

**HOLY NAME OF JESUS**  
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH, PNCC**  
**1040 PEARL STREET**  
**SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12303-1846**  
**PARISH AND HALL: 518-372-1992**  
**REV. JIM KONICKI: 518-522-0944**  
**ON THE WEB: [WWW.HOLYNAMENCC.ORG](http://WWW.HOLYNAMENCC.ORG)**

# NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY

# 2025



WHERE THERE IS NO GUIDANCE, A PEOPLE FALLS, BUT IN AN ABUNDANCE OF COUNSELORS THERE IS SAFETY.

**A**s the new year begins it behoves us to take account of our lives.

Certainly, there is personal stuff we should address. It may be our weight, health issues, and so on. Our concerns also extend to our families - am I spending enough time and paying attention to their needs. This includes the parish family and its needs as well.

All of these concerns add up, don't they? They become a sort of whirlwind which appears impossible. How do I succeed?

Recently, I attended a class given by a former Marine pilot who had served in Iraq. His duty station was the Al-Anbar province. This was the worst place on earth. It was so bad that most, including American commanders, wrote it off as unsalvageable and unwindable; there was no way out.

The overall campaign took four years. 1,335 Americans were killed, 8,205 injured.

When one faces a significant challenge as the U.S. did in Al-Anbar, or even our own personal

whirlwinds, we need to search deeply for keys to success.

In the end Al-Anbar became a success for its people because leaders took initiative to succeed. But, who were those leaders?

It is not as many suspect, a few top people, but rather a wholesale change in dynamic - the key - everyone had to be a leader.

For our Church and for our parish let us take these lessons to heart. Each of us is called to be a leader in every situation. Each of us is called to learn leadership - because it is a learned trait, not just something that happens (and we will focus on that in the year ahead).

The first key is to recognize and focus on our why. If our why is focused inwardly, if all is about me, we will be unhappy and fail; we will miss on the commandment of love. If our why is focused on others, on our fellow parishioners, church members, and community we can be anywhere, in any role, and be truly happy. Let us then take on leadership in this new year and so overcome the whirlwind with victory.

---

## DOING LOTS OF GOOD

---

Holy Name of Jesus continues as a member of the CarePortal project, we work in partnership to help our neighborhood through the Daily Bread Food Pantry, we offer gifts of food, financial support, and clothing to those in need, and we are a place of welcome for all who are caught up in the whirlwind of life.

Let us thank God for the gifts He has given us so that we may continue to lead is serving others.

---

## Thank YOU for Your Generous Food and Clothing Offerings

---

Thank you to all who donated so generously. 203 pounds of food was delivered to Schenectady Community Ministries.

Branch 56 of the YMSofR will be closing out its work for the National YMSofR clothing drive as of January 6th. This event involves all branches of the Church's YMSofR in a friendly competition for good. Based on data to date, we have been exceptionally generous to those in need in our community. We will report the total number of items next month.

---

## SOUPERBOWL OF CARING

---



Over the past 23 years our parish has raised over \$3,000 as part of the SouperBowl of

Caring effort. This year's collection will be held on February 11th. The soup pot is out. Please continue your generosity in this worthy effort which helps Schenectady Community Ministries in feeding the hungry.

---

## Leaders Needed!

---



Our annual congregational meeting is planned for Sunday, February 2nd along with the

election of a new Parish Committee. If necessary, we will also offer the ability to participate virtually via Zoom.

As we prepare to meet, pray for God's continued care and grace for all who serve or intend to serve in positions of leadership. We really need you to lead in this.

**THIS IS IMPORTANT: WE NEED YOUR LEADERSHIP. Several of our positions will be vacant and we need you, or someone you know, to serve. Please write down your or their name along with the office (Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Secretary, Trustee) you/they would like to run for and drop them in the collection basket in an envelope marked nominations. You can also see Donna.**

Anyone may attend the annual meeting to share in the information provided, but please note that only paid parish members may cast a

vote or run for office.

---

## Membership and Dues

---

\$  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
PAY YOUR  
DUES**

Membership requires the payment of annual dues which support the larger Church and our Diocese. Certain benefits of the parish,

including burial in our cemeteries, are reserved to members.

