their ministry calls us cognizance of Christ with us in the Blessed Sacrament at every Holy Mass.

The last area of newness (for now) is this Newsletter. You may have noticed some changes already like the removal of repetitious information concerning our monthly schedule. You will now find articles and reflections from our Parish Chairperson. Believe me, they are well worth the read. We will also include more information about our parish Societies.

We often fear newness and we do like stability. Frankly, I am a huge fan. That said, we must be willing to change and grow for that is what Lent is about. Blessings!!!

From the Parish Chair



At the annual parish budget meeting on March 1st, Father Jim spelled out in

detail our current parishes financial status. The bottom line up front is that the parish is operating at a significant shortfall in income to meet our expenses and we need your support to overcome this challenge to the financial health of our parish.

For 2026 we currently project income of \$86,209. Our projected expenses total \$94,432. This results in a shortfall of \$8,223. This budget assumes that we have fundraising income from the following sources:

Basket Social: \$7,650

Valentines Raffle \$1,570

Christmas Raffle: \$1,750

Food Sales: \$1,150

Total: \$12,120

These estimates are believed to be conservative, however, they are vital to our financial stability. Without these fundraisers, our shortfall would be over \$20,000. You are encouraged to support these fundraisers and promote them amongst your family and friends.

To help address our shortfall, the parish committee constantly reviews expenses and tries to find ways to minimize expenses in every way

possible. The best option to resolve the shortfall is a small increase in weekly support by each member. We currently have 42 members (which in most cases represents families). If each member gave \$4 additional each week, we would make up \$8,736.

I know that many of our members are on limited or fixed incomes and with rising costs of living, finding extra money is difficult. However, I strongly believe that we have a special beautiful parish and congregation and a church that we love. If you can find a way to help a little more, please be as generous as you can without jeopardizing your family's financial stability.

Have faith that as a congregation we will overcome this challenge as we have in the past. Through faith and good works, we will overcome.

Paul Zawistowski, Chairman

Our Lenten Journey Toward Holy Week



March 1st marks the 2nd Sunday of Lent.

Please continue in the faithfulness you have already shown by joining in

increased prayer each Friday as we gather to observe the

sacred tradition of Stations of the Cross at 3pm. Every Sunday we gather for Bitter Lamentations / Gorzkie Żale at 3pm. These observances help us better understand the loving devotion Jesus had for us. Walk with Him in these devotions so that we may rejoice with Him at Easter.

Lent is time devoted to repentance, a turning away from the ways, events, and situations that are harmful to us - and not just turning away from something - but turning toward God and the new way He desires we live and act.

Let us live Lent mindfully with prayer (Sunday and daily Holy Mass, Stations, Lamentations, private prayer, bible reading, our Seniorate Lenten retreat on Saturday, March 14th), sacrifice (fasting - no meat on Wednesdays and Fridays), penance (recollection of and turning away from sinful behaviors), and charity (Lenten giving).

We ask you to participate in our annual directed giving campaign (see below) as an act of charity and almsgiving to offer up food and other

things needful for those in our local community.

Passiontide begins March 22nd and Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 29th.

Please be attentive to our schedule and join us. There is truly no greater experience than to allow our brokenness to be filled by Jesus.

Directed Giving for Lent:



Place your donations of food by the Mary Altar.

2nd Week,

VEGGIE MANIA (March 1): Canned Corn, Canned Peas, Canned Beans, Canned Potatoes, Canned Sweet Potatoes.

3rd Week (March 8), 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 (March 15), SCHOOL NEEDS: Pencils and Pens, Folders and Notebooks, Crayons, Tape and Elmer's Glue.

Passion Week (March 22), BABY MAKES THREE: Disposable Diapers, Baby Wipes, Liquid Formula, Jars of

Baby Food.

Holy Week (March 29), SPECIAL NEEDS DIET: Low Sodium Soups, Canned Fruit in Juice (not in syrup), Canned Tuna in Water, Low Sodium Crackers, Organic Applesauce.

Seniorate Lenten Retreat



Our Seniorate Lenten Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 14th at Sacred Heart & Holy Cross Parish, 206 Main St,

New York Mills starting at 11am.

The retreat will include a Stations of the Cross and Holy Mass, Lunch, and a very brief Seniorate meeting.

Please let Father Jim know if you are attending (everyone is strongly encouraged to attend) so proper preparations of food and materials may be made.

Then Join us for Holy Week & Easter



We so look forward to seeing you for Holy Week as we join together in fellowship to pray, sacrifice, fast, increase

our charity, and forgive.

March 29th is Palm Sunday marking the start of Holy Week.

We reach the high point of the year's joy on Easter Sunday, April 5th, with our Solemn Resurrection Holy Mass at 8am and a second Holy Mass at 10am.

See the detailed Holy Week and Easter schedule in our April Newsletter.

Walk with Jesus in the days so as to rejoice with Him in the eternal celebration of His resurrection.

Our Annual Financial Meeting - March 1st

Our annual financial meeting will be held on Sunday, March 1st. Please attend and help decide on our financial future.

