



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



May 16 & 23, 2021 • Edition 35 • Weeks 61 & 62

*Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic*

### Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family...

Each year, in the weeks that follow Easter, our liturgies offer us beautiful readings about the first days of the Church, after Jesus was raised from the dead and ascended into Heaven. Our first readings these past 6 weeks have all come from the Acts of the Apostles, a book written by Luke (also the author of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Gospel named in his honor). These readings are historical accounts of what life was like for the believers in the early Church. They recount events in the lives of the Apostles and feature speeches and conversations with Peter, Paul and other important figures. Much of what we know about the early Church comes from the book of Acts (a shortened name for the Acts of the Apostles).

The second readings proclaimed at Mass have all come from letters (also known as "Epistles") written to specific communities of believers during the first century of the Church. These are particularly interesting to read and listen to since they are not written as an official historical record but feel more like stolen little glimpses of how the people who lived this faith in the first days really saw things and what they said to encourage each other.

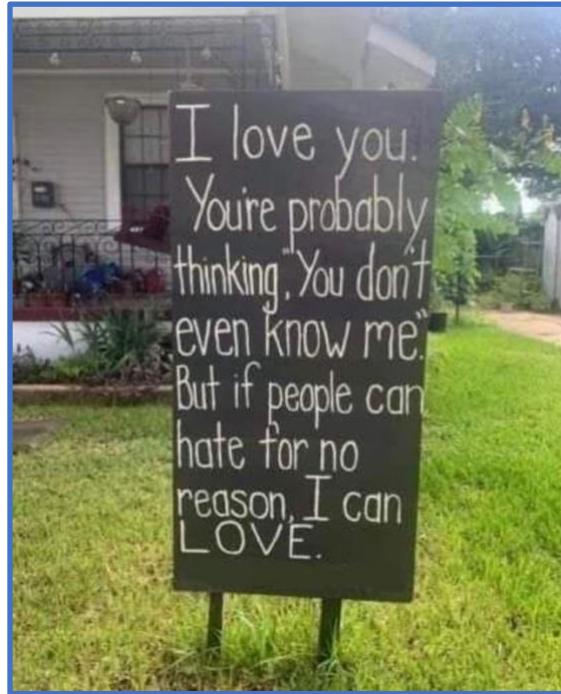
The past couple of weeks have featured selections from the First Letter of John (which is not the Gospel of John, but a letter written by an author named John, who we have traditionally believed was the Apostle John). John's favorite topic is love and how important it is for a Christian to reveal Christ's love. In fact, John says that no matter what it is that you *say* you believe, if you don't love, you're not a Christian. Here's a sample of that letter from the second reading we heard proclaimed at Mass last weekend:

**"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God;  
Everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love." 1 John 4:7-8**

No apple tree yields grapefruit. No grape vine grows lemons. The proof that we are branches on God's vine is that we **love and are loving**. Sometimes we Christians forget that, and in the forgetting, fail to realize that our actions are denying to others that we are branches on God's vine. The requirement to love others and be loving means that we ALWAYS have homework to do. There is always someone in front of us who is offering us the opportunity to love them. The task varies in difficulty based on how "lovable" we find the person to be. It is further complicated by whatever we happen to be going through that day: a headache makes loving someone a little harder. A recent loss, a broken heart, even just the third cloudy day in a row can make it a tough assignment.

I recently read about a 104-year-old woman named Rachel Lehman who said that she wanted to spend each of the days she had left on the earth starting a daily pandemic of love. She said her method was smiling at everyone... “especially the sourpusses.”

Not too long ago, some family erected this sign on their front lawn:



No one who reads this needs an explanation for it, especially with how much hate is splattered across social media, worse than ever in recent times. I wonder, though, if everyone who reads this realizes how spiritually advanced this attitude is. This message not only replaces blind hate with blind love, it also demonstrates that our disposition is OUR choice. In any situation, we can love for no reason. Even better, in every situation we can love for a very good reason, because Jesus said in the clearest language possible: **“This I command you: love one another”**  
(John 15:17)

This comes with love,

Fr. Scott ☺

### Fr. Scott's Tires for Sale

Fr. Scott traded in a car this winter, but he still has four snow tires with some life in them and they come on their own wheels! They are **15" x 6.5" sport edition silver wheels** that were purchased online in 2013 and they come with caps & lug nuts. The tires have 42,828 miles.

