



# Holy Name Society Newsletter

*Spreading Devotion to the Most Holy Name of Jesus*

## INTO THE LIGHT OF TRUTH

**W**ords of sacred scripture say it for us: come Lord Jesus. Every mass bids us to pray: come, come again in glory as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. At this Christmas season we also should remember that He will come again in glory and that He always comes to us with His grace as we receive the sacraments and exercise our gifts in the Spirit.

But do we really want Jesus to come into our hearts, and

lives and actions, or are we content to simply commemorate a past event? If we really want to be in union with Jesus and His life we must not just remember the great event of God becoming man, we must want it, hope for it and therefore we must prepare for it. This is why the Church gives us the Liturgical season of Advent, to help us prepare for the three-fold coming of the Lord. In Advent, the scripture readings focus our attention on that coming of Jesus at Beth-

lehem.

In the beautiful text of Mark and Luke when all the earth was in the midst of the quiet night Thy Almighty Word leapt down from heaven. Night here indicates ignorance and unbelief. So the Light came to the world in the dim light of the stable amid the starlit fields of the Shepherds, a child is born to the humble virgin mother Mary. What a night! So we celebrate in faith — a faith

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## A GIFT THAT CAN'T BE WRAPPED

**T**he frantic Cardinal rushed up the stairs, dashed past the Swiss Guards, and burst breathless into the Papal Apartment. "Your Holiness, your Holiness," he shouted, "Christ is coming! The Vatican observatory spotted Him on the horizon. He's nearly here. What should we do, your Holiness, what should we do?" With a calm and steady voice, the Pope replied, "Look busy, my son, look busy."

Christ has died, Christ is risen, and yes, Christ will come again. So how do we

prepare ourselves in heart and soul for Jesus' coming?

Preparing for His coming means preparing for His full coming, His triple coming—past, present, and future. Christ came in the past in the wonder of the Incarnation, and during Advent the Church re-reads and relives the great events of salvation history. In the present, Christ comes to us in the mystery of grace. The grace of God is the gratuitous gift of His own life infused by the Holy Spirit into our soul to heal it of sin and to sanctify it. In the unknown future,

Christ will return in glory at the end of time, and God's triumph over the revolt of evil will take the form of the Last Judgment after the final cosmic upheaval of the this passing world. Remembering Christ's first coming, being sensitive to His constant coming, and being ready for His final coming can bear various kinds of fruit in our mind and heart and in our interactions with others.

One way of preparing in heart and mind for the coming of the Lord has to do

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## THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

- Promotes the honor and glory of our Divine God and the personal sanctification of its members by acts of love and devotion to the most Holy Name of Jesus. This spiritual life of its members is a perpetual act of reverence and love.
- Promotes respect for the most Holy Name of God, faith in the Catholic Church and the Magisterium, loyalty to one's country, and respect for all lawful authority, both civil and religious
- Our members perform the Corporal Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, shelter to the homeless, tend the sick, visit those in prison, and bury the dead; as well as the Spiritual Works of Mercy: to convert sinners, instruct the ignorant, counsel the wayward, comfort the sorrowing, bear adversity patiently, forgive offenses, and pray for the living and the dead on a parochial, diocesan and national level.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to thank the delegates at the 39<sup>th</sup> annual National Holy Name Convention, held in October at the Miramar Retreat Center in Duxbury, MA, for extending their confidence in electing me to the Office of President. I accepted the nomination with the utmost humility and hope that I am able to fulfill their expectations over my term of office. I look forward to working cooperatively with the rest of Executive Board members and all members of the Holy Name Society to lead this very special Confraternity of the Most Holy Names of God and Jesus.

At the convention banquet, I introduced all those in attendance to John Bavis. John was an usher at the 8 a.m. Mass in my then new parish of St. Nicholas in Abington, MA. John invited me to my first Holy Name meeting back in 1977. He did this by extending to me a *personal invitation* to come to the meeting to see what it was all about.

The point I tried to make that evening was the concept of extending a *personal invitation*. I encourage you to ask each active member of your Society to personally invite just

one person to your next meeting. Start with existing members who may not have been attending meetings on a regular basis. We are always looking for ways to increase membership in our Societies. If this effort gets just one additional member attending your monthly meeting, you are making progress. Good luck.

My prayerful best wishes to you and your families for a holy and blessed, happy and healthy new year.

