

Homecoming 2012... Another Gala Event

Speaking before an audience of more than 100 parishioners and friends Diocesan Bishop Paul Sobiechowski



opened St. Casimir's annual Homecoming dinner with an expression of thanks for the invitation to attend with his wife, Karen.

His remarks were followed by an emotional opening prayer to officially start the festivities.

As in previous years, the first item of the evening was the sharing of oplatki; the tradition of breaking bits off a Christmas wafer and extending holiday greetings of affection to others as it is being eaten.

Following a pierogi appetizer, Robert Quirbach, parish co-chairman, invited the head table to start the buffet line. Other guests followed as their table was called.



Phyllis Hunt asking Henry Szczepanik "How many slices of ham would you like?"

The youth of the parish provided entertainment in the form of Christmas music and readings. Rachel Quirbach,

St. Casimir's Newsletter

Published several times a year for our parishioners and friends

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For more news, photos, etc. visit our website:

<http://www.stcasimirspncc.com>

Please submit comments or suggestions to us:

Email: st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.com

or Call any of the following:

Rector/Pastor: 978-453-0742

Co-Chairman Robert Hunt: 978-397-8161

Co-Chairman Robert Quirbach: 603-672-5649

Secretary Janice Klimczak: 978-452-9646

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YOU ARE INVITED



St. Casimir's Parish

Polish National Catholic Church

268 Lakeview Avenue—Lowell MA 01850

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

Rev. Andrzej Tenus, Pastor—Telephone 978-453-0742

A Very Happy Ending...and a New Beginning!

Dear Friend,



When you receive this newsletter we will have celebrated our Annual Homecoming event which signifies the end of our social activities here at St. Casimir's parish for the year 2012. If you attended, I am sure you enjoyed sharing your oplatki with friends, both old and new. You will find photos and news of the party in this Newsletter and on our web site www.stcasimirspncc.com. Not wasting any time, a parish meeting was held after Mass on Sunday for the election of officers to serve our parish in 2013. The results are also posted in this newsletter.

Now we are half way through the Advent season that will bring us to the most joyful celebration of all...CHRISTMAS DAY...the beginning of a new year for our church.

Parishioners and friends of St. Casimir's enjoyed a very busy 2012. Social events ranging from a simple weekly coffee hour to our gala Homecoming Dinner; and fundraisers to support a variety of groups and organizations featured the creation of "A Taste of Heaven", our own parish cookbook. All of which provided many hours of pleasure to those who participated. Next year we hope to provide more opportunities to anyone who wants to enjoy the benefits of our parish community. A simple phone call and a show of interest is all that is needed.

On behalf of all our parishioners, and especially my wife and our family, we wish you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR filled with abundant joy and blessings from the Holy Spirit!

Rev. Andrzej Tenus

president of the parish Youth Group acted as MC as well as performing her own selections by voice and musical instruments. Rachel has been selected as a recipient of the National United Choirs Scholarship award.

Other selections were performed by the Youth Group including Karina Tenus, the pastor's daughter reciting "When Christmas Comes to Town"; and Joey Grieve who sang "Do You Hear What I Hear?" and played an instrumental version of "Jingle Bells" which prompted an audience sing-a-long.

Bishop Paul was given the microphone and took the opportunity to outline his plans to revitalize the PNCC by expanding interparish cooperation and more involvement by children and young people.

He said he was very impressed and congratulated St. Casimir's work with

youth as was displayed by the evening's performance.

Christmas carol song sheets with lyrics in Polish and English were distributed and the annual sing-along was led by Fr. Tenus.

This year's Homecoming Dinner came to a close with announcement of Fran Paduc as the winner of the quilt raffle made by Linda Kosidlo and donated to the parish. Approximately 200 tickets were sold.



In Memoriam

Beverly M. (Twarog) Fountain, devoted wife of Willie Fountain died on November 5, 2012 at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA after a brief illness. Born in Lowell on April 27, 1944 she was the daughter of the late Stasia C. (Maslanka) and Ervin E. Twarog. Beverly was a graduate of Lowell High School and Boston University School of Nursing. Until her retirement she worked in several Boston hospitals including the Shrine Burns Institute, New England Baptist Hospital and the Walter E. Fernald State School in Waltham.

In addition to her husband, Beverly is survived by her sister, Barbara Cappelletti of Fitchburg, MA, two nephews, Carl F. Krystyniak of N. Chelmsford, Gregory E. Krystyniak and wife Suzette of Ruckersville, VA and a great niece, Kailey C. Krystyniak of VA, her in-laws: Edna Jones and her husband Joseph, of New Haven, CT, Catherine Garris of Naugatuck, CT, Alice Busch of New Haven, CT, Selina Scott of Ansonia, CT, Thomasina Glover of Derby, CT, Walter Fountain of Naugatuck, Herman and Dennis Fountain of Ansonia, several nieces and nephews and the late Beatrice Zollarcoffer and Edward Fountain. Beverly was the daughter-in-law of the late Roosevelt and Annie Mae Fountain. Interment took place in the Pine Grove Cemetery, Ansonia, CT.

