



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



June 21 & 28, 2020 • Edition 12 • Weeks 14 & 15

Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family....

This coming weekend, we will once again be offering the Livestream Mass live from St. Patrick's at 9:30 as we always do. For 75% of our the members of our parishes, that will be the way we gather. But we are now thrilled to also welcome **parishioners with last names beginning with the letters A-C**, to come back to Mass in person!

If you are a **St. Mary's** parishioner whose name begins with the letter A-C, you are welcome to come to Mass on **Saturday 6/27 at 4:30 PM.**

If you are a **St. Patrick's** parishioner whose name begins with the letter A-C, you are welcome to come to Mass on **Sunday 6/28 at 9:30 AM.** (That means that for all who will watch the livestream Mass, you'll now have a real living, breathing, believing assembly of people there in flesh and blood!)

We decided not to do this as a first-come, first-served process because Jesus said, "*The last shall be first*" (Matthew 20:16)... so asking people to race to the phone or computer to register ahead of their neighbors, didn't feel like it would have been the plan Jesus would have designed. That's why we're going through the alphabet letters, so everyone gets a fair chance to be at Mass in person and receive the Eucharist regularly, even if it still can't yet be every week. (We thought about beginning with the letter Z to follow that Scripture about the "last and the first" even more seriously, but we didn't want to get too confusing.) ☺

We know many people prefer one of the Mass times over another, but our goal is to make sure that no one gets turned away from Mass. So since we've never done this before, in this early stage of returning, until we can get the hang of this, please only go to the parish where you are a member. Our goal is, in time, to add Masses and give you more freedom to attend whichever Mass you wish.

Here are some details to help you to know what to expect when it's your turn to attend Mass...

As You Arrive

- Please wear your mask as you get out of your car
- Bring some hand sanitizer with you for communion, and the song sheet you printed at home (if you have a printer)
- Volunteers will greet you and tell you everything you need to know about being seated
- When it's your turn, you'll give your name to the volunteer, confirm the phone number we have for you on file and get your seat assignment

Getting Your Seat

- A volunteer will seat you in an assigned seat, in order, from front to back

- Assigned seats are helpful because then if anyone that was at Mass tests positive, it will reduce the number of people who will need to be quarantined to contain the spread. Otherwise, a positive test result would affect everyone
- Records of Mass attendance will be kept confidential in tamper proof bags; only if there is a case of someone testing positive who was at a Mass will the contact information of those who were sitting in that person's section be shared with the County Health Department to contain the spread through notification & testing
- We unfortunately can't honor seating preferences, for obvious reasons
- Anyone needing to use handicapped side entrance at St. Mary's will receive assistance after checking in; at St. Patrick's this shouldn't be necessary

Communion

- All will remain seated in place in their pew and Fr. Scott will bring communion to you
- Fr. Scott will drop the host into each parishioner's flat palm
- Leave your mask on until Fr. Scott has moved beyond you, then pull your mask down over your chin and receive the Eucharist

Exiting the Church

- Volunteers will release from pews from back to front
- If you're not an e-giver, you can drop your envelope into a Donation Collection station as you pass by
- Please go directly to your car so all can avoid congregating outside and stay safe


As you may imagine, having a public Mass during a pandemic with 25% attendance is quite a production. We need volunteers to do the following before during and after each Mass. Are you able to help us put all pieces in place for a safe Mass each weekend?

1. Serve on the **welcome team** that will welcome parishioners outside the church, ensure they have masks and receive sanitizer.
2. Serve on the **check-in team** to give everyone a seat for contact tracing purposes.
3. Serve on the **team** who will seat parishioners based on their seat assignment.
4. Serve on the **team who will disinfect the church** and restroom before & after each Mass.

A lot of the people who would love to volunteer to do these tasks have a condition that puts them in a high-risk group, so they can't. We know that many hands make light work, so if you feel God calling you to participate in the return to public Masses, give that call some serious consideration. If you'd like to offer some time before or after Mass, please call either parish and leave a message at ext. 2 for the parish office.



It's been three months since the last time we gathered... it's hard to even conceive. Until we're back to four Masses a weekend at 100% capacity, some of the things we've always taken for granted (sitting in our "regular" pew... attending any Mass we choose, from an array of times... coming in as big a group as we choose...) will need to be put on hold for a while. But we have seen New York go from being the global epicenter of the virus to one of the places with the lowest transmission rates in the country. Since March, I've celebrated eight funerals for people who have died of COVID-19, but the last was now a month ago. Let us give glory to God and maintain our efforts to keep this trend going and keep each other safe.

