



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



April 12, 2020 • Edition 4

Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Friends...

If you're like me, in past years, I would judge an Easter to be good or bad based on criteria like the weather that day. "What a beautiful Easter that was, it was 65° and sunny! We ate outside!"

Maybe for you it was based more how much the kids liked their Easter baskets. "The school vacation week was on Holy Week last year," some might say, sighing. "The kids had to go back to school the day after Easter, so they had a meltdown that night when we got ready for bed; their routine was totally shot. That was a nightmare. It's better when the vacation is after Easter."

It could be about how good the ham was at dinner or how well the relatives got along... or how long (or short) their visit was, depending on how much we enjoy their company. "Uncle Charlie never knows when to leave..."

For me, it often comes down to how well the Holy Week services went. Did the catechumens' in-laws show up for the Vigil as we hoped? Did the music go well? Did the cantor hit the notes?

This year, all of that stuff seems laughable, doesn't it? Do you remember how bent out of shape we used to get over things that, now, in light of what we're going through, seem absolutely trivial?

This Easter is great... because we're alive. Because we're not among the 18,000 Americans or among the more than 7,000 people in New York State alone who have died of COVID-19. It's great because the very fact that you're taking time to read this means you haven't run out of food yet... or you have at least enough money to get you through this week. People who don't have those things don't read parish newsletters. They're too desperate to survive.

This Easter is great because the fact that you're reading this means you're connected to a community... which is something millions of lonely people wish they could say. Even if you're not a member of our parishes, the fact that you're holding this in your hands means you have the Willy Wonka "golden ticket" to come connect with us. Reading this is the exact same as a fancy invitation with a gold foil-lined envelope. We want you to be a part of this family.

This Easter is great because even if we don't make it through this, we know that we'll somehow be okay. We know that death is not the opposite of life, and that it's only when death appears to have finally won, and dealt the winning blow, that we see the full magnitude of God's power.

Jesus has saved us. Not from dying... but from death, which is a million times better. And that's why, despite all that's going on this year, I can say and wholeheartedly mean...

Happy Easter,
Fr. Scott ☺

Online Schedule

SUNDAY	9:30 = Mass (St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY	By Noon = Prayer Service #4 for small groups posted on St. Patrick's Homepage 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY	3:00 = Praying in your home
WEDNESDAY	12:30 = Family/Youth Prayer Service (Facebook Live) 3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Easter hymn sing led by Bob D. & Lisa D. (Facebook Live)
THURSDAY	3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY	3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Easter hymn sing led by John Vasto (Facebook)
SUNDAY	9:30 = Sunday Mass (St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home

Service to the Community

Call Bob Desrosiers | **518-444-8184**

FACE MASKS – OUR GOAL IS TO GET ONE IN EVERY ESSENTIAL WORKER'S HANDS

We are falling behind the demand, so your help is needed.

Sewers are asked to come get a pattern and instructions for how to make the masks so they reach their maximum effectiveness. Instructions can be found in church with the masks. They are also available online. Joann Fabrics will donate enough free material for any sewer to make 10 masks; just call ahead to the Albany or Hudson locations.

Many essential workers are lacking protection they need... and these masks are free at the entrance of both churches. **Anyone who needs a mask can come to our churches and get one!** If you need additional assistance, you may call **Maria Mintz** at **518-731-6704**.

There is a container sat the church entrances for your completed face masks.

QUARANTINE SPACE NEEDED

If you have a separate space in your house that could be used to quarantine a health care professional or other essential worker who needs to protect their family from exposure, please call **Karen Lewis** at **518-731-8093**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SERVICE:

If you wish to volunteer for any task that could be helpful, please contact Bob at stmaryffo@aol.com or 518-444-8184 to match your skills and abilities with people's needs.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

Please bring any extra essential items you have (TP, sanitizer, Clorox wipes, etc.) to the church and leave them on the labeled pews for those in need.

St. Patrick's Food Panty Delivers

Call Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789

Home deliveries are available! Call **Diane Hoffman** at **518-330-6789** or **518-756-7779**. For your safety, once they are delivered, we suggest sanitizing the items or leaving them untouched for three days to avoid possible viral contamination.

