

## St. Casimir's to Adopt Contemporary Rite Mass Liturgy

A new altar is being built to be used for the celebration of a Contemporary Rite Mass at St. Casimir's.

Fr. Tenus made the announcement at Mass recently and then demonstrated using a cardboard replica (that he made himself) of the proposed new altar that will be placed in front of the current altar and allow him to celebrate Mass facing the people.

The Mass of the Polish National Catholic Church uses one of three liturgies: the Contemporary Rite, the Traditional Rite, and the Rite of Prime Bishop Hodur.

The Contemporary Rite is the shortest of the Mass types and the most used in PNCC parishes. It is similar to the current Roman Rite Mass except some parts are from the other two. It was introduced to the faithful of the PNCC in the late 1950s, long before Roman Church did the same.

Fr. Tenus explains, "Following last year's Eastern Diocese Synod resolutions I would like to introduce Contemporary Mass to St. Casimir's Family. This will be another step forward in the faith for all of us."

Initially, plans are for the new liturgy to be used once a month, then one Sunday Contemporary, one Sunday Traditional. A special instruction booklet will be printed for the congregation.

"I am very excited and happy for that  
(continued on page 3)



## A Winter Blizzard...Looking Forward to Spring!

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka ,



The blizzard of 2013 is rapidly becoming only a memory and our prayers are offered for all who had to endure some hardship because of the storm. Fortunately, here at St. Casimir's, there were no reports of serious problems from our parishioners; mostly the pain of sore muscles from shoveling more than two feet of snow.

Ash Wednesday has once again signaled the start of the Holy Season of Lent. I have included a schedule of Lenten services with this newsletter. You are urged to spend the next several weeks contemplating our belief in the Spirit of Jesus Christ who died on the cross for us. As you read this newsletter and the enclosed Lenten Schedule why not plan to attend one or more of the liturgical services in preparation for His glorious Resurrection on Easter Sunday?

On Sunday, February 10, Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka St. Casimir's conducted, as a test, a live broadcast of our Mass on the internet for shut-ins and others unable to attend in person. Advance notice of the test was sent, by email, to a small number of people. More information on page 3 of this newsletter.

A special monthly children's Mass and a change to a Contemporary Rite of the Mass with priest facing the congregation are other things being considered.

*Rev. Andrzej Tenus*



On January 6th, Fr. Tenus administers oath to 2013 officers and committee members.

## St. Casimir's Newsletter

Published several times a year for our parishioners and friends

**MARCH 2013 - VOL. 3 NO. 1**

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

<http://www.stcasimirspncc.com>

Please submit comments or suggestions to us:

Email: [st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.com](mailto:st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.com)

or Call any of the following:

Rectory/Pastor: 978-453-0742

Co-Chairman Robert Hunt: 978-397-8161

Co-Chairman Robert Quirbach: 603-672-5649

Secretary Janice Klimczak: 978-452-9646

Public Relations JoAnn Menzia: 978-459-2017

### YOU ARE INVITED

Every Sunday after Mass, parishioners and friends gather at the Parish Center for coffee and conversation. Please join us.

## Blizzard of 2013 Hits St. Casimir's

Rated as the 5th biggest storm of recorded history, the blizzard dropped more than 24 inches of snow on the Lowell area.

Fr. Tenus, pastor, pauses from his difficult task to provide access to the church for his parishioners to attend Sunday Mass on Feb. 10. Attendance was quite low due to the storm.



## In Memoriam

**Wacław V. "Vic" Zabierek**, 93, a longtime resident of Chelmsford died Saturday, January 19th at Lowell General Hospital. He was the beloved husband of Irene H. (Noga) Zabierek, to whom he was married for 63 years. He was born in Chelmsford on September 21, 1919, and was a son of the late Vincent and Victoria (Konicki) Zabierek.



He received his education in Chelmsford schools. Vic served his country as a corporal in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. Prior to his retirement, he was employed for over 40 years by the Canada Dry Company. He was a longtime communicant of St. Casimir's Church in Lowell.

In addition to his wife, Vic is survived by his son, Frank V. Zabierek and his wife Maureen of Londonderry, NH; his daughter, Sarah Spicer of Lowell; five grandchildren; six great grandchildren; his sister Leona Bauch of Chelmsford; and several nieces and nephews. He was also the brother of the late Stanley and Edmond Zabierek from Chelmsford.

The family would like to thank all doctors, nurses, paramedics, rescue, and officers for everything they did to try and save his life. It being his wish, there were no visitation. Relatives and friends attended his Funeral Mass on February, 2, 2013 at St. Casimir's Church in Lowell. Interment was private. Donations may be made in Vic's name to St. Casimir's Church, 268 Lakeview Ave., Lowell, MA 01850.

