



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

Jan 23 & Jan 30, 2022 • Edition 53 • Weeks 97 & 98



### A Word (or Two) From Fr. Joe

Dear Parish Family both near and far away,

#### I'd like to share four things with you:

**F**irst, in response to the surge of COVID/omicron virus, our parishes reinstated some of our former COVID protocols to maintain the safest environment we can for our parishioners. Effective last weekend: 1) Parishioners are reminded to wear their mask so it covers their nose, mouth and chin. 2) We reintroduced every other pew seating at our Masses. 3) There will be no procession to receive Communion. The deacon and I will bring you the Body of Christ by walking through the empty pews. 3) When Mass ends, we ask people to not stop and congregate in groups but to return home.

**S**econd, the Diocese is inviting all who would like to participate in Pope Francis's worldwide synod to sign up online for 3 webinars over the next 3 weeks. These webinars are scheduled for the next three Tuesdays at 10 am and 7 pm. Here's the schedule: Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>: "Part 1: A True Season of the Spirit;" Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>: "Part 2: Walking and Listening Together;" and Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>: "Part 3: All the Baptized – Co-responsible for Mission."

You can register by going to: <https://webapps.rcda.org/ParishFaithFormation>

The Diocese is seeking the widest, most diverse audience possible to offer input and comments. I urge you to take part in this synod project. For more information, you can find The Evangelist article in the January 12<sup>th</sup> edition or online at: <https://evangelist.org/Content/Default/Homepage-Rotator/Article/DIOCESE-WANTS-TO-HEAR-FROM-YOU--/3/141/29508>

**T**hird, in January, we often take time to recall our being a people and a church that respect life at all times. Let me draw from the words of Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate (Rejoice and Be Glad)*: "Our defense of the innocent unborn needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the defense of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly exposed to covert euthanasia, the victims of human trafficking, new forms of slavery and every form of rejection." Pray we open people's hearts to all life.

**F**ourth, parishioners are using the envelopes we mailed out recently to replace those delayed in shipping. Thank you! Whether you put your envelope in the collection at Mass, or you've been at home sick, or have been quarantining, or you live far away and follow us online and have been sending them in, your generous stewardship helps provide so much to our parishioners and our community. With more people at home because of COVID and the rough winter weather, your stewardship makes a difference! Many thanks!

Blessings, Fr. Joe O'Brien

## Schedule

SUNDAY 1/23	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )
MONDAY 1/24	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's By Noon New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish homepages
TUESDAY 1/25	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's 8:30 Weekday Mass at St. Patrick's Rosary following Weekday Mass, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) 11:00 Women's Bible Study St. Patrick's – Classroom 5 5:30 -6:30 Reconciliation, St. Patrick's 6:30 Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 7:00 Parish Council Meeting, St. Patrick's
WEDNESDAY 1/26	8:00 Weekday Mass at St. Mary's 8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's 1:00-2:00 St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
THURSDAY 1/27	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's
FRIDAY 1/28	8:00 Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 1/29	4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)
SUNDAY 1/30	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )
MONDAY 1/31	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's By Noon New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish homepages
TUESDAY 2/1	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's 8:30 Weekday Mass at St. Patrick's Rosary following Weekday Mass, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) 11:00 Women's Bible Study St. Patrick's – Classroom 5 5:30 -6:30 Reconciliation, St. Mary's 6:30 Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 2/2	8:00 Weekday Mass at St. Mary's 8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's

THURSDAY 2/3	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's 1:00-2:00 St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 2/4	8:00 Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 2/5	4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)
SUNDAY 2/6	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )

**Please Note:** While RCS or CA schools are operating remotely, please call 518-731-8800 or 518-756-3145 to find out if Mass or Prayer Service has been cancelled due to inclement weather.

### Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow

**Calling Potential Choir Members!** St. Mary's and St. Patrick's choirs are looking for members to help with their music ministry. Did you know along with the social benefits of joining a choir there are several health benefits too? Singing releases endorphins which reduce stress and anxiety levels and also lifts your mood! Some studies even indicate regular singing can increase life expectancy due to beneficial effects on lungs and breathing. Lastly, many of us have heard that singing is like praying twice! If you enjoy singing and wish to dedicate yourself to our parish music ministry through regular or seasonal attendance at rehearsal please reach out.

**St. Mary's** - Music Director Lisa D'Arcangelis, (518) 567-3620 [ldarc55@gmail.com](mailto:ldarc55@gmail.com)  
Sunday Masses at 7:30am and 11:30am Rehearsals Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:45pm

**St. Patrick's** - Pastoral Associate for Music and Liturgy, John Vasto, (518)756-3145 x 104,  
[tcospmusic@icloud.com](mailto:tcospmusic@icloud.com) Sunday Mass at 9:30am Rehearsals Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:45pm



**HELP WANTED!** The St Patrick's Video Camera Ministry needs volunteers to operate the camera for Masses. No special skill necessary. You will be trained. Confirmation Candidates are especially encouraged. If interested, call the St. Pat's Rectory or Bill Horton directly at 518 768-2693.

### COFFEE HOUR AFTER MASSES AT ST. MARY'S

We would like to resume this community building activity once COVID-19 diminishes. Some volunteer teams are needed to make this happen. First, we need an overall coordinator to set up the schedule. This can be done on a quarterly or semi-annual basis. A weekend team consists of a set up person and (2) persons (per Mass) to facilitate serving after each Mass (5 total). After the 11:30 Mass Coffee hour, the servers for that Mass clean-up (which is minimal). Right now we have one full team and Patty McCarroll is a Set-up person for a second team. If you feel called to serve our church in this ministry, please contact Bob Desrosiers at 518 731-9268 or [stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com).

Save these Dates

[www.pyramidlife.org](http://www.pyramidlife.org)



Since 2015, Camp Breakaway has been the premiere Catholic summer camp experience for young people in middle and high school. We are pleased to announce registration is open for Camp Breakaway 2022 June 26-July 1 at Pyramid Life Center.

This camp led by volunteer youth ministers from throughout the diocese, includes small group sharing, hiking, boating, prayer experiences, ropes course, archery, Mass, Reconciliation, and more to help our young people dive deep into a meaningful faith experience.

Click the link on the next line to see what Camp Breakaway is like (you might see some familiar faces):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtGMIUkDyl8>

**Early bird registration expires February 1st.** Pyramid Life Center's youth and family ministry is committed to provide quality extended event programming that facilitates a deeper experience of faith for young people and families. Recent research shows that extended time away from daily life for young people and families is an important component for developing life-long faith. In addition to Breakaway, we offer Mom's Camp, Dad's Camp, F.O.A.M (family service weekend) and a Family Retreat in October. To see a full listing of our programs please visit [www.pyramidlife.org](http://www.pyramidlife.org).

### **The Way for Women: A Healing Retreat for Female Survivors of Abuse**

The Way for Women is a 3-day retreat for adult female survivors of abuse offered by Pyramid Life Center May 20-22, 2022 in Paradox, NY. *Registration deadline is May 1, 2022.* This retreat based on the Stations of the Cross will be led by Sue Stubbs the Victims Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Atlanta along with a local team of professionals.

For more information or to request an application contact us at: Phone: **518-585-7545**, email: [pyramidlifereservations@gmail.com](mailto:pyramidlifereservations@gmail.com)

This is a Christian based event. Women of all faiths and traditions are invited and welcomed.

### **Food Pantry at St. Patrick's Ravena**

**Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789**

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.

### **Food Pantry, Coxsackie**

**Lorraine Camurati | 917-572-3300**

Coxsackie's Food Pantry hours are Tuesday afternoons 1 - 2 pm, Thursday nights, 7 - 8 pm and Saturday mornings 10 - 11 am. The food pantry is located at 117 Mansion Street in the D.M. Hamilton Steamer #2 Fire Station, next to McQuade Park.

