



## ST. MARY'S & ST. PATRICK'S NEWSLETTER

Nov. 8 & 15, 2020 • Edition 22 • Weeks 34 & 35



*Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic*

### Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family....

Today I'd like to gratefully look back to a remarkable accomplishment we just had as a community and look forward to Christmas.

Because of our inability to gather a large crowd in the Parish Center Hall, this year's Spaghetti Supper was unlike any other. Our volunteers and staff strategized a winning plan to turn a sit-down meal into a pop-up drive-through operation that would make Dunkin Donuts envious. ☺

And here are the results! **500** cars came, making it a SELL-OUT success! (And the Coeymans Police made sure that it all flowed smoothly.) We are so grateful to George McHugh, Sr. & Family, who donated all the expenses of the meal to St. Patrick's in memory of their beloved late wife and mother **Anne Deflumer McHugh**, the supper raised **\$8,383** for St. Patrick's!

Frese's Catering & Bakery cooked us a delicious dinner and topped it off with their unbeatable homemade rolls and bread. Members of the Knights of Columbus came to help out along with many other parish volunteers and staff, and still others gave donations to make the event a success. And our tireless chairperson, Donna Hagen, conducted the whole orchestra and offered countless hours of her time to make it the success that it was.

I beamed with "pastor pride" (which is what gives me an inside glimpse of parents' feelings when looking with delight upon their kids) as I watched our parish family and our supporters from St. Mary's use our faith and ingenuity to convert a time-tested supper format we've used for decades into the creative and successful afternoon that it was. Thank you to one and all who made it such a delightful event in the midst of a challenging time.

Now, after looking back at a Spaghetti Supper that was like none we've ever seen before, let's look ahead to a Christmas that has no precedent! This year Christmas is on a Friday, which actually is a wonderful day of the week for it to be during a Pandemic, because that will allow us to celebrate our Christmas Masses not just on Christmas Day and Christmas Eve, but **over the course of four days: December 24-27.**

Based on the trends we've been seeing with attendance at our Masses, it looks like these six Mass times over four days should accommodate everyone who is comfortable attending a public Mass and allow us not to turn away any visitors or newcomers:

12/24	12/25	12/26	12/27
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
4:00 pm – St. Mary's	9:00 am – St. Mary's	4:30 pm – St. Mary's	9:30 am – St. Patrick's
8:00 pm – St. Patrick's	11:00 am – St. Patrick's		

Our goal is to **allow you to choose which Mass you'd like to attend ahead of time**, to offer you a reserved spot in a pew for your family (with social distance and all the fixin's) and to assign you tickets for that spot so that you can be assured of your place. You may already be familiar with this concept, since many parishes choose to use a ticket system every year, but in our case, it is simply a prudent procedure for Coronavirus times. Because the obligation to attend Mass in person on Christmas has been suspended this year, **you could choose to attend one Christmas Mass on Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday.**

At all six Masses over the course of those four days we will be using Christmas season readings and singing Christmas songs. To make room for everyone who wants to come celebrate Christmas, we'd ask you to **come just one time** over the course of those four days. And to make it easy, there will be no A-L or M-Z Masses, we just ask that you attend your home parish (not the sister parish) this Christmas so we have room for all and can still maintain social distance. This way you can plan to easily and safely incorporate Mass into your family Christmas celebrations.

We will give all parishioners an equal chance to sign up for a Mass. The week of Nov. 14-15, all parishioners at the M-Z Masses will have a chance to put a paper request for the number of family members in the collection box. The week of Nov. 21-22, all parishioners at the A-L Mass will have a chance to do the same. Once all those regular Mass attendees have a chance to choose their preferred Mass time and day, we'll begin making the seating chart and confirming the reservation with all those parishioners.