Faithfully,

Fr. Scott 

Online Schedule

SUNDAY 6/21	9:30 = Mass (St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY 6/22	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY 6/23	2:00 = New Content posted on Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel 3:00 = Praying in your home 6:30 = NEW: Rosary resumes...down by the Hudson River, Coxsackie (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 6/24	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:00 = Hymn sing led by Lisa & Bob (Facebook Live)
THURSDAY 6/25	3:00 = Praying in your home 7:00 = Family/Youth Prayer Service (Facebook Live) 7:00 = Adult Education Group led by Deacon Mike (Zoom) → Interested in the Group? E-mail Deacon Mike at dcnmcd@aol.com
FRIDAY 6/26	2:00 = New Profiles of Endurance Episode airs 3:00 = Praying in your home 2:00-7:00 = Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Mary's (Maria Hall)
SATURDAY 6/27	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = NEW: Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners A-C) 6:00 = A Few Minutes in the Church: The Mass (Facebook Live)
SUNDAY 6/28	9:30 = NEW: Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners A-C) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY 6/29	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages 3:00 = Praying in your home
TUESDAY 6/30	<u><i>Deacon Mike's Birthday • Dawn Brownson's Birthday</i></u> 2:00 = New Content posted on Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel 3:00 = Praying in your home 6:30 = Rosary down by the Hudson River, Coxsackie (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 7/1	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:00 = Hymn sing led by Lisa & Bob (Facebook Live)

THURSDAY 7/2	3:00 = Praying in your home 7:00 = Family/Youth Prayer Service (Facebook Live) 7:00 = Adult Education Group led by Deacon Mike (Zoom) → Interested in the Group? E-mail Deacon Mike at dcnmcd@aol.com
FRIDAY 7/3	2:00 = New Profiles of Endurance Episode airs 3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 7/4	 <u>Independence Day</u>  3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's 6:00 = A Few Minutes in the Church: The Mass (Facebook Live)
SUNDAY 7/5	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (also 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

BLOOD DRIVE ON FRIDAY AT ST. MARY'S

Only a few slots remain this Friday afternoon at St. Mary's! For an appointment, please visit www.redcrossblood.org and use Sponsor Code **8631nyp**. You can make a difference!

THE 2020 ANNUAL CROP WALK TO ADDRESS HUNGER – THIS SATURDAY

St. Patrick's team walk will be on Saturday at 10:30 am meeting at St. Patrick's.

The walk is 1.5 miles. Please bring your mask.

You can register and/or donate with **St. Patrick's Church Team**

at: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/ravenany/Team/View/131368/st-patricks-church>.

Please contact Eileen Vosburgh if you plan on walking.

She will arrange to get you a t-shirt. keltoneov@aol.com or **518-756-8113**.

People can also donate by mail by sending a check made out to CWS/CROP and mail to:

**Fran Lobdell
c/o Grace United Methodist Church
16 Hillcrest Drive
Ravena, NY 12143**

You can join us as a team, walk virtually, or walk alone or with a friend anytime during the weekend. Together, we can raise funds, walk together and help end hunger in our community and around the world.

Please prayerfully consider if you would be able to serve in one of these capacities

We have been receiving so much mail from our “Virtual Parish Family” complimenting the livestream Mass from St. Patrick’s and showing their appreciation with a generous outpouring of donations!

Here are some selections of a few of the notes we’ve received...

Please accept our donation in the amount of \$100. Also enclosed is a \$100 gift card for anyone in need. Please use it any way you see fit. Thank you for inspiring us weekly. We’re blessed to have found you.

– M.J. & J., Clifton Park, NY

Thank you for your inspirational Masses via YouTube. While I am a parishioner of a church in the Northern Columbia County Cluster, I found your Sunday Mass the second week of the Pandemic. I have not “missed” Mass since then and plan on worshipping with you and your congregation during these COVID-19 times. Thank you and God bless you!

- L.M., Castleton, NY (came with a \$275 donation)

Thank you for the opportunity to tune into your Mass before our parish was online. Enclosed is a small donation.

– The M Family, Rhinebeck, NY (came with a \$30 donation)

I grew up in Ravena on Wendell St. I had two brothers and a sister who used to sit in the front row of St. Pat’s every Sunday! We also graduated from St. Patrick’s Grammar School. I just want you to know how truly grateful my husband and I are that you offer the streaming of Sunday Mass. The Mass is a bit emotional for me since my father used to do the readings and I was married at that very altar. All my family is gone so I do feel very close to them while streaming the Mass. I hope this contribution helps.