### **Thrift Shop at St. Patrick's**

**Mary Ann McCool | 518-756-9184**

*The Thrift Shop will be closed until Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.* In case of an emergency Mary Ann McCool (518-756-9184) can be called and she will gladly help them with their needs from the Thrift Shop.

Are you thankful to always have a warm, safe place to rest with a meal on the table? If you would like to show your gratitude for that security and share the blessings you have, we have a deal for you!

**WHAT:** Provide a meal for 15 at one of the Albany overnight missions

**WHEN:** Every 4th Friday of the month December-April

**HOW:** Help us make the meal locally and we will deliver. No need to do it alone - we can meet in the kitchen, prepare the meal together and have some fellowship while we do it! Openings are available for January-April. Contact Christa Desrosiers [derobccr@gmail.com](mailto:derobccr@gmail.com) or 518-756-3145 for more details.

St Patrick's Faith Formation wants to help you to help us spread the comfort of Jesus' love!

Our 3-6th graders will be leading an effort to fill and distribute 'Blessing Bags' once again this year. We would like some help from parishioners to bring in items that will be used to fill these bags. Students will organize, fill and pray over these bags that are meant to carry in our vehicles to share with those less fortunate than us as we travel on our errands. Items that are needed: small tissue packets, hand warmers, lip balm, single serve cereal packets, Bumble Bee 'snack on the run' chicken or tuna kits, cheese and cracker snacks (like Austin brand), Granola bars, Individual dried fruit/nut packets, Beef Jerky (mild flavors), hot cocoa/instant coffee packets, gum.

Please bring your donations to Mass on the weekends of Jan 15/16 and Jan 22/23. Our students will be assembling the bags during class on Jan 23rd. They will be blessed and distributed back to parishioners on Jan 29/30. Contact Christa Desrosiers for questions/more info.

**FAITH FORMATION 2022:**

Please continue to pay attention to Faith Formation Schedules. If you haven't received the schedules for Grades K-6, Grades 7-9 and Grade 10, please contact Bob Desrosiers at [stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com).

**Grade 10/Confirmation Group:** By now you should have chosen your sponsor. If they are from St. Mary's then you need to fill out the form for sponsors that has been handed out. If you still need one, ask Bob Desrosiers ([stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com)) for one. If the sponsor is from another Catholic Church, please ask the sponsor to get a certificate of sponsorship from their Church Administration Office (Rectory).

**Grade 10/Confirmation Group:** There will be a meeting for candidates and sponsors on **Sunday Feb. 13** following the 11:30 am Mass (around 12:45 pm) in the Church. If a sponsor can't make it, we ask a parent to come in their place.

**Grade 2 Sacramental Preparation:** There will be a meeting for parents on **Monday Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>** during class time (6:30 - 7:30 pm).

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** We hope to resume the Children's Lectionary Program (Children's Liturgy of the Word) at the 11:30 am Mass. Since the last time we offered this program, we have lost almost all of our Teen Catechists to graduation! Now we have **3** teams; it works best with **4 or 5** so that each team facilitates about once a month. If there are any youth (7th grade or higher) who wishes to serve in this capacity, please let Bob Desrosiers know. The goal is to resume the program with a full complement of teams as soon as possible. We can't resume the program unless we have children ages 4-6 years old come to Mass to participate in the program. Families, please come to Mass so we can connect our young with the Gospel!

**VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS still NEEDED FOR GRADES 7 & 8**

Could God be calling you to this vital work for our young people? Please contact Bob Desrosiers at [stmaryoff@aol.com](mailto:stmaryoff@aol.com) or 518-731-9268.



## Diocesan Appeal 2021 – 2022

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Come Holy Spirit

**Help us meet our goal!** If you choose to make your gift via a check, please make your check payable to the **Diocesan Appeal** and mail your donation directly to the Diocese at the following address: **Diocesan Appeal 40 North Main Ave. Albany, NY 12203**  
**or donate on-line here:** [Diocesan Appeal](https://thediocesanappeal.org/donate/) or type the following: <https://thediocesanappeal.org/donate/>

To date: St. Mary's has raised \$19,973 in pledges and gifts towards its goal of \$46,975.

