

# GOOD Dzień dobry! DAY!

A newsletter published several times a year for the parishioners and friends of  
**St. Casimir's Parish, Polish National Catholic Church**  
268 Lakeview Avenue —Lowell, Massachusetts, 01850-2313

OCTOBER 2015

VOL 5 NO. 4

## 2015: A YEAR OF REGENERATION

### Spirit of Brotherly Love is Alive and Well

The Second Sunday of September was designated by the Polish National Catholic Church as the Solemnity of Brotherly Love.

At Mass on September 13, every member of the congregation received a brochure containing some history and several thoughts for reflection regarding the designation. A portion of the brochure contents is reproduced here.

#### SOLEMNITY

A Solemnity is a day of great importance in the Church commemorating significant events pertaining to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, All Saints, the Trinity, and the Holy Spirit. Solemnities that are unique to the Polish National Catholic Church include the Solemnity of Brotherly Love, the Solemnity of the Christian Family, the Solemnity of Humble Shepherds and the Solemnity of the Institution of the Polish National Catholic Church.

#### SOLEMNITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE

In 1897 Father Hodur and a group of people organized the first Polish National Catholic Church, Saint Stanislaus Parish, in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

As the years went by Father Hodur was dismayed by the way others were mistreating members of our Church. He was sometimes saddened by the manner in which some Church members responded to this injustice.

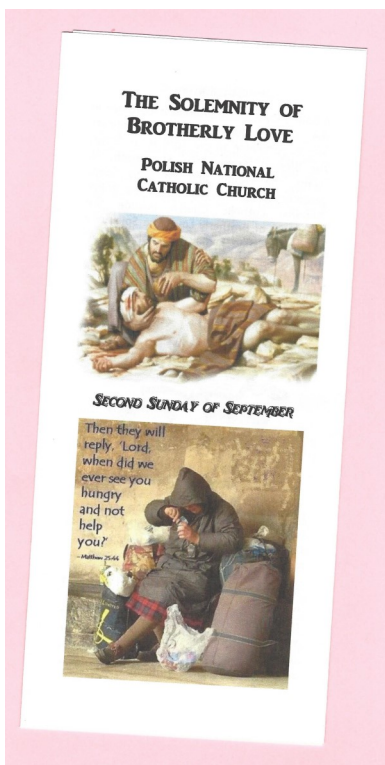
He was disappointed because the members of the Church were not following the Great Commandments. Father Hodur wanted the faithful to follow Christ and His teachings.

In 1904 the First General Synod of the Polish National Catholic Church was held in Scranton, PA and in 1906 the First General Synod was reconvened to complete it. At these gatherings he proposed that we establish the Solemnity of Brotherly Love to be commemorated annually on the second Sunday in September as a reminder to all Polish National Catholics to be kind and loving to each other and to all people. Everyone at the Synod agreed and the Solemnity of Brotherly Love has been celebrated in the Polish National Catholic Church ever since. It is a day to remind us to love one another and to love all people.

#### THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

The Greatest Commandments are taken from the story where Jesus is teaching and is asked by a Pharisee, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Jesus' answer was, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'" (Matt. 22:34-40)

Some material taken from "The Solemnities of the PNCC" produced by the National School of Christian Living Commission of the PNCC, 2007



## Busy Season Coming at Casimir's



Dear Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka,

The days of summer are gone but not forgotten. Now our thoughts are focused on the busy season before us. There is much excitement and anticipation among the parishioners as they prepare for the events that will take place in the coming months.

First in line is our Polish Food Fest which will take place shortly after you receive this newsletter on October 24. We sold and served more food last year than ever before and we are anticipating a larger crowd this year. We are grateful for your support, Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka and certainly look forward to seeing you again. Come, bring your friends, and enjoy the best Polish food in the area.

And of course, there is no better way to welcome the Christmas holiday season than to spend an evening with friends, old and new, sharing oplatki and warm greetings at our annual Homecoming Dinner. This event is often sold out but we always manage to squeeze in an extra seat or two. Keep the date open, Saturday, December 5. Contact any parishioner to reserve space for you and your friends.

We are pleased to have added several new parishioners this year, and continue to support our growth committee in its efforts to inform the public about St. Casimir's and the Polish National Catholic Church.