– A former parishioner from South Florida (came with \$100 donation)

We are parishioners of St. Anthony’s in Troy but we have been enjoying the livestream of Mass from St. Patrick’s. Your Sunday homilies have been right to the point in these trying times.

We wanted to show our appreciation for all of the work you are doing to help maintain some kind of normalcy week-to-week.

– K.O. & J.O, Troy, NY (came with \$50 donation)

For the immediate future the livestream Mass will remain the manner in which most of us will be participating in the weekly celebration of the Eucharist. **Therefore, E-Giving remains the best method to consistently support your parish.**

Might you like to give e-giving a try, knowing how much it helps the parish and that you can change your mind at any time?

...If so, [Click Here](#)

And remember, those who wish 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 all for your enduring generosity!

Small Prayer Groups

E-Mail Christa Desrosiers | derobccr@aol.com

More than 20 Small Prayer groups are meeting on Zoom or over the phone across both parishes! Please contact Christa today and get connected to one... or form your own.

[Click here](#) to get a taste of how it works!

We post fresh prayer services every Monday by Noon on the Homepage of both parishes 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.

St. Patrick's Food Pantry Delivers

Call Diane Hoffman **518-330-6789**

We are here to serve – Home deliveries are available! New clients are always welcome! Thank you, one and all, for your incredibly generous donations to The Pantry.

The Pantry is open:

Tuesday	10 -11 am
Wednesday	6 -7 pm
Friday	10 -11 am

Donations can be picked up by a volunteer... please call us if you can donate:

Cookies... Any Kind of Non-Perishable Snacks... Juice... Cake and Brownie Mix.

Coxsackie Community Food Pantry Delivers

Call Village Clerk | **518-731-2718**

Free food is available to residents of Coxsackie, Climax, Earlton, Medway & New Baltimore. Anyone who needs food can get it — there are no low-income requirements.

The Pantry is at **117 Mansion Street**, next to McQuade Park.

Come, park and stay in your car. A volunteer comes to fill out your shopping list, then fills your order. If you are new, bring a piece of mail addressed to you.

Tuesday	1-2 pm
Thursday	7-8 pm
Saturday	10-11 am

Anyone who is quarantined or homebound can request home delivery, please call the Coxsackie Village Clerk Office at **518-731-2718**. You do not have to live in the Village of Coxsackie.

ONE MINUTE IN CHURCH: THE MASS.

Join us live each Saturday at 6 PM on St Mary's FB page and IG live. Learn a little bit about some aspect of Mass and have a chance to take the weekly challenge! It's easy - it's fun - it's safe - and it's faith-building.

FAMILY PRAYER TIME

Wondering how to actually DO a prayer time in your home - with your own family? Join a 'real Catholic family' every Thursday at 7 PM on St Patrick's FB live. It's just us, welcoming you, to sit in our living room (or dining room, or car) as we read and chat our way through the week's prayer service.

The Sick, Elderly & HomeboundCall Bob Desrosiers ^{or} Michelle Fralick | **518-756-9779**

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

ELDERLY & HOMEBOUND CONNECTIONS

Please volunteer to make phone calls to the elderly of our parish (those ill seniors on our Pastoral Care List and others who are not on the list but still would enjoy some conversation). 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. By request, Michelle will share names and telephone numbers of the homebound so we can send cards or make give them a call.

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. There are lists of addresses of our homebound parishioners on a table as you enter church and it's updated bi-weekly so you can pray for them and send them cards.

Connecting with the Parishes**Online | Phone | E-Mail****WEEKEND MASSES:**

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

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 subscribe

and on **Mid-Hudson Cable channel 901** (live at 9:30 only)

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

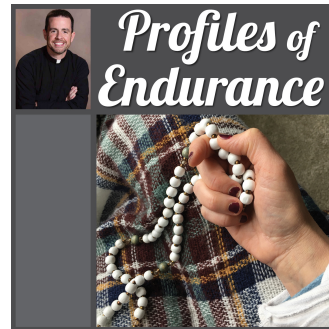
FR. SCOTT'S HOMILIES AND VIDEO MESSAGES:

[Click here](#) and then subscribe

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Interviews with parishioners about facing life's challenges

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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 e-mail: stmoff@aol.com

St. Patrick's Main Office e-mail: office@tcosp.org

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