



ST. MARY'S AND ST. PATRICK'S *NEWSLETTER*

September 14, & 21 2025 • Vol. 6 – Edition 19



Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. So why are we celebrating the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in mid-September? Here's some history: The feast dates back to the fourth century. Tradition holds that St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, discovered the True Cross in Jerusalem around the year 326, during her pilgrimage to the Holy Land. This is a very ancient feast, sometimes called the Triumph of the Cross. But unlike Good Friday, which focuses on Christ's suffering, this feast highlights the victory of the Cross. Through the Cross came salvation and new life for us. Once a symbol of humiliation and execution, it is now a sign of God's love, triumph, and glory.

What is the "glory" of the Cross? Sadly, we have become so accustomed to seeing the Cross—inside and outside churches, on rosaries, around people's necks, even as tattoos, or home décor—that we often miss its deeper meaning. Sometimes it is reduced to a fashion statement or a good-luck charm. Because it is so omnipresent, we can lose the sense of shock it originally evoked—the cruelty and pain it represented.

The first generation of Christians was not blind to the barbaric reality of crucifixion. They had seen their messianic hero tortured, bloodied, mercilessly nailed to a crossbar, and lifted up for all to see and mock. To unbelievers, it was unthinkable that this hated symbol of defeat and death could be cherished as a sign of salvation and a pattern for life. As followers of Jesus who "exalt" the Cross, we are called to live as witnesses to his life—a life that often stood in contrast to the world. The glory of the Cross is seen in those who follow Christ daily in word and deed. Through his death and resurrection, our lives now show forth his presence in the world.

How profound and incomprehensible is God's love for us! John proclaims that God's love is total and universal—not limited to a privileged few, not restricted to those who already believe. God's love is for the whole world, so complete that God did not spare even the Son in order to reveal it. God's love was shown in the Incarnation, and then in Christ's saving death: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." John says that God both "gave" and "sent" the Son. "Gave" stresses the generosity of God's gift; "sent" underscores the mission entrusted to Jesus. Either way, we are the beneficiaries of this divine love.

The Cross was the instrument God used to conquer sin and death. By it, the way to God has been opened for us. Through the Cross we die to sin and rise to new life. What a mystery: that what once brought death has become the path to life! No wonder we "exalt" the Cross today. When we look to the Cross, we confront the difficult truth about human sin. Yet the Cross also reveals the even greater truth of God's mercy: God forgives, reconciles, and saves in love. Instead of condemning humanity, God offers salvation through the Cross. We live in its shadow. First, it reveals the truth of our lives: we are broken, finite, and unable to save ourselves. But the Cross also reveals the depth of God's mercy and reconciliation—gifts we cannot earn but receive freely through Christ.

The Cross is a reminder of a promise God made in love with us and was fulfilled when "the Son of Man [was] lifted up." We have not finished our individual desert treks yet and there probably will be lots of missteps before our journey is finished. In the meanwhile, we do not lose hope as we face our shortcomings and the road that still lies in front of us. Lest we get discouraged and fear dropping out along

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the way, we look to the Cross and the promise of continual help it offers to us. God has given us concrete signs of His love for us; in Jesus, the Word made flesh and in the Cross which he embraced on our behalf.

With Love, Deacon Mike

Schedule

Sunday 9-14	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
Monday 9-15	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's Labor Day – Rectory offices closed today
Tuesday 9-16	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's 9:00 Weekday Mass for both Parishes (1st & 3rd at St. Mary's; 2nd & 4th at St. Patrick's) 6:00 Rosary at St. Mary's
Wednesday 9-17	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's 6:30 Choir rehearsal at St. Patrick's
Thursday 9-18	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's 1:00-2:00 St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting 5:30 – 8 Free Parish Dinner in Maria Hall at St. Mary's 6:30 Reconciliation (1st & 3rd at St. Mary's; 2nd & 4th at St. Patrick's) 6:30 Choir rehearsal at St. Mary's
Friday 9-19	8:00 Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
Saturday 9-20	4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's
Sunday 9-21	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
Monday 9-22	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's
Tuesday 9-23	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's 6:00 Rosary at St. Mary's 9:00 Weekday Mass for both Parishes (1st & 3rd at St. Mary's; 2nd & 4th at St. Patrick's)
Wednesday 9-24	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's 6:30 Choir rehearsal at St. Patrick's
Thursday 9-25	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's 1:00-2:00 St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting 6:30 Reconciliation (1st & 3rd at St. Mary's; 2nd & 4th at St. Patrick's) 6:30 Choir rehearsal at St. Mary's
Friday 9-26	8:00 Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
Saturday 9-27	4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's
Sunday 9-28	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)

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Order of Christian Initiation is the process through which individuals, particularly those over the age of infant baptism, become full members of the Roman Catholic church. Participants typically receive the sacraments of baptism, first eucharist and confirmation during the Easter Vigil.

