



Saint Hyacinth

*Roman Catholic Parish
Parafia Świętego Jacka*

3151 Farnsworth Avenue ~ Detroit, Poletown, Michigan 48211

February 15, 2009

Volume: 102 Issue: 7

SAINT HYACINTH PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of Saint Hyacinth Parish, while preserving and promoting our Polish heritage, welcome and serve all community members through prayer, example and good works. We seek to be a guiding light to all God's people through our spiritual and social activities.

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Leprosy was one of the most feared (and most frequently encountered) diseases in ancient times. The bacterial skin infection started small, almost imperceptibly, but it soon spread. It rotted the victim's extremities (fingers, nose, lips...) and gave off a thoroughly disgusting smell. As explained in today's First Reading, lepers were excluded from society and left to die a slow, painful, humiliating death. They were prohibited by law from coming within 100 yards of healthy people; this is why they had to shout, "Unclean, unclean!" To come into contact with a leper was to make oneself unclean, since their disease, so it was believed, was a sign of God's punishment.

Theologians and spiritual writers have always seen in this Old Testament conception of leprosy a symbol of sin. Sin is a kind of spiritual leprosy. It disfigures our souls and spreads into every corner of our lives. It destroys us and destroys our ability to relate to other people. It cuts us off from the purpose of our life and our role in human society and human history. Just as leprosy starts small but spreads and grows, so one sin, one betrayal of our conscience or one compromise with Church teaching can easily become a spark that starts a spiritual forest fire. And so, when Jesus reaches out and touches this leper, and heals him, it is much more than just another miracle.

St Mark points out a subtle detail in this encounter that we should not overlook. Jesus cured the leper by touching him. Think about that for a minute. Jesus was all-powerful. There are times in the Gospels where he performs a miracle simply with a word, or even just with an unspoken desire. He didn't have to touch this leper; and in fact, it was against Jewish law to touch him. A word or a wave of his hand would have done the trick, fulfilled the law, and been a lot more pleasant than touching the putrid flesh of this repugnant, malodorous outcast. And yet, Jesus does touch him. He makes a point of touching him. Jesus touched that leper for our sake, just as he suffered the scourging, the crowning with thorns, the way of the cross, and his long, excruciating crucifixion for our sake.

None of our hidden leprosy surprises or repel him; he knows us too well; he loves us too unconditionally. It is a revelation of Christ's entire mission. He is the Redeemer, the Savior; he is the one who comes into this fallen, sin-infected world and, with the power of his mercy and grace, cleanses it and gives it a new start. And he does the same thing with each one of our lives, as often as we need it.

Jesus came, and he still comes, not to condemn, but to save.

Parish Calendar

Saturday, February 21 - 3:30 PM Pope John Paul II Rosary Society - Parish Rosary for World Peace

Sunday, February 22 - 10:30 AM - Pope John Paul II Rosary Society - Parish Rosary for World Peace

Wednesday, February 25 - Ash Wednesday, Beginning of Lent

Monday, March 2 - Parish Council Meeting at 6:30 PM

Friday, March 6 - First Friday Mass at 11:00 AM. Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will follow Mass.

Sunday March 22 - 11:00 AM Mass. Seventh Annual Blessing of the Polish American Dance Ensembles

**Saturday, February 14, 2009****4:00 PM**

- † Eugene Zontek (28 anniv.)
Req. by the Zontek family
- † Rose Went
Req. by Cecilia Soldatek
- † Genevieve Sielagoski
Req. by Robert & Mary Shiner
- † John Giannini (4th Anniv.)
Req. by Anne Giannini and family

Sunday, February 15, 2009- 6th Sunday in O.T.**9:00 AM**

- † Cieslak family
Req. by the Stoneberg family
- † M/M A. Taraszkiwicz
Req. by the Smolinski family
- † Stella Jordan
Req. by Bill & Donna Smolinski

11:00 AM

- † Martha Frontczak
Req. by her family & friends
- † Anne Kruszka
Req. by her family & friends
- † Cecilia Kirkegaard
Req. by Kathleen Esdale, RNC
- † For All Living & Deceased Parishioners,
Benefactors & Friends of St. Hyacinth

Monday, February 16, 2009**9:00 AM**

- † James Shorkey
Req. by his wife Natalie & family
- † Elizabeth Jendrowski
Req. by Elizabeth Tyrakul

**The Holy Father's Monthly Prayer
Intentions for February 2009**

General: That the Pastors of the Church may always be docile to the action of the Holy Spirit in their teaching and in their service to God's people.

Mission: That the Church in Africa may find adequate ways and means to promote reconciliation, justice and peace efficaciously, according to the indications of the Synod of the Bishops' Special Assembly for Africa.

