



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

May 24 & 31, 2020 • Edition 10 • Weeks 10 & 11



*Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic*

## ⚠️ 9:30 Mass Notice:

We are aware that some weeks the sound is not loud enough on your TV and we regret that.

We are working with Mid-Hudson Cable to resolve it, but because it is out of our hands, whenever this occurs, instead of watching on TV, please watch the Mass on the St. Patrick's Livestream Channel on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIRr4Mwue0TdsuS3HtWm4DA>

## ⚠️ When Will We Reopen?

There have been some confusing reports about when our parish will reopen.

We are assembling a team of health care professionals to plan for how to reopen and conduct services in the safest way possible.

At this point, our plan is not ready and we have no set date to reopen.

We will continue to communicate with you and keep you updated.

## Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family,

Being a church leader during this era we are living in when church has become less important in the lives of many Americans than it ever was before is challenging. But COVID-19 has redefined the meaning of the word "challenge." How to remain a church family when we can't gather together has been a particularly hard pill to swallow.

One Catholic organization, The National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) has suggested that we take one page from the military's book on facing threats and struggles. They say that in their training, military leaders learn the acronym VUCA to prepare for leading others in the most challenging circumstances. VUCA stands for:

**Volatility** – rapid rate of change

**Uncertainty** – lack of clarity, predictability, certainty concerning the future

**Complexity** - multiplicity of decision factors

**Ambiguity** – there may be no "right" answers or even "best practices" to turn to

The term "crisis" is appropriate for the times we're living in for a number of reasons. Not only does it describe the feeling of having our lives turned upside down, but, fascinatingly, in Mandarin Chinese, the word crisis is created by bringing two other words together:

**danger** and **opportunity**.

A crisis is a dangerous opportunity.

This explains why, in many ways, a crisis is what you make of it.  
For some, crisis can be a time to retreat or withdraw to just get through it. For others can be a time of creativity, innovation and exploration of new possibilities for the future.  
I'm delighted to say that, in most ways, our two parishes are on that second path.

In this VUCA era, we are striving to embrace a leadership stance described as "VUCA 2.0," which shape-shifts that acronym to describe the opportunity present in crisis.  
VUCA 2.0 is...

**Vision** – Despite rapid change, clarify, focus, and communicate the vision.

**Understanding** – Question and challenge the status quo. Strengthen empathy. Listen to the hopes, dreams, and desires of people. Have an open mind to new ideas. Accept constructive criticism.

**Clarity** – Cut the fat. Focus on core essentials for the ministry.


**Agility & Adaptability** – Adapt quickly and make decisions. Innovate. Risk. Learn from failed attempts and try again.

As New York slowly reopens in as safe and prudent a way as possible, we are working behind the scenes to work out the best procedures to make your return to Mass as safe as possible. A project team is being assembled of parishioners who are health care professionals and organizational leaders so we can take the protocols being given to us by the State and the Diocese and apply them to our two churches in the best ways possible.

We already know that things will be different for a long time as we face reduced capacity for Masses and lots of added protections, but the opportunity to gather together again will make it worth all the effort and inconvenience.

We are asking God for the VISION to see how best to accomplish the work being given to us and are committed to keep communicating that to you as clearly as possible. We wish to listen to scientists, medical professionals and leaders to UNDERSTAND the big picture of what we're facing. We want to focus with CLARITY on the core of our mission and work on what will best help our parishioners and neighbors get through this Pandemic, and we will continue to ADAPT as we need to so we can keep effectively meeting the real needs we face.

God could have chosen for us to be born at any time in history, and God chose us for these times. May we rise to meet the moment and conduct all our affairs in a way that gives glory to God.