Make an offer! All proceeds from the sale will be given to the St. Vincent de Paul charity account that we use to serve the poor and those experiencing struggles.

## Schedule

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUNDAY<br>5/16    | 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners A-L)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901)                                                                          |
| MONDAY<br>5/17    | By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages                                                                                                                                                |
| TUESDAY<br>5/18   | 11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5<br>2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)<br><b>5:30 = Confession (St. Mary's)</b><br>6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)            |
| WEDNESDAY<br>5/19 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| THURSDAY<br>5/20  | 1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5<br>2:00 = Columbiettes Meeting, St. Mary's (Maria Hall)                                                                                                    |
| FRIDAY<br>5/21    | 8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| SATURDAY<br>5/22  | 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners M-Z)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )                                                                                                |
| SUNDAY<br>5/23    | 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners M-Z)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901)                                                                          |
| MONDAY<br>5/24    | By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages                                                                                                                                                |
| TUESDAY<br>5/25   | 11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5<br>2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) (All are welcome!)<br><b>5:30 = Confession (St. Patrick's)</b><br>6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!) |
| WEDNESDAY<br>5/26 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| THURSDAY<br>5/27  | 1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5                                                                                                                                                            |
| FRIDAY<br>5/28    | 8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| SATURDAY<br>5/29  | 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (for St. Mary's Parishioners A-L)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )                                                                                                |
| SUNDAY<br>5/30    | 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (for St. Pat's Parishioners A-L)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901)                                                                          |

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

### **EVENING OF PRAYER TO CELEBRATE CORPUS CHRISTI – “THE FEAST OF THE BODY OF CHRIST”**

**Sunday, June 6**, the Feast of Corpus Christi, from **6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** Eucharistic Adoration will be held *simultaneously* at both St. Mary’s and St. Patrick’s and at *all* the Catholic churches in Greene County! Come pray for as long as you like - from 15 minutes to the full two hours. Families and children are welcomed with enthusiasm!

### **GIVE CHRISTIAN COMFORT TO IMMIGRANT FAMILIES CAUGHT “IN LIMBO”**

This May, as we remember our mothers and Mary, the Mother of Jesus, let us offer mercy to our brothers and sisters at the border, including the little ones. A Syracuse-area parish is partnering with Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley in Texas to bring Christian love and comfort to the countless immigrant children and families at the Southern border.

During May, consider doing one or more of these Corporal Works of Mercy...

- Write a loving note of welcome
- Purchase gift cards from Wal-Mart in the amount of \$20
- Make a check to All Saints Church with “Border Mercy” in the memo

All Saints Church  
1342 Lancaster Ave.  
Syracuse, NY 13210

And here’s a simple message in Spanish you could possibly add to your message:

**“¡Bienvenidos hermanos!**

**Los queremos**

**y los tenemos en nuestras oraciones.”**

*“Welcome, brothers & sisters!*

*We love you*

*and we have you in our prayers.”*

### **CHRISTIAN VALUES JOB OPPORTUNITY #1: SUMMER CHILD CARE NEEDED**

A single father, a parishioner of St. Mary’s, is looking for someone to help with childcare for his elementary school-aged two daughters in the wake of a family crisis. He would like to find someone trustworthy and reliable and is willing to pay for the services. Please call St. Mary’s parish office at **518-731-8800** with your information if you are interested.

### **CHRISTIAN VALUES JOB OPPORTUNITY #2: COORDINATING VISITS FOR FAMILIES OF INMATES**

There is a part time opening at Coxsackie Correctional Facility for someone to work with the families and friends of inmates who come for visits on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Do you have compassion and good boundaries?

Please e-mail [acoleman@osborneny.org](mailto:acoleman@osborneny.org) or call **518-424-7078** for more information.