**A SPECIAL NOTE: on Sunday, October 18 at 10:00 AM, our Holy Trinity Cathedral will assemble all active PNCC bishops to celebrate its 100th anniversary Holy Mass . A special reception brunch will follow in the Cathedral Auditorium, everyone is invited and at 1 PM a banquet will be held at Puritan Backroom. Contact the office at 603-668-5087 for more information**

*Rev. Andrzej Tenus*

### Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka,

Every Sunday after Mass, parishioners and friends gather at the Parish Center for coffee, snacks and fellowship.

*...Please join us.*

## St. Casimir's Parish PNCC

Sunday Mass 10:00 A.M. Daily Mass 9:00 A.M.

Contact us via email at: [st.casimir@stcasimirpncc.com](mailto:st.casimir@stcasimirpncc.com)

or Call any of the following:

Pastor Rev. Andrzej Tenus: 978-453-0742

Parish Co-Chairmen

Robert Hunt: 978-397-8161 or Robert Quirbach: 603-672-5649

Parish Secretary Janice Klimczak: 978-452-9646

Public Relations JoAnn Menzia: 978-459-2017

### Annual Homecoming December 5

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka, the Christmas holiday season will soon be upon us and one very nice way to begin the celebration is by attending St. Casimir's Annual Homecoming Dinner. This gathering is described as the most popular social event of our parish season.

Originally referred to as our annual Christmas party the homecoming theme was adopted when many who attended found it to be an excellent way to enjoy a holiday meal, along with and a few traditional customs, like sharing oplatki, with friends, both old and new. There is always a surprise or two.

The program, which includes musical entertainment by the parish youth group and a Christmas carol sing along in English and in Polish, will definitely put you in the Christmas spirit.

Come and join with us Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka, on Saturday, December 5, to to share and celebrate all that is the Joy and Spirit of Christmas.

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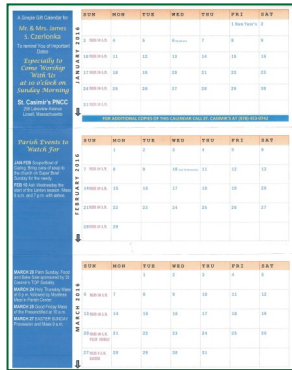
### A Free Gift For You

We hope you will enjoy receiving our Dzień dobry newsletter, Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka and the small gift that you received with this issue.

The gift, a six-month appointment calendar, personalized with your name, is our way of saying thank you for the favorable comments we have received about our newsletter.

The calendar covers six months, January through June 2016. A calendar for the next six months July through December is being planned for our May or June issue.

We hope you will find this gift to be useful in helping you to keep track of your very busy schedule.



### Monthly Children's Mass Focuses on Musical Participation by All

For nearly two years, St. Casimir's parish has designated the third Sunday of each month as a Children's Mass featuring the voices of the children of the parish singing one or two selections, with musical accompaniment by Fr. Tenus on the guitar.

The program is designed to generate an increased interest and participation in the celebration of Holy Mass by our young people while at the same time adding an entertainment quality to the service. The entire congregation in the audience are encouraged to sing along in support of the children



▲ Fr. Tenus provides the music while Janice Klimczak provides a visual aid to assist in remembering the words at a recent Children's Mass. Several adults joined the group.

◀ Karina Tenus and Ian Ford-Hunt deliver the scriptural readings before the Gospel at a recent Contemporary Children's Mass.

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### ANS Sisters Exude Brotherly Love Theme



Paper quilts made by ANS ladies with the theme Love One Another. Below left is the theme cake at the reception/coffee hour. The picture on the right shows the flier about an ANS community service project (collecting toiletries for temporarily homeless girls of Bachand Hall) and samples of our hugs and kisses bags that were distributed by our young



people to those who attended the Brotherly Love Mass on Sept. 13.



### Thank You to...



18 Hurd Street, Lowell, MA 01852  
691 Rogers Street, Lowell, MA 01852

For your generous donation to support the goal and objectives of

**St. Casimir's Growth Committee**

Watch for our progress in the coming months!

