



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



August 22 & 29, 2021 • Edition 42 • Weeks 75 & 76
Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family...

When Bishop Ed asked me in the fall of 2015 to leave my post at St. Mary's in Oneonta to become the pastor of St. Patrick's and St. Mary's, Google Maps had just begun offering a new feature for smart phone users. Beginning that fall, Google Maps started tracking your car's position so it could determine your driving patterns. That would allow the app on your phone to know where you lived, where you worked and what other locations were part of your daily routine, so that, for instance, when you got in your car at 8 AM, the phone would automatically tell you: *"Based on today's traffic, you will arrive at work in 22 minutes."* Handy little feature.

The problem for me was that my phone learned that Oneonta was my home. Those first few weeks after I moved to Coxsackie and Ravena, no pattern had yet been established and the phone couldn't yet tell if I was perhaps just on vacation. So in those confusing first weeks, each time I got in my car, my phone would say:

*"Based on today's traffic, you will arrive at **home** in 1 hour and 33 minutes."*

The phone still thought that Oneonta was my home and was reminding me: *"Okay, this has been a very nice visit, but shouldn't you be going home now!?"* It took my already bad wound of homesickness for my first parish and community and squeezed lemon juice into it.

Here we are, six years later, and I'm back in a familiar position. My last move I was sent east, this time I'm heading north, but the feelings I'm having are still right in the center of my gut. Ravena and Coxsackie have become my home, places I've loved; and the people here have become my family. To say I'm heading into a season of homesickness is an understatement. I suppose the fact that the territory is familiar makes me somewhat more prepared to face it, but my memories of it have taught me to respect it. It's a form of grief. And like all of grief's forms, it's a force and will have to bear down on me and relent only when it chooses.

My dear friend in Atlanta, the mom of my godson Henry, always says: "Hard doesn't mean bad." And while this is hard on me (and hard on you, too, I know...), I have come to accept that this is not bad. No thought of a move was ever going to appeal to me, but Glens Falls is the right community for me to move to right now and St. Mary's is the right parish. Glens Falls, a city of 15,000 or so people is the center of a region that includes Lake George and the communities north of Saratoga and the southern part of the Adirondacks. There is a big population in that region (about 150,000) and a large number of them are young. In fact, there

are enough young families in the area so that [St. Mary's—St. Alphonsus Regional Catholic School](#), which is located in an almost 100-year-old gothic building on the grounds of St. Mary's, has about 200 kids enrolled in Grades K-8 for the upcoming school year!



In addition, “Adirondack Catholic,” a young adult group of Catholics in their 20s and 30s that get together for prayer and social outings with people of their faith, is based in the area and has over 190 followers. This region is one of the “youngest” in our diocese and I think my experience as a Catholic educator and with Campus Ministry at SUNY Oneonta and Hartwick Colleges will be useful in engaging those families and individuals.

I remember the retreat I was on in the fall of 2016, just under a year after I became the pastor here, I realized that my sense of home had shifted from Oneonta to Coxsackie and Ravena. The healing was incremental, the inweaving of the land and the people here into my life was gradual, but it happened in God’s time. And now I marvel that I ever could have been homesick while nestled here in the middle of my beloved family and the sacred patch of God’s land we share. I pray that, in time, I will feel the same way about the people of Glens Falls and the land of Warren County. I’ve got a hunch – and I know that you do too – that, in time, I will.

With deep love and appreciation for you, my family ...

Fr. Scott ☺

Schedule

SUNDAY 8/22	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick’s (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick’s YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901)
MONDAY 8/23	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 8/24	2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick’s (All are welcome!) 5:30 = Confession (St. Patrick’s) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary’s (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 8/25	
THURSDAY 8/26	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick’s Adult Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 8/27	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary’s)

SATURDAY 8/28	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
SUNDAY 8/29	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901)
MONDAY 8/30	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 8/31	2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) (All are welcome!) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 9/1	
THURSDAY 9/2	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Adult Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 9/3	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 9/4	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
SUNDAY 9/5	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)

Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow

OPEN HOUSE FOR FR. JOE & FR. SCOTT AT RED'S RESTAURANT – **SUNDAY, SEPT. 12; 1 - 4 PM**

Stop in to welcome Fr. Joe and congratulate him on his 30 years as a priest, and bid farewell to Fr. Scott who is leaving after 6 years as our pastor. And enjoy some great Red's food while you're there!

ST. PATRICK'S PARISHIONERS IMPROVE FOSTER KIDS' LIVES THROUGH CARE PORTAL

Through St. Patrick's partnership with Justice for Orphans (JFO) through CarePortal, we have served **33 children** with a financial impact or just over **\$27,000!** All because of your generous donations!

Right now, if you are cleaning out your kids' clothes, we are looking for:

Boys size 7/8 clothes and shoes size 2

Girls size 5T and shoes size 12 or 13

Backpacks and school supplies

Twin size sheets

Please contact parish coordinator Shari Wells if you can help (518-819-9470).