Example:

<p>REQUEST FOR A SPOT AT CHRISTMAS 2020 MASS AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, COXSACKIE</p> <p>Please <u>circle</u> which ONE Mass you would like to attend for Christmas this year:</p> <p>THURSDAY 12/24 at 4:00 PM FRIDAY 12/25 at 9:00 AM SATURDAY 12/26 at 4:30 PM</p> <p>How many family members will be in your party at that Mass? = _____</p>
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Then, as Advent begins, we will open up the rectory phone lines to anyone who would like to request a reservation in the remaining space. We are also developing plans for what to do if the demand to attend those Masses exceeds the number of seats we can provide. Never fear – we'll have you covered!

The one thing **we wish we could provide but that we can't this year** is the flexibility to allow you to "just show up" for one of these Masses without a ticket. Normally, if you said: *"I don't have a ticket, but I'll stand in the aisle, I don't mind at all,"* we'd be happy to welcome you inside. But for obvious reasons, this year that's not possible. And how horribly sad it would be to have to turn someone away on Christmas!

Having you at Christmas Mass will be a delight for us and for you; we just all need everyone to make a plan ahead of time in order to pull it off as safely and calmly as possible.

I am always grateful to be the pastor of two such open, flexible, invested and faith-filled parish communities. I give thanks to God every day for you!

Faithfully,  
Fr. Scott ☺

## Schedule

SUNDAY 11/8	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners A-L) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY 11/9	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY 11/10	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = New Content posted on Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel 2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) 3:00 = Praying in your home <b>5:30 = Confession (St. Patrick's)</b>
WEDNESDAY 11/11	<b>VETERANS DAY</b> 3:00 = Praying in your home
THURSDAY 11/12	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) 3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 11/13	3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 11/14	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners M-Z)
SUNDAY 11/15	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners M-Z) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY 11/16	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY 11/17	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) <b>5:30 = Confession (St. Mary's)</b>
WEDNESDAY 11/18	3:00 = Praying in your home

THURSDAY 11/19	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 11/20	3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 11/21	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners A-L)
SUNDAY 11/22	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners A-L) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home

### Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow

#### ADVENT GIVING TREE – St. Mary's

Gather gifts for Catholic Charities & our homebound parishioners. Look for it in the back of St. Mary's Church beginning **Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>** with more info to follow.

#### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

1:00-2:00 PM on Tuesdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school. Open to all!  
Just show up! For more info, please contact the rectory or Christa [derobccr@aol.com](mailto:derobccr@aol.com)

#### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

1:00-2:00 PM on Thursdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school. Open to all!  
Followed at 2:00 PM by the Rosary in St. Patrick's Church.  
Just show up! For more info, please contact the rectory or Christa [derobccr@aol.com](mailto:derobccr@aol.com)

#### FAITH LEADS TO EMOTIONAL HEALING – A WOMEN'S WITNESS TALK ON ZOOM

Albany Chapter of Magnificat (a Ministry to Catholic Women) is hosting a FREE virtual event on **Saturday, November 14 from 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM** on ZOOM. The Witness Speaker is Ruth Fazio, a wife, mother of 6 daughters and grandmother, who will share about how a personal relationship with Jesus healed her of generational depression, and how praise has become a daily part of her life. Ruth grew up in Schenectady and is a parishioner at St. Mary's Church in Ballston Spa. Questions, call Diane Bigos at 518-810-1310.

Registration: [www.magnificat-ministry.org/ny-albany](http://www.magnificat-ministry.org/ny-albany); or [www.facebook.com/albanymagnificat](https://www.facebook.com/albanymagnificat); or email [albanymagnificat@gmail.com](mailto:albanymagnificat@gmail.com) and you will be sent the Zoom link.

#### CATHOLIC CHARITIES COLLECTION

We are partnering with Catholic Charities for a second collection on November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to benefit their work in supporting families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Please consider a generous response to help your neighbors in the Albany Diocese. More information can be found online at [ccrcda.org](http://ccrcda.org) and in the most recent issue of [the Evangelist](#).