*Joe Lapointe*  
NAHNS President

## FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

In the Catholic Church, the month of January is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. Beginning in the 16th century Catholic piety has associated entire months to special devotions. It was on the occasion of the rite of Circumcision that a name was given to children among Jews. So the Church uses the same Gospel as that of the Feast of the Circumcision, and dwells on the second part, which tells us that "the Child was called Jesus", "as God had bid that He should be called". This name means Savior, for "there is no other name given to men whereby we must be saved". Holy Mother Church reveals to us the greatness of His name.

Devotion to the Holy Name is deeply rooted in the Sacred

Scriptures, especially in the Acts of the Apostles. After the Council of Lyons in 1274, Pope Gregory commissioned the Dominican Order under the direction of Blessed John of Vercelli to promote devotions to the Holy Name of God. They did this with a special zeal promoting devotions across all of Europe. The official origin of the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus is traced to the sixteenth century, when it was celebrated by the Franciscan Order. It was promoted in a special manner by St. Bernard, St. Bernardine of Siena, St. John Capistran and by the Franciscan Order. This special feast was extended to the whole Church in 1727 during the Pontificate of Innocent XIII.

The late Pope John Paul II restored the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus when he added it to the liturgical calendar, to be observed on January 3, bearing the official status of an "optional memorial". The feast was formally restored to the liturgical calendar as an optional memorial with the release of the revised Roman Missal in March 2002.

The Feast of the Holy Name is an important memorial for professed members of the Holy Name Society - all members are encouraged to attend Mass on this day or pray the Liturgy of the Hours for the Holy Name, or recite the Litany to the most Holy Name of Jesus or make another special devotion to the Holy Name on January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## INTO THE LIGHT OF TRUTH

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that is essential in order to truly understand and appreciate the purpose of the celebration. The epitaph on Cardinal Newman's tomb emphasizes this point: "out of the images and appearances of things into the light of the truth."

The Christmas event points also to another coming – the coming of the Lord at the end

of time, that mysterious coming that intrigues us and which Jesus spoke of in sobering words. Watch and pray, for you do not know the hour. We do need to prepare for that event. If we live according to the promise of that first coming we need not fear the frightening prospects of the second coming.

Jesus himself tells us why we need not be afraid. His mes-

sage to His apostles to not be afraid is echoed by the late Pope John Paul II that day he assumed the burden of chief shepherd. The reason why we need not be afraid and the reason why we should prepare in our hearts for His coming is that God's grace frees us from the night of sin and death, out of the night into the glorious light of His presence and His life. We can celebrate because He has taught us the way to be

happy and the power to be glad.

Let us then prepare well not just exteriorly with lights and sound, feasting and frolicking - all those ephemeral preparations, but interiorly clearing our minds and hearts for a truly blessed and merry Christmas!

*Fr. Thomas Hayes OP  
NAHNS Spiritual Director*

## A GIFT THAT CAN'T BE WRAPPED

*(Continued from page 1)*

with resolving obstacles that impede His arrival, for example, strained or broken relationships in our families. Sometimes parents and children cease to communicate, brothers and sisters feud with each other, and ex-spouses of relatives become outcasts to the rest of the family. The energetic Spanish hymn, *Amemos de Corazon*, pointedly asks: "Como puedes tu orar, enojado con tu hermano – Angry with your brother, how can you pray?" It reminds us that reconciliation, the gift that can't be wrapped, paves the way for us to welcome Christ as He comes to us.

Healing broken relationships takes time, patience, and creativity. Reaching out to alienated friends or relatives may take the form of greeting cards sent to them for many months or years with no ex-

pectation of a reply...phone calls which may result in no more than awkward pleasanties or brusque rebuffs...the willingness to meet in some neutral place to discuss the hurts of the past...a lot of listening...prayers for healing and peace. It requires courage to embark on the journey of reconciliation. The destination may never be

reached, but sometimes the healing is thorough and wondrous. We may be the one alienated, and we may have to be willing to forgive and be reintegrated into our family. In the willing and effort to be reconciled with another, we prepare for Jesus, and we enter the mystery of Christ the healer.

Seeking reconciliation reflects the power of all three comings of the Lord. He came the first time, not to model for Christ-

mas cards, but to reconcile us to God and to one another. That coming of Christ bears fruit in our willingness to forgive, to be forgiven and to promote reconciliation. Jesus comes to us constantly in the mystery of grace, He equips us to be those peacemakers

*"In the willingness and effort to be reconciled with another, we prepare for Jesus, and we enter the mystery of Christ the healer."*

whom He called blessed, and through our peacemaking He extends His grace to those around us. Finally, when He will come at the end of our life and at the end of the world He will reward those who did good to the least of His brothers and sisters.