<https://www.careportal.org/church/church-of-st-patrick/95911/>

MASS SCHEDULE RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 11/12 → 4:30 / 7:30 / 9:30 / 11:30

We will return to the pre-COVID four Mass weekend schedule the weekend of September 11/12. We are also phasing in parishioners bringing up the offertory gifts and taking up the collection with long-handled baskets. To do so, we need volunteers and we are happy to train and support you. Please call either parish office to express your interest. Thank you!

COFFEE HOUR AFTER MASSES AT ST. MARY'S

The ministry is calling for an overall coordinator, 3 volunteers to be the set-up person for 3 different teams and 16 team volunteers to serve as servers after Mass. If you feel called to serve our church in this ministry, please contact Bob at 518-731-9268 or stmaryffo@aol.com.

ADAM FEISTHAMEL, CLASS OF 2024, RETURNS TO ST. MARY'S SEMINARY

Last weekend, our wonderful seminarian shared the miraculous event in his family's life that led him to consider being a priest. This week Adam returns to St. Mary's Seminary to begin his second year of his four-year degree in theology. God willing, Adam will be ordained a deacon in May 2023 and a priest in June 2024. In the meantime, if you'd like to share words of support or encouragement to him, or ask for his prayers as he gathers in the chapel with the seminarians each day for Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours, you can contact him directly at:

**Adam Feisthamel
St. Mary's Seminary
5400 Roland Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21210**

Food Pantry at St. Patrick's

Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789

Thank you to all that support the Food Pantry with your food and monetary donations!
We are in need of the following non-perishable food items:

Graham Crackers, Snack Crackers, Ketchup, Cookies, Rice A Roni.

Food Pantry is Open **Tuesdays & Fridays 10–11 AM** and **Wednesdays 6–7 PM**.

Thrift Shop at St. Patrick's

Marianne McCool | 518-756-9184

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

(Could you volunteer on Saturdays from 9:00 – Noon? We could use your help.)



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ALBANY
OFFICE OF LAY MINISTRY & PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Bishop Scharfenberger invites you to a "Diocesan Day of Prayer and Celebration" for ALL the People of the Albany Diocese



**Saturday, September 25th
9:00 AM- 2:00 PM**

**St. Edward the Confessor Church
569 Clifton Park Center Rd.
Clifton Park, NY 12065**

***Come Holy Spirit!
Renew Our Strength, Reaffirm Our Hope***

The day will begin with a special prayer for God's strength, and an uplifting message from Father Bob Longobucco, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia. From this morning prayer, the day will continue with time to reflect more deeply on the gift of God's hope, led by Bob McCarty, well-known national presenter and former director of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. Finally, the day will conclude with a Holy Hour and a recommitment to "go announce the Gospel of the Lord!"

Registration Form - Deadline for registration is September 15th ~ There is NO cost for the event

Please return your registration information...

By mail to :

Office of Lay Ministry & Parish Faith Formation
40 North Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203-1422

OR email information to :

erin.muir@rcda.org

OR Register online at:

<https://webapps.rcda.org/ParishFaithFormation>

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Parish: _____

If you have any questions, please call the Office of Lay Ministry & Parish Faith Formation 518-453-6670