## BOX OF JOY

Make Christmas special for a child in a country in the developing world. [Visit this website to find out more!](#)

## GETTING A FLU SHOT SHOWS RESPECT FOR LIFE

Make an appointment with your doctor or click here for a list of [Greene County Pharmacies](#) where walk-ins are welcome and here's the list for [Albany County locations](#).

## QUARANTINE SPACE NEEDED

As the winter months approach, we anticipate an increase in the number of COVID diagnoses. That increase may trigger a need for people to quarantine away from family members. If you have a separate space in your house that could be used to quarantine a health care professional, an essential worker or community member who needs to protect their family from exposure, please call **Karen Lewis** at **518-731-8093**.

### Annual Diocesan Appeal

E-Mail Dawn Brownson | [parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com](mailto:parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com)

#### ST. PATRICK'S

76 gifts so far  
**40% of goal** (out of 190 gift goal)  
Base gift = \$25  
Highest gift so far = \$2,250  
Average gift = \$350  
Total donations to date = \$26,768

#### ST. MARY'S

82 gifts so far  
**47% of goal** (out of 175 gift goal)  
Base gift = \$25  
Highest gift so far = \$1,600  
Average gift = \$290  
Total donations to date = \$29,082

Help us meet our goal!

**[Click here: donation made easy!](#)**

- Monthly or one-time gifts by credit card [can be made via secure website](#).
- For more information on the appeal, visit [www.thediocesanappeal.org](http://www.thediocesanappeal.org)
- Questions? Call **518-453-6680** or email [stewardship@rcda.org](mailto:stewardship@rcda.org)
- If you choose to make your gift via a check, please make your check payable to the **Diocesan Appeal** and mail your donation directly to the Diocese at the following address:

Diocesan Appeal  
40 North Main Ave.  
Albany, NY 12203



**For we  
walk by faith,  
not by sight.**

**FAITH FORMATION NOW HAS NO FEES, THANKS TO YOU!**

Thanks to your generosity in last year's Bishop's Appeal (now called the Diocesan Appeal), both St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Parishes exceeded our goals. Whenever that happens, the policy of the Diocese is to refund half of the overage amount back to the parish to use however we see fit. I'm happy to report that both our parish Finance Councils choose to CANCEL all fees for FAITH FORMATION, so that parish families have one less expense to budget. One more way your generosity is making a real difference in our community.