If you have never been baptized, were baptized in another faith, were baptized Roman Catholic but have not received all the sacraments and would like to become full members of the church please contact Siobhain in the Catskill Network Office at 518-943-3150 to schedule an appointment with Fr. Jay.

Please Support Our Young People Our Faith Formation program is growing, and to serve more families (and possibly add groups at additional churches), we need more catechists and assistants. If you feel called to help share the faith with our young people—or even just want to learn more about what’s involved—please reach out to your regional leader. Training and materials are provided. Your “yes” can make a lasting difference in a child’s faith journey.

Faith Formation Coordinator Contact Information:

Athens Catskill Ravena: Christa Desrosiers Email: derobccr@gmail.co

Coxsackie: Bob Desrosiers Email: stmaryffo@aol.com

Palenville and Haines Falls: Tracy Spitz Email: ffshicch@rcda.org

Cairo, East Durham, Greenville and Windham: MaryJo Buzzanco Email: 3faithin1@gmail.com

**In order for St. Mary’s to begin the PreK-4 program for the year, we need at least one more Catechist for the Pre-K/1 group. If you or anyone you know can assist our Church and Faith Formation Program in this ministry, please contact Bob at stmaryffo@aol.com or at (518) 731-9268.*

Donations are welcome in support of our Faith Formation programs. If you wish to help us keep our programs available free for all families, please write a check to your parish with “Faith Formation” in the memo line.

Thrift Shop at St. Patrick’s

Mary Ann McCool | 518-756-9184

Come visit Thursdays from 1 – 3 pm or Saturday from 9 am – Noon. We are closed on holidays.

Food Pantry, Coxsackie

Lorraine Camurati | 917-572-3300

Please remember the Coxsackie Food Pantry on the first Sunday of the month. The Coxsackie Food Pantry is especially in need of: **toothpaste, pet food and cleaning products**. Food costs are soaring and those with limited resources are struggling more than ever. Thank you for your generosity.

Coxsackie Food Pantry hours: Tuesday 1-2 pm, Thursday 7-8 pm & Saturday 10-11 am. Cash *donations are always welcome*. *Your gift has greater purchasing power at the regional food bank.*

Food Pantry at St. Patrick’s Ravena

St. Patrick’s Office | 518-756-3145

Hours of Operation: Tuesday and Friday 10 to 11 am and Wednesday 6 to 7 pm. Reminder, there is a food pantry basket in the vestibule. Please help replenish our stock by providing the following items:

Snacks

Cookies

Bar soap

Applesauce

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Anointing of the Sick

The office often receives many calls for a priest to visit the home, hospital or nursing home to have a friend or family member who is actively dying anointed by a priest. Currently, we have just two priests covering all of Greene and southern Albany Counties. They will make every effort to make that visit. *However please do not wait until the last hours of a person's life. You do not need to be near death to receive the sacrament which can only be administered by a priest.*

Please call Siobhain in the Catskill Network Office at 518-943-3150 to arrange to have a priest administer an anointing at the start of a serious illness.

Generations of Faith Gathering: In This World, Not of This World

Wednesday September 17 @ 6pm in Clifton Park

Come share how to stay strong IN this world and not surrender our souls TO this world.

WHEN: Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 6 PM – 8 PM

WHERE: St. Edward the Confessor Church, 569 Clifton Park Center Road, Clifton Park

WHAT: Sharing by Sr. Teresa Grace Baillargeon, C.R.

- Hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and refreshments will be served
- There is no cost for the event, but a "Free Will Offering" will be available

Generations of Faith Gathering: SPECIAL BONUS FOR FAMILIES

Bring your children... A Youth Rally will be provided for ages 3 - 17 years old. Youth Rally will start promptly at 5:30 PM and includes a BBQ.

