

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, U.S.A.

FEBRUARY 2014

VOL 4 NO.1

2014 Parish Officers and Committee Installed Jan. 5

At a Mass and ceremony on Sunday, January 5th the officers and directors of St. Casimir's Parish were installed and will serve as the parish committee to govern the parish affairs in 2014.



The officers of St. Casimir's Parish, standing left to right: Janice Klimczak, recording secretary; Paula Jones, financial secretary; Robert Hunt and Robert Quirbach, co-chairmen; Rev. Andrzej Tenus, Pastor.. Seated: Isabel Dziura, treasurer.



Youth choir performed at installation Mass.

St. Casimir's Parish

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

Contact Us:

Email: st.casimir@stcasimirpncc.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

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

<http://www.stcasimirpncc.com>

You are Invited..

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

2013 was an Exceptional Year...Thanks to You!



Dzien Dobry! «Title» «Family Name», and please accept our heartfelt wishes to you and your loved ones for a New Year filled with God's abundant blessings of happiness!

Looking back on 2013, God has really showered his blessings on St. Casimir's parish; manifested by the tremendous support we received from you, our friends, neighbors and the surrounding community by your participation in our Food Fest and Craft Fair. The event was so well attended that, much to our surprise, we ran out of food and had to disappoint several people who came at the last minute. We underestimated, and will certainly try to plan better this year.

Not to be outdone, our annual homecoming dinner hosted a sellout crowd. Fortunately we were able to seat and serve all who attended, and there were no empty tables as the festivities began. What a tremendous feeling throughout the room as those in attendance shared their "oplatki" and exchanged wishes of the season. A truly a gala event!

A brief description of the Homecoming is published on page 3, and more is planned for our website...watch for it «Title» «Family Name».

Our election of officers for the new year was held in December and the installation and brunch was held on January 5. We are delighted that many of our parish committee have been reelected, and our thanks to those new members who have decided to get involved in parish affairs.

Our parish activities schedule appears on page 4. Make plans early to attend your favorite events.

Thank you, «Title» «Family Name», for your prayers and support. May God Bless You.

Rev. Andrzej Tenus



The newly elected parish committee for 2014 who attended the traditional brunch following installation Mass and ceremony on Sunday, January 5.

In Memoriam



Phyllis C. (Fierley) Ciupa, 95, of West Melbourne died December 7, 2013 in Melbourne FL. She was born April 19, 1918 in Lowell, MA.

Her family includes her daughters and sons-in-law Patricia and William Parker of West Melbourne, Sandra and Raymond Remp of Fountain, CO; and son John E. Costello of

Medford, MA; two grandchildren and two great grandchildren; and dear friends Alex and Dee Adamcewicz of Melbourne Beach.

She was preceded in death by her husbands Thomas E. Costello and William Ciupa; and a grandson.

A Lowell native, she came to Brevard county nine years ago having lived in Dracut and Lowell. She was a member of the Tow Ognisko Polek Sodality and the Chopin Choir. Mrs. Ciupa worked at Raytheon Company in Lowell for 24 years prior to retirement. She was an active member of St. Casimir's Polish National Catholic Church.

Please send contributions in her memory to 1501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or Vitas Hospice, 4450 W. Eau Gallie Blvd., #280, Melbourne 32934.

Sophie M. (Plaistek) Deleskey, 94, died Saturday morning, January 11, 2014 of natural causes one day short of her 95th Birthday at Northwood Rehab. She was born in Lowell on January 12, 1919.

Sophie was the daughter of the late Karol and Kararzyna (Zajchowski) Plaistek. She was a communicant of St. Casimir Church in Lowell and was a former longtime resident of Dracut before moving to the Mazur Park Apartments in Lowell where she resided for 40 years.

Prior to her retirement in July of 1981, Sophie was employed as a stitcher at the Jampapa Manufacturing Company in Lowell for 20 years. In her free time she enjoyed many hobbies including, sewing, crocheting, knitting, crossword puzzles, reading and cooking. She was also known for her dry sense of humor and her quick wit.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews who include, William H. Plaistek and Brenda of Dracut; Nancy "Don" Rutina of Lowell, Henry "Hank" Plaistek of Littleton, Jean "Jack" Dempsey of Florida, John "Jack" Plaistek of Pelham, NH and Audrey Orlando of Lowell; as well as several great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Sophie was predeceased by her daughter, Valerie Radziwill who passed away April of 1956, as well as her four brothers Frank Plaistek, Stanley Plaistek, Henry "Hank" Plaistek of Lowell; John Plaistek and her nephew Charles "Chuck" M. Plaistek.