We reinforce our willingness to forgive and be forgiven, and we rehearse our reconciling tactics, when we exchange the Sign of Peace at Mass. That hand shake or embrace is not just another "Hello, how

are you." It's not a merely social greeting. It is the offer of **Christ's** peace, forgiveness, and healing to those around us and the acceptance of the peace they offered to us. The Sign of Peace is offered and accepted by Catholics around the world: what a worldwide force for reconciliation we could be if we would but realize the true meaning of the liturgical Sign of Peace. It is a symbolic way of preparing ourselves in heart and soul for the coming of Christ in Holy Communion.

So many gifts are given on the feast of St. Nicholas, or on Christmas, or at Epiphany, but the gift that can't be wrapped is the gift of reconciliation, and it needs to be part of our preparing for Jesus, in Whose Holy Name we trust.

*Rev. Paul Chovanec  
St. Justin Martyr Parish,  
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## HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

### **Brooklyn Diocesan Union HNS**

The annual General meeting, Benediction and Christmas Blessing was held at Resurrection R.C. Church in Brooklyn, New York. Fr. Dennis Farrell was the leader. Members brought unwrapped new toys for little boys and girls that were later distributed to children of Marine Corps members providing service to our country.

Fr. Christopher Coleman, Parochial Vicar of the Our Lady of Victory parish installed the new officers of the Brooklyn Diocesan Union at a special installation ceremony held at the Parish of St. Martin dePorres on September 13, 2009.

On Sunday, February 7, 2010 Immaculate Conception R. C. Church in Astoria, NY will host the Benediction and General Meeting. Fr. Fernando Ferrarese will lead the Benediction. The Diocesan Union Holy Name Recognition Mass will be held at St. James Cathedral-Basilica in Brooklyn, NY on Sunday, February 21, 2010. Bishop Ignatius Canello will be the celebrant.

### **Saint Eugene, Yonkers HNS**

The Corporate Communion Mass was held November 8th, with participation from members of the Yonkers Police and Fire Departments.

### **South Bronx District, Bronx Division HNS**

The annual Day of Recollection was held October 17 in the Church of Christ the King. Fifty members were present from six local parishes. Three talks were given followed by confessions and Mass.

The annual Feast of Christ the King outdoor procession, Mass, and Communion dinner was held November 22nd at the Church of Our Savior on Washington Avenue in the Bronx. Members of several parishes were inducted into the Society.

### **Saint Francis Xavier, Bronx HNS**

Members conducted the annual Christmas Giving Tree project to provide gifts for residents of the Williamsbridge Nursing Home.

The Society is sponsoring the development of a new parish web site.

### **Saint Claire of Assisi, Bronx HNS**

Members assisted at the 11th annual Collection for Babies sponsored by the St. Claire's Pro-Life Group.

### **Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Elmsford, HNS**

The Society hosted the annual District Memorial Mass for Deceased Members on Thanksgiving Day.

### **Holy Family Church, West Newton, PA HNS**

The Annual Mass for the Cause of the Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli was held November 22 at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Philadelphia.

### **Cleveland Diocesan Union HNS**

The 109<sup>th</sup> Mass and Prayer Vigil was hosted by the Holy Name Society from Corpus Christi Church. The vigil included Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and Mass. The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Paschal Petcavich, OSB. Benediction was led by Deacon David J. Lundeen. The 110<sup>th</sup> Mass and Prayer Vigil was hosted by the St. Mary of the Assumption HNS. Fr. John M. Kumse celebrated Mass and conducted the Benediction.

The John M. Kovach Award is a special award that was established by the Cleveland Diocesan Union to honor and acknowledge a Holy Name Society member who best exemplifies the daily dedication and service that John Kovach, now deceased, rendered to the Catholic Church and Holy Name Society. In recognition of his many contributions to the Holy Name Society and the Cleveland Diocesan Union, Martin Fontaine of St. Leo the Great Parish in Cleveland received the award in 2009.

Martin has been a Holy Name Society Member for 67 years and during that time span he has served on the Parish, Deanery and Diocesan levels of the Holy Name Society. He has served as President for two different parish societies and has also served as a Vice-President, Secretary, Publicity Chairman and Spiritual Apostolate. On the Deanery level he has served as Spiritual Apostolate and Program Book Chairman. He received the Southwest Deanery's President's Award in 1992 and the Medallion Circle Award in 1985.

