



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



March 7 & 14, 2021 • Edition 30 • Weeks 51 & 52

Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family....

I often talk to people going through a hard time and when I ask them how they're managing, so often they say some version of: "If it weren't for my faith, I don't know how I would do it."

A statement like that reminds my faith may be the single most valuable and important thing in my life. I would be lost without it. And although faith is a deeply personal matter, it's also something we Catholics share with each other and that gives us a bond that is even more intimate than blood.

Perhaps that's why it moves our hearts so much when we see people showing an interest in this faith and wanting to be a part of it. This year, in the midst of the pandemic and the chaos that has swirled all around us, God has called three individuals in our community from very different backgrounds to join the Catholic faith and be fully initiated in our presence at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night April 3 at St. Mary's. I wanted to take a moment to introduce the three of them to you so that you can pray for them as they undertake the final weeks of their journey to full membership in our church.

Juan Colon was never baptized, even though he was raised in a Catholic household. That meant that although Jesus, Mary and the Saints were familiar to him, he was never able to participate in any of the Sacraments of the Catholic faith. Like a lot of us, Juan has been through a lot in his life and realizes that Jesus was there with him in all of it, supporting him the whole way. In light of all of that, he says: "I have nothing but gratitude... the least I can do is pledge my loyalty to God." Juan is a service technician and driver for PepsiCo in Albany and hopes to get involved in the ministries of the Church that help people in need. At the Easter Vigil on April 3, Juan will be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist for the first time.

"Ms. Corbett," as catechumen **Camlynne Corbett** is known to her 3rd Graders at Van Corlaer Elementary School in Schenectady, is preparing for some important steps in her life. She is engaged to Anthony Greco, a member of St. Mary's, who himself went through our parish faith formation program. Although she did not grow up with a religious practice, she always admired the faith of the family and friends she had who were practicing Catholics. She also loves nature and looks forward to deepening her relationship with the Maker of it all. As she and Anthony look to the future, they want to build their marriage on a strong foundation and want a shared faith to be the bedrock beneath their union. They also want to be a united team in raising the children they pray God will bestow upon them. On April 3, Anthony will be there to witness his future wife be baptized, confirmed and receive Eucharist for the first time at the Easter Vigil.

Lori LePage is a small business owner who has a background in sales and marketing. She was born in Canada but raised in Cocksackie and was baptized as a Baptist. Her mother Linda entered the Church at the Easter Vigil at St. Mary's in 2011 and was confirmed and given the Eucharist for the first time by Fr. Moyna. Lori admires her mother's faith and had been thinking about following her into the Catholic Church; she decided that there was no reason to wait any longer. Her Christian Baptism in the Baptist Church is recognized by the Catholic Church (and Baptism is unrepeatable), so Lori will receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation at on April 3.

I am so grateful for the infusion of excitement and renewal of fervor for this faith that Camlynne, Juan and Lori have given me in the midst of a really challenging and dreary time in our history. Just as the blossoms of the flowers that will soon burst forth are in gestation in the frozen ground right now, seeds of this ancient faith had been planted years go in these dear new friends and we have the privilege of watching them burst forth right before us.

Faithfully,
Fr. Scott ☺

LENTEN DAY OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

2:00 – 7:00 PM

ST. MARY'S CHURCH Cocksackie		CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK Ravena	
Begins at 2:00 PM		Begins at 2:00 PM	
2:00	Fr. John Moyna	2:00	Fr. Rick Shaw
3:00	Fr. John Moyna	3:00	Fr. Rick Shaw
4:00	Fr. Scott	4:00	Fr. Frank O'Connor
5:00	Fr. Mike Melanson	5:00	Fr. Frank O'Connor
6:00	Fr. Mike Melanson	6:00	Fr. Jim Kane
Ends at 7:00 PM		Ends at 7:00 PM	

Schedule

SUNDAY 3/7	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
	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 6:30 = Eucharistic Adoration (St. Patrick's)
MONDAY 3/8	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages

TUESDAY 3/9	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's 3:00 = Praying in your home 5:30 = Confession (St. Patrick's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 3/10	DAY OF RECONCILIATION – ALL DAY CONFESSIONS 2:00-7:00 = Confessions at St. Mary's 2:00-7:00 = Confessions at St. Patrick's
THURSDAY 3/11	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 3/12	3:00 = Praying in your home 6:00 PM = Stations of the Cross (St. Patrick's) 6:00 PM = Stations of the Cross (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 3/13	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners M-Z)
SUNDAY 3/14	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 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 3/15	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 3/16	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) 3:00 = Praying in your home 5:30 = Confession (St. Mary's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome)
WEDNESDAY 3/17	3:00 = Praying in your home
THURSDAY 3/18	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 3/19	3:00 = Praying in your home 6:00 PM = Stations of the Cross (St. Patrick's) 6:00 PM = Stations of the Cross (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 3/20	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners A-L)
SUNDAY 3/21	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Sunday, March 7; 6:30-7:30 at St. Patrick's

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS – BOTH PARISHES

Come join us at **6 PM on the Fridays of Lent** for the Stations of the Cross. We will follow social distancing protocols and may ask for your help with sanitization after the prayers are done/

BEST LENT EVER

You can receive short daily video reflections in your e-mail inbox! Sign up by [clicking here](#).

LITTLE BLACK BOOKS

These books of daily Lenten reflections have been mailed to the homes of our parishioners. Did you get yours? If not, call the parish office and we'll get you one ASAP!

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY – TRY IT FOR THE WEEKS OF LENT!

11:00-12:00 Noon 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@gmail.com

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY – TRY IT FOR THE WEEKS OF LENT!

1:00-2:00 PM on Thursdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school. Open to all! Join us also for the **Rosary 2:00 PM on Tuesdays** in St. Patrick's Church. Just show up! For more info, please contact the rectory or Christa derobccr@gmail.com

Annual Diocesan Appeal

E-Mail Dawn Brownson | parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com

Help us meet our goal!

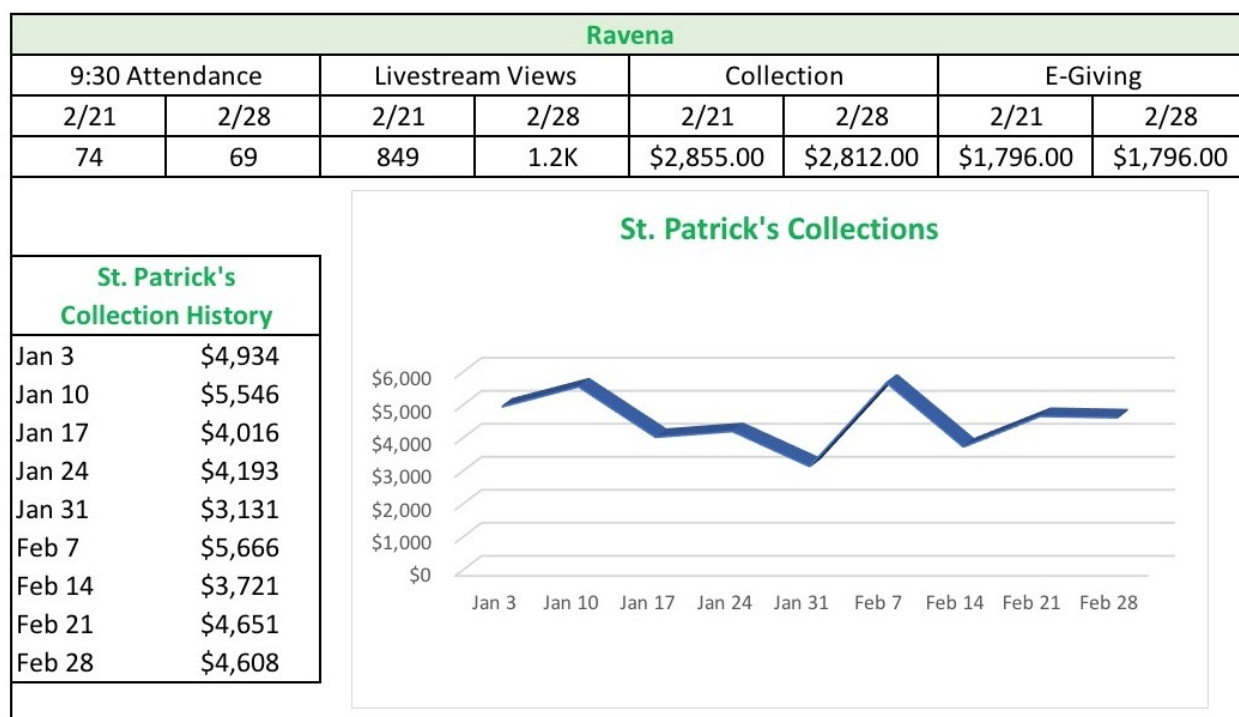
[Click here: donation made easy!](#)