At the request of Sophie's family, there were no calling hours and burial was private.

Donations may be made in Sophie's name to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Donor Services, P.O. Box 4072, Pittsfield, MA 01202.

«Title» «Family Name», You're Invited to a Music Workshop on March 8.

We are pleased to announce that this year's Eastern Diocese music workshop will be held in St. Casimir's Parish Center in Lowell, MA. This event, held last year in Norwich CT, is held annually to acknowledge, encourage and assist parishes of the diocese to develop, create and otherwise enhance the use of music in the Mass liturgy and at parish events. Snow date is March 15.

Karen Sobiechowski, the wife of Diocesan Bishop Paul, has agreed to lead the workshop as she did last year, and will provide musical accompaniment as necessary

The workshop agenda will include a review of the topic discussed at the last workshop entitled "How to choose appropriate hymns from the Mass based on Scripture readings of the day, special feast days and solemnities".

Other topics to be considered: (1) learning hymns from the new hymnal or learning new ways to present hymns; (2) sharing favorite pieces of music for Mass (participants will be encouraged to bring a piece to present and share copies with others in attendance); (3) a discussion and presentation is being considered for the youth of our diocese to acknowledge and encourage their participation in the program.

The workshop is open to all choir members, youth groups and interested parishioners and friends. A \$5 is being charged to cover the cost of the luncheon that will be served at the event.

Interested parties are urged to contact Janice Klimczak or anyone listed on the first page of this newsletter by March 1 or at least one week prior to the event for a head count to allow sufficient time to prepare workshop materials and food to be served at the luncheon.

Of course, any positive suggestions or comments from anyone planning to attend will be greatly appreciated.

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Sunday School Children Make Valentines

On Sunday, Feb. 9 after Mass the ANS Sodality invited the children of our Sunday School to get creative and join them to make Valentines.

ANS members, children of the Sunday School and other interested adults used paper, scissors, ribbons and doilies to fashion beautiful hearts with special messages of love to be presented to their families and friends.

The Scripture of love which coincides nicely with February's Valentine's Day provided the inspiration to the ANS members for this project.

The Sunday school activity was conducted in the main hall of the Parish Center where work tables were provided.

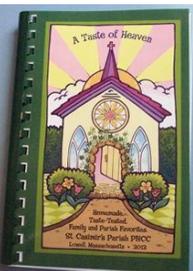
"A Taste of Heaven"

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\$12 per Copy

Call 978-453-0742



Homecoming 2013...St. Casimir's Celebrates the Season with a Sold-Out Crowd

Story by Janice Klimczak

St. Casimir's Parish in Lowell, MA, held its annual Homecoming Dinner on Saturday, December 7, 2013. The evening began as guests entered the hall where each table was uniquely decorated by parish hostesses who brought their own china, silverware, crystal and table decorations. As guests arrived they snacked on a variety of appetizers made by parish members.

At 5:30 PM, the lights were dimmed and a star, carried by Christopher Tenus and



Emma Ford-Hunt was brought to the front of the hall and placed on the top of the Christmas tree.

This was done as trumpeters Rachel Quirbach and James Bigelow played "O Holy Night".



As the lights were once again turned up, Co-Chairmen of the Parish, Robert Hunt and Dr. Robert Quirbach offered greetings

to those in attendance. Father Andrzej Tenus, Pastor of St. Casimir's offered Grace after which the traditional opłatek was broken and shared with friends and family.

The sold-out crowd then dined on homemade pierogi, roast pork, stuffing, mashed potatoes, vegetables, and applesauce. Dessert was a variety of homemade pudding which included, chocolate, butterscotch and dreamsicle.

After dinner, everyone enjoyed a wonderful program which included the children of the Sunday School singing "This Little Light of Mine" and the "Alpha-Biblical Christmas Story", the story of the First Christmas using the alphabet.

