



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



April 4 & 11, 2021 • Edition 32 • Weeks 55 & 56

Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family...

Do you feel too busy to relax into the joy of the moment? Many of us habitually put off fun and relaxation to a later time. "I can't relax now," we say, "I have so much to do."

Certainly, part of maturity is learning to prioritize our tasks and delay gratification, but many people with classic American "Type A" personalities are compulsively drawn to the next item on our To-Do list. And having fun, relaxing and enjoying life is never on the list.

Over time, this attitude of always needing to delay celebration so we can manage the mundane takes a toll on us. We're spending all of our time outside of ourselves, because our focus is on the future, the next thing, how to set ourselves up for tomorrow... and a human being cannot live anywhere but in this moment. If we're always thinking about tomorrow, then we are not actually living our life, since life is always about right now.

As John Lennon famously said, "Life is what happens while we're busy making other plans."

So, let us be clear: **today is a day to claim for celebration! We must not put it off.** As the Easter psalm (118) says: *"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!"* The poet and author Maya Angelou paraphrased that beautifully:

"Today is a wonderful day! I've never seen this one before."

When Easter comes, rejoicing must be put at the top of our "To Do" list. And not just today, but this whole season of Easter, which stretches through April to the Feast of Pentecost on May 23. We **must** celebrate and rejoice. We owe God that.

After all Jesus did for us...

- after giving his life so that we could live
- after revealing that death is just an illusion
- after teaching us that every cross we face will be followed by a resurrection
- after promising that every Good Friday will lead us to an Easter Sunday, if we are willing to live through it without fleeing

...after all of that, we owe God the pleasure of seeing us happy. We ought to give our Creator the delight of seeing our joy and gratitude. We ought to show Jesus that, although we didn't quite understand him when he walked among us and taught us how to live (... As he said to the Apostles: *"Have you been with me this long and still you do not know me?"* [John 14:9]...), now

we can see what he was trying to say to us and we allow it to bring us the kind of peace the world cannot give... and cannot take away.

Many of us Catholics are very good at Lent. We like giving things up and cataloging all of our sins and failures, because it reminds us of the uncompleted "To Do" list that rules our lives. But, friends... Lent is over. Whatever good intentions we had that were left undone, too bad. It's over. Christ rose from the dead without our help. It turns out it was never our hard work that could raise him, it was the power of the love of God.

"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad!" And that's an order!


Happy Easter!

Fr. Scott ☺

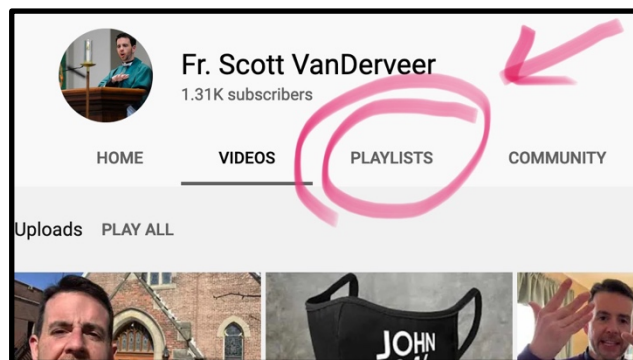
P.S. This is the first Easter that an old Ravena tradition has been resurrected. Are you old enough to remember getting Frese's bread on your way home from Sunday Mass? Now we can all relive that tradition and support a local parishioner-owned family business: **Frese's Bakery** will be open on Easter morning from 8 until Noon. (Cookies, cannolis and Easter bread are best ordered in advance.)

Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel Update

FR. SCOTT'S VIDEO MESSAGES ARE NOW IN PLAYLISTS BY TOPIC!


Are you one of the 1,320 subscribers to Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel where every week he posts a new message about faith and life? If not, please check it out by [Clicking here](#) and then please hit  .


Once you do that you can go to the **PLAYLISTS** tab and watch messages about topics like prayer, depression, relationships, healing, the Sacraments, Podcast interviews with local parishioners and much, much more.