Donations can be picked up by a volunteer! Please call us if you can donate:

Soup, Crackers, Pasta, Tuna, Powdered Milk, Jelly, Cookies, Ramen Noodles, Instant Potatoes (Individual Size), Shampoo, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Baby Wipes, Clorox Wipes

Small Prayer Groups

E-Mail Christa Desrosiers | derobccr@aol.com

Over 65 parishioners are now meeting weekly as part of one of 15 Small Prayer groups on Zoom or over the phone across both parishes! Do you want to be a part of one of these groups? Please contact Christa and she'll happily get you connected.

We post fresh prayer services every Monday by Noon on the St. Patrick's Parish Homepage under the tab "Small Prayer Groups." There are brief audio instructions there as well that guide you through the process of praying as a group. We've made it easy! So if you don't want to join a formal group, go on our Homepage, get the materials, and do it yourself with family and friends.

Collections & E-Giving

E-Mail Lisa Muccilli | parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com

We cannot thank you enough for your overwhelmingly generous outpouring of love and concern for the future of our parish! Every single day at least one or two new e-givers signs up via our easy online registration form on the St. Patrick's Church homepage. We are amazed and overwhelmed by your extravagant love.

If you're not yet an e-giver, it's never too late... it's safe, easy and locally supported by the National Bank of Coxsackie. [Click Here](#) to request enrollment. But you can still always mail us your donations. Weekly collections and one-time donations will be collected and processed from our Rectory mail boxes regularly.

Thank you for your incredible love and support for our beloved parish communities.

If you know someone who is infected with COVID-19, please let us know so we may all pray for them and reach out to their family, when appropriate.

ELDERLY & HOMEBOUND CONNECTIONS

There is a Greene County-wide initiative to keep contact with our elderly population called "Take 5" (take 5 minutes out each day to call someone to stay connected). We encourage everyone to do that and if there are volunteers who could make phone calls to the elderly of our parish (who aren't on our Pastoral Care List) please contact Bob at stmaryffo@aol.com or 518-444-8184.

ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER CHAIN

Requests may be forwarded to Michelle Fralick via email chelli1126@aol.com or by phone at 518-756-9779. Michelle will share names and telephone numbers of the homebound to all the Pastoral Care ministers (normally who make visits on 1st Wednesdays of the month) so they can send cards or make occasional phone calls. Come get the name and address of a homebound parishioner from the back of the church and send someone an Easter card that will mean the world.

ST. MARY'S PRAYER CHAIN

Requests may be forwarded to Bob Desrosiers via e-mail at stmaryffo@aol.com or by phone at 518-444-8184. If anyone wishes to become a prayer chain team member, please contact Bob. Bob has also encouraged the St. Mary's Pastoral Care Team to send cards or make phone calls weekly to the homebound. There are lists of addresses of our homebound parishioners on a table as you enter church, so parishioners may also send Easter cards or cards of encouragement to our homebound.

Reaching Our Youth & Families**E-Mail Christa Desrosiers | derobccr@aol.com**

Have you checked out our daily programming for families on Facebook, our parish App, our YouTube channels, and the St. Patrick's homepage?

Please check out what's available. You may be surprised how much is being offered!

Connecting with the Parish**Online | Phone | E-Mail****SUNDAY MASS:**

9:30 AM on **St. Patrick's YouTube** channel (also on-demand) and on **Mid-Hudson Cable channel 901** (live at 9:30 only)

FR. SCOTT'S HOMILIES AND VIDEO MESSAGES:

In YouTube search bar: "Fr. Scott VanDerveer"

FIND US ONLINE:

Parish Websites (updated regularly)
Facebook (updated daily)

MY PARISH APP:

Text "APP" to 88202 to subscribe

CHURCH BUILDINGS:

Open daily from around dawn until around dusk

PHONE (voicemails checked daily):

St. Mary's Office = 518-731-8800

St. Patrick's Office = 518-756-3145

E-MAIL (checked daily):

St. Mary's Main office email: stmoff@aol.com

St. Patrick's Main Office email: office@tcosp.org

Business Manager (Both Parishes): parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com