



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



Aug. 30 & Sept. 6, 2020 • Edition 17 • Weeks 24 & 25

Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family....

Every day we receive a mail delivery to our parish offices and almost always there is some personal note for me, often handwritten by a parishioner, neighbor or member of our "virtual parish" who is watching online somewhere near or far. I thought you might enjoy reading a smattering of these letters so you too might enjoy the depth, kindness, friendship and insight of the thoughtful people who write to me.

One recent letter was written on August 7 and was postmarked Waynesboro, PA:

"Dear Fr. Scott:

I do believe the Holy Spirit had a hand in my watching your Mass at 9:30 AM on Sundays. I was at my friend's home when he received a call from his old school friend, C., telling him that [St. Patrick's] was going to livestream the Mass every Sunday during the Pandemic. However, when he told me the church was St. Patrick, I thought it was St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC. Needless to say I was very surprised to see a very beautiful small church called The Church of Saint Patrick.

I was in awe... Your sermon and the music just moved me so, I cried through the whole Mass. every Sunday I look forward to the Mass and I'm so happy you are continuing to livestream...

Please find enclosed a donation to your church.

*Sincerely,
 C. K."*

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Another thoughtful letter from a very reflective and prayerful longtime Ravena parishioner in her 80s arrived the first week of August:

"I am disturbed by the politics in our country that further divides us and causes more hatred and disrespect among 'We the people.'

Are we, as Catholics, doing enough to show that all people are children of God and, therefore, are all our brothers and sisters and all of us, through our Baptism, have been promised to be faithful to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior?

Those promises of Baptism should remind all of us that it is our responsibility to become more immersed in the Christian teachings of Jesus so that through our lifetime we continually grow to achieve the challenge that Jesus, in his human life, set before us – 'You are to love the Lord, our

God, with your whole heart, with your whole soul and with all your might and you are to love your neighbor as yourself.' (That's the hard part!)...

...Please excuse the personal questions that come to my mind or in reflections on the words of others. Just an old lady wishing for deeper insight into scripture and I hope that my questioning search will help me to become what I was created to be. Thank you for taking the time to read this and may I ask for your prayers that my search will end in the peace that Jesus has promised."

*Love in Christ,
P.O."*

+ + +

This letter from faithful viewers since March of our weekly livestream Mass was dated July 15 and was postmarked Clifton Park, NY:

"Fr. Scott –

Enclosed is a \$100 check in support of Saint Mary's/St. Patrick's Parishes and your ongoing ministry. We continue to be inspired by you all.

Also enclosed are two \$100 gift cards. This crisis is not getting any easier for many people and perhaps we can make things a little less stressful for one or two individuals or families in your parish who may need a little help. As usual, please use as you see fit.

*Thank you again...
M.J. & J. G."*

+ + +

And this charming letter dated August 12 came from some missionary nuns whose order ministers in four African countries, Japan, Thailand, Mexico, Italy and the USA. It was postmarked from Worcester, MA:


"Dear Fr. Scott,

We, the Xaverian Missionary Sisters of Mary live in this house and we are six sisters living here. It is a beautiful house, but for two of us – Sr. Maria Luisa and Sr. Laura – this house doesn't have doors because of COVID-19. We are not allowed to go out.

Now, thanks be to God, we have found the possibility to 'come to Ravenna' and enjoy the beautiful celebration that you livestream at 9:30 AM every Sunday. We enjoy being a part of your community and we feel very welcomed by you with other weary people from all over. Your prayerful and meaningful celebrations make our Sundays.

*With our prayers and greetings,
Sr. Laura"*

These are just a smattering. We truly are making a difference by opening our arms and doors so widely. Please don't ever doubt the power of that.

With love,
Fr. Scott 

Fr. Scott's Homily

Fr. Scott recently spoke of the love we develop for our creator when we see wonders like a certain plant that only blossoms one night a year.



If you'd like to see a brief Night Blooming Cereus timelapse for yourself, [please click here](#).

Food Pantry at St. Patrick's

Diane Hoffman | dhoffman7249@yahoo.com

"The Pantry" is in need of donations of: bathroom tissue, shampoo, deodorant, rice, cookies, lunch box snacks and jelly.

Annual Diocesan Appeal

E-Mail Dawn Brownson | parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com



Help us
meet our goal!