He has been the Diocesan Union's Vercelli Awareness Chairman for 23 and 1/2 years and in his first 3 years on the Diocesan Board he traveled 18,000 miles to promote the Canonization effort of Blessed John.

Plans are in place to attend the Annual Pro-Life March on Washington DC on January 21, 2010. Buses will leave from select parishes across the diocese. This event is held annually to protest against the Roe v Wade Supreme Court Decision which legalized abortion in America.

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Diocesan Union Convention will be held on Sunday, February 20, 2010.

## HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

### Buffalo Diocesan Union HNS

A special Healing Mass was held at the Fatima Shrine in Lewiston, November 29th. The main celebrant for the Mass was the Reverend Paul Sabo, Spiritual Moderator of the DUHNS. After Mass the Anointing of the Sick took place followed immediately by a procession to the statue of Blessed John of Vercelli, Rosary, and Benediction.

The local Annual Convention was held December 5th at St. Andrew's Parish in Sloan, NY. The theme for the convention was "The Lord is Our Life - Come Follow the Lord". Morning Mass was followed by breakfast and four wonderful speakers covering a variety of topics of interest to the members of the Society.

### Saint Peter's Torrington, CT HNS

St. Peter's Holy Name Society of Torrington, CT celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday November 8. The parish HNS started under the direction of Msgr. William P. Botticelli. The parish society currently has 210 members. This milestone was celebrated with a Mass of Thanksgiving / Memorial Mass for the deceased members and former pastors. Auxiliary Bishop Peter A. Rosazza, a native of Torrington was the celebrant. The featured speaker for the event was Joseph W. Lapointe, recently elected president of the NAHNS.

### Baltimore Archdiocesan Union HNS

The Baltimore Union has initiated several actions making it easier for parishes to host the quarterly meetings. Hosting and attending these meetings is the best method for members to keep up on the activities of the local Holy Name Societies and also provide valuable input to the Executive Board on how they can better support the parish societies.

On Sunday, December 6 St. Clement I Parish HNS located in Lansdowne, MD hosted the Quarterly meeting of the Baltimore Diocesan Holy Name Union. The Annual Seminarian Raffle party was held. This is an annual fund raiser for the Seminarians in the diocese.

### San Antonio, TX AUHNS

A special Hour of Prayer and Pro-Life Dedication will be held on January 24<sup>th</sup> at Holy Family Catholic Church in New Braunfels, Texas.

Bishop Oscar Cantu, Auxiliary Bishop of the San Antonio Archdiocese was the keynote speaker at the Annual Awards Banquet held last October. His talk was on Jesus and His many names which stressed the fact that Jesus makes Himself personally available through many different names in order to reach everyone of us.

### Las Vegas, NV Diocese HNS

The Parish Confraternities of the Holy Name of God and Jesus of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Thomas More of the Diocese of Las Vegas jointly attended the Mass and Prayer Service with the intention for the Canonization Cause of Blessed John of Vercelli. The venue was St. Francis of Assisi Parish Church, Henderson, November 30. Celebrant for the Mass was Fr. John T. Assalone and the Prayer Service was led by Fr. Mark J. Gantley, Parish Administrator and Spiritual Director of the St. Francis of Assisi Holy Name Society.

The Mass and prayer service was the culmination of a nine-day novena for the Canonization Cause of Blessed John which started on November 22nd.

### NAHNS 2010 National Convention

The Executive Board is finalizing the location for the 2010 NAHNS National Convention. This convention will focus on the Constitution and Policy Manual of the NAHNS and will establish the strategic direction of the National Holy Name Society for the next 5 years. Delegates attending this convention will be asked to come to the convention with recommendations for how to better structure the activities of the National association so it can meet the needs of its members. Ron G.

Schmitz, Third Vice President is leading the selection process. The location for the convention is due out in early 2010.

The current Constitution and Policy Manual can be downloaded from the NAHNS website under the NAHNS link.

### NAHNS Technology Advancement Committee

NAHNS announces new members of the Technology Advancement Committee. This committee is responsible for improving the activities of the NAHNS Communications Office and other communications within the NAHNS using improved information systems. The committee has responsibility for the NAHNS website and Newsletter.

Mike Gores, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is the new Chair of the committee.

Committee members are: Cleveland Cosom, Communications Office Director; Bill Rysavy, NAHNS Co-editor, and John Chaklos, Supply Office.