**HELP CATHOLIC CHARITIES & LOCAL RESTAURANTS BY "DINING OUT FOR OTHERS"**

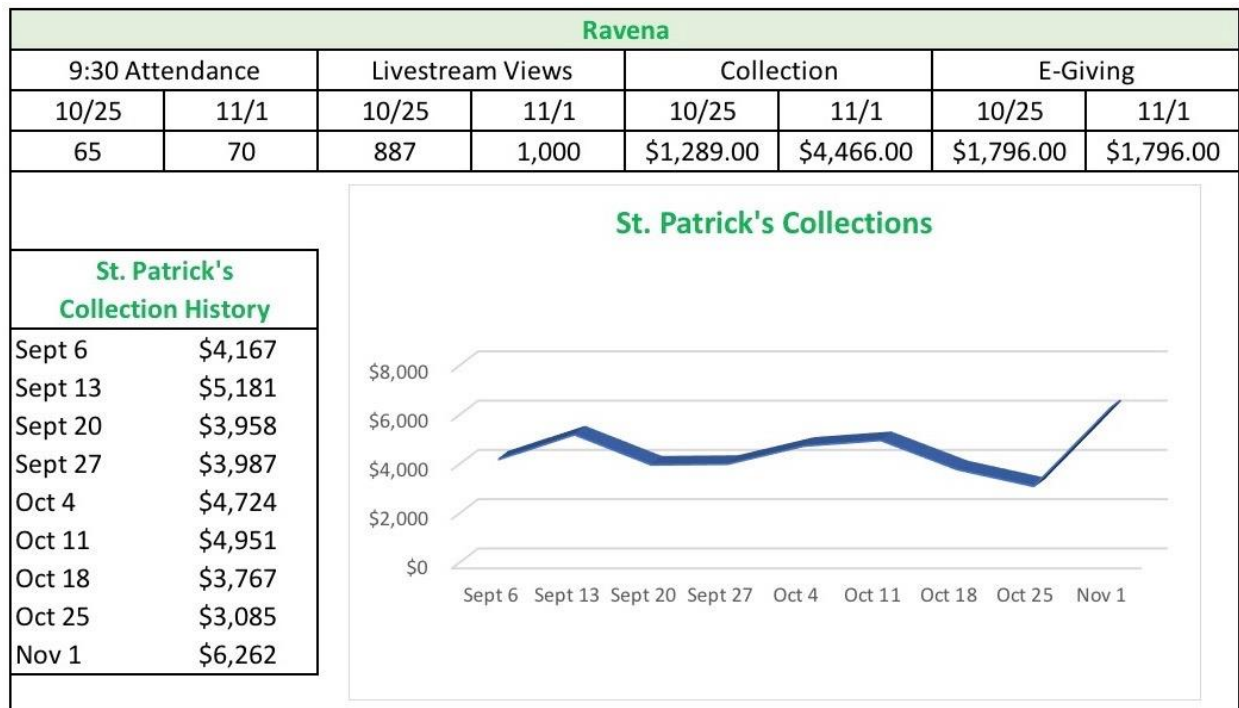
Catholic Charities of Columbia & Greene Counties 8<sup>th</sup> annual "Dining Out for Others" will take place during November. The group raises awareness and funds to eliminate hunger while promoting local businesses like Red's & Pegasus. Support local restaurants at the same time your support Catholic Charities... a win-win! [Click here for details.](#)

**E-GIVING WORKS BEST**

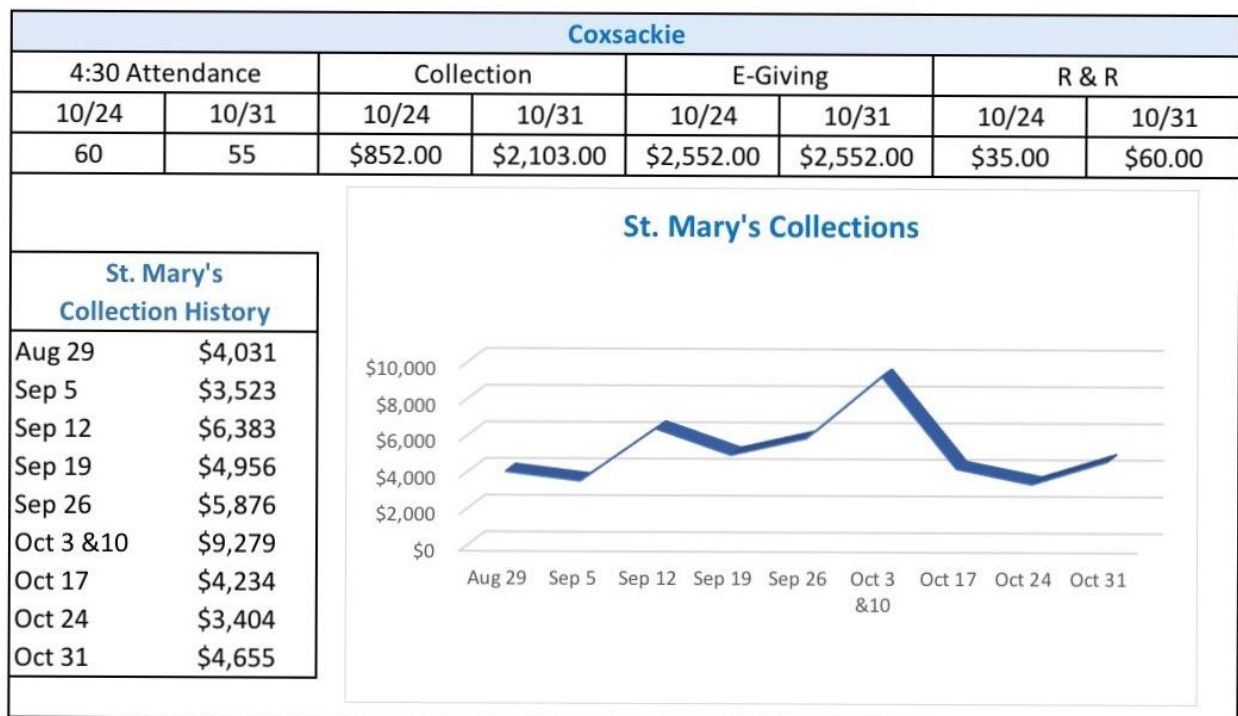
Might you like to give e-giving a try, knowing how much it helps the parish and that you can change your mind at any time? If so, [Click Here](#)