Livestream YouTube Channels



St. Mary's now has an official Livestream channel! [Click here](#) and then please hit  .

St. Patrick's Livestream channel now has 1,740 subscribers! If you're not one already, [click here](#) and hit  today!

Schedule

SUNDAY 4/4	EASTER SUNDAY 7:30 = Easter Mass at St. Mary's 9:30 = Easter Mass at St. Patrick's (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 = Easter Mass at St. Patrick's 6:30 = Eucharistic Adoration (St. Patrick's)
MONDAY 4/5	Parish Office Closed for Easter Holiday By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 4/6	Parish Office Closed for Easter Holiday 11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's 5:30 = No Confession (St. Mary's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 4/7	
THURSDAY 4/8	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 4/9	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 4/10	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners M-Z) (also St. Mary's *new* YouTube channel)
SUNDAY 4/11	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) 11:00 = Introduction to Divine Mercy Devotion (St. Patrick's) 3:00 = Introduction to Divine Mercy Devotion (St. Mary's)
MONDAY 4/12	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 4/13	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) 5:30 = No Confession (St. Patrick's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 4/14	
THURSDAY 4/15	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 4/16	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)

SATURDAY 4/17	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners A-L) (also St. Mary's *new* YouTube channel)
SUNDAY 4/18	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)

Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – SUN. APRIL 11 – 11:00 AM / 3:00 PM

The Sunday after Easter was designated by Pope St. John Paul II as “Divine Mercy Sunday,” an opportunity to reflect on the supernatural visions of Christ of St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish Sister of Mercy, who was asked by Christ to record the things he told her in her diary, which has become a spiritual classic.

Many people have found this devotion very meaningful and life-giving.

Would you like to learn more, including the key prayer that many people pray every day?

**Join us for an introduction, 11:00 AM at St. Patrick's, Ravena
and 3:00 PM at St. Mary's, Cossackie on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11.**

YOUNG ADULT CATHOLICS GATHER IN HUDSON

Mon. April 12 7-8 PM Young Adult Holy Hour with Confession, followed by free food and refreshments at American Glory BBQ on Warren Street. [Click here for more information.](#)

ZITI & MEATBALL TAKEOUT DINNER TO BENEFIT ST. MARY'S

Mark your calendar for Fri. May 7, 4-7; Drive-Thru-Style dinner at the Cossackie Village Building, with all proceeds to fund the parish Repairs & Renovations Fund.

Annual Diocesan Appeal

E-Mail Dawn Brownson | parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com

If you haven't yet had a chance, it's not too late!

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

ST. PATRICK'S

160 gifts so far

84% of goal (out of 190 gift goal)