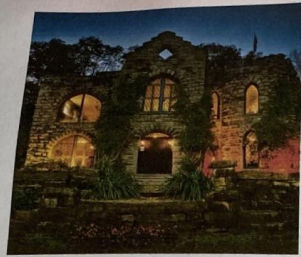
Please register by using the following QR code



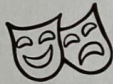
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We receive many comments that people are not receiving emails sent from the network. If you have not been receiving the weekly network news email and would like to, please give Siobhain in the Network Office a call and ask to be added to Realm. She will be happy to assist.

Mother McAuley Columbiettes will hold their first meeting of the 2025-26 year on Tuesday, September 23, at 6:30 pm in Room 5 of the Parish Hall.
Looking forward to seeing our members there!



Join the
Mother McAuley Columbiettes
for a night of
Fun & Mystery at
Beardslee, an Irish Castle
123 Old State Rd.
Little Falls, NY 13365
(315) 823-3000



September 19, 2025
Murder Mystery Dinner Theater
"Deadly Inheritance"



\$65 per person, including show, dinner, tax and tip!

Make Your OWN Reservations,
With Lynn; (315) 823.3000

Mention the Mother McAuley Columbiettes so we
can all sit together.
Car Pool Available!

If you need a ride or want to be a driver for
this event, call Robin at 845-701-5803



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Mass Intentions

Week of September 13, 14, 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Sept 13 4:30 Ravena None at this time

Sept 14 7:30 Coxsackie Donald Daoust by Sister Dolores Stevens
 Frank Dickerman by James McDermott

 9:30 Ravena Diane Hoffman by Joe and Gail Boehlke

 11:30 Coxsackie Fr. Paul Tartaglia 94th Birthday by Peggy McLarnon
 Mary Buttino by Benny and Kathy Lanza

Week of September 20, 21 2025

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sept 20 4:30 Ravena Joseph Campoli by Gloria
 Peter Rossi by Tom and Lois Williams

Sept 21 7:30 Coxsackie Donald Daoust by Sister Dolores Stevens
 Ann Marie Coniglio by James McDermot

 9:30 Ravena None at this time

 11:30 Coxsackie Kathleen Sullivan by Gina McGrath
 Nollaig Coleman by Finbarr Coleman

Week of September 27, 28, 2025

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

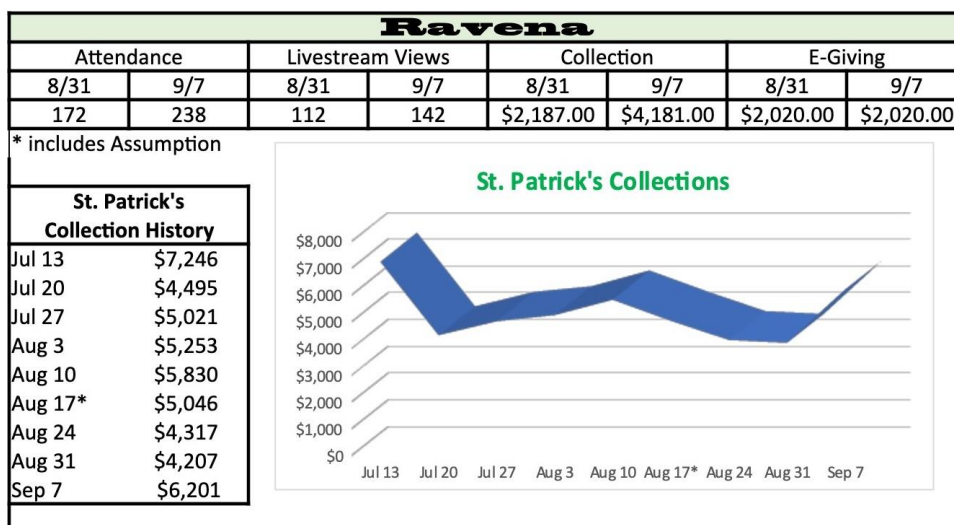
Sept 27 4:30 Ravena None at this time

Sept 28 7:30 Coxsackie Julia Daoust by her children
 Robert Frank by Cathy and children

 9:30 Ravena None at this time

 11:30 Coxsackie Paula J. Grogan by her daughter, Karen Cole
 Doug Anderson by his friends