The Basket Social 2025

There is a sign-up sheet for baskets in the church and in the hall. Free baskets are available if you need them. This year's Basket Social (along with GREATEST BESTEST Polish Food) will be held on Sunday, April 26th at the spacious and beautiful South Schenectady Firehouse, 6 Old Mariaville Road, Schenectady.

Outrageous Valentine's Raffle Winners!!!



Congratulations to all who have won in our Outrageous Valentine's Raffle. Thank you to those who re-donated their winnings as a special blessing. These funds support youth participation in parish, diocesan, and National Church events.

The winners are: Kelly Supinski, Adam Konicki (3x), Dave Nowak, Len Opalka (3x), G. Horton, Blake Horton, Christine D'Amico, Howard Smith, Judy Horton, Theresa Carlton Kriuse, Kathy & Matt, Lisa Wilson (2x), John Zawistowski (\$100 winner), Shawn Panfil, Donna Panfil, Gayle Clas (2x), Tallulah Carlson, Sandy Tatlock, Pat Badovinac, Eileen Kupiec, Jeff Rejack, Michelle Zawistowski.

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



To all who attended our annual meeting. To all who ran for office and were elected. You honor the

sacrifice of our ancestors who built this democratic model of Church and keep their hope alive by your participation.

Thank you for your Souper Bowl Sunday generosity. The final amount is not yet available. It will be donated to Schenectady Shares and announced in the bulletin.

Thank you to our organist and choir director Liz Battaglia and Mike Emanuele for his musical stylings.

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

HARMONIA CHOIR



Our parish has a very rich and nationally recognized choral history. If you would like to join the Harmonia Choir, please do. See Fr. Jim or Liz Battaglia with any questions.

Milestones to Celebrate:

Birthdays

9 Marianna Zemken
13 Christopher Maliszewski
14 Paul Zebrowski Sr., Deborah Kusek
16 Steven James
18 Justyne Rios
19 Justin Smith, Stanley Podkulski, Danielle DeMidio
21 Susie Spooner, Gary Podbielski, Matthew Zembrzuski
23 Erin Pross
24 Amber Houser

26 Elizabeth Battaglia, Nylyse Rios,
Sarah Limmer
27 Skyler Dee
28 Frances Pawlowski
30 Susan Malinowski

Wishing you all many years!

Great 2026 Events - Plan to BE THERE

Please join in on these great Spring and Summer 2024 events.

- 78th Annual Bowling Tournament sponsored by Holy Trinity Parish in Woodlawn, NY (Buffalo area) will take place on May 15-17. We are returning to the old format of the tournament as was requested by many people. Information and registration here: <https://www.ymsrbowl.org/>
- May 29 - 31: Mission and Evangelism Workshop at St. Joseph's Parish Westfield, MA. Registration form are available from Fr. Jim and are also in God's Field at <https://pncc.org/2026/01/gods-field-2026/>
- June 17 - 20: Men's Retreat, Waymart, PA. See Fr. Jim or Paul.
- July 4 - 11: Kurs, Waymart, PA. See Fr. Jim.
- Youth Convocation (CONVO), August 3 - 7 at Camp Monadnock, Dublin, NH. See Fr. Jim.
- Annual Golf Tournament - date and location TBD.

Scholarships and Stipends

PNCC Stipends: Now is the time to start submitting college stipend applications to the Education and Youth Commission of the PNCC. The deadline for submission is May 15th (please note all applications must be postmarked by this date).

Applications can be found in the February issue of God's Field at https://pncc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/feb_2026_gods_field_online.pdf

If there are any questions or concerns, please see Fr. Jim.

National United Choirs Music Scholarship: Applications for the NUC Music Scholarship are currently available on the website, www.nucmusicscholarship.weebly.com. The deadline for applying is May 1st. If there are any questions please see Fr. Jim or contact the scholarship administrator at nucscholarship@gmail.com.

CarePortal - Grab a Mop

When adversity strikes, the CarePortal Team doesn't stop — they mop!

What happens when adversity strikes the CarePortal Team at Holy Name of Jesus?



They don't cancel the delivery. They grab mops.

Our team was scheduled to deliver a couch to a local mom in need. Just minutes before arrival, she called in a panic — her toilet had overflowed and flooded her apartment.

When the team arrived, the situation was worse than expected. The entire bathroom and nearly half of the living room were flooded. Thankfully, the landlord — who lives across the street — had just shut off the valve to stop the overflow. But the mess remained.

Without hesitation, the CarePortal team (Paul and Jeff) jumped in. Mops. Towels. Hands and hearts ready to serve. Together, they worked to clear the water and restore order to the chaos.

Only after the floors were dry did they carry in the couch and carefully place it on the safe, dry section of the living room.

Mission accomplished.

But more than that — dignity restored.

Hope delivered.

Love in action.

This is what CarePortal looks like in real life.

We are so grateful for the faithful responders at Holy Name of Jesus who remind us that serving vulnerable families isn't always tidy — but it is always worth it.