Several of the children performed solo for those in attendance. Included were Karina Tenus who sang "When Christmas Comes to Town" and Joey Grieve who gave his renditions of "What Child is This?" and "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree". "The Little Drummer Boy" was performed by Rachel Quirbach, Riley Mason and Joey Quirbach while Ryan Robinson provided the narration from scripture. Rachel and Riley then sang "Christmas Time is Here" accompanied by Joey Quirbach. Ending the musical program, The Folcik Sisters (Janice Klimczak, Marilyn Folcik and Arlene Strazzulla) sang the Polish carol "Gdy Sliczna Panna".

During the program, Irene Jaracz, a member of St. Casimir's ANS, explained the "Giving Tree". Each month, the ANS has a project and in December, it's the "Giving Tree". The ANS collects and distributes new

sweatshirts to the homeless veterans in Lowell. To do this, the ANS decorates a Christmas Tree with paper tags which have a size written on them. People then take a tag and purchase a sweatshirt of that size which will then be wrapped and delivered to the shelter before Christmas by ANS members.



A highlight of the evening occurred when the annual "Elf of the Year" was announced. This award is given to a parishioner who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to the parish. This year's recipient was Co-Chairman Robert Hunt.

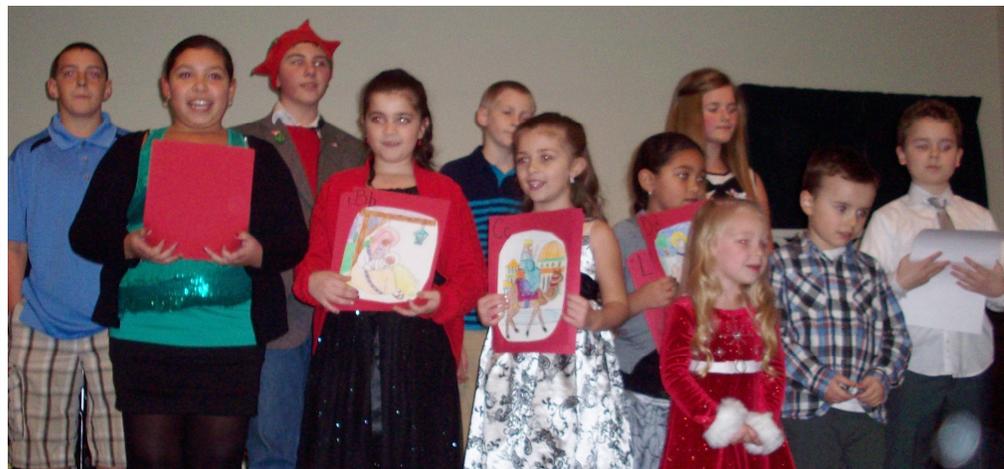
After the announcement, Father Tenus and Rachel Quirbach led the guests in the singing of Kolędy and Christmas Carols after which Bishop Paul Sobiechowski, Diocesan



Bishop of the Eastern Diocese was introduced and spoke about Advent and the meaning of Christmas. As part of his address, Bishop made it a point to include some remarks about the entertainment provided at today's event, stating that

we should be very proud of our very talented young people, and urged the parishioners to support and encourage them vigorously

The evening ended with a raffle and several guests went home with beautiful prizes. The benediction was offered by Father Tenus after which the entire congregation sang "God Bless America". We all then went to our homes physically and spiritually sated.



Children of the parish presented a special program to add to the spirit of the event

St. Casimir's Parish PNCC

Tentative Calendar Of Activities 2014

Watch Mass bulletin for additions and further information

Meetings: First Sunday, TOP; Second Sunday, Choir; Third Sunday, Parish Committee; Fourth Sunday, ANS.

Throughout the year Coffee hour following Mass. First Sunday, Choir; Second Sunday, TOP; Third Sunday, Youth; Fourth Sunday, ANS; Fifth Sunday (fill in).

Also, throughout the year, Youth of the parish are bringing in items for *Operation Christmas Child*. Children and youth will prepare shoe boxes of useful items (school supplies, toiletries, games) to be distributed to children who are less fortunate.