Total donations to date = * **\$50,281**

*** ✨ 104% of dollar goal ✨**

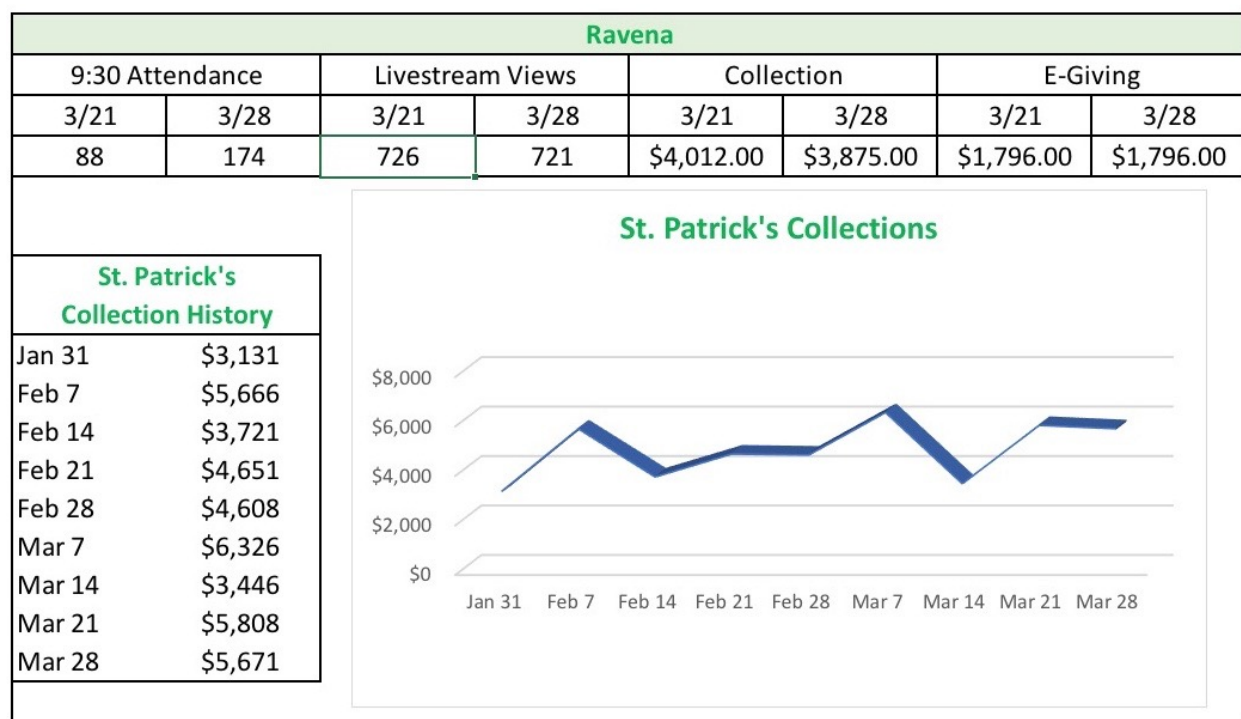
ST. MARY'S

150 gifts so far

86% of goal (out of 175 gift goal)

Total donations to date = * **\$41,244**

*** 92% of dollar goal**



IF YOU HAD A FUNERAL FOR A LOVED ONE WHO DIED OF COVID-19, YOU CAN BE REIMBURSED

The Federal Government's Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is reimbursing up to \$7,000 for COVID-19 funerals. Please [click here](#) for more information and pass on to any family member who paid for a funeral.