Dues are \$125 per year for each adult member regardless of age.

Pay your dues with joy and thank God that we have our Church.

If anyone faces such severe financial difficulties that \$2.40 per person per week is unaffordable, please see Fr. Jim privately.

---

## Envelopes and Tax Statements

---

God bless you for your generosity and support of our parish in 2024. Because of you and your sacrifice we have been greatly blessed. Donation envelopes for 2025 are available in the back of the church. Please take a packet home and avail yourself of these envelopes in the coming year. Doing so allows the parish to provide you with a statement for accounting and income tax purposes.

Annual statements for income tax purposes for last year will also be available this month.

---

## Epiphany Visitations - Kolęda - House Blessings

---

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is celebrated on Monday, January 6th.

If you would like your home blessed in the traditional

Epiphany home blessing between January 6th and March 4th (a much longer period of time this year), please see Fr. Jim to make an appointment.



---

## The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle

---

Make February 2025 – the month of love – a month to win in more ways than one!

This effort supports the youth of our parish particularly in their attendance at this year's Kurs and next year's CONVO.

We need your support to give our young people a great beginning in 2025. As God has told us, starting our children off right in the knowledge of the Lord will cause them to bear much good fruit in their lives.

Each ticket for the Outrageous Valentine's Raffle gives the purchaser a chance to win up to \$1,180. The Outrageous Valentine's Raffle will include drawings for \$40

daily prizes and a \$100 daily prize on Valentine's Day. The raffle is drawn each day of the month, giving the ticket holder **28 chances to win!** Winning tickets are returned to the raffle bucket, making them eligible to win again and again.

We ask that you sell them and return completed stubs to the parish by February 2nd so that all tickets may be entered. Tickets cost only \$10 each. Feel free to contact Fr. Jim or Linda DePaula with any questions or to get more tickets if needed.

We thank you for your support and wish you good luck!

---

## The Holy Name of Jesus

---



January 2nd marks the annual celebration of the Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus.

Our parish was established and dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. Let us always honor and praise the Holy Name of Jesus in all we do – in our witness to His Holy Name and our mutual affection, fellowship, love, and charity and to NEVER take His Name in vain.

---

**THANK YOU, MERCI,  
DZIĘKUJE, ĀČIŪ, GRACIAS,  
MAHALO, GRAZIE!**

---

**There is so much to be thankful**

**for.** To all who joined in to decorate the parish so beautifully for Christmas and who participated in our Vigil/Wigilia dinner.

Thank you to all who attended the Holy Masses of Advent, Rorate Holy Mass on Wednesday mornings, the Masses of Christmas Day. Thank you to Liz, Christina, and Victoria for your beautiful music unto the Baby Jesus.

*Thank  
You*

Thank you Christine for your representation in ministry, bringing in the Baby Jesus.

Thank you to those who have worked so tirelessly over the past year: our parish officers and committee members, our jurors, nomination committee members, members of the ANS, YMSofR, and choir, Liz Battaglia, Mike Emanuele, Christina Supinski, and Victoria Konicki for service in music, our lectors, and Andrea, Paul Z., Pete, Mike, and all who cared for the maintenance and upkeep of the parish facilities (often extraordinarily) as well as Pete for taking care of things at the cemetery and Joe for mowing at both cemeteries. To Liz, Denise, Lauren, and Linda F. Who helped with Altar and Sanctuary care. To Donna for her 20 years of work on the Basket Social, Joe for his work on the annual Vigil Raffle and Linda for her work on the Valentine's raffle.

Thank you to all who gave of their

time and treasure to build up the ministry and community of our parish, Seniorate, and the wider Church, most especially Lauren, Jeff, and Dorothy for your food pantry work and to Lauren for all her help in various ministries.

A special thank you to our youth and their parents/grandparents for your dedication and hard work and participation in Kurs.

May God bless and reward you for all you have offered and done!