Cecile Pilat; 88, died October 24, 2012 at her home surrounded by her children. She was born July 31, 1924 in Lowell, MA, the daughter of the late Oscar and Yvonne (Marchand) Landry. She lived in Dracut, MA for 55 years with her husband, the late Louis S. Pilat who died in 2001.

She is survived by her three daughters, Linda and John Foley of Hudson, NH whose home she shared for the last 10 years, Maureen Y. Pilat of Nashua, Diana and Steve Miller of Nashua, two sons, Richard Pilat of Dracut and Louis and Dawn Pilat of Hudson, NH, six grandchildren, a sister, Eva Dupont of Lowell and a brother, Charles Landry of Lowell. She was predeceased by her daughter, Pauline Y. Wolf as well as Brothers, Gerard, Leo, Roger, William and Armand Landry and Sisters: Mary Jane, Doris, Rita, Yvette, Irene and Theresa. She enjoyed playing bingo at the local churches and Dracut Senior Center for many years. In the last years of her life, she found constant companionship with her dog "Cece". Funeral arrangements were private.

To obtain a free copy of your family's Parish Cemetery record, if it is available, call (or email) anyone listed on the front page of this newsletter.

Maintaining a Beautiful Parish Cemetery Is A Labor of Love



Over the years, there has always been a corps of volunteers who were ready, willing, and able to provide the expertise necessary to prevent the sizeable tract of land from succumbing to the deterioration that can be brought about by our unpredictable New England weather.

As a reward, the grounds have provided a beautiful venue for burials and such other parish events as summertime picnics, Mass celebrations on Memorial Day and All Souls Day or simply a walk among the monuments in quiet contemplation.

Projects completed in 2012 include the reseeding of the new section in the back right hand corner of the cemetery; the scraping and painting of all the wrought iron fencing and gates done professionally by Top Shelf Painting Inc. A number of overgrown or neglected bushes and small evergreen trees have been removed and will continue to be removed as needed in 2013. The Cemetery Committee is always anxious to hear from parishioners regarding their efforts

Since the beginning, St. Casimir's parishioners have committed their personal and financial resources to providing a beautiful and peaceful final resting place for their loved ones.

To this day, that commitment is proudly displayed at our Parish cemetery located on Pulpit Rock Road in nearby Pelham, New Hampshire.



Parish co-chairman Bob Hunt, left, assisted by Bob Ferus and Ruby pause from their work on the second pillar. The work was completed this fall and next year will see a new fence and gates at the new back entrance at St Casimir's Cemetery.

A new motorized spreader was used in 2012 to help fertilization and weed control. The eXmark Zero-turn riding mower, now in it's 4th season, was operated by Dan Ford, Fr. Andrew Tenus, Bob Ferus or Bob Hunt this past season.



First Issue of Diocesan Newsletter Published

The first issue of *The Messenger*, the Diocesan quarterly newsletter has been published to all of the parishes in the Eastern Diocese.

Acting on his pledge to initiate and maintain good communications between the parishes of the Diocese Bp. Paul states, "We are publishing this news-



letter, particularly for those who have no access to the internet, "but", he continues, "this and all future issues will also be posted to our diocesan web site: <http://easterndiocesepncc.org/> or through a smart phone APP "Eastern DiocesePNCC" so any parishioner...can enjoy the publication."

The first issue of *The Messenger* is 14 pages filled with information; including a listing of our parishes with individual pastor's names and phone numbers; our synodal resolutions, chancery announcements, upcoming diocesan activities, a church calendar with information about church obligations, meeting dates and times and news of parish events

Candlelight Service

The Northeast Seniorate will conduct a candlelight service on December 16 at the Holy Cross Parish, 320 High Street, Central Falls, RI. Which will include a Birthday party for Jesus to follow.

Contact Fr. Rob Nemkowich at 508-672-4854

Guest Book Pulpit and Advent Candle Table

Thanks to the talent and generosity of parishioners Jack and Judy Szetela, there are two new pieces of furniture in our church.

A special table designed to hold the Advent wreath and candles during the Advent season made its debut on Sunday, December 2nd, the first Sunday of Advent and will be a part of the advent services for many years to come.

In keeping with the parish's desire to welcome and acknowledge new and returning visitors to our church, we now have a pulpit that will be used to hold a "Guest Book" for the new visitors to register their attendance.

Fr. Tenus is hoping that some-one will donate a suitable "Guest Book".

Both pieces were designed and hand crafted by Jack Szetela. Jack and his wife



A Special Message from Fr. Tenus...

Have you felt a tugging at your heart to do more for the Lord? Maybe it happens while you attend Holy Mass, or while you listen to a sermon, or when you see there is more to do in His name than you are able to do right now.