### ATM Locations

- 15 Hurd Street, Lowell, MA 01852
- 691 Rogers Street, Lowell, MA 01852
- Gateway II Professional Building  
151 Warren Street Entrance Lobby
- Elliot's Famous Hot Dogs  
37 Elliott St, Lowell, MA 01852
- Lowell Memorial Auditorium  
50 East Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA 01852
- Hannaford Supermarkets  
777 Rogers St, Lowell, MA 01852  
301 Pleasant St, Braintree, MA 01826  
150 Bridge St, Pelham, NH 03076

### Thank You to

### McKenna-Ouellette Funeral Home

327 Hildreth St. Lowell MA 01850  
Tel. 978-458-6183

For your generous donation to support the goal and objectives of

**St. Casimir's Growth Committee**



## St. Casimir's ANS Summer Social

On Sunday afternoon August 16, twelve members of St. Casimir's ANS Society gathered at the home of Janice Klimczak for some food, fun and fellowship. Despite the scorching temperature outside, everyone was cool as cucumbers in air-conditioned splendor as they greeted one another and munched appetizers and drank cold beverages. Each member made something delicious for the buffet - salad, delicate sandwiches, hot dishes and dessert.

After lunch a business meeting was held. The focus of the meeting was on how St. Casimir's ANS could help celebrate the Solemnity of Brotherly Love on September 13. The members decided that they would make paper quilts using greeting cards and Bible verses. These quilts will be placed at various locations around the church emphasizing the concept of Brotherly Love. Phyllis Hunt will be the group leader for the project. Also, all who attend Mass on the Feast of Brotherly Love will receive a token of remembrance made by ANS sisters: a HUGS/KISSES candy bag tied with ribbon and tagged with a verse from Scripture. Youth of the parish will be asked to distribute the candy bags as people leave the church. Following the Mass of Brotherly Love, everyone will be invited to a brunch at the Parish Center served by ANS members.

The last item discussed was the adoption of a special project to mark Regeneration 2015. The members agreed to collect items for the Girls of Bachand Hall in Lowell, MA. This program is run by Sister Cecile, a local nun. It gives young women a place to live safely as they finish their education and seek jobs. Some of the young women at Bachand Hall are homeless or out of foster care because they have reached a certain age. Parishioners of St. Casimir's will be asked to contribute to this cause. Kick off for this project is September 6 and will continue until mid-October.

When the meeting ended, members made a Prayer Blanket for an ANS sister who is in nursing home care. The Prayer Blanket was blessed at Mass by Fr. Tenu on August 23 and the congregation had the opportunity to touch the blanket and add their prayers.

With plans made and the meeting adjourned, attendees continued to have fun and enjoy each other's company. There was a game of BINGO, picture-taking, joke prizes and lots of laughter. Before departing the Summer Social, St. Casimir's ANS members sang "God Be With You Til We Meet Again".



## Everybody's Favorite Polish Food

On Sale at St. Casimir's Parish Center

270 Lakeview Avenue—Lowell, MA

Every Sunday. After Mass—11:00 A.M. until 12:00

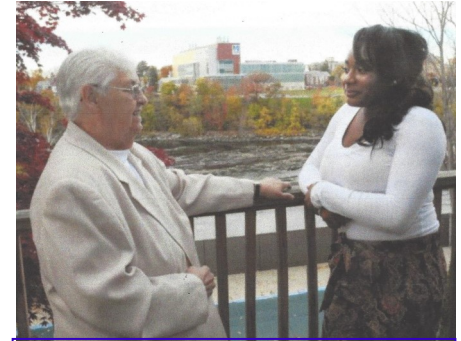


Lovingly prepared by the Parishioners of St. Casimir's Parish to generate income for the exclusive use of St. Casimir's Polish National Catholic Church of Lowell, Massachusetts For consumption by the purchaser—Resale is Prohibited

## ANS to Collect Items for Girls of Bachand Hall

On August 16, the ladies of St. Casimir's ANS society, meeting at the home of Janice Klimczak for their annual summer social agreed to a plan to collect items for the young ladies and residents at Bachand Hall in Lowell.

With the merger of the three hospitals in Lowell over the past two decades, the former residence of the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa (SCO) who formerly staffed St. Joseph Hospital needed a mission. Since 2005, in collaboration with the Department of Children and Families the Sisters at Bachand Hall welcomed young women who have aged out of foster care but still need a supportive environment before launching out on their own. The young women, students at the nearby University of Massachusetts-Lowell or at Middlesex Community College or in a career-training program; these women journey toward their independence.



Bachand Hall Administrator Sister Cecille Cloutier, chats with a resident overlooking the Merimack River.

The project is scheduled to run until October 18. Some items requested include shampoo, toothpaste and brushes, body wash soap and lotion, deodorant, small pack facial tissue, hair spray.

