



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



January 24 & 31, 2021 • Edition 27 • Weeks 45 & 46

Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family....

Three emotions demand our attention when we feel them: fear, sorrow and anger. And for most of us, how we deal with them is tricky business.

When they are healthy, fear, sorrow and anger are meant to serve as signals to us.

Healthy fear signals to us that we're in the presence of danger.

Healthy sorrow signals to us that we've been injured.

Healthy anger signals to us that we're in the presence of injustice.

Jesus got angry at the moneychangers in the Temple. He wept at the death of his friend, Lazarus. He sweat blood the night before his crucifixion. Jesus knew fear, sorrow and anger.

But for all humans, those emotions sometimes go haywire and get unhealthy.

When there is no urgent danger, but we still feel fear, we are in **anxiety**.

When there is no new injury, but we still feel sorrow, we are in **depression**.

When there is no serious injustice, but we still feel anger, we are in **rage**.

Knowing this provides a great opportunity for growth and real transformation.

Can you recognize when this dynamic has happened in your own life? Can you look back to a time when your heart was racing and your mind darting all over, as if you were in the middle of a life-threatening situation, but since there was none, you were actually dealing with anxiety?

Can you recognize the times when you have been sad for no clear reason, perhaps because of a hurt that happened long ago, and see that your sorrow had turned into depression?

(Note: Not Clinical Depression, that's got a different cause, but this is an *episode* of situational depression.)

Have you ever gotten so mad about something you feel should not have happened that you took it out on coworkers, family members, cashiers (and maybe other drivers)?

That's when your anger crossed into rage.

"Woe to you, scribes and pharisees! You whitewashed tombs" – Jesus Christ (Matthew 23:27-28)

Jesus got angry. And that's because (in the case of this quoted encounter) he was in the presence of the unjust burdens they placed upon sincere religious people in order to maintain their status and power. His anger was a signal to him (and to his followers) that he was in the presence of injustice. In fact, if he had seen how their greed and hunger for power hurt good and innocent people and he *didn't* feel anger, that would have been terrible. We *ought* to feel

anger when we're in the presence of injustice. St. Thomas Aquinas said that not being angry when we *ought to be* is a sin. (ST II,II.158)

So it is good that Jesus felt that anger, but it's also good that he allowed that anger to be processed and expressed to the **right people**, in the **right degree**, for a **reasonable amount of time**. He showed us how healthy anger looks. It's anger... there's no mistaking it. But it's pointed in the right direction, with the right amount of force. And when it's over, it's over.

We don't always get angry in the way that Jesus did. Have you ever lost your temper and, in that moment, forgotten about everything except for the anger you were feeling? Have you ever said things in anger you never would have said normally, to people who may not have deserved it, with a force that could knock over an elephant? Have you ever crossed out of healthy anger into rage? Have you ever unleashed the sin of wrath?

What's even more dangerous about rage is that, even when well-intentioned, we are so often wrong in our perceptions. If we could see as God sees, if we had the wide perspective of the centuries and the wisdom of Solomon, we might see that we are confused about who is to blame in a given situation. We are perhaps out-of-line in the volume and intensity of our expression. We may discover that we had an ulterior motive or that we no longer cared about the issue but just wanted to "make someone pay."

Anyone who has lost their temper may learn the terrible regret that comes from realizing that you were wrong. Sometimes, even if I start out having a valid point, my reaction to injustice can become uglier, more sinful, more unjust than the original situation I am angry about.

Aristotle put it well:

*"Anybody can become **angry** - that is easy,
but to **be angry with the right person**
and to the **right degree**
and at the **right time**
and for the **right purpose**
and in the **right way** -
that is not within everybody's power and is not easy.*

From a spiritual growth standpoint, it's important to be able to see that what we saw in the riot on January 6 at our nation's Capitol was an example of anger turning lethal. It would be a mistake not to put politics aside when we look at this situation, because from a faith standpoint, anger must fit at least these four tests in order to be healthy:

Pointing in right direction + right reason + right degree + the right duration of time

Let us not waste the opportunity this tragedy offers us to learn about anger. And may the insights we gain from seeing the difference between healthy and sinful anger transform our hurting nation and our whole world, one interaction at a time.