**David Peter Ward**, age 51, of Hanson Ma, formerly of Lowell Ma, died unexpectedly at Signature Healthcare Hospital in Brockton Ma on Tuesday January 8, 2013. He was the son of the late Rita (Danis) Zuben, who passed away on December 21, 2003 at the age of 79, and the son of the late Peter Zuben who passed away in October 1986 at the age of 66. He was physically disabled, but had previously worked at Madison Security Company before he suffered a workplace accident. He was a fifth degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and had also owned Alpha Tae Kwon Do Martial Arts School in Dracut, MA before a physical disability made him unable to teach anymore. He enjoyed collecting and watching dvd and blu ray movies, as well as spending time with his children and grandchildren. He was a beloved father and grandfather who will be

deeply missed. Survived by his son Peter Ward of Brockton, daughter Melissa Ward of Fall River, and two granddaughters Vanessa Ward and Savannah LeClair. Private Burial was held on Friday January 18, 2013. To send condolences to family please contact Peter Ward (774) 240- 2220 or Melissa Ward (857) 615- 3722.

**Henry J. (Nick) Runowicz**, 87, died with his family at his side, Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, from complications related to a long, heroic battle with Parkinson's Disease.



Henry was the beloved husband of the late Lillian S. (Cuipa) Runowicz, to whom he was married for 56 years. Together, they raised their family in Dracut and attended St. Casimir's Church in Lowell. He was born in Lowell on October 14, 1925, a son of Anelia and Joseph Runowicz. He received his education in Lowell schools and after graduating from Lowell High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served in the South Pacific Theater during WWII where he came to love the sea.

For more than 35 years, Henry worked as a butcher for First National Stores in Centralville. He was a dedicated husband, father and grandfather who loved his family more than anything. His tough exterior was always tempered by a warm smile and caring nature. He will be greatly missed.

Henry is survived by his two daughters Beverly Runowicz of Dracut and Susan Runowicz-Smith and her husband JW Smith of Los Altos, CA; two grandchildren, Alexandra Smith of Los Altos, CA and Nicholas Runowicz of Dracut; a brother Edmond Runowicz and his wife Laura of Southington, CT; and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

He was predeceased by his wife Lillian, daughter Shirley Runowicz, and his siblings, Zennie and Louis Runowicz, Angie Mason and her husband, the late Reginald Mason.

At Henry's request there were no calling hours. Relatives and friends were invited to join the family at St. Casimir's Church in Lowell, on Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Burial followed at St. Casimir's Cemetery in Pelham, NH.

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

### Parish Committee votes to increase 2013 Annual dues effective January 1

At a meeting of the Parish Committee in 2012, a majority of the members present voted to increase the Annual Dues to \$100 per individual member of the church.

A letter announcing plans for the increase was sent to all parishioners several weeks before the Parish Committee vote.

The increase became effective on January 1, 2013. Parishioners who have submitted dues payments at the old rate of \$75 per person are asked to submit an additional \$25 per person.

### It's Income Tax Time! Donation Records Available

Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka, an itemized record of your donations for the year 2012 is now available. This information could be helpful in the preparation of your 2012 income tax return.

To obtain your donation record:

- (1) Send an email request to [st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.com](mailto:st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.com) or
- (2) Send a preaddressed stamped envelope to:

St. Casimir's Parish - Records  
268 Lakeview Ave.,  
Lowell MA 01850.

### 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. Please sign our Guest Book located at the rear of the church...then be sure to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall.**

***We want to make you feel welcome!***

## Parish Children Sing at Mass



Fr. Tenus provides musical accompaniment



In response to Bishop Sobiechowski's request that parishes in the Diocese make an effort to get the children more involved, Fr. Tenus is planning to celebrate a monthly Mass in which the children of the parish will be called upon to sing a song or two. The congregation was very pleased with this recent presentation and the children were visibly encouraged by the applause they received.

## Contemporary Rite

*(continued from page 1)*

plan.", Fr. Tenus stated, "To me it is not only installing another furniture to the church - it is a sign that our Parish is full of life and God's Spirit. We are moving forward, growing in our faith, following Jesus' teaching and Tradition of our Church. I hope that change (new altar) will give us an opportunity to show our church to the community as a living, friendly and modern

catholic denomination."