Faithfully...  
Fr. Scott 

## Online Schedule

SUNDAY 6/24	9:30 = Mass (St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
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MEMORIAL DAY	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on St. Patrick's Homepage 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY 5/26	2:00 = New Content posted on Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel 3:00 = Praying in your home
WEDNESDAY 5/27	3:00 = Praying in your home <b>4:00 = Hymn sing led by Lisa &amp; Bob (Facebook Live)</b>
THURSDAY 5/28	3:00 = Praying in your home <b>7:00 = Family/Youth Prayer Service (Facebook Live)</b> <b>7:00 = Adult Education Group led by Deacon Mike (Zoom)</b> ➔ <i>Interested in the Group? E-mail Deacon Mike at <a href="mailto:dcnmcd@aol.com">dcnmcd@aol.com</a></i>
FRIDAY 5/29	2:00 = New <b>Profiles of Endurance</b> Episode airs 3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 5/30	3:00 = Praying in your home <b>4:30 = Hymn sing led by John Vasto (Facebook)</b> <b>6:00 = A Few Minutes in the Church: The Mass (Facebook Live)</b>
SUNDAY 5/31	9:30 = Sunday Mass (St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY 6/1	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on St. Patrick's Homepage 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY 6/2	2:00 = New Content posted on Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel 3:00 = Praying in your home
WEDNESDAY 6/3	3:00 = Praying in your home <b>4:00 = Hymn sing led by Lisa &amp; Bob (Facebook Live)</b>
THURSDAY 6/4	3:00 = Praying in your home <b>7:00 = Family/Youth Prayer Service (Facebook Live)</b> <b>7:00 = Adult Education Group led by Deacon Mike (Zoom)</b> ➔ <i>Interested in the Group? E-mail Deacon Mike at <a href="mailto:dcnmcd@aol.com">dcnmcd@aol.com</a></i>
FRIDAY 6/5	2:00 = New <b>Profiles of Endurance</b> Episode airs 3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 6/6	3:00 = Praying in your home <b>4:30 = Hymn sing led by John Vasto (Facebook)</b> <b>6:00 = A Few Minutes in the Church: The Mass (Facebook Live)</b>
SUNDAY 6/7	9:30 = Sunday Mass (St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home

## THE 2020 ANNUAL CROP WALK TO ADDRESS HUNGER

Will be on the weekend of June 26th - June 28th.

**St. Patrick's team walk will be on Sat. 6/27 at 10:30 am meeting at St. Patrick's.**

The walk is 1.5 miles. Please bring your mask.

Won't you join us?

You can register and/or donate with **St. Patrick's Church Team**

at: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/ravenany/Team/View/131368/st-patricks-church>.

Please contact Eileen Vosburgh if you plan on walking.

She will arrange to get you a t-shirt. [keltoneov@aol.com](mailto:keltoneov@aol.com) or 518-756-8113.

People can also donate by mail by sending a check made out to CWS/CROP and mail to:

**Fran Lobdell  
c/o Grace United Methodist Church  
16 Hillcrest Drive  
Ravena, NY 12143**

This walk is sponsored by the RCS Council of Churches. This year, like everything COVID-19, you can join us as a team, walk virtually, or walk alone or with a friend anytime during the weekend. Together, we can raise funds, walk together and help end hunger in our community and around the world.

## FACE MASKS

Coordinators: Maria Mintz (St. Mary's) and Diane Hoffman (St. Patrick's)

**Safety note:** We received a report that some people are having allergic reactions to some of the masks. Masks should be made of cotton, but some might be treated cotton. Please wash any mask before wearing it.

Our Mask Maker Ministry continues to amaze us! **American Legion Chapter 166** needs 200 masks for members and their families, and our ministry is working to meet that challenge! The ministry is making children's sizes as continuing to make adult sizes.

Could you please sew some masks for our efforts?

If not, could you donate some fabric or elastic?

There is a labeled box at the church entrances for your completed face masks. You can leave fabric donations on the tables next to the boxes. For assistance, please call **Maria Mintz** who began this ministry (and whose hands are surely aching from sewing) at 518-731-6704.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SERVICE:

If you wish to volunteer for any task that could be helpful, please contact Bob at

[stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com) or 518-444-8184 to match your skills and abilities with people's needs.

Our April financial reports tell an amazing story of your generosity and love for our parish. Not only are our collections above average, but our donations are as well – including an incredible influx from our DIGITAL PARISH FAMILY – those watching us on YouTube from all over the country and the world. They are mailing us checks and words of encouragement – and we are so very grateful.

Without a date for re-opening, churches are very vulnerable to financial hardship, so your commitment to parish giving over the long haul is essential for us.

One St. Mary's parishioner who also often worships at the 4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's, made my day, by writing me after receiving one of these newsletters to tell me how much she loves being an e-giver. She gave me permission to share what she wrote:

*E Giving... I have done it for several years & am SO happy I signed up for it because it makes life so simple & just one entry in your checkbook takes care of your monthly record keeping. I have another 5 monthly bills automatically deducted on different dates (their amount stays the same for full year). I add them up & plug the total on one line of the check register. I check them off as they are deducted from my account & then I know ahead of time how much I will have to spend after these bills are paid. All my kids do online banking & it took me a few years to try it & now I really like it...*

(Julie Schofield)

If you, like Julie, would like to give e-giving a try, knowing you can change your mind at any time, [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.

#### **UPDATE: SECOND COLLECTIONS**

Oops! One was accidentally omitted from last week's list. Here it is highlighted in yellow...