Tuesday, February 17, 2009**9:00 AM**

- † Stella Jordan
Bill & Donna Smolinski
- † Wanda Zwolinski
Req. by her friends

Wednesday, February 18, 2009**9:00 AM**

- † Stanley Orłowski
Req. by Adele Nowordworski
- † Bob Taylor
Req. by Sabina Jagodzinski

Thursday – February 19, 2009 Dantis**Friday, February 20, 2009****9:00 AM**

- † Cynthia Malinowski
Req. by Gus & Cathy Hloros
- † Rita Gnaster
Req. by Veronica & Marcee Pajak

Saturday, February 21, 2009**4:00 PM**

- † Joseph Zontek (4th anniv.)
Req. by the Zontek family
- † Donald Clarke
Req. by his wife Bernice & family
- † Mary Ancerewicz
Req. by her family & friends

Sunday, February 22, 2009- 7th Sunday in O.T.**9:00 AM**

- † Helen Szczepaniak
Req. by her daughter Rita Szczepaniak
- † John Przeslica
Req. by Hedy Gaskey
- † Leocadia Mackiewicz
Req. by her family

11:00 AM

- † Eugene Ochylski
Req. by Edward Ochylski
- † Joanne Thiel
Req. by her family
- † Genevieve Sielagoski
Req. by Frances Szymanski
- † For All Living & Deceased Parishioners,
Benefactors & Friends of St. Hyacinth


Prayer ©LPI

Please keep our sick and caregivers in your prayers:

Fr. Francis Skalski	Willie Howard
Ann Bush	Frank Score
Joe Pelak	Fr. David Przedwiecki
Frank Szymanski	Marion Bobryk
Virginia Barnowski	Genevieve Stoneberg
Christine Storms	Tish Germain
Emily Pakos	Sophie Koper
Laura Muklewicz	Joseph Konfara
Danny Mason	Adela Krajenka
Arthur Wiczko	Kathleen Novak
Mrs. Bogunia	Nancy Milewski
Jessie Osmialowski	Lorraine Koss
Nicholas Frontczak	Carol Miloser
Ester Wichlacz	Jennifer Formella
Lillian Demska-Tylenda	John Majewski
Mary Skalski	Barbara Sokol
Elizabeth Posluszny	Christine Wandas
Sylvia Russell	Ray Skalski
Richard Ludwig	Cheryl Taranowski
Ronald Sienkiewicz	Charlotte Check
Nancy and Frank Davis	Dianne Zamojski
Dorothy Rzeppa	Lottie Machowski
John Lesneskie	Phyllis Kubicki
Irene Stadnik	Larry Milobowski
Ingrid Pilarowski	Almond Cormier
Rita Szczepaniak	Allen Shooks
Veronica Kuskowski	Jane Paterka
Daniel and Susan Pietrous	Mary Schultz
Tom Przybylinski	Don Samull
Arthur Tomaszycycki	Christine Jarzombek
Stella Shooks	Genevieve Pielack
Michael Fennelly	Raymond Noble
Mary Antoncew	Theresa Mander
Clara Tomaszycycki	Matthew Moshe
Andrew Czajka	Jonathan Smith #79
Barbara VanAssche	Adnan Alshab
Kenny & Violet Tyminski	Emily Wiklanski
Lorraine Klekotka	



We will be happy to include the name of the those whom you wish to pray for. Also please help us keep the listing up to date by notifying us when a requested prayer intention may be removed. If you have someone to add to the sicklist, or have an update, please call the Rectory at 313-922-1507. Thank you.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK - Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

Poletown Church Pilgrimage: Saint Hyacinth will once again be included in the Pilgrimage of Poletown Churches. The American Polish Assistance Association (APAA) will host the 2009 Holy Thursday Pilgrimage of Poletown Churches on Thursday, April 9. This year, the pilgrimage will include St. Hyacinth, St. Albertus, Sweetest Heart of Mary, St. Florian, Our Lady Queen of Apostles, and Holy Cross P.N.C.C. Bus transportation will be available from Eastpointe, and possibly other Macomb county locations depending upon interest. The first stop for the pilgrimage will be Saint Hyacinth to attend the 6:00 PM Mass. The pilgrims will enjoy dinner in the school hall following the Mass. Advanced reservations are necessary. Please call the APAA office in Eastpointe for reservations and additional information at (586) 778-9766. Office hours are Wed. - Sat., 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

Lunch-Fun-Bingo Social - Sunday February 15th at 12:30 PM in the Transfiguration Activity Center (5830 Simon St....off of Mound Rd.). The social is in alliance with Saint Stanislaus, Resurrection, and Saint Albertus. Cost for tickets is \$5.00. Advanced reservations are required and can be made by calling Jean at 313-664-0257.