ST. PATRICK'S

152 gifts so far
80% of goal (out of 190 gift goal)
Base gift = **\$25**
Highest gift so far = **\$3,000**
Average gift = **\$316**
Total donations to date = * **\$48,174**
* **Just \$400 shy of goal!**

ST. MARY'S

142 gifts so far
81% of goal (out of 175 gift goal)
Base gift = **\$25**
Highest gift so far = **\$2,000**
Average gift = **\$282**
Total donations to date = **\$40,422**



ENVELOPES, CHECKS & CASH GIFTS ARE **ALWAYS WELCOME**, BUT E-GIVING DOES WORK BEST

Might you like to give e-giving a try, knowing how much it helps the parish budget for the future and be assured of support, regardless of the weather, COVID restrictions or other unforeseen challenges? If so, [Click Here](#). Know that you can give it a try and later change your mind at any time.

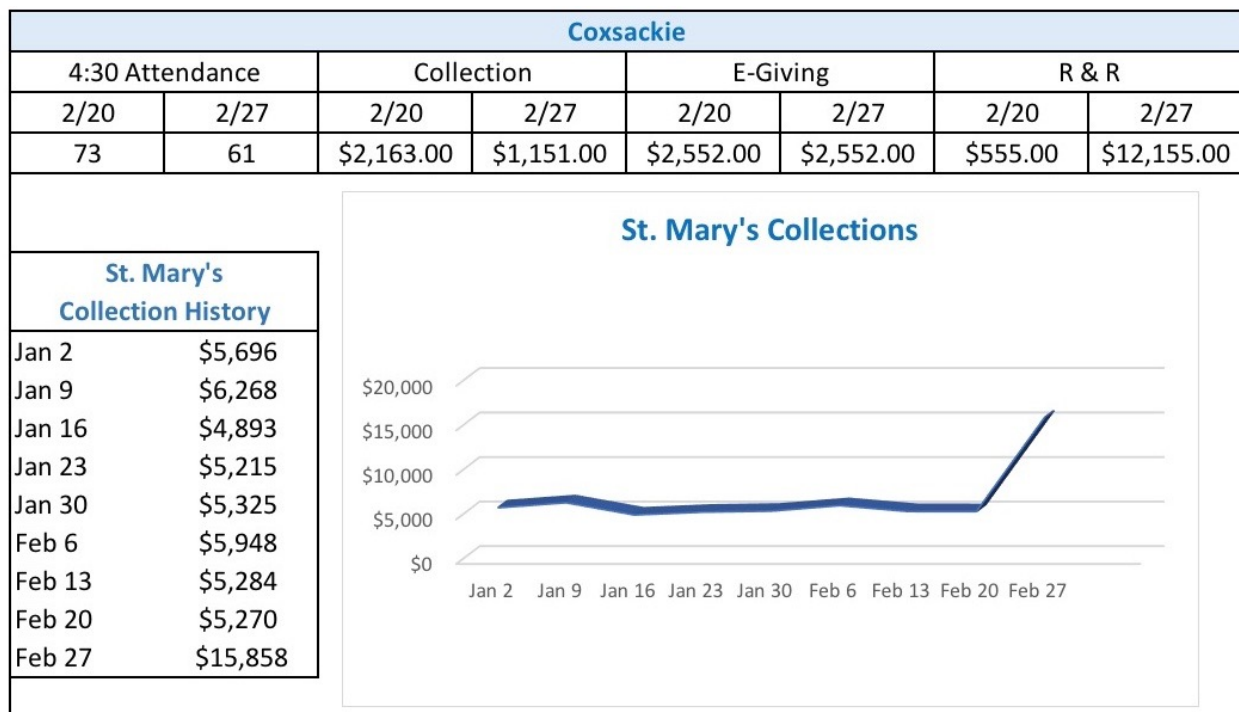
Thank you all for your incredible generosity!