May 24	Collection for the Church in Eastern Europe
June 7	Catholic Communications Campaign
July 26	"Peter's Pence" – Pope Francis' discretionary charity fund
<b>Aug. 23</b>	<b>Catholic Home Missions</b>
Sept. 13	Collection for the Holy Land Shrines
Sept. 27	Catholic University Collection
Oct. 18	Mission Sunday (Propagation of the Faith)
Nov. 8	Catholic Charities Collection
Nov. 22	Campaign for Human Development Collection

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

We are here to serve – Home deliveries are available! New clients are always welcome!  
Thank you, one and all, for your incredibly generous donations to The Pantry.

The Pantry is open:

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10 -11 am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6 -7 pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>10 -11 am</b>

Donations can be picked up by a volunteer... please call us if you can donate:

**Juice, Instant Dry Milk, Jell-o, Instant Pudding, Mustard, Ketchup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Baked Beans, Kidney Beans.**

Free food is available to residents of Coxsackie, Climax, Earlton, Medway & New Baltimore.  
Anyone who needs food can get it — there are no low-income requirements.

The Pantry is at **117 Mansion Street**, next to McQuade Park.

Come, park and stay in your car. A volunteer comes to fill out your shopping list, then fills your order. If you are new, bring a piece of mail addressed to you.

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1-2 pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7-8 pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10-11 am</b>

Anyone who is quarantined or homebound can request home delivery, please call the Coxsackie Village Clerk Office at **518-731-2718**. You do not have to live in the Village of Coxsackie.

### **ONE MINUTE IN CHURCH: THE MASS.**

Join us live each Saturday at 6 PM on St Mary's FB page and IG live. Learn a little bit about some aspect of Mass and have a chance to take the weekly challenge! It's easy - it's fun - it's safe - and it's faith-building.

### **CHECKING-IN WITH OTHER YOUTH**

We would love to form some youth 'check-in' groups similar to our adult Small Prayer Groups. Please connect with Christa or Bob if your youth is willing to join us - We will create the fellowship platform - you can bring the FUN! We are all in this together, let's make some memories - virtually!

### **FAMILY PRAYER TIME**

Wondering how to actually DO a prayer time in your home - with your own family? Join a 'real Catholic family' every Thursday at 7 PM on St Patrick's FB live. It's just us, welcoming you, to sit in our living room (or dining room, or car) as we read and chat our way through the week's prayer service.

If you know someone who is infected with COVID-19, please let us know so we may all pray for them and reach out to their family, when appropriate.

**ELDERLY & HOMEBOUND CONNECTIONS**

Please volunteer to make phone calls to the elderly of our parish (those ill seniors on our Pastoral Care List and others who are not on the list but still would enjoy some conversation). Please contact Bob at [stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com) or 518-444-8184.

**ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER CHAIN**

Requests may be forwarded to Michelle Fralick via email [chelli1126@aol.com](mailto:chelli1126@aol.com) or by phone at 518-756-9779. Michelle will share names and telephone numbers of the homebound to all the Pastoral Care ministers (normally who make visits on 1st Wednesdays of the month) so they can send cards or make occasional phone calls. Come get the name and address of a homebound parishioner from the back of the church and send someone an Easter card that will mean the world.

**ST. MARY'S PRAYER CHAIN**

Requests may be forwarded to Bob Desrosiers via e-mail at [stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com) or by phone at 518-444-8184. If anyone wishes to become a prayer chain team member, please contact Bob. There are lists of addresses of our homebound parishioners on a table as you enter church and it's updated weekly so you can pray for them and send them cards.

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

More than 20 Small Prayer groups are meeting on Zoom or over the phone across both parishes! Please contact Christa today and get connected to one... or form your own.

[Click here](#) to get a taste of how it works!

**Connecting with the Parishes****Online | Phone | E-Mail****SUNDAY MASS:**

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

[Click here](#) and then 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:

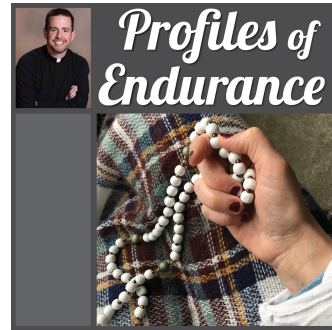
[Click here](#) and then subscribe

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

Interviews with parishioners about facing life's challenges

This week: Allan King

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY  
ON APPLE PODCASTS**



## **FIND US ONLINE:**

Parish Websites (updated regularly)

Facebook (updated daily)

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

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

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

[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 email: [stmoff@aol.com](mailto:stmoff@aol.com)

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

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