### **CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MASS FOR THE FEAST OF PENTECOST AT THE CATHEDRAL**

Join Fr. Marty Fisher and the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Community at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany on **Sunday, May 23 at 4:30** for 30 minutes of prayer and praise followed by a Mass and healing prayer. Registration required: [www.albanyccr.org](http://www.albanyccr.org)

### **ST. MARY’S COLUMBIETTES MEETING**

**May 20th at 2:00 PM in Maria Hall.** All members are asked to please attend.

**ST. PATRICK'S**

164 gifts so far  
**86% of donor goal** (out of 190 gift goal)  
 Total donations to date = \* **\$50,446**  
 \* **104% of dollar goal**

**ST. MARY'S**

160 gifts so far  
**91% of donor goal** (out of 175 gift goal)  
 Total donations to date = \* **\$44,879**  
 \* **100% of dollar goal**

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

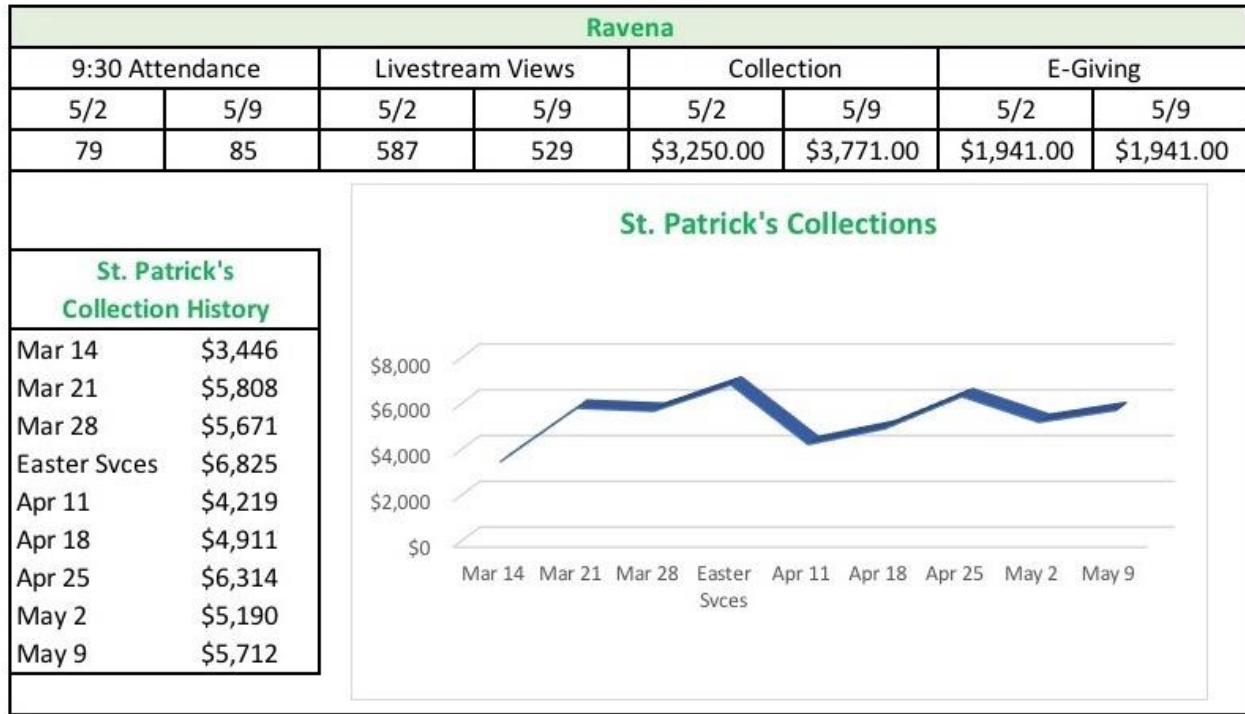
**DONATIONS FOR MASS INTENTIONS**

Whenever a parishioner seeks to request that a Mass be offered for a loved one (most often for a loved one who has died), it is customary to offer the parish a donation, which is referred to officially as a Mass Stipend. For many years the suggested donation for that intention was \$10. Recently, Bishop Scharfenberger agreed that the time had come to increase the suggested amount for the donation to \$15.

Please consider this suggestion when requesting Mass intentions for loved ones. Thank you!