They are currently working on prioritizing projects. If you have a suggestion for how to improve the operations of the NAHNS utilizing information technology please contact the Chair at [info@nahns.com](mailto:info@nahns.com)

## THE HOLY NAME, THE INFANT OF PRAGUE, AND THE SACREDNESS OF HUMAN LIFE

The greatest actor in the world must dread at least two things that can easily upstage him - an animal, because it's so unpredictable on stage, and a baby, because it's so attractive and mesmerizing. Little wonder then that, when the Word became flesh to dwell among us, He came as a helpless infant, Mary's Baby, God's Son, Jesus the Christ.

The feasts of the Christmas Season show us different

*"... devotion to the Christ Child still has much to teach us. It should move us to defend with full vigor the life of every unborn child ..."*

facets of the great mystery of the Incarnation, and one of those feasts, the Optional Memorial of the Holy Name of Jesus, helps us both to ponder the great mystery and at the same time be enthralled by the fascinating Baby whose Name was first announced by an angel: Jesus!

The feasts have a complicated history in different parts of the ancient world. In some places, January 1st was simply the Octave of Christmas, and in other places it was the feast of Mary the Mother of God, while elsewhere it was the feast of the Circumcision (and naming) of Jesus. The Gallican Rite (in what is now modern day France) observed a feast in honor of the Circumcision on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January from the sixth century onward, but Rome continued to celebrate its own Marian feast on that day, accepting the feast of the Circumcision only after the eleventh century.

Devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus, widespread in the late Middle Ages through the preaching of St. Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444) found liturgical expression in the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, first conceded to the Franciscans in the sixteenth century, then extended to the whole Church. Today, the Optional Memorial of the Holy Name

of Jesus is celebrated on January 3<sup>rd</sup> (though in 2010, it is displaced by the Solemnity of the Epiphany).

Now, back to that mesmerizing Baby! Love for the Christ Child has taken many, many forms. One of them is the Infant Jesus of Prague, and His principal feast day was for centuries - you guessed it - the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus! (The following information is found in Rev. Ludvik Nemeč's book, "The Infant of Prague.")

In 1556, Maria Manriquez de Lara brought the statue of the Infant Jesus to Prague, Bohemia, now the Czech Republic. The statue had been a precious heirloom of her family for many years. She went to Bohemia to marry a Czech nobleman, Vratislav of Pernstyn. The statue remained in the royal household until the next century.

Eventually, Princess Polyxena Lobkowitz inherited the statue and, to spread devotion to the Divine Infant, she pre-

sented the image to the Carmelites in Prague in 1628. Thus it came to the Carmelite Church of Our Lady of Victory where it is enshrined to this day. One of the Carmelites, Father Cyril of the Mother of God, began to spread devotion to the Infant King.

The City of Prague was invaded by Swedish troops in 1630. After two short years of honor, the statue was tossed behind an altar by the plundering soldiers, and there it stayed for seven years. In 1635, the Carmelites returned to their church, and Father Cyril sought and found the discarded statue.

Zealous as always, he began again to promote devotion to the Infant King, and various benefactors started to

provide funds for the Carmelite community, for the Church of Our Lady of Victory, and for the repair and beautification of the statue of the Infant of Prague.

One day, Father Cyril was praying in the chapel, and in his heart he heard the words, "The more you honor me, the more I will bless you." He believed that Christ was speaking to him, and he renewed his dedication to spreading devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague.

After many favors and miracles, the statue was enshrined

officially in the Church in 1644 on the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, and that date has remained its principal feast day. Father Cyril died in 1675. In 1741, the famous Talmberg Chapel (named for the family that donated it) was built to enshrine the statue of the Miraculous Infant of Prague.

While the clothing of the Infant of Prague may seem very foreign to our way of thinking today, devotion to the Christ Child still has much to teach us. It should move us to defend with full vigor the life of every unborn child. It should inspire us to welcome children

into the life of the Church. It should motivate

teachers in both public and Catholic schools to teach their students how to be good both academically and morally. It should move us to find that child-like part of our heart so as to enter into the Kingdom of God "like a little child." It should drive us to pray and work for the reinvigoration of the Catholic Faith so that some day fervent believers everywhere may once again exclaim, "Blessed be the Most Holy Name of Jesus Christ, now and forever more."