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

- Monthly or one-time gifts by credit card can be made via secure website at <https://donate.thebishopsappeal.org/>.
- You can make a pledge at that site as well as pledge payments.
- The appeal year runs through June 30, 2021.
- For more information on the appeal, visit www.thediocesanappeal.org.

Questions? Call **518-453-6680** or email stewardship@rcda.org

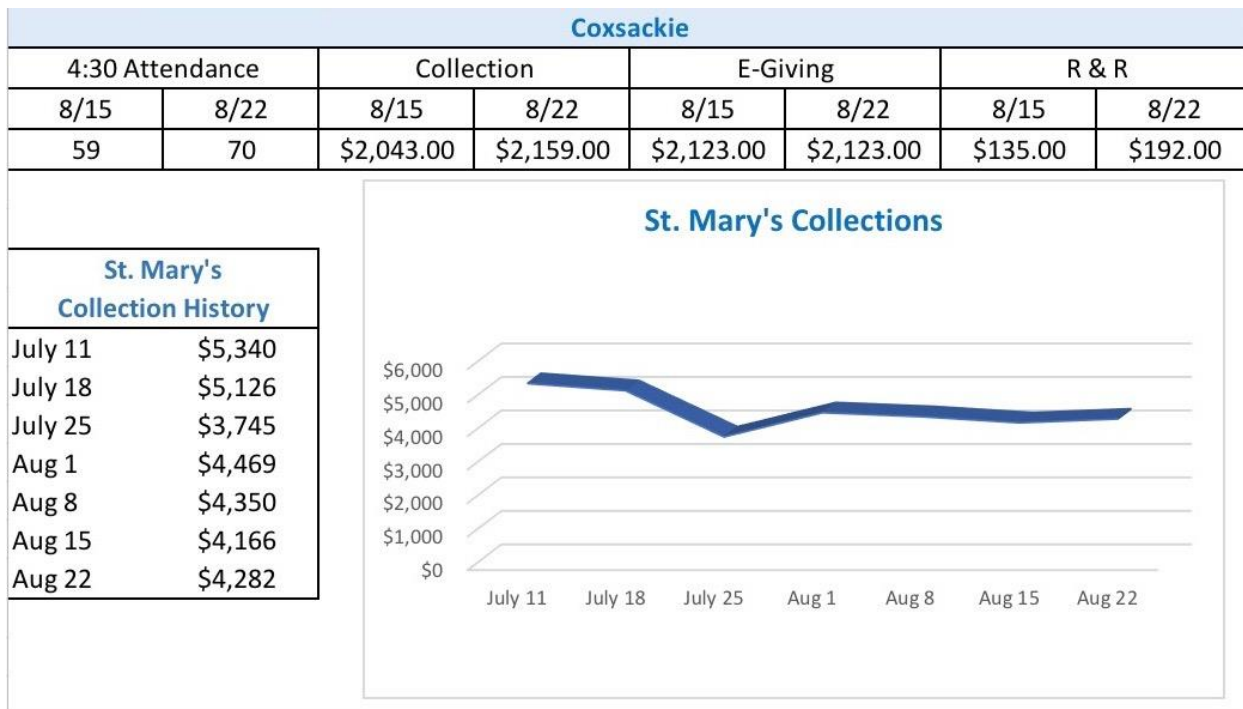
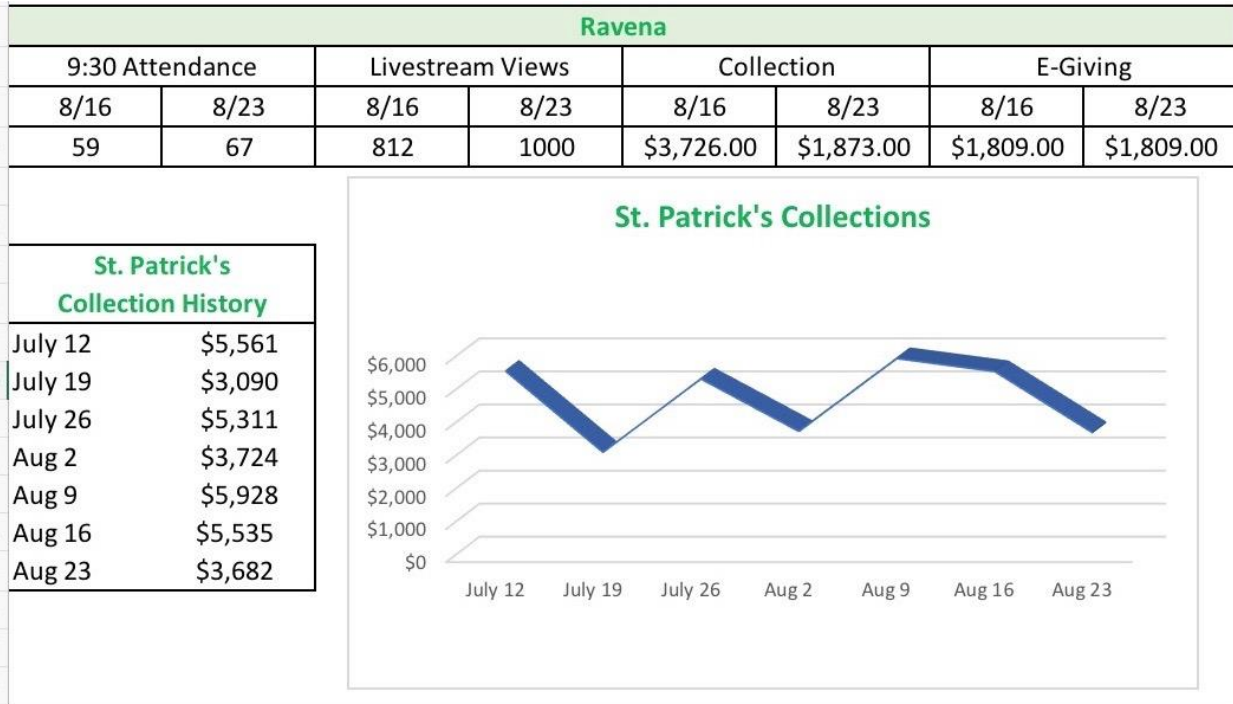
St. Mary's Annual Golf Outing