**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE – MAY 22 & 23**

This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries still struggling from the atheism of former communist rule. Thank you for your generous response to all the Church's needs!



| Coxsackie       |     |            |            |            |            |          |          |
|-----------------|-----|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 4:30 Attendance |     | Collection |            | E-Giving   |            | R & R    |          |
| 5/1             | 5/8 | 5/1        | 5/8        | 5/1        | 5/8        | 5/1      | 5/8      |
| 82              | 70  | \$2,624.00 | \$1,995.00 | \$2,970.00 | \$2,970.00 | \$730.00 | \$195.00 |

| St. Mary's Collection History |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Mar 13                        | \$5,410  |
| Mar 20                        | \$7,009  |
| Mar 27                        | \$6,691  |
| Easter Svces                  | \$10,483 |
| Apr 10                        | \$4,483  |
| Apr 17                        | \$6,823  |
| Apr 24                        | \$5,061  |
| May 1                         | \$6,324  |
| May 8                         | \$5,160  |

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

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

Food Pantry is Open **Tuesdays & Fridays 10–11 AM** and **Wednesdays 6–7 PM**. Thank you to all that support the Food Pantry with your donations!

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

**Marianne McCool | 518-756-9184**

Spread the word! We are open once again! Come visit **Thursdays from 1:00 – 3:00 PM** or **Saturday mornings from 9:00–Noon**.

**Youth & Faith Formation**

**Bob Desrosiers | 518-731-9268**

**BREAKAWAY RETREAT FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CATHOLICS:**

6 of our young folks will be participating in the Breakaway Retreat Program at the Pyramid Life Center in Paradox, NY from **June 27 to July 1**. Claire and Reagan Hellen will participate in the Middle School program and Therese and Katherine Desrosiers and Gabe and Grace Hoglund in the High School program. From our staff, Christa Desrosiers is the coordinator for the Middle School and Bob Desrosiers will assist with Music.

**CONFIRMATION 2021:**

We celebrated Confirmation with Bishop Scharfenberger on **Saturday, May 8** at St. Mary's along with the St. Patrick's Confirmation Group. We thank all the catechists, volunteers, musicians, decorators and all who made the celebration so special!



Congratulations to: Luke Barnhart, Brooke Betke, Katherine Desrosiers, Kate Hassett, Collin Hellen, Caitlyn Lackie, Isabella Luvera, Rachel Marino, Brady Penet, Sean Scott, & Ashley Weidel.

### **FAITH FORMATION 2022:**

With the celebration of Confirmation we transition from FF 2021 to FF 2022! Soon Bob will send out registration forms, initially by email and some by snail mail as required. Also in the near future, there will be an interactive registration capability on our new Website (more to come on that).

### **IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BE A WITNESS OF THE FAITH TO OUR CHILDREN OR TEENS?**

We seek volunteers to come forward to serve as Catechists **Grades 8, 9 and 10** (Confirmation). Please pray intently and see if this is something God is calling you to give your time and talent for this vital ministry. Inquire at [stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com) or **518-731-9268**.

### **A STEP BACK FROM MINISTRY, A STEP DEEPER INTO PARENTHOOD**

Thank you to **Kristina and Frank Limone** who served as our Confirmation Catechists for the past 3 years. With, Eve (a babe in arms) and now the anticipation of the birth of their second child, they will step down (for now) and focus on their growing family. Please pray for them as they prepare to bring God's give of life to the world.

**Connecting with the Parishes**

**Online | Phone | E-Mail**

### **WEEKEND MASSES:**

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

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 (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 

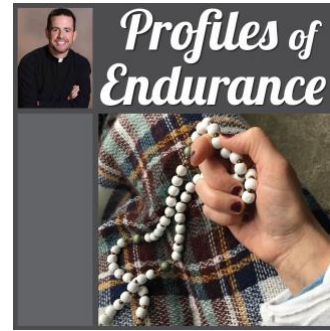
### **WEEKDAY MASS (On Facebook Live from Our Lady of Victory Parish, Troy)**

[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 Homepage

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

Parish Facebook Pages (updated daily)

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

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



st.mary's  
st.patrick's.

### **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

### **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

### **MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY**

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