St. Patrick's has raised \$28,668 in pledges and gifts towards its goal of \$42,089.

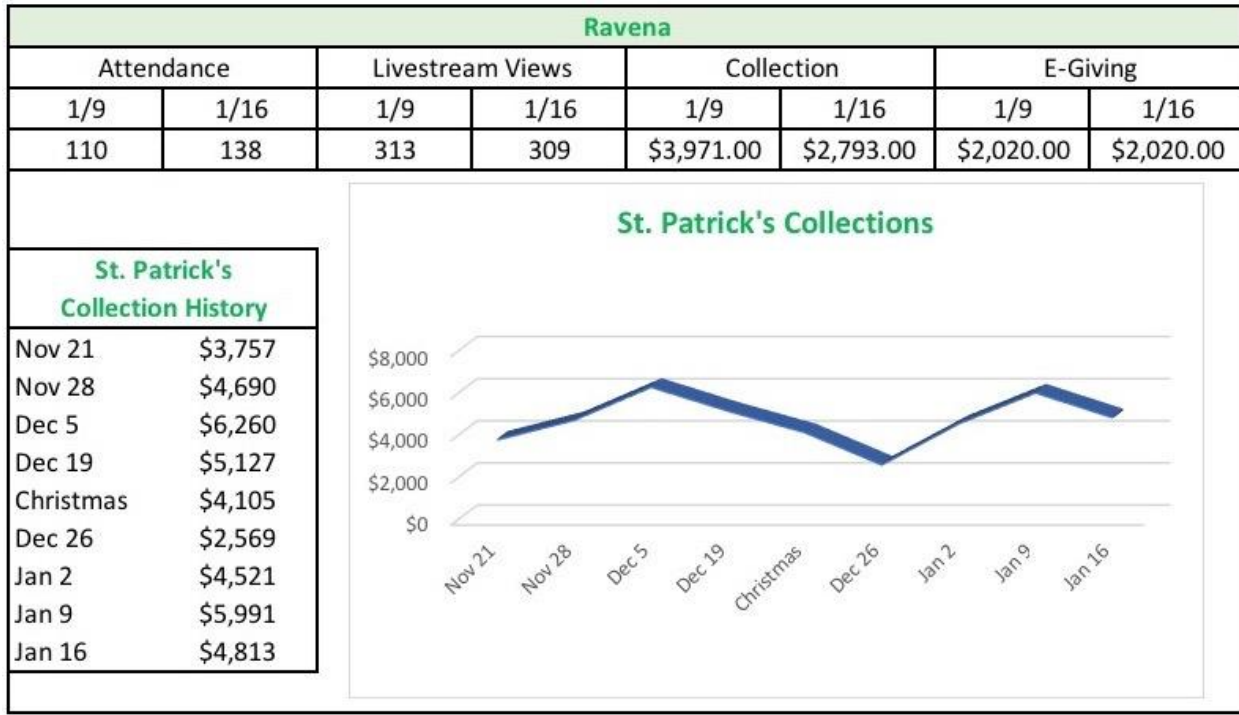
**Use Your IRA to Support Your Parish:** As we begin a new year it's good practice to look ahead and formulate a plan for our finances. For parishioners with Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA), there is an option available to you that permits you to support your parish and enjoy a tax benefit.

At age 72 Individual Retirement Account (IRA) owners must withdraw an annual required minimum distribution (RMD) from their accounts. These withdrawals are normally taxable pushing people into a higher tax bracket.

Did you know you can make a Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD) to a registered non-profit using the funds from your RMD? Your Catholic Parishes are considered non-profits. QCDs are generally not considered taxable income and do count toward fulfilling your annual RMD. QCDs must be paid directly from your IRA to the charity of your choice. You can benefit regardless of whether you itemize or take the standard deduction. Consult with your financial advisor for any questions you may have.