In faith & in hope...

Fr. Scott 😊

Schedule

SUNDAY 1/24	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners A-L) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY 1/25	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 1/26	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = New Content posted on Fr. Scott's YouTube Channel 2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's 3:00 = Praying in your home 5:30 = Confession (St. Patrick's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 1/27	3:00 = Praying in your home
THURSDAY 1/28	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 1/29	3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 1/30	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners M-Z)
SUNDAY 1/31	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners M-Z) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home
MONDAY 2/1	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 2/2	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) 3:00 = Praying in your home 5:30 = Confession (St. Mary's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome)
WEDNESDAY 2/3	3:00 = Praying in your home

THURSDAY 2/4	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 3:00 = Praying in your home
FRIDAY 2/5	3:00 = Praying in your home
SATURDAY 2/6	3:00 = Praying in your home 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners A-L)
SUNDAY 2/7	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners A-L) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 3:00 = Praying in your home 6:30 = Eucharistic Adoration (St. Patrick's)

Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow

ALIGHT CENTER 2020 BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

This year, local churches raised \$10,051. Our parishes represent **1/7th** of that total! St. Mary's contributed \$647 and St. Patrick's contributed \$758. Thank you, one and all!

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

11:00-12:00 Noon on Tuesdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school. Open to all! Just show up! For more info, please contact the rectory or Christa derobccr@gmail.com

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

1:00-2:00 PM on Thursdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school. Open to all! Join us also for the **Rosary 2:00 PM on Tuesdays** in St. Patrick's Church. Just show up! For more info, please contact the rectory or Christa derobccr@gmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT ST. PATRICK'S IN RAVENA

First Sunday of the month 6:30-7:30 PM in the church. Please join us on **Sun. Feb. 7.**

"Our essential commitment in life is to preserve and advance constantly in Eucharistic life... and to grow spiritually."

(Pope St. John Paul II)

Annual Diocesan Appeal

E-Mail Dawn Brownson | parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com

ST. PATRICK'S

132 gifts so far
70% of goal (out of 190 gift goal)
 Base gift = **\$25**
 Highest gift so far = **\$3,000**
 Average gift = **\$316**
 Total donations to date = **\$41,491**

ST. MARY'S

126 gifts so far
73% of goal (out of 175 gift goal)
 Base gift = **\$25**
 Highest gift so far = **\$1,600**
 Average gift = **\$295**
 Total donations to date = **\$36,874**

Help us meet our goal!

[Click here: donation made easy!](#)

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**



Interfaith Story Circle

Stories of Moments of Embarrassment

No one likes being embarrassed, but this occasional feeling is part of the cost of admission to being human. And sharing a story of your embarrassment may also be the fastest route to making a connection with another person, since embarrassing moments are touchstones of humility for us all. Join us for a down-to-earth evening of laughter and commiseration about those moments we ordinarily might rather forget.



Our guest teller, Father Scott VanDerveer, spent 20 years discerning what God was calling him to do with his life and had a number of jobs (corporate regional manager, grant writer for a hospice home, school bus driver) followed by a seven-year career in teaching before he was ordained a Catholic Priest in 2013 at age 38. Fr. Scott is now the pastor of St. Mary's in Coxsackie and St. Patrick's in Ravena and loves using storytelling as a bridge connecting ancient wisdom to modern life.

**Come share your stories related to the theme, or just come to listen.
Either way, you will be warmly welcomed.**

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:15 – 8:45 p.m.