*Reverend Paul Chovanec  
Pastor St. Justin Martyr Parish,  
Houston, TX*

*"... it should drive us to pray and work for the reinvigoration of the Catholic Faith so that some day fervent believers everywhere may once again exclaim, 'Blessed be the Most Holy Name of Jesus Christ, now and forever more.'"*

## PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR JESUS

I'd like to think that we all as Christians, usually in the autumn of life, begin to consider our mortality – perhaps our legacy – in the light of eternity. Unless we harbor the unrealistic expectation of “taking it with us”, we recognize that we are born with nothing and will leave with nothing; that we are made for God and will soon return to Him. Although some may pass their way through phases of anger, depression or fear before finding acceptance, we all eventually begin the process of readying ourselves and our world for the end of time.

Like expectant mothers who order their house while awaiting the birth of a child, the faithful awaiting death prepare their surroundings and their hearts for a visit by the divine houseguest: Jesus. Things that were once considered necessities become at best mere fluff, and at worst a bother. Keepsakes and memories that held a special place in this life, are now little more than inconsequential clutter. As they tidy their homes, they hopefully tidy their souls in penance, quiet reflection, and prayer.

Jesus tells us: When you pray, go into your inner room, close the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. (Mt 6:6) So, just as we put aside all of

our worries and distractions when we go to meet Jesus in prayer, and quiet our souls and examine our consciences (and go to Confession, if necessary) before receiving Him in Holy Communion, so, we too, with no small sense of urgency, quiet and focus our hearts for our final meeting with Him in this life. It's important to remember that we never know when that hour is coming.

Saint Ignatius, when developing his spiritual exercises, understood the need for us to regularly ponder our mortality. He stressed that we must always be ready – watchfully waiting with lamps lit in patient anticipation and joyful hope of the bridegroom's arrival. We must ask ourselves: What will be buried with me when I die? What are the most important things to me? Have I become what I cling to? What modern idols do I worship? What do I need to let go of? In essence, *we write our own eulogy.*

Equally important, we divest ourselves of the fear and pride that keep us from mending relationships. No “things said or things left unsaid” anymore; we take care of unfinished business. The time is nigh. We settle our differences with our brothers and

sisters before leaving our gift at the altar - so as to not put ourselves at risk of facing the Divine Judge unprepared. (cf. Mt 5:23-26) For in the end we shall stand unadorned in front of that same just Judge on a path comprised of a lifetime of thoughts, words, and actions that will also direct our course for eternity.

My Dad began readying himself well before the diagnosis was made. After showing his family how to live a life of self-sacrificial love, he showed us too, in just 10 short days, how to die. He gathered his family around him, received the sacraments and quieted himself; at peace with God and neighbor. At the end of a lifetime of serving us, he allowed us time to serve him. Although we still weren't ready to let him go, we could see that he had sufficiently prepared himself to part with all that encompassed his temporal existence - the relationships, the possessions, the now frail physical body - and to be joined for eternity with the Divine.

Would that we all be so well prepared ...

*Bill Rysavy*  
Archdiocese of St. Paul / Minneapolis AAHNS

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## PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Dear Lord, we pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your Priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry. We pray that Mary will guide your Priests to follow her own words: “Do whatever He tells you.” (Jn 2:5) May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse. May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross. May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls. **Amen**



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

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SPREADING DEVOTION TO THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

## THE HEALTH OF THE ORGANIZATION

### Financial – Summary: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

#### Cash Flow:

	General Fund	Supply Office	Newsletter	Total Cash Flow
Total Receipts	\$17,212.25	\$25,259.22	\$2,039.00	\$44,510.47
Total Expenses	\$12,657.72	\$23,628.99	\$1,612.00	\$37,898.71
Profit (Loss)	\$4,554.53	\$1,630.23	\$427.00	\$6,611.76
Ending Cash Balance	\$8,798.17	\$2,897.02	\$1,344.95	\$13,040.14

#### Long Term Obligations:

Beginning Balance	\$19,581.24
Payments	\$3,934.13
Withdrawals	\$921.82
Closing Balance	\$16,568.93

The NAHNS General Fund owes a balance of \$16,568.93 to the Special Fund for promoting the Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli.

#### Membership:

The number of Archdiocesan / Diocesan Federations, Unions, or Societies that paid dues to support the National Association of the Holy Name Society (NAHNS) in 2009 was twenty-one.

#### Newsletter Circulation:

Individual & Parish Subscriptions	253
Diocesan Union Officer Subscriptions	77
Communication Contacts	27
USCCB Bishops (complimentary)	269
<b>Total</b>	<b>626</b>

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