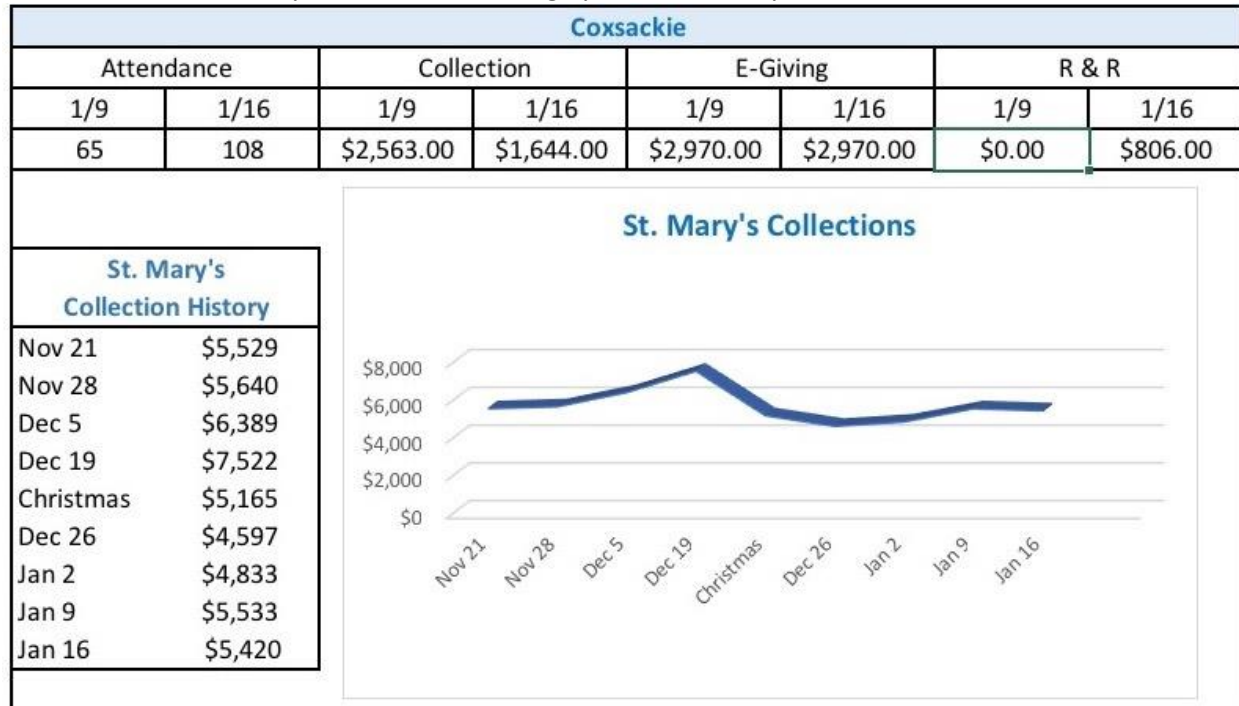
St. Mary's of Coxsackie EIN: 14-1464470

St. Patrick's of Ravena EIN: 14-1341164



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

Try it risk free and change your mind at any time: [Click Here](#)



**WEEKEND MASSES:**

4:30 pm Saturday Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome)  
7:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!)  
9:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)  
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 (All are welcome!)  
11:30 am on **St. Mary's YouTube** channel (also on-demand)  
[Click here](#) and then please subscribe

**WEEKDAY MASS (Except for Holy Days)**

**St. Patrick's** Tuesday 8:30 am  
**St. Mary's** Wednesday 8 am

**FR. JOE'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL FOR HOMILIES AND MESSAGES:**

[Click here](#) and then please hit



**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

**MY PARISH APP (Two Parishes, One App):**

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

**INSTAGRAM (Two Parishes, One Instagram):**

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



**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

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 am - 12 pm on Tuesdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school

**MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY**

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