And remember, those who wish can still always mail us your donations. Weekly collections and one-time donations will be collected and processed from our Rectory mail boxes regularly.

**Thank you all for your incredible generosity!**







**Food Pantry at St. Patrick's**

**Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789**

**Help us prepare by registering for a Thanksgiving Meal by Tuesday November 10.**

Call **518-330-6789** to sign up.

The Food Pantry is in need of the following items:

**Food**

Instant Potatoes

Pancake Mix

Applesauce

Canned Tomatoes

Cereal

Lunch Box Snacks

Chili

Beef Stew

Canned Fruit

Oatmeal

Spaghetti

Cookies

**Personal Hygiene**

Bathroom Tissue

Toothpaste

Toothbrushes

All monetary and food donations are greatly appreciated!

**"If I've been out of state, can I go to Mass?"**

**E-Mail Christa Desrosiers | [derobccr@aol.com](mailto:derobccr@aol.com)**

Please be mindful when traveling and planning to return to church.

The NYS DOH restricted travel list requiring quarantine changes often. [Please check it here](#) so you can make sure the area you traveled is not included or take the required precautions if it is.

Thank you for continuing to be vigilant!

**WEEKEND MASSES:**

4:30 PM Saturday at St. Mary's (by weekly invitation)

9:30 AM Sunday at St. Patrick's (by weekly invitation)

9:30 AM on **St. Patrick's YouTube** channel (also on-demand)

[Click here](#) and then please subscribe

and on **Mid-Hudson Cable channel 901** (live at 9:30 only)

**WEEKDAY MASS (On Facebook Live from Our Lady of Victory Parish, Troy)**

[Click here](#) to watch live at 8:30 AM Monday - Friday

or on demand later in the day

**FR. SCOTT'S HOMILIES AND VIDEO MESSAGES:**

[Click here](#) and then please hit

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**"PROFILES OF ENDURANCE" (Fr. Scott's Podcast)**

Interviews with parishioners about facing life's challenges

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**FIND US ONLINE:**

[Click here](#) for St. Patrick's Parish Website

[Click here](#) for St. Mary's Parish Website

<https://stmaryscoxsackie.com>

Parish Facebook Pages (updated daily)

**MY PARISH APP (Two Parishes, One App):**

Text **APP** to **88202** to subscribe

**INSTAGRAM (Two Parishes, One Instagram):**

[stmary's.stpatrick's](https://www.instagram.com/stmary's.stpatrick's)



**CHURCH BUILDINGS:**

Open daily from around dawn until around dusk

**PHONE** (voicemails checked daily):

St. Mary's Office = 518-731-8800

St. Patrick's Office = 518-756-3145

**E-MAIL** (checked daily):

St. Mary's Main Office e-mail: [stmoff@aol.com](mailto:stmoff@aol.com)

St. Patrick's Main Office e-mail: [office@tcosp.org](mailto:office@tcosp.org)

Business Manager (Both Parishes): [parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com](mailto:parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com)