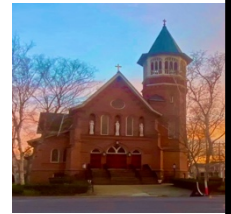




ST. MARY'S AND ST. PATRICK'S *NEWSLETTER*

September 28, & October 5 2025 • Vol. 6 – Edition 20



Looking for
Answers

Your Questions Addressed

Why go to church?

Answered by: Deacon Steven Young

At one of my last parishes I was assigned to, I served as High School Youth Minister. It was a position I held for many years and I found it both rewarding and challenging. Not challenging in the typical way – being around noisy, rambunctious, energetic students – as I find that very rewarding. But, in the way that we can be challenged by others, in what we believe as Catholics and why we believe in what we do.

On many occasions I would find myself in a discussion with a student who would ask the question: "*Why go to church?*" Their questioning would commonly follow a similar format, one that I believe many of us can relate to.

They might start the conversation/argument by saying something like, "Why do I need to go to Mass? I like to pray outside, on a walk, down at the lake. I don't need to be in a building to do that." My response would be one of compassion and validation. I too enjoy praying in nature. I find it a great time to really listen to God, to slow my mind down, block out the noise and just listen. I might then ask them a follow up question: "What do you think God is speaking to you about?"

Most of the time, they wouldn't answer the question directly, but instead switch tactics. "Why go to church – most of the people there are hypocrites! My friend's dad got drunk and got in a fight (or some other variation of a disturbing act), but he was at church this morning, acting like nothing happened." My response would often be one of concern and to acknowledge that it must have been scary for their friend and the friend is lucky to have someone like them to talk to.

They might respond also, "My parents are forcing me to go to church, and I don't want to be here." Most of us understand this emotion. Who among us doesn't rebel against being forced to do something, to do something we don't feel in control of, even if it is good for us. My feeble attempt to answer them, or even myself, would be by asking a series of questions: do your parents force you to attend school, make you eat properly, go to the dentist, get enough sleep?

I wish I had all the answers, but I don't. I do know that we can be our own worst enemy and I can't do this alone. The only real answer for me is that I need to be in communion with all of God's children.

Why do you go to church?

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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)
Monday 9-29	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's
Tuesday 9-30	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 10-1	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's 6:30 Choir rehearsal at St. Patrick's
Thursday 10-2	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 10-3	8:00 Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
Saturday 10-4	10:00 Blessing of the Animals at St. Mary's 3:00 Blessing of the Animals at St. Patrick's 4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's
Sunday 10-5	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) 6:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's
Monday 10-6	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's
Tuesday 10-7	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's 11:00 Women's Bible Study in St. Patrick's Rectory 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 10-8	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Patrick's 6:30 Choir rehearsal at St. Patrick's
Thursday 10-9	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 10-10	8:00 Morning Prayer at St. Mary's
Saturday 10-11	4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's
Sunday 10-12	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) Immediately following Mass Knights of Columbus hospitality. Come and break bread with us. 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
Monday 10-13	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's Network offices closed for Columbus Day

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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.

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 Conditioner Bar soap Toothpaste Shampoo Toilet tissue

Learn to Pray the Rosary On October 7, we celebrate Our Lady of the Rosary. Everyone who is interested in learning the rosary is invited to St. Mary's Church at 5:30pm to learn the rosary and then join us for our regular rosary prayer group at 6:00pm.

Companions through Grief The Samaritan Mission invites all adults over 18 years old who have experienced grief or loss, whether it was 20 years ago or yesterday, to join us to realize the incredible power of helping others as an effective method of transforming pain and healing together. Next meeting Monday, October 13 @ 5pm in the St. John the Baptist Parish House in Greenville.

We want to give **a heartfelt thank you to everyone** who came to our free parish dinner. Your presence made it such a joyful evening! We are so grateful for this amazing community and the way we come together as a true church family. A special joy was seeing all the children playing together, reminding us of the blessings of growing in faith and friendship. Thank you for making our parish such a loving home for all.

A huge thank you to Michele for getting the word out across our parish to get as many folks together as possible, and to Tammy for providing all the pizza and cake!

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YOU'RE INVITED

FREE Parish Family Dinner – Costume Night

All parishioners are warmly invited to our next Free Parish Dinner!

We look forward to gathering together for a joyful evening of food, fellowship, and fun.

This month, children and adults alike are welcome to join the celebration by wearing their favorite costume. Whether simple or creative, your costume will add to the spirit of the evening! We hope you and your family will come and share this special time with your parish community.

(We ask that the costumes be family-appropriate and not too scary for children. A great idea would be to dress like your favorite Saint!)