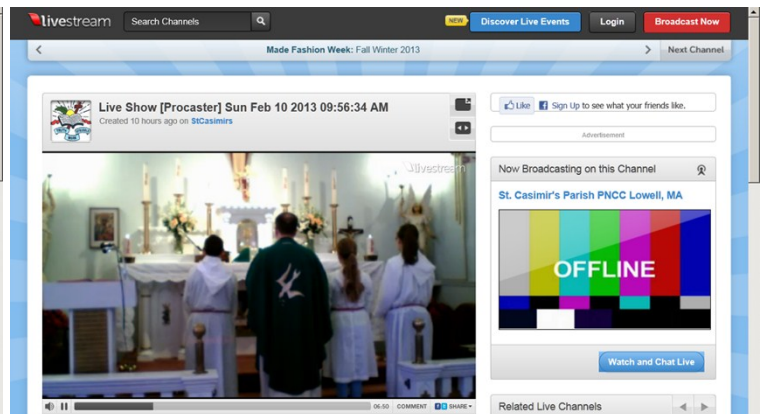
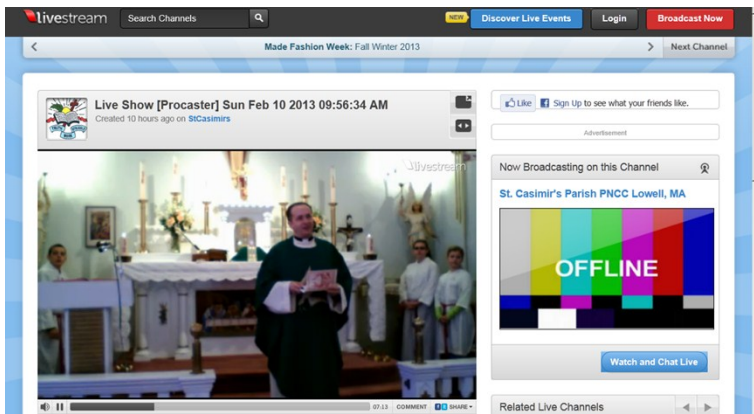
He goes on to say, "Contemporary Mass is more 'children friendly'. When we will use this Rite for Mass this can be called 'Children's Mass'. For now we - Sunday School teachers - are preparing one Sunday when children sing in the church. Our goal is having children sing every Sunday. Inviting children to more active participation during mass will result in better adult attendance, I hope."

The new altar is being constructed by parishioner John Szetela with assistance from Brian A.C. Jopson I.

## Parish Calendar for 2013

The Parish calendar of activities for the current year was not available for publication in this newsletter. Hopefully it will be published soon on our website:  
<http://www.stcasimirsnpcc.com>

## Plans Being Made to Broadcast Sunday Mass Live on the Internet for Shut-ins



Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka, you might like to know that, hoping to reach parishioners and others who, for one reason or another, are unable to attend Sunday Mass at St. Casimir's in person, Fr. Tenus has conducted a test to use technology to bring the Mass to the shut-ins via the internet.

The Mass on Sunday, February 10th was broadcast live over the internet using an application called *Livestream*. Plans are for the broadcast (*sample images shown above*) to be made available

to anyone who has access to a computer and can connect to the internet link: <http://www.livestream.com/StCasimirs>. Several options for using this technology are being considered.

More than thirty email messages were sent in advance of the Sunday test presentation. Several replies were received from individuals who viewed the Mass on the internet. Future internet Masses are being planned and advance notice will be sent to our directory email list. Do we have your email address?

## St. Casimir's Youth Group was Active in 2012...



...Decorating the church Christmas tree, singing as a group at Sunday Mass and producing an annual Talent Show are only a few ways our young people contribute to St. Casimir's parish community.

Other activities have included singing of Christmas carols to nursing home residents, food collection for the needy and gifts for military veterans.

A small group doing small things that provide happiness to many.

## 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 the **Deacon Program of the Eastern Diocese.**

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

*Rev. Andrzej Tenus*

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

## Home for the Aged Closed

St. Casimir's and the PNCC are no longer collecting Home for the Aged donations.

Parishioners should remove those collection envelopes from their packet.

## Update Your Information

Mr. & Mrs. Czerlonka, this newsletter is being sent to you at the postal address that is on file in our Parish database. Your record may or may not contain your email address which could be used to provide you with important information in a fast and efficient manner.

You might also like to update other information on your church record as well.

Please contact us via email to request a copy of your record to update.

## Everybody's Favorite Polish Food!!!

Pierogi \$11 doz. – Golabki \$18 doz.—Kapusta \$6 quart  
on sale at

St. Casimir's  
Parish Center

Every Sunday after Mass

11:00 A.M. until Noon