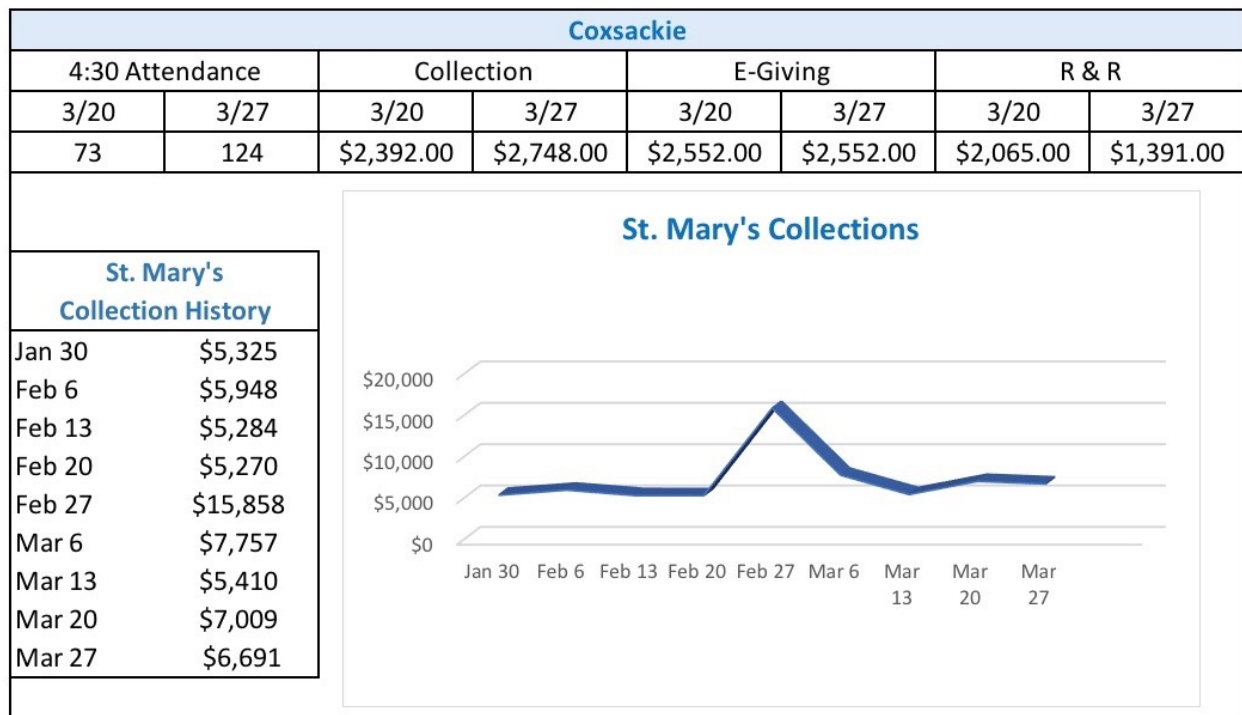
ST. MARY'S "R & R FUND" UPDATE

We came to you at the end of February letting you know that we were facing a Repair & Renovations Fund deficit because COVID had lowered our Mass attendance and affected the monthly collection. Well, friends, in the past five weeks, \$19,707 has been collected. **We are now over budget goal for this time of the fiscal year by \$805!** You continue to amaze us all with your steadfast commitment, no matter what, to our beloved parish. Thank you!

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!



Food Pantry at St. Patrick's

Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789

All proceeds from our Holy Thursday Mass collection have been donated to the Food Pantry.
Thank you for your constant dedication to this important ministry!

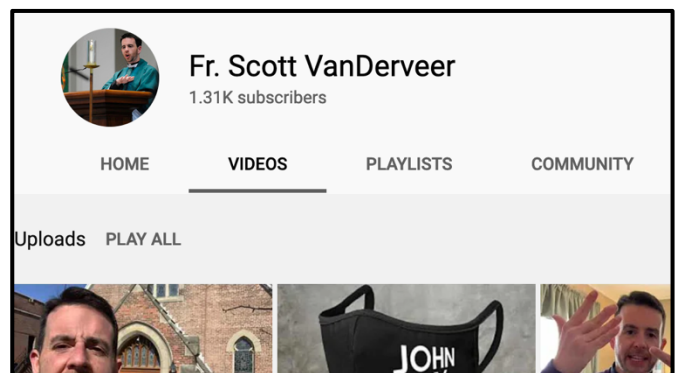
Faith Formation Update for St. Mary's

Bob Desrosiers | 518-444-8184

High schoolers in Faith Formation are now using Fr. Scott's YouTube channel to access messages and homilies that connect to the topics they are exploring in the Faith Formation sessions. The feedback so far has been excellent.

For those who are participating:
What do you like about this year's new format?
What would you like to see tweaked?
Your opinion matters! We're eager to hear!

Please contact Bob with feedback.



WEEKEND MASSES:

4:30 PM Saturday at St. Mary's (by weekly invitation)

4:30 PM on **St. Mary's YouTube channel** (also on-demand)

[Click here](#) and then please subscribe

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

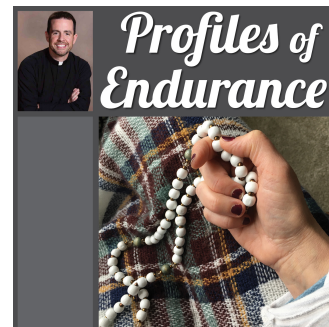
WEEKDAY MASS (On Facebook Live from Our Lady of Victory Parish, Troy)

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

INSTAGRAM (Two Parishes, One Instagram):

[stmary's.stpatrick's](https://www.instagram.com/stmary's.stpatrick's)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

MORNING PRAYER (Following the LITURGY OF THE HOURS)

Friday mornings at 8:00 at St. Mary's

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

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