



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



July 11 & 18, 2021 • Edition 39 • Weeks 69 & 70

Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family...

As you can imagine, the news that I am being reassigned this Fall to become the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Glens Falls has become the "headline story" of my life and the life of our parishes these days. I am having to dig down deeply to manage the many emotions as I feel all the losses that accompany leaving a parish family and region that I love, while at the same time "drinking from the firehose" of learning about my new St. Mary's parish family and working with Fr. Joe and Fr. Jay to make sure that the new system of regional priest cooperation in our area is leakproof. It's more than a little overwhelming.

When times like this come, I am reminded of the words of St. Francis de Sales, who said:

*"When you are overwhelmed, first, start with what is **necessary**.
Then focus on what is **possible**. And soon, you will be doing the **impossible**."*

Part of what is *necessary* for me right now is to take a step back and look at this situation and my life from the widest perspective I can. Lately I've turned to the writing of wise elders of the past and present to help me find my way. So much of what I read has been helpful, but none more so than this perspective I received from Pope Francis, who spoke these words on January 1st this year, as the world struggled with the many problems of Coronavirus and beyond:

*"You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that **your life is the greatest enterprise in the world**. Only you can stop it from going bust.*

Many appreciate you, admire you and love you. Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments.

To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.

*Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. **To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author**. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life. Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no."*

It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us. To be happy is to let live the life inside of each of us: free, joyful and simple.

It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes."

It is to have the courage to say: "I am sorry."

It is to have the sensitivity to say: "I need you."

It is to have the ability to say: "I love you."

May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness...

That in spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter a lover of wisdom.

*And when you make a mistake, start all over again. For only then will you be in love with life. **You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life.***

But use the tears to irrigate tolerance.

Use your losses to train patience.

Use your mistakes to sculpt your serenity.

Use pain to plaster pleasure.

Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence.

Never give up Never give up on people who love you. Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show.

Can you believe we are lucky enough to be alive in a time to be shepherded by a Holy Father who speaks with such sublime wisdom as *that*? Though he has never met me, he somehow knows what I'm going through. Though he spent most of his life in Argentina, he somehow knows what your sorrows and losses are, too. He gets it and gets us. He is Christ's microphone, Christ's vicar on earth.

And let's not forget that in March of 2013 (three months before I was ordained a priest), to his utter shock, he was elected pope. He called his sister and asked her to please pick up the dry cleaning that was waiting for him at his neighborhood laundry in Buenos Aires, since he would likely never come home again, not even to get his most precious belongings! And he never has.

And if Pope Francis can understand my life this well, and yours too, just imagine how much God does.

With love,

Fr. Scott 😊

Schedule

SUNDAY 7/11	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901)
MONDAY 7/12	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages

TUESDAY 7/13	2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) 5:30 = No Confession 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 7/14	
THURSDAY 7/15	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 7/16	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 7/17	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel) 5:30 = Anointing Service (After Mass)
SUNDAY 7/18	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 6:30-7:30 = Eucharistic Adoration (St. Patrick's)
MONDAY 7/19	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 7/20	2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) (All are welcome!) 5:30 = No Confession 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 7/21	
THURSDAY 7/22	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 7/23	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 7/24	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
SUNDAY 7/25	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901)

Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow

FR. SCOTT'S MISSIONARY FRIEND COMING TO SPEAK ABOUT THE GLOBAL CHURCH

Fr. George Villamthanam, who became friends with Fr. Scott and Fr. Brian Slezak on their visit to India in 2019, will be coming to talk about the Little Flower Mission in Tanzania next weekend. We look forward to welcoming him and hearing about the CSTs work and taking up a special collection to help them with their ministry.

Fr. Scott and Fr. Brian made that once-in-a-lifetime trip to India to see the family of a mutual friend and to visit Fr. Francis Kilivallickal, the priest cousin of St. Patrick's parishioners **Sapna & Gilson Mathai**, who were raised in India.



The Congregation of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus (The CSTs), also known as the Little Flower Community, is a huge missionary order in southern India that sends missionaries all over the East, including to Tanzania in Africa.

MONTHLY CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC MASS – 2nd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

All are welcome on **Wednesday, July 14** at 7:00 PM for prayer & praise followed by a 7:30 liturgy at **Christ Our Light Church** (1 Maria Drive, Loudonville, NY 12211). AlbanyCCR.org

New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program assists households behind on their rent that have experienced financial hardship due to COVID and are at risk of homelessness or housing instability. In addition, the program can provide temporary rental assistance and assistance with unpaid utility bills.

This assistance can pay up to 12 months of past due rent and for some households, pay up to 3 months of future rent. The program can also pay for up to 12 months of overdue electric or gas bills.