If you feel such a tugging, but are quite sure it is not for the priesthood, then maybe you should consider becoming a deacon in our church.

If you are a male and at least 21 years old and a member of the Polish National Catholic Church for at least five years, you may apply for enrollment in

St. Casimir's PNCC Election of Officers

A Parish meeting was held on Sunday, December 9 for the purpose of electing the officers and parish committee members to serve the parish in the coming year.

The official installation ceremony will take place at Mass on Sunday, January 6. The official slate of new officers is listed below:

Parish Committee for 2013
Pastor: Rev. Andrzej Tenus

Co-Chairmen:
Robert Hunt, Dr. Robert Quirbach

Recording secretary: Janice Klimczak

Treasurer: Isabel Dziura

Financial Secretary: Paula Jones

Directors:
Helen Kowalski, Jean Doda, JoAnn Menzia, Wanda Hedrick, Dan Ford, James Grieve, Patricia Whiting, Mae Zioto, Diane Quirbach, Gus Kowalski, Yvonne Bozek, Phyllis Hunt, Louise Regan, Josephine Wrobel, Linda Kosidlo, Helen Cislo, Helen Rogers, John Stankiewicz, Stanley Kosidlo Jr, Linda Hedrick, Nareumon Stankiewicz, Cheryl Grieve, Johanna Ford-Hunt, Wanda Hamel, Sophie Kosidlo, Walter Sott, Pearl Czerlonka

Financial Reviewers:
Stanley Kosidlo Jr., James Grieve, Dan Ford, John Stankiewicz

Cemetery Committee
Robert Hunt, Dr. Robert Quirbach, Co-chairman
Louise Regan, JoAnn Menzia, Phyllis Hunt, Stanley Kosidlo Jr, Robert Ferus, Dan Ford, Janice Klimczak, Cheryl Grieve, James Grieve

Delegates to Seniorate meetings-second year of two year term
JoAnn Menzia, Paula Jones, Phyllis Hunt
Alt.: Janice Klimczak

Public Relations: JoAnn Menzia, Janice Klimczak, Linda Kosidlo.

the Deacon Program of the Eastern Diocese.

Of course there are other qualifications. Ask me for a list of qualifications and a handbook about the Deacon Program.

Rev. Andrzej Tenus

Telephone 978-453-0742
Email: Andrzej.Tenus@gmail.com

Winter Youth Gathering

An opportunity for the youth who have taken part in other diocesan activities (Youth Retreat, Acolyte retreat) to renew acquaintances and for those who have not taken part as yet to make new friends.



2012 Eastern Diocese Winter Youth Gathering

When: Friday - December 28, 2012

Where: Holy Trinity Parish in Webster, MA

Schedule

10:30 A.M. - Holy Mass

11:30 A.M. - Interactive Presentation on St. Nicholas

12:30 - Pizza and Soda

1:30 PM - 3:00 P.M. Bowling



To register please contact either:

Fr. Rob Nemkovich 508-672-4854

robnem21@aol.com or

Fr. Randy Calvo 413-665-2120

frandy@holynamedeerfield.org



Come see your friends in Christ
over the Christmas Vacation

Welcome to St. Casimir's

If you have come to St. Casimir's as a visitor, or if you have returned after a long absence, we might not recognize you, so please be sure to tell Father Andrew who you are when you shake his hand as you leave Mass...then be sure to join us for coffee and fellowship at the Parish Hall.

We want to make you feel welcome!

Got some Free Time? Are you Computer Savvy? No! Want to Learn?

St. Casimir's is looking for individuals with some free time who enjoy using, or would like to learn how to use, a personal computer to help us in a variety of parish projects including:

Help to create and distribute our parish newsletter. (Microsoft Word or Publisher).

Help to create and maintain Parish membership directory and cemetery records. (Microsoft Access)

Learn to build and maintain our web site: <http://www.stcasimirspncc.com>. (Sharepoint Designer).

If you would like to get involved and work on any of these projects send an email to: st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.com. Someone will contact you to discuss your interests. Instruction will be provided.

HAVE FUN...GET INVOLVED

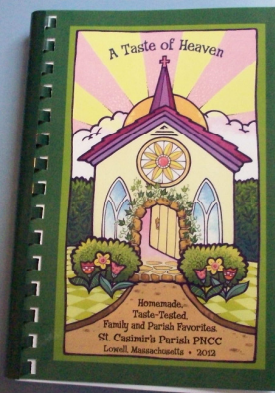
Homecoming 2012...



Bishop Paul and Karen Sobiechowski



...and a good time was had by all!



"A Taste of Heaven"

Now Available!

St. Casimir's Own Cookbook

\$12 per Copy

Call 978-453-0742

Everybody's Favorite Polish Food!!!

Pierogi \$11 doz.

Golabki \$18 doz.

Kapusta \$6 quart

On sale at

St. Parish's Parish Center
Every Sunday after Mass from
11:00 A.M. until Noon