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

Vol. 10 Number 1

2021 Easter Celebrations



Easter Sunday 2021 was sunny but a little nippy. However, our Mass at St. Casimir's was warm and cordial.



Father Tenus welcomed the congregation, all wearing masks and keeping almost proper distances, and began to line up the procession.



Order of procession included: Cross bearer, Jonasz Tenus; Cross, David Jopson; Statue of the Resurrected Christ, Robert Hunt; Paschal candle, Stanley Kosidlo; American flag, Robert Quirbach; Polish flag, Jan Stankiewicz; Church flag, Ian Ford-Hunt; Lectionary, Kody Heath; Polish ritual, Thomas McNiff; Polish Krupski missal, Christopher Kowalski. The ANS was repre-

sented by President JoAnn Menzia and Deb Chartier, followed by the altar servers, Karina Tenus and Christopher Tenus and Father Tenus bearing the Blessed Sacrament.

Following the procession, a beautiful Mass with an inspirational message was celebrated after which we all returned to our homes spiritually uplifted and prepared to continue on our journey as disciples.











Church Infrastructure Projects



Though Covid has disrupted many activities at the Parish, we continue to make needed improvements to the church and hall.

Plans are underway for painting the interior of the church. Colors have been chosen and painting contractors have been contacted for estimates.

Crafters will be donating in excess of \$6,000 for this project.

Another project under consideration is to install security camaras on the exterior of the hall, especially for the back parking lot. Some people feel the lot is a dumping ground for old furniture, car parts and debris.

Because no one can keep watch and motion sensor lights have not been successful in deterring this behavior, the problem has been going on for years. Therefore it was decided to look into installing cameras.

Another Project was to upgrade our Livestream System. See page 4 for details.

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Memorial Day Mass 2020 St. Casimir's Cemetery, Pelham, NH

Although the day appeared dreary and the pandemic rules and regulations were in place, St. Casimir's Parish celebrated Memorial Day at the parish cemetery in Pelham, NH.

Robert Jaracz, commander of the local Polish American Veterans began the program, asking Father Tenus, chaplain of the PAV and Captain in the Army Reserves, to give the opening prayer.



This was followed by Karina Tenus singing the Polish National Anthem and Janice Klimczak the Star Spangled Banner.

The honor guard of the PAV did volley and taps. The names of PAV members deceased since last Memorial Day were read and veterans in the congregation were asked to stand and be recognized. Father Tenus gave the concluding prayer.



Though things were a little different this year, the thirty-five people who were present were grateful to attend Mass and see their loved ones from their church family



Unfortunately, we were not able to hug as we usually do but seeing people in the flesh filled our need for togetherness as we celebrated the brave men and women who served our country.

This year we will once again celebrate Memorial Day at St. Casimir's Cemetery

Parish Store Coming Back Soon

We hope to restart our full offering of items as soon as possible. Please check our Web Page or Facebook often for updates.

Fr. Andrew Completes Training in the National Guard

Sunday, September 6 was a very happy day for St. Casimir's Parish. Our pastor, Father Tenus, had returned from his Chaplain Basic Officer Leadership Course for our Army Reserve at Ft. Jackson, SC. He had been gone for eight weeks during which time we were blessed with the presence of our Diocesan Bishop Paul Sobiechowski. Can you spot Fr. Andrew in the picture below ?



Parish Activities During Covid 19

Though the pandemic kept us from performing many of the usual social events we still were active in helping others.

- The ANS continued maintenance of altars for each liturgical season.
- The ANS did outreach to those sick, housebound through cards, notes and telephone calls.
- The ANS collected items for the residents of Bachand Hall, program for young women.
- The ANS participated in a Zoom Convention of Eastern Diocese ANS in May.
- Fr. Andrew blessed backpacks for students returning to school in the Fall and presented scholarships to parish young people.
- On October 3 we held outdoor Blessing of Animals.
- At November Masses we had a scaled back Veterans display of veterans' pictures and artifacts.
- The ANS collected hats and mittens for the needy.

Devine Mercy Sunday



The Sunday after Easter is called Devine Mercy Sunday. This year Fr. Andrew displayed a banner his family bought in Poland during their vacation there. It is a replica of a painting in Poland.

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2021 Parish Committee

Congratulations to the 2021 Parish committee and Officers elected at the Parish Meeting.