---

## **Milestones to Celebrate**

---

### Birthdays

1 Jon Linscott  
3 Logan Slezak  
4 Zach Bixler, Zachary Prusky,  
Courtney Carroll  
5 Derrick D'Amico  
8 Alex D'Amico, Lawrence Panfil,  
Christine DeCocco  
11 Cyndie Williams  
14 Karen DeMidio  
18 Darian Topolski  
22 Catherine Martucci  
23 Christina Naumowicz, Laurie Lee  
Woodworth  
25 Richard Okonsky, Adam Konicki  
26 Cadence Smith  
27 Eric Kaminski  
29 Judi Horton

**Wishing you all many years!**

---

## **Planning Ahead**

---

Sunday Holy Masses at 10am and Noon unless otherwise noted. Daily Holy Mass at Noon Tuesday through

Friday. The Daily Bread Food Pantry is held Mondays from 3pm to 5:30pm

- Jan. 1: Solemnity of the Circumcision: Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 2: Solemnity: Holy Name – our Parish Feast – Holy Mass at Noon.
- Jan. 6: Solemnity of the Epiphany of our Lord: Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense at Noon.
- Jan. 11: Women's Empowerment Group, 10am till Noon.
- Jan. 12: Solemnity - Baptism of the Lord: Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 18: Feast –St. Peter's Chair in Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins.
- Jan. 19: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Parish Committee Meeting at 6pm.
- Jan. 25: Feast - Conversion of St. Paul. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends.
- Jan. 26: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Music Scholarship Sunday. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon.
- Feb. 2: Solemnity of the Presentation - Holy Mass at 10am only with Blessing of Candles and throats. Annual Parish Meeting.
- Feb. 16: The Pre—Lenten Season begins.

---

## Music Scholarship Sunday

---



Sunday, January 26th is Music Scholarship Sunday. Our parish has been blessed with great musicians and aspiring musicians.

Scholarships are available to both youth and adults. 2025 scholarship applications are available now at <https://nucmusicsscholarship.weebly.com>. God bless those who add musical beauty to the worship of God.

---

## IMPORTANT: Upcoming

---

There are a lot of great events ahead of us for 2025. Please take note of the following and stay tuned for updates:

- Pre-Lent: February 16 to March 2.
- Scout Sunday: February 2.
- Ash Wednesday: March 5.
- Palm Sunday: April 13.
- Easter: April 20.
- 24th Conference of Scholars: Scranton, PA. April 26.
- Bowling Tournament: May 16 - 18, Hamtramck, MI.
- Mission and Evangelism Workshop: Denver, CO. May 30 - June 1.
- YMSofR Men's Retreat: Waymart, PA. June 18 - 21.
- Kurs: Waymart, PA. July 4 - 12.

- National United Choirs Convention and Workshop, McKeesport, PA. July 30 - August 1.
  - YMSofR Golf Tournament: TBD.
  - YMSofR Convention: TBD.
- 

## ***The BASKET SOCIAL***

---

The annual **Basket Social** will be held on **Sunday, April 27th** at the South Schenectady Fire House, 6 Old Mariaville Rd, Schenectady. This beautiful and very large venue comfortably accommodates all our guests.

Please consider donating one or more baskets for the raffle that supports our parish. Polish Food will be available too. Stay tuned.

---

## ***Has it only been 1700 Years?***

---



2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea held in 325.

The Church, faced with mounting heresy against the identity of

Jesus, came together to not just condemn the heresies, but to also set forth the Symbol of Faith, the

Holy Creed which we recite at every Holy Mass. The Creed joins us together with all orthodox Christians in a declaration of what we believe.

The Creed, established at Nicaea has been kept in-tact by our Holy Church as well as the Orthodox Churches since 325. That is 1700 years of consistency in our belief.

Throughout 2025 we will be celebrating the Creed. The Church will hold special events marking the occasion and providing teaching on the Creed. Stay tuned for these excellent events in celebration of the Symbol of Faith.

---

## **SEMINARIANS, SEMINARY, AND YOUR HELP**

---

We have been regularly praying for the gift of vocations and God is answering our pleas. We have six men in formation for the priesthood and several on track for entry into the Savonarola Theological Seminary. Others regularly contact Fr. Jim, who is the National Vocations Director, seeking information. This is indeed a great blessing and we should give thanks.