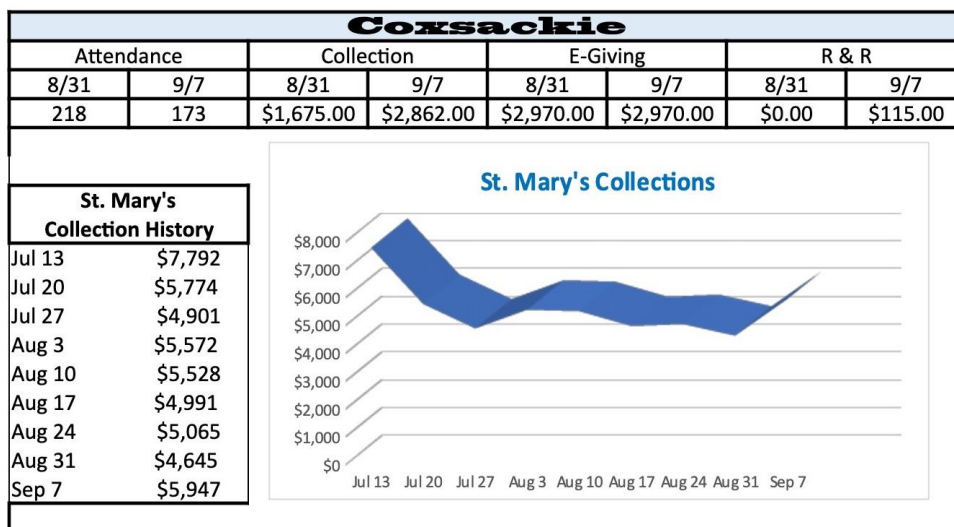
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ENVELOPES ARE GREAT, BUT E-GIVING HELPS YOUR PARISH MAKE BETTER FINANCIAL DECISIONS

The Church is just like your family when it comes to managing our finances. We need to know what our income will be in order to budget and plan for on-going operational needs and building maintenance projects. E-giving provides a steady stream of income that we know we can depend on week after week. Many things can throw us off track in maintaining our commitment to weekly giving. Weather, illness, delays in envelope delivery and vacations to name a few. Plus, with the increased use of debit/credit cards, many of us don't carry cash. **You can cover both your regular weekly giving and any special collections with just one deduction.** Sign up once and leave the rest to us. The deduction will occur at the interval you choose from the bank account you provide. Enrollment forms are in the back of the church along with .descriptions of the second and special collection. Please do not hesitate to call the office with any questions

Try it risk free and change your mind at any time: [Click Here](#)



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Connecting with the Parishes

Online | Phone | E-Mail

WEEKEND MASSES (ALL ARE WELCOME):

4:30 pm Saturday Mass at St. Patrick's

7:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Mary's

9:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Patrick's

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)

11:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Mary's

11:30 am on **St. Mary's YouTube** channel [Click here](#) and then please subscribe

WEEKDAY MASS (Except for Holy Days & days of funeral at a parish):

St. Mary's 1st and 3rd Tuesday 9:00 am

St. Patrick's 2nd and 4th Tuesday 9:00 am

HUDSON VALLEY VICARIATE WEST FAITH FORMATION Online hvwwff.org

FR. JAY'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL FOR HOMILIES AND MESSAGES: [Click here](#) and then please **SUBSCRIBE**

FIND US ONLINE: [Click here](#) for St. Patrick's Parish Homepage [Click here](#) for St. Mary's Parish Homepage
Parish Facebook Pages (updated daily)

CONTACT US BY PHONE: St. Patrick's Office: 518-756 -3145 St. Mary's Office: 518-731-8800

MY PARISH APP (Two Parishes, One App): Text **APP** to **88202** to subscribe

NETWORK FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/hvww.network/>

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT First Sunday of the month 6:30-7:30 pm at St. Patrick's

Monday 8:00 am at St. Mary's

Tuesday 8:00 am at St. Mary's except on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays when there is Mass

Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 am St. Patrick's

MORNING PRAYER (Following the Liturgy of the Hours format) Friday mornings at 8:00 at St. Mary's

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY 11 am - 12 pm on Tuesdays St. Patrick's School – Classroom 5 **will resume in the Fall**

MEN'S PRAYER MEETING 1 – 2 pm on Thursdays St. Patrick's School – Classroom 5

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