March 5	Ash Wednesday--beginning of Lent. Mass at 9 am and 7 pm with imposition of ashes. Lenten Services, Fridays, 7 pm.
March 8	Eastern Diocese Music Workshop, St. Casimir's Parish, Lowell, MA, 10 am-3 pm
March 16	Presentation of Financial Report/Parish committee meeting
March/April	Mailing to the sick/shut-ins (ANS)
April 13	Palm Sunday TOP Food/Bake Sale-Choir Theme Basket raffle
April 15	Holy Mass with Blessing of oils (time, place to be announced)
April 17	Holy Thursday, Mass at 6 pm, followed by meatless meal (ANS)
April 18	Good Friday Mass of the Presanctified 10 am
April 19	Holy Saturday, Mass at 10 am followed by preparation of church by ANS and grounds clean up by Youth Group/Adult helpers.
April 20	Easter Sunday Procession and Mass, 9 am.
May	Cemetery clean up every Saturday, 8 am. Confirmation—Date to be announced.
May 4	Polish Constitution Day celebration/Confirmation at 3 pm
May 11	Mother's Day
May 17	ANS Convention, Woonsocket, RI Mass at 10 am
May 26	Memorial Day. Mass at Cemetery, 10 am followed by picnic lunch.
June 7	Diocesan Council meeting, Central Seniorate
June 15	Father's Day/First Communion
June 19	Corpus Christi Mass/Procession, Lowell, MA
June 22	Pancake Breakfast (Scholarship Committee)
June 26	Canobie Lake (Youth Group)
July 6	Cathedral of the Pines, 3 pm
July/August	ANS Summer Social (TBA)
August	Week of August 3 TBA Spinners Night Out
August 18-22	Camp Howe Youth Retreat
September 6	Chicken Barbecue
September	TOP Bake Sale--Choir Basket raffle--subject to Palm Sunday sales
September 29-October 3	General Synod, Erie, PA
October	Mailing of nomination forms
October	ANS/TOP collection for Food Pantry

October 4	Blessing of pets
October 5	Pastor Appreciation Day
October 25	Polish Food Fest/Craft Fair
October 26	All Souls Service, 1 pm, Parish cemetery
November 2	Youth Group Dinner/Talent Show
November 9	Final day for Operation Christmas Child donations
November 23	Cookie Bake Sale
December	ANS Christmas mailing to sick/shut-ins; Santa's Workshop
December 6	Homecoming
December 13	Food Pantry Christmas Party (parish center)
December 14	Parish elections and parish committee meeting
December 24/25	Christmas (Masses at 10 pm [Eve] and 10 am [Day])
January 4, 2015	Installation of officers/Brunch

Youth Group Features Operation Christmas Child as an Annual Event

Since 1993 more than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child.

Samaritan's Purse, the parent organization, works with local churches and ministry partners to deliver the gifts and share the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ

Samaritan's Purse is an evangelical Christian humanitarian organization that targets people in physical need as a fundamental part of their Christian missionary work. The organization's president is Franklin Graham, son of Christian evangelist Billy Graham. The name of the organization is based on the New Testament Parable of the Good Samaritan, in which Jesus uses a parable to teach people the second great commandment - how to "love your neighbour as yourself".

St. Casimir's parishioner Cheryl Grieve introduced our youth group to this event about 5 years ago. In 2013, 14 shoeboxes were delivered to the Community Chapel Church, Nashua NH. Shoeboxes received at that collection site were ultimately shipped by Operation Christmas Child to locations in central Africa.



Make a child happy!

The boxes, filled with useful items (school supplies, toiletries, games) to be distributed to children who are less fortunate were prepared by St. Casimir's parishioners at the request of the Youth group. It is their hope and desire that readers of this newsletter will become aware of this project and support them with shoebox donations throughout this year 2014.

Samaritan's Purse has a website that tells all about this program. Each child learns about Jesus through the pamphlets that Samaritan's Purse places in each shoebox.

For more details, «Title» «Family Name», contact anyone listed on the front page of this newsletter. Filling your shoebox donation will be a fun way to make a child very happy.

Everybody's Favorite Polish Food



Pierogi \$11 doz. Kapusta \$6 quart Golabki \$18 doz.

On Sale at St. Casimir's Parish Center
Every Sunday after Mass — 11:00 AM until Noon

It's Tax Time Again!

«Title» «Family Name»

The donation records of the parish for the year 2013 have been completed. To get an itemized list of your donations send an email to st.casimir@stcasimirspncc.com; or send us a preaddressed stamped envelope.