Blessing of the Polish American Dance Ensembles
The seventh annual blessing of the Polish American Dance Ensembles will take place on Sunday March 22, at the 11:00 AM Mass. This annual event is sure to please your heart and soul as Saint Hyacinth will host hundreds of Detroit area Polish dancers. Mark your calendar now so you don't miss this beautiful Mass and tribute to these dancers who work so hard to perpetuate our beautiful heritage.

The Call of St. Paul: Evangelizing and Building Communities of Disciples
Walk with St. Paul on his missionary journey and reflect on the words and themes of his Letters to the Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. Delve into the culture of St. Paul's time and understand how his message speaks to us today. This series is presented at Sacred Heart Major Seminary on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on February 21, March 21, April 18, and May 16, by the Department of Parish Life and Services, Office for Evangelization, The series is free; however, there will be a free-will offering to cover the cost of refreshments. No registration is required. For more information, call 313-237-5762.

What Can I Do Before Lent Begins?

Just imagine that this Lent is going to be different from every other Lent we've experienced. Imagine that there will be many graces offered me this year. Let's even imagine that God is going to help transform our lives, with greater freedom, greater joy, deeper desires for love and service.

Lent can be a wonderful season of grace if we give ourselves to it. So, in these days before Lent, we need to prepare our hearts. We need to prepare by realizing how much we want to grow in Christ, how much we need to lighten our spirits and experience some His joy, and how much some parts of our lives really need changing. If one imagines Lent as an "ordeal" or a time to dread in some way, then you are already pre-disposed to not get much out of it. These days before Lent are a time to start anticipating something wonderful that is about to happen.

Our sense of excitement and anticipation will grow more easily if we begin to imagine what God wants to give us. There is really something coming that we can truly look forward to. If we get too focused on ourselves, and what we are going to do or not do, we could risk missing the gift God wants to give us. We have to keep aware of the fact that grace comes from God. This is about God's great desire to bless us. Then, it is easier for us to imagine that what we really want to do is place ourselves

in a space to receive what God wants to give us.

Taking some time to get ready for Lent will ensure that we aren't going to miss the first week or two of Lent, because we are just getting started. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. We want to be ready to really take off rather than just beginning to think about Lent on that day. Part of what makes a vacation or a special anniversary so special is the build-up to it.

Before we get to Ash Wednesday, we should start asking ourselves some questions and we should start with some preparations. "What does God want to give me this year?" This question may require that I slow down a bit and listen to my inner spirit. For example, even if I'm very busy, I realize I'm hungry when I hear my stomach start "growling." "What am I going to be doing on Ash Wednesday?" Too often, Ash Wednesday is like every other day, except that I manage to get to church and get ashes on my forehead. Is there anything else I can do on Ash Wednesday? How will fasting and abstaining happen for me, for my family on that special day?

It doesn't take a lot of time to prepare for the beginning of Lent. It just takes desire and focus. God can do so much with that. We can give God more of a space to touch our hearts if we begin to establish some simple patterns. We could wake up each morning, and for something like a half a minute to a minute, stand by the edge of our beds, and just ask the Lord for the grace to let this day be one in which I long for the beginning of Lent. Perhaps we need to ask for specific helps or graces to get ready to begin Lent. Whatever we try to say, our Lord can understand the Spirit trying to speak through our simple words. And all it takes is the time to find and put on our slippers. And each night, in the days ahead, we can practice giving thanks to God before I go to bed. This simple pattern, in the morning and evening can stir our spirits to look forward to and prepare for Lent, as a season of grace.

May our Lord bless us all on this journey ahead.

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Saint Hyacinth Roman Catholic Parish

Polska Parafia Świętego Jacka

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PASTOR: Rev. Janusz Iwan

PARISH SECRETARY: Darlene Zabrzanski

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Jerry Sielagoski

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturday: 4:00 p.m. (English)

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. (Polish) & 11:00 a.m. (English)

HOLYDAYS: 6:00 p.m. (English)

DAILY MASS: 9:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday*

FIRST FRIDAY OF MONTH: Mass at 11:00 AM*

CONFESSIONS: Saturday, 3:15 to 3:45 p.m.

BAPTISMS: Every Sunday of the Year at 10:00 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Evening Hours: By Appointment Only

SICK CALLS: Anytime.

MARRIAGE: Couples wishing to be married at Saint Hyacinth are requested to contact the Rectory at least six months prior to their wedding date.