****Homemade Chili, Soups, and bread****

Coffee and dessert available as well!
(Gluten and Dairy Free options available)

Date: Thursday, October 16th, 2025
(Please RSVP to Sarah by October 10th)

Time: 5:30-8:00Pm

Location: Maria Hall (St Mary's, Coxsackie)

We can't wait to see you there!

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Save the Date

Sunday, October 26th St. Patrick's annual Frese's Spaghetti Dinner – Drive thru – Take out only
Time: 1pm to 5 pm. Adults: \$15. Children (5-10): \$7. (4 & under): Free.

Mass Intentions

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

Week of October 4, 5, 2025

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Oct 4 4:30 Ravena Diane Hoffman by Donna and Bill McMullen

Oct 5 7:30 Coxsackie Peter Hynes 20th Anniversary by his family
The Heim family by Anne Heim

9:30 Ravena None at this time

11:30 Coxsackie David Palmer and Marie Kadlick by Francis Lake
Bernard Valentino by his wife

Week of October 11, 12 2025

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

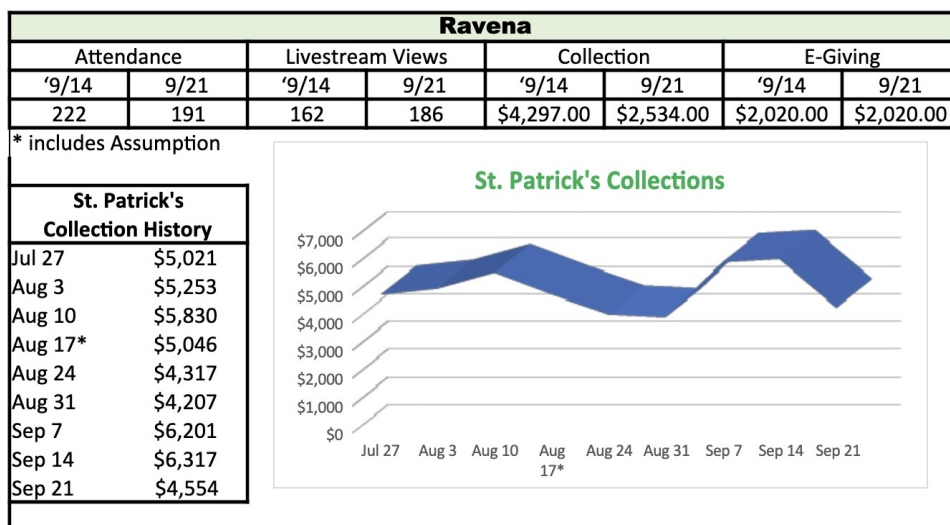
Oct 11 4:30 Ravena Thelma and James Winters by Carol and John Bruno

Oct 12 7:30 Coxsackie Donald Daoust by Nancy Belycia
Deceased members Van Schaick and Sherin families by Tom Van Schaick
Mary Buttino by Benny and Kathy Lanza
Jacob Dirrigl, Jr. by his wife, Eva

9:30 Ravena Diane Hoffman by Ravena Columbiettes

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

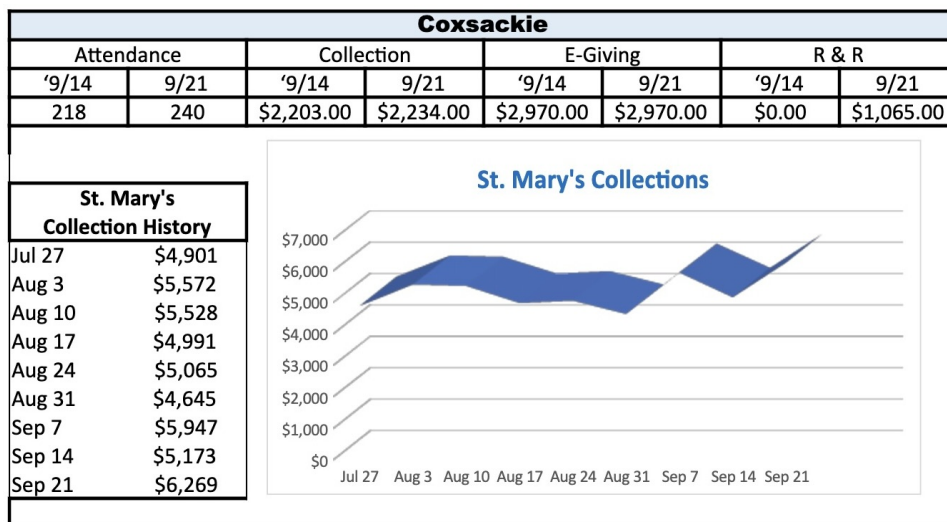
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ENVELOPES ARE GREAT, BUT E-GIVING HELPS YOUR PARISH MAKE BETTER FINANCIAL DECISIONS

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

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

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

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