EAT AT AND HELP ST. MARY'S REPAIR & RENOVATION FUND

On **Wednesday, March 10**, Red's Restaurant will donate 10% of all their proceeds to St. Mary's Repairs and Renovations Fund to offset the deficit we have been seeing in our monthly collections because of lower attendance. Red's is owned by parishioners Kate & Joe Konopka and is a tremendously well-run and consciousness business – so much so, they now donate 10% of all the proceeds from every second Tuesday of the month to good local causes. You can help St. Mary's by treating yourself to a delicious fish fry after confession on Wednesday... imagine that!

REPAIR & RENOVATION FUND UPDATE

Since we first let you know about our R&R Fund shortfall, you have responded with tremendous generosity! One parishioner anonymously donated \$12K to the fund (!) and more than \$6,000 in other parishioner donations on top of that have placed us within \$1,900 of our budget for this time of the year! Thank you, one and all! Who knows, perhaps the March 10 donation from Red's and our next R&R collection on March 21 will bring us up to our normal levels. We are so grateful for your loving attention to the needs of our parish family home!



Faith Formation Update for St. Mary's

Call Bob Desrosiers | 518-444-8184

Please keep praying for our beloved kids and teens approaching BIG Sacramental moments...

FIRST EUCHARIST

Our wonderful group of Second Graders will complete their preparation by participating in the Jesus Festival on **Saturday, April 17 at 10 AM**. They will celebrate the greatest Sacrament of them all, the Eucharist on **Saturday, May 1 at 11 AM**.

CONFIRMATION 2021

Our Confirmation Group is currently participating in both the Mentor/Candidate (one-on-one) and the Immediate Preparation Process (group) as they begin their final preparation to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Saturday, May 8 at 11 AM** at St. Mary's.

What do you like about this year's new format? What would you like to see tweaked?
Your opinion matters! Contact Bob with feedback... he's all ears and eager to hear!

Food Pantry at St. Patrick's

Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789

The Food Pantry would especially welcome donations of:

**Lunch Box Snacks, Tuna, Spaghetti Sauce, Soup (Any Kind), Crackers,
Canned Pears, Shampoo and Deodorant**

And, as always, your monetary donations are always gratefully received.

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)

FR. SCOTT'S HOMILIES AND VIDEO MESSAGES (New postings multiple times each week):

[Click here](#) and then please hit

SUBSCRIBE

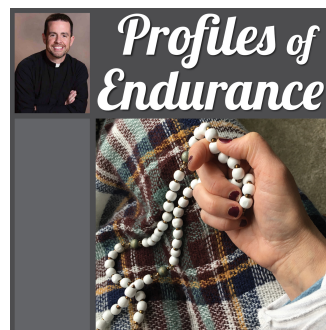
WEEKDAY MASS (On Facebook Live from Our Lady of Victory Parish, Troy)

[Click here](#) to watch live at 8:30 AM Monday – Friday or on demand later in the day

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

Interviews with parishioners about facing life's challenges

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY
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OR ON SPOTIFY**



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

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](#)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Sunday of the month 6:30-7:30 PM at St. Patrick's

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1:00-2:00 PM on Tuesdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the scho

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

1:00-2:00 PM on Thursdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school