The officers for 2021 are:

Co-Chairmen	Dr. Robert Quirbach
	Robert Hunt
Recording secretary	Janice Klimczak
Treasurer	Shirley Garvey
Financial Secretary	Linda Hedrick

Directors:

JoAnn Menzia, Carol McNiff, Nancy Picanso, Patricia Whiting, Diane Quirbach, Shirley Kourey, Phyllis Hunt, Sophie Kosidlo, Thomas, Christopher Kowalski, Josephine Wrobel, Charlotte Stankiewiczz, Irene Jaracz, Christine Piec, Stanley Kosidlo Jr,, Paula Jones, David Breault

Financial Reviewers: Stanley Kosidlo Jr., Christopher Kowalski, David Breault

Cemetery Committee:

Robert Hunt, Co-chairman

Dr. Robert Quirbach, Co-chairman

Robert Ferus , Co-superintendent

Thomas McNiff, Co-superintendent

Janice Klimczak, Phyllis Hunt, Paula Jones, Irene Jaracz, Stanley Kosidlo

Delegates to Seniorate meetings-second year of twoyear term:

JoAnn Menzia, Irene Jaracz, Phyllis Hunt Alt.: Janice Klimczak

Public Relations: JoAnn Menzia, Janice Klimczak, Linda Kosidlo, Ann Marie Page, Paul Starenas, Debbie Starenas

ANS Food Distribution



St. Casimir's ANS and Lowell City Councilor Sokhary Chau spent Palm Sunday distributing Easter boxes to needy families.

Each box included a ham, glaze, a bag of potatoes, a bag of carrots, peas, pineapple, rolls, and Easter candy.

Distributing food to the needy is a longtime activity of the ANS. Pictured are ANS President JoAnn Menzia and Councilor Chau.

Thank you for your efforts !!

Scholarships Awarded in 2020

Students receiving scholarships in 2020 included:

James Bigelow. Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, senior year majoring in Marketing with a minor in Professional Sales.

Justin Bigelow, Manchester Community College, Manchester, NH, freshman majoring in HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning).

Ian Ford-Hunt, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, N. Adams, MA, junior year, majoring in Business Administration/Economics and Marketing.

Joseph Grieve. University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA, sophomore year, majoring in Peace and Conflict Studies, progressing to Law.

Karina Tenus, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA, sophomore year, majoring in elementary education.

We wish them all God's blessings as they continue their education.

Please note: Our newsletter will only be published electronically going forward. Please make sure we have the e-mail address of friends and relatives who have not furnished an e-mail address. Copies will also be available in the rear of the church for those without e-mail.

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Livestreaming Upgrades

For quite some time (way before the pandemic) St. Casimir's Parish has broadcast Sunday masses over the internet using the YouTube channel. In this way, we have joined in prayer with those who are homebound or for any reason could not be with us in person. Many parishioners were watching Sunday masses during snowstorms in the past years when they were not able to come to church.

Last year it became clear that the demand for remote viewing of services in the church was increasing every month. To keep up with the growing number of viewers, we decided to update our broadcasting system so it can provide good quality to all.

With a donation from the kitchen committee, we purchased a new video switcher, a few cameras, a wireless microphone system for the altar, and a microphone for the choir. A monitor and computer were donated by Fr. Andrew who found them at the Goodwill store. We also upgraded the internet speed because broadcasting requires higher speed. Lastly, we moved our broadcast to our church's Facebook page for a better connection with our viewers who now can write comments and watch recordings of our masses any time they miss the live broadcasts.

After the update, our Facebook page recorded a 400% increase in viewing and many people became interested in checking our church website <u>stcasimirspncc.com</u> where we also noticed more viewers. Our Sunday masses are viewed not only by our

St. Casimir's Parish PNCC

Sunday Mass 10:00 A.M. Daily Mass 9:00 A.M. Contact us via email at: st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.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 For more information, news, photos, etc. visit our sites: <u>www.stcasimirspncc.com</u> <u>www.facebook.com/stcasimirschurch/</u> parishioners but people from other parishes and different parts of the world who join us every Sunday. In this strange time of pandemic that keeps many apart, streaming our Sunday mass brings many together in prayer.



In Memoriam

Parishioners and Friends Who Have Passed on to Eternal Life

+++++++++

- Jean Doda (3-23-2021)
- Wanda Gallant (3-01-2021)
- Louise (Sobczak) Regan (12-24-2020)
- Dawn Jopson (12-24-2020)
- Stephanie Krzywda (8-17-2020)
- Helen V. Koza (9-1-2019)
- Mary Sawosik (5-4-2019)
- Olga Koziol (4-21-2019)