This year's outing takes place on **Wednesday, September 30** at the Thunderhart Golf Course. It's a foursome best ball scramble (as usual). **Tee off at 10 AM.**

Those interested should contact **Frank Limone at 518 291-6623** or email limonefrank19@gmail.com.

It's always a great time of food, fun, laughter, and good (and sometimes not so good) golf!

We've added a new feature to the newsletter. We're now publishing graphs to track contributions. We hope these illustrations will be gentle reminders to keep us all on track with respect to parish support.



E-GIVING MADE EASY

E-giving has become a major contributor to the financial health of our parishes. In the early months of the year, monthly e-giving contributions were less than \$2,000 per parish. Now that number has increased to more than \$7,000 per month.

One thing we know for sure is that uncertain times and the looming possibilities of another lockdown means that **E-Giving remains the best method to consistently support your parish.**

If you'd like to give e-giving a try, knowing how much it helps the parish and that 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.

Thank you all for your enduring generosity!

Faith Formation at ST. MARY'S

Call Bob Desrosiers | 518-731-8800 x4

POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR THE FALL

Now that the C-A School District has decided to bring students in-person into the school, Bob is working on offering the **option** to bring children and youth into Maria Hall on a protracted schedule with social distancing. The in-person schedule would be on each grade coming every other week (right now the primary option is online for K-6 and in person for Grades 7-10).

"JESUS FESTIVAL" FOR 1ST COMMUNION

Saturday, September 12 from 10 AM to 12 PM.

We will use social distancing to ensure safety of all participants. Bob will send details via email.

1ST COMMUNION MASS

Saturday September 26 at 11 AM.

We will use social distancing to ensure safety of all participants. Bob will send details via email.

Online Schedule

SUNDAY 8/30	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 8/31	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages 3:00 = Praying in your home

TUESDAY 9/1	2:00 = New Content posted on Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel 3:00 = Praying in your home 5:30 = Confession (St. Mary's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 9/2	3:00 = Praying in your home
THURSDAY 9/3	3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 9/4	3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 9/5	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners M-Z)
SUNDAY 9/6	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 9/7	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY 9/8	5:30 = No Confession (St. Patrick's) Fr. Scott on Retreat 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 9/9	3:00 = Praying in your home
THURSDAY 9/10	3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 9/11	3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 9/12	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners A-L)
SUNDAY 9/13	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

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 

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

Interviews with parishioners about facing life's challenges

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

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