This Circle will be held on Zoom

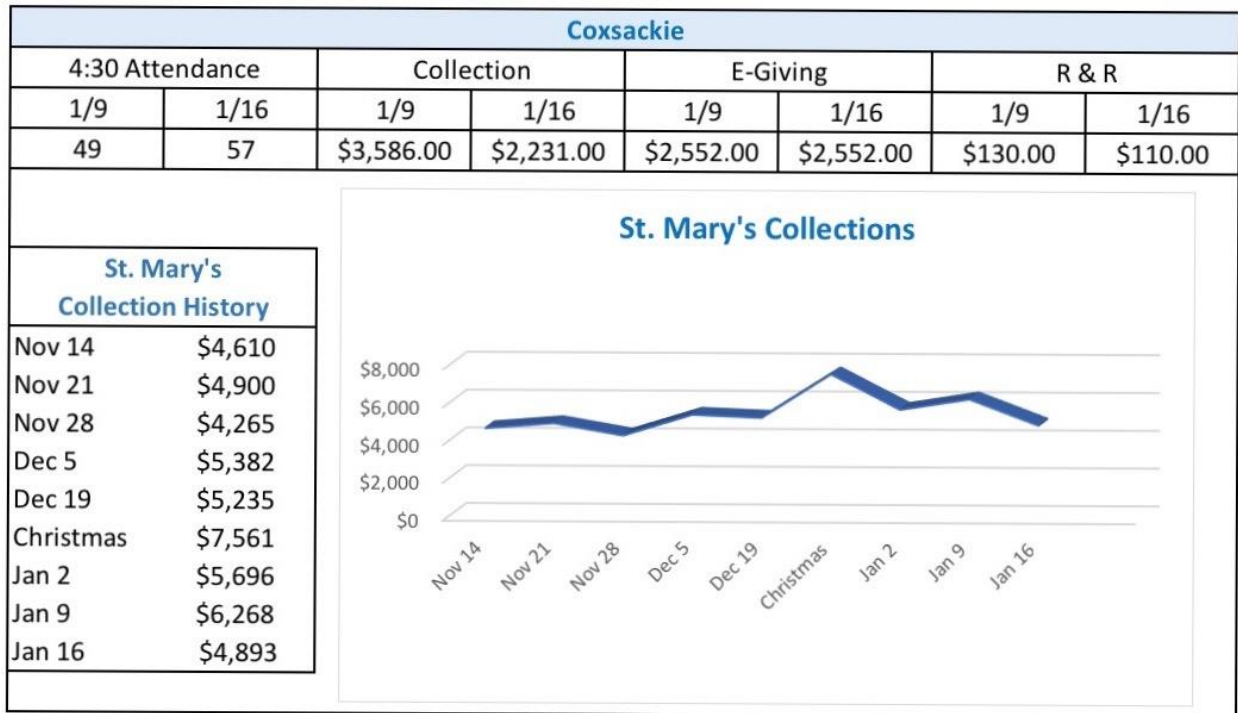
Free and Open to the Public

For more information or to register and receive a Zoom link to join our circle
email ifsc@withourvoice.org