Youth & Faith Formation of St. Mary's

Bob Desrosiers | 518-731-9268

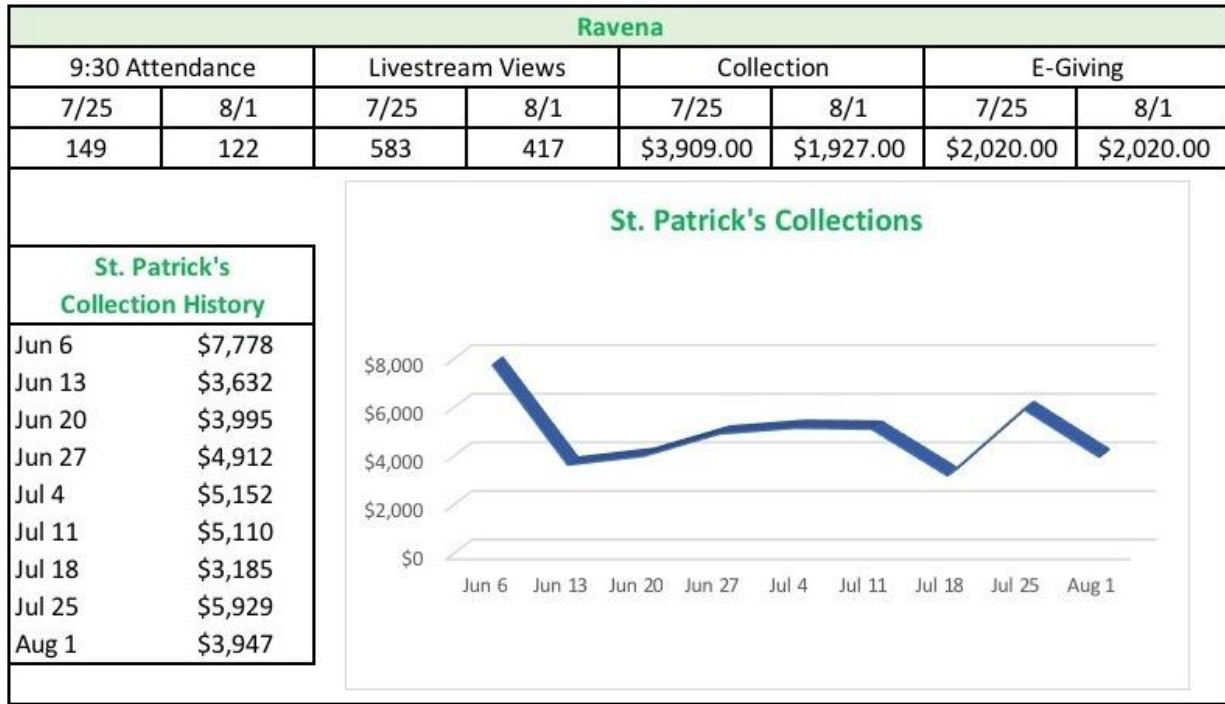
REGISTRATION IS WIDE OPEN

VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS NEEDED FOR GRADES 5, 8 & 9

Could God be calling you to do this vital work for our young people in the years leading up to their confirmation in the faith? Please contact Bob at stmaryffo@aol.com or 518-731-9268.

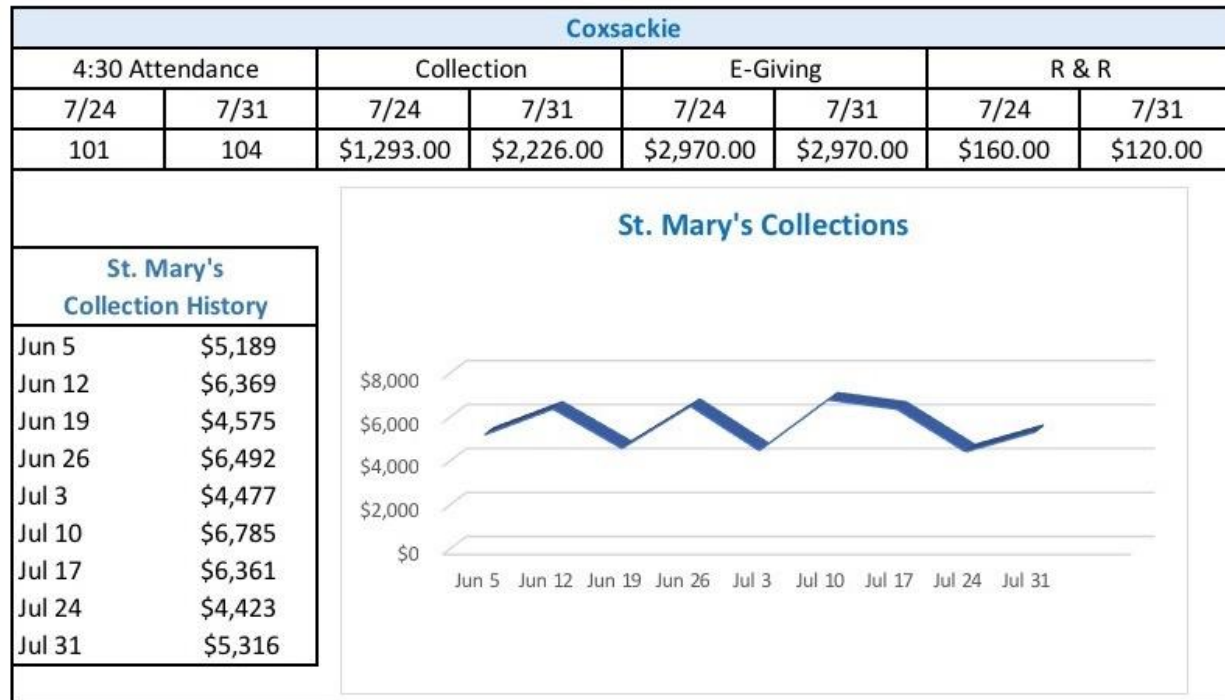
CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW):

Open to youth and adult catechist volunteers (7th grade or older). Please contact Bob.



ENVELOPES ARE GREAT, BUT E-GIVING HELPS YOUR PARISH MORE

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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)

• **Beginning on September 11/12, 2021** •

4:30 PM Saturday at St. Patrick's

7:30 AM Sunday at St. Mary's

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)

11:30 AM Sunday at St. Mary's

11:30 AM on **St. Mary's YouTube channel** (also on-demand)

[Click here](#) and then please subscribe

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

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[Click here](#) for St. Patrick's Parish Homepage

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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

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

MORNING PRAYER (Following the LITURGY OF THE HOURS)

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

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM on Tuesdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school

Resumes September 21st

ADULT THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

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