We could also use more volunteers

to help. See Paul Zawistowski.

God's Field / Rola Boża

Did you know you can access all issues of God's Field online at <https://pncc.org/godsfield/>. There are also copies in the parish hall. Subscriptions are available for \$58 per subscription year (March through February). Send a check to the God's Field, 1006 Pittston Ave., Scranton, PA 18505-4109.

New Deacons Coming Soon



We have lots of joyful news for this late winter and spring.

Several of our seminarians will be Ordained to the Holy Order of Deacons on the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thursday, March 19th.

Please continue to pray for those to be ordained, David, Joel, Jonathan, and Todd and for a continued increase in vocations to the priesthood and diaconate.

OPEN TO ME THE DOORS OF REPENTANCE

There is a beautiful Orthodox Hymn sung at this time of the year: "Open To Me The Doors Of Repentance" It is short, the lyrics as follows:

Open to me the doors of repentance O Lifegiver; for my spirit rises early to pray towards Thy Holy Temple, bearing the temple of my body all defiled. But in Thy Compassion purify me by the loving kindness of Thy Mercy. Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lead me on the paths of Salvation O Mother of God, for I have covered my soul in shameful sins and have wasted my life in lazy acts. But by your intercessions, deliver me from all impurity. Have mercy on me O God according to Thy Great Mercy and according to the multitude of Thy Compassions blot out my transgressions.

When I think of the many evil things I have done, wretched I am, I tremble at the fearful day of Judgement, but trusting in Thy loving kindness, like David I cry to Thee. Have mercy on me O God, have mercy on me O God, Have mercy on me O God according to Thy great Mercy.



The picture drawn here is of one who seeks God, who is self-aware of their failings, and the true darkness those failings entail. It shows that person approaching the Temple of God – the Holy Church – and with the help of our Blessed Mother’s intercession placing their full reliance on God’s mercy.

As we continue our Lenten journey this month let us rely on our true Lifegiver. We pray that He open to us the Doors of Repentance so that with the help of His mercy we may be made new and arrive at Easter reflecting the image of what God has called us to be – no longer ash, but light.

Getting to know the ANS...

The Adoration Society, known throughout the Church as the ANS (from the original Polish name: Adoracja Najświętszego Sakramentu) was founded by our organizing bishop, the Most Reverend Francis Hodur in April 1897. It is the oldest lay Organization in the Church. With courage and foresight Bishop Hodur elevated the role of women in the Church, giving them a prominent place in the liturgy, when women’s place of equality was not fully established in society at large.

The main duty of members of the Society is to adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The first pew in the church is always reserved for members of the Society.

By their bearing this light, the members of the Society are not only bearing witness to Christ’s presence, but, also, reminding the congregation of Christ’s teaching, *“You are the light of the world. Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”* (Matthew 5:14-16)

March

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	 4	5	 6	7
2nd Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY. Annual Financial Meeting Lector: Joe Kaczynski. Bitter Lamentations, 3pm.	Daily Bread Food Pantry 3 until 6pm.	Holy Mass at Noon.	Commemoration - St. Casimir. Holy Mass at Noon.	Holy Mass at Noon.	Stations of the Cross at 3pm.	Pierogi Making, Pierogi and Soup Sale.
Day Light Savings. 8	9	10	 11	12	 13	14
Solemnity of the Institution. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. Bitter Lamentations, 3pm.	Daily Bread Food Pantry 3 until 6pm.	Holy Mass at Noon.	Holy Mass at Noon.	Holy Mass at Noon.	Stations of the Cross at 3pm.	Women's Meeting, 10am. Seniorate Lenten Retreat
15	16	17	 18	19	 20	21
4th Sunday of Lent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil. Bitter Lamentations, 3pm.	Daily Bread Food Pantry 3 until 6pm. Fr. Jim at Seminary	Fr. Jim at Seminary	Fr. Jim at Seminary	Solemnity – St. Joseph, Spouse of the B.V.M. Holy Mass with Diaconal Ordination at St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA.	Stations of the Cross at 3pm.	
22	23	24	 25	26	 27	28
Passion Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski. Bitter Lamentations, 3pm.	Daily Bread Food Pantry 3 until 6pm. Parish Committee Meets at 5pm.	Feast – St, Gabriel, Archangel. Holy Mass at Noon.	Solemnity – Annunciation of the BVM. Holy Mass at Noon.	Holy Mass at Noon.	Stations of the Cross at 3pm	
29	30	31				
Palm Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon with Distribution of Palms. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. Bitter Lamentations, 3pm.	Holy Monday Daily Bread Food Pantry 3 until 6pm.	Holy Tuesday Holy Mass of Christm at St. Stanislaus Cathedral, Scranton, PA.				
Upcoming in April		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2: Maundy Thursday • April 3: Good Friday • April 4: Holy Saturday • April 5: Solemnity of the Resurrection (Easter) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 26: Good Shepherd Sunday, BASKET SOCIAL 	

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