As you may be aware, the seminary building was in significant need to updating and repair. Pipes were leaking, the restrooms and showers were unusable, the furnace/boiler dating to 1968 is shot, old cast iron stack pipes needed replacement.

We have undertaken these projects in a phased approach.

The YMSofR Central Committee put together a team to clean out the seminary. Thank you to Nick K, Nick C., Kevin, Jeremy, and the Stankowski men for your hard work.

In the weeks and month ahead the library will be re-cataloged, the plumbing fixed, the bathroom and shower redone, and the boiler replaced.

Other YMSofR branches and parishes have reached out to help through fundraisers and financial donations, as well as in-kind work. We foresee parishes and dioceses who will benefit from having these men in ministry also stepping up to help.



Let us consider what we might do as well. This can be discussed at the annual meeting,

February 2nd. Your personal generosity is also definitely needed.

Donations can be sent to: The Savonarola Theological Seminary Fund, c/o The Office of the Prime Bishop, 1006 Pittston Ave., Scranton, PA 18505-4109.

---

## **Happy 2025!**

---

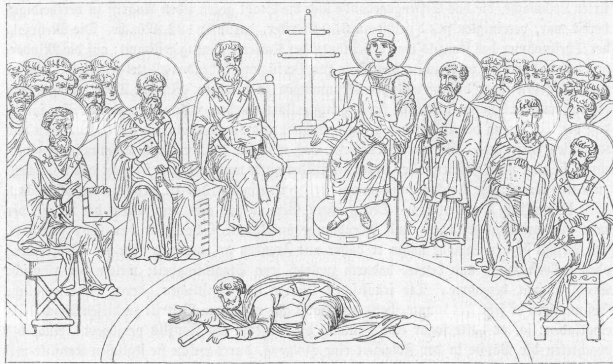
On behalf of Fr. Jim, his family, and our parish Committee we wish you all the best for 2025!



---

## The Symbol of Faith

---



*I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father.*

*Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary AND BECAME MAN.*

*For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.*

*On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life Who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.*

*I believe in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.*



# January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Solemnity of the Circumcision, Holy Mass at Noon.	2 Solemnity of the Holy Name of Jesus – Parish Feast. Holy Mass at Noon.	3	4
5 Solemnity of the Holy Family. Holy Mass, 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil.	6 Solemnity of the Epiphany - Holy Mass with blessing of chalk, charcoal, and incense, Noon Daily Bread Food Pantry 3-6om.	7 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dziecątka Jezus.	8 Holy Mass at Noon	9 Holy Mass at Noon	10 Holy Mass at Noon	11 Women’s Empowerment Group. 10am till Noon.
12 Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Joe Kaczynski.	13 Martin Luther King Day. Daily Bread Food Pantry 3-6om. Parish Committee Meeting at 6pm.	14 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dziecątka Jezus.	15 Holy Mass at Noon	16 Holy Mass at Noon	17 Holy Mass at Noon	18 St. Peter’s Chair at Antioch. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins.
19 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois.	20 Daily Bread Food Pantry 3-6om.	21 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dziecątka Jezus.	22 Holy Mass at Noon	23 Holy Mass at Noon	24 Holy Mass at Noon	25 Conversion of St. Paul Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends.
26 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. <b>Music Scholarship Sunday.</b> Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Larry Panfil.	27 Daily Bread Food Pantry 3-6om.	28 Holy Mass at Noon. Koronka do Praskiego Dziecątka Jezus.	29 Holy Mass at Noon	30 Holy Mass at Noon	31 Holy Mass at Noon	

## EVENTS

### Starting Jan. 7th:

Blessing of Homes Begins – See or Call Fr. Jim. to schedule.

### February Upcoming

- Feb. 2nd – Solemnity of the Presentation. Holy Mass at 10am ONLY with Blessing of Candles.  
Annual Parish Meeting.

### All of February - Outrageous Valentine’s Raffle

**Holy Name of Jesus**  
**National Catholic Church – P.N.C.C.**  
1040 Pearl Street  
Schenectady, NY 12303-1846

**FIRST CLASS**

We thank God for:

Address Correction Requested  
Return Postage Guaranteed