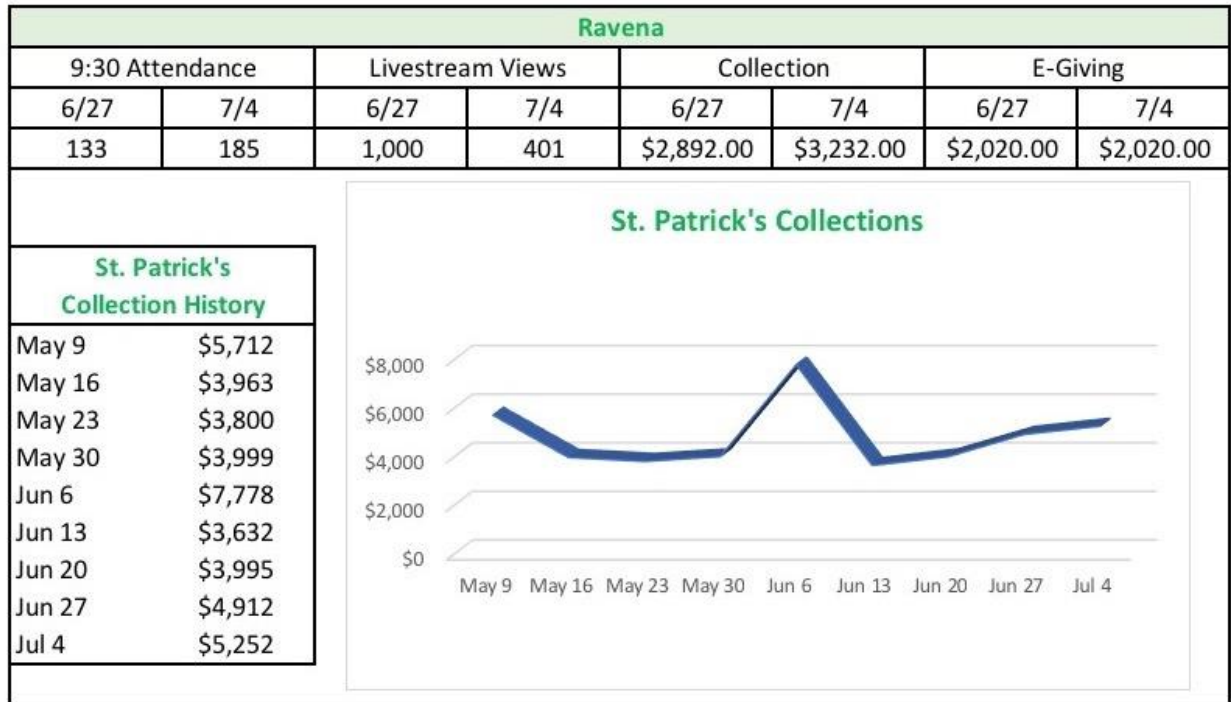
For more information, visit: otda.ny.gov/ERAP or call 844-691-7368

We are in need of the following:

Cookies, Lunch Box Snacks, Snack Crackers, Beef Stew, Chicken Noodle Soup, Vegetable Soup and any Condiments.

Thank you to all that support the Food Pantry with your food and monetary donations!
 Food Pantry is Open **Tuesdays & Fridays 10–11 AM** and **Wednesdays 6–7 PM**.

Come visit **Thursdays from 1:00 – 3:00 PM** or **Saturday mornings from 9:00–Noon**.



Coxsackie							
4:30 Attendance		Collection		E-Giving		R & R	
6/26	7/3	6/26	7/3	6/26	7/3	6/26	7/3
125	184	\$3,076.00	\$1,507.00	\$2,970.00	\$2,970.00	\$446.00	\$0.00

St. Mary's Collection History	
May 8	\$5,160
May 15	\$6,274
May 22	\$4,364
May 29	\$4,861
Jun 5	\$5,189
Jun 12	\$6,369
Jun 19	\$4,575
Jun 26	\$6,492
Jul 3	\$4,477

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Youth & Faith Formation of Coxsackie

Bob Desrosiers | 518-731-9268

FAITH FORMATION 2022

Bob sent out registration forms in mid-June by snail mail and some by email (as needed). Also in the near future, there will be an interactive registration capability on our new Website (more to come on that).

WITH THE NEW YEAR COME NEW NEEDS

We will need Volunteers to come forward to serve as Catechists for the following grades: Grades 6, 8, 9 at St. Mary's. *Without catechists we face the possibility of not being able to offer FF in those grades.* So please pray intently and see if this is something God is calling you to give your time, talent and treasure to. This year's schedule will call for about 10-12 sessions as opposed to 20+ sessions in the past. Please contact Bob at stmaryffo@aol.com or by phone at 518 731-9268.

BREAKAWAY RETREAT FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CATHOLICS

What a fantastic time we had at the recent Breakaway Retreat. 5 of our young folks joined 70 other Middle School and High School Youth at the Breakaway Retreat Program at the Pyramid Life Center in Paradox NY from June 27 to July 1. Reagan Hellen participated in the Middle School program and Therese and Katherine Desrosiers, and Gabe and Grace Hognlund the High School program. Christa Desrosiers coordinated for the Middle School and Bob Desrosiers provided Music Ministry (assisted by Gabe Hognlund on Guitar!) for the Middle and High School. Despite the very hot weather from Sunday thru Wednesday Noon (the rain purged the

heat just as the subsequent Reconciliation Service and Eucharistic Adoration lead by Fr. Scott purged our sins!) we had an epic week. The youth were incredible and the youth and adult ministry teams were just a joy to serve with!! Thank you Fr. Scott and Seminarian Adam (and Frs. Sam Bellafiori, John O'Kane, Bob Longobucco, and Matt Wetzel) for Breaking Away with us and inspiring all of us! We are already looking forward to Breakaway Retreat 2022!!

COMMUNITY LIFE

The Community Life Team (with help from St. Patrick's Ravena) will sponsor the Annual Parish Family Picnic. This year we will also bid farewell to Fr. Scott and welcome Fr. O'Brien. More information will be forthcoming in future Newsletters etc.

REGISTER ONLINE FOR ST. MARY'S FAITH FORMATION

Later this summer we will launch an interactive registration page on our website (more to come on that).

Connecting with the Parishes

Online | Phone | E-Mail

WEEKEND MASSES:

4:30 PM Saturday at St. Mary's

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

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 

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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MY PARISH APP (Two Parishes, One App):

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

INSTAGRAM (Two Parishes, One Instagram):

[stmary's.stpatrick's](#)



st.mary's
st. patrick'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

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

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