A box for donations has been placed in a box located in the church or call JoAnn Menzia 978-459-2017 for more information.

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## Growth Committee; A Progress Report

Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka. Since the announcement of its organization, St. Casimir's growth committee has received donations of more than \$2,700 towards its minimum budget goal of \$5,000.

A portion of the funds was used to acquire a new laser printer used to produce this newsletter and a variety of promotional brochures and documents. Two sets of brochures have been mailed to a list of more than 150 area residents describing our church and inviting them to visit us. A greeter program has been initiated and has welcomed several new visitors.

Future planned efforts include some form of print media advertising and the expansion of electronic and video communications on our web site and livestream video. A visual presentation is scheduled to debut at the Polish Food Fest.

All designed to present information about St. Casimir's Parish and the Polish National Catholic Church.

Thank You to...



**JEANNE D'ARC**  
CREDIT UNION  
*we share a common thread*

658 Merrimack St,  
Lowell, MA 01854  
(978) 452-5001

For your generous donation to support the goal and objectives of

**St. Casimir's Growth Committee**

Watch for our progress in the coming months!

**St. Casimir's Parish  
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015**

*Throughout the year: Coffee hour following Mass.*

*Also throughout the year, Youth of the parish will receive useful items (school supplies, toiletries, games) for Operation Christmas Child, then fill and prepare shoe boxes as gifts and arrange shipment and distribution to children who are less fortunate.*

- October 3-Blessing of pets
- October 24-Polish Food Fest, 10 am-3 pm
- November-Hat and Mitten drive
- November 1-All Souls Service, 1 pm, Parish cemetery
- November 8-Youth Group Dinner/Talent Show
- November 15-Final day for Operation Christmas Child donations
- December 5-Homecoming
- December 19-Holiday Food Sale 10 am-3 pm
- December 20-Parish elections and parish committee meeting
- December 24/25 Christmas (Masses at 10 pm [Eve] and 10 am.
- January 3, 2016-Installation of officers/Brunch

*Watch for changes and announcements in upcoming issues of Dzień Dobry or call 978-453-0742 for more information.*

**Scholarships Awarded 2015**

On Sunday, August 16, a blueberry pancake breakfast was held in St. Casimir's Parish Center, Lowell, MA during which scholarships were awarded to two of the parish's young people.

Rachel Quirbach, daughter of Dr. Robert and Diane (Rajchel) Quirbach is enrolled as a sophomore at Arizona State University majoring in Music Therapy. She is a Dean's List student, plays many instruments and is a member of the school's marching band. When home from school, she substitutes as St. Casimir's organist and sings in the church choir.

Before heading off to college Rachel served as president of the parish Youth Group. She is very active in the PNCC beyond the parish having attended Youth Retreats and CONVO. She is the PNCC National Youth Secretary and a youth representative for the Eastern Diocese.

James (Jimmy) Kosidlo, son of Stanley and Linda (Caouette) Kosidlo is a sophomore at Middlesex Community College, majoring in Business. Jimmy has been an active participant in St. Casimir's since childhood as an acolyte, youth group member, working at the cemetery and church grounds, and as a collector at Masses.

He has volunteered to serve in the church's new Greeter program to welcome visitors and has assisted in the newly formed Growth committee to promote an increase in parish membership.

The scholarships were presented by Father Andrew Tenus, pastor of St. Casimir's. Jimmy was presented with and accepted his scholarship with an expression of thanks to the committee and those in attendance. Because Rachel was already in Arizona, she was presented with, and accepted her scholarship with thanks via a remote visual computer connection using Skype.



L-r Diane and Robert Quirbach (holding Skype image of Rachel), Father Andrzej, Jimmy Kosidlo, Linda and Stanley Kosidlo.

**Polish Food Fest  
St. Casimir's Parish**

**268 Lakeview Avenue - Lowell, MA  
(978) 453-0742**

**Saturday - October 24<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

**FEATURING ALL HOMEMADE POLISH FOODS**

**Including:**

- Pierogi - Gołąbki -
- Kielbasa - Cabbage Soup—
- Kapusta - Babka - Breads



**DINE-IN LUNCH**

**Thank You to**

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Stukas  
Mr. & Mrs. John White

*For your generous donation to support the goal and objectives of  
St. Casimir's Growth Committee*

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**Watch for our Progress in the coming months**



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