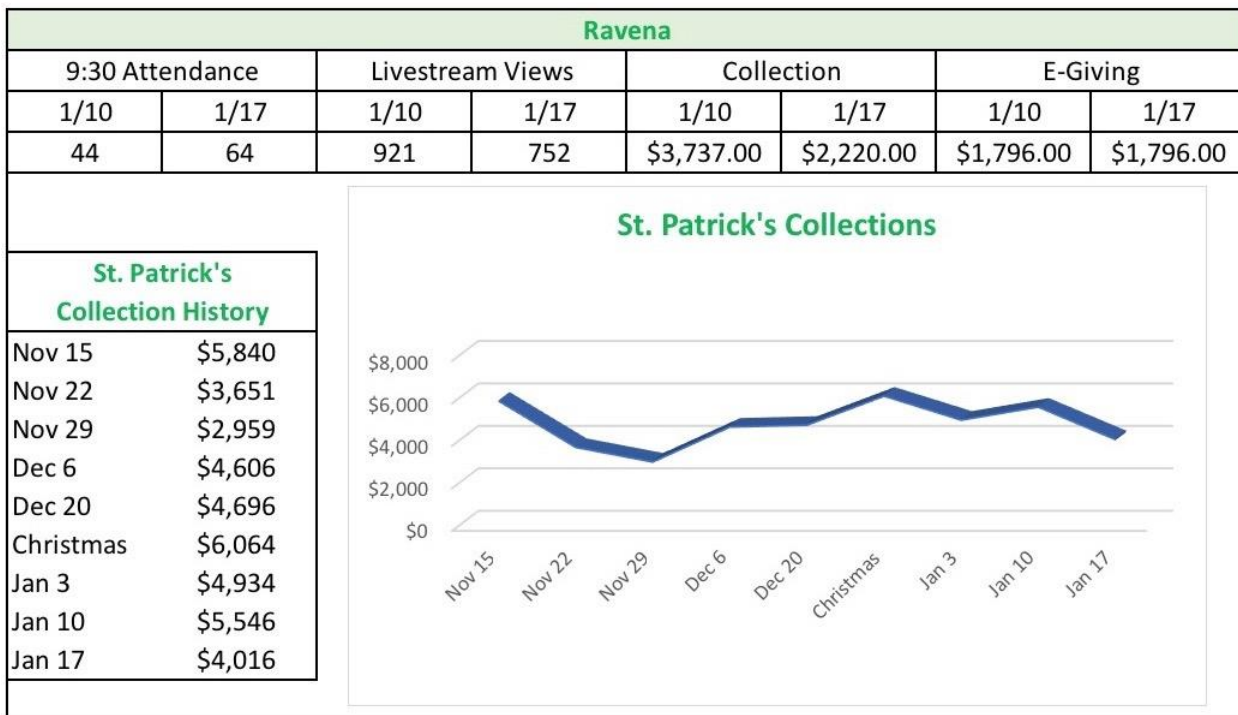
Interfaith Story Circle is a program of WithOurVoice, Inc.

www.interfaithstorycircle.org





Thank you all for your incredible generosity!



E-GIVING WORKS BEST

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](#)

What do you like about this year's new format? What would you like to see tweaked?
Your opinion matters! Contact Bob with feedback... he's all ears and eager to hear!

SECOND GRADERS CELEBRATE SACRAMENTAL CONFESSION FOR THE FIRST TIME!

On **Saturday, January 30**, the following second graders will celebrate Jesus' Love and Mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

*Patrick Hale... Douglas Hendrie... Martin Braden...
Raegan Rochler... Daniela Starke... Avery Smith... Martin Knowles*

Three New Catholics in 2021!

Nothing brings us more joy than welcoming new members to the church!

Camlynn Corbett and **Juan Colon** have never been baptized (so we call them "catechumens") and **Lori Lepage** (who was already baptized in another Christian church, so is a "candidate") are preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

Please keep them and our RCIA Team (Regina McGrath, Kathleen and Doug Baxter) in your prayers as we all journey together to the Easter Vigil Celebration!

"If I've been out of state, can I go to Mass?" E-Mail Christa Desrosiers | derobccr@gmail.com

Currently, the answer is **NO**, so please instead watch our livestream Mass on YouTube. The NYS DOH is trying to stop the surge of COVID-19 by requiring a mandatory quarantine if you cross state boundaries. The list includes all 49 states, but states will be removed as the numbers drop. [Please keep updated by checking that list here.](#)

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 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
ON APPLE PODCASTS
OR ON SPOTIFY**



FIND US ONLINE:

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

[Click here](#) for St. Mary's Parish Website

Parish Facebook Pages (updated daily)

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)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Sunday of the month 6:30-7:30 PM at St. Patrick's

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

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

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

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