



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



May 30 & June 6, 2021 • Edition 36 • Weeks 63 & 64

*Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic*

### Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family...

It feels like these times are the most exciting we have experienced in a long, long time. We are really beginning to turn a corner in the pandemic. And although we have no way to know what the future will hold, the fact that we are 15 months into this and are seeing widespread vaccinations and a steady decline in the disease is wonderful news. So wonderful, in fact, that beginning next weekend (June 5/6) everyone is welcomed, encouraged – and requested by Bishop Ed – to return to the practice of weekly Mass attendance. That means we will abandon the use of the alphabet as a way to determine Mass attendance and we will increase the capacity of the church for every Mass.

If that makes you nervous because you are not vaccinated, or because you have fragile health, or because the thought of such a rapid return to being in a large assembly of people gives you anxiety, there are a couple of things you should know. The Bishop has given his blessing for you to watch Mass from home if any of those factors are true in your life. He also recognizes that the livestream is a beautiful way for people who can't come to church in person for medical or other reasons to be a part of our virtual assembly. But he is asking us to consider how important it is to return to our practice of receiving Jesus' Body and Blood each week in the Eucharist. The fact that we have been able to return in this way is a reason to thank God.

**If you're on the fence about whether or not you should return each week, I have good news.**

There will continue to be a section of pews reserved for maintaining social distance and we will encourage everyone, as a sign of our oneness and care for the vulnerable, to wear a mask in solidarity with all.

Our plan is to return in the fall to our regular Mass schedule that we had from 2015-2020 and, in the meantime, to monitor the attendance as people adjust to these changes and add Masses this summer as we need them. There will continue to be an overflow area at both parishes in case we have more attendance than we can accommodate in the church at a given Mass. And we will gradually be returning to the lay ministry roles that were a part of our liturgies before we shut down in March last year.

We will be giving you more details on these changes as we return together. There's no manual for us to turn to that tells us how to do this, so we ask for your patience and grace as we make our way forward together. Thank you for being so faithful to your parish during this historic and indescribable challenge for us all.

In other good news, next week we welcome a new face among us – one whose journey will become woven into our shared journey. **Seminarian Adam Feisthamel**, who just completed his first year of four years of theology study at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, MD, will be with us for 10 weeks this summer beginning next weekend.

Adam grew up in Colonie and graduated from South Colonie Central High School in 2006, where he competed in shot-put and discus on the Track & Field Team and also played as a lineman for the South Colonie High School football team. After that he attended HVCC in Troy and then got a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Political Science from SUNY Albany.

After working for a few years, Adam experienced a miracle. In 2014, his mother was terminally ill in the hospital and Adam and his family went to Auriesville, to the site of the shrine that is built on the site where St. Isaac Jogues and his companions were martyred and near the birthplace of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, to pray for her. Incredibly, through St. Kateri's intercession, Adam's mother was cured.

Understandably, after that Adam became deeply interested in his faith and established a devoted prayer life. After a few years of contemplating how God wanted him to spend his life, Adam chose to enter Seminary and pursue the path to the priesthood. Seven years after his mom's miraculous healing, Adam has completed two years of Philosophy studies and is a quarter of the way through his 4-year theology degree. This means that, God willing, Adam will be ordained a (transitional) deacon in two years and will be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Albany in 2024!

I'm excited to get to know Adam and together immerse him in parish life here in Ravena and Cossackie. I'm convinced that his experience among us will contribute to making him a vibrant, faithful, effective priest and pastor one day.

It's never a bad time to be grateful, but the combination of long, sunny days, a return to weekly gatherings at Mass and Adam's arrival among us coincide to make this a particularly good time to thank and praise God. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Happy Memorial Day,

Fr. Scott ☺

**Schedule**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 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) |
| MONDAY<br>5/31 | By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages   |
| TUESDAY        | 11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5<br>2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)                            |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 6/1              | <b>5:30 = No Confession at St. Mary's</b><br>6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)   |
| WEDNESDAY<br>6/2 |   |
| THURSDAY<br>6/3  | 1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5  |
| FRIDAY<br>6/4    | 8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)  |
| SATURDAY<br>6/5  | 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )   |
| SUNDAY<br>6/6    | 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901)<br><b>6:00 – 8:00 = Eucharistic Adoration (St. Patrick's)</b><br><b>6:00 – 8:00 = Eucharistic Adoration (St. Mary's)</b> |
| MONDAY<br>6/7    | By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages  |
| TUESDAY<br>6/8   | 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 = No Confession at St. Patrick's</b><br>6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)                               |
| WEDNESDAY<br>6/9 |   |
| THURSDAY<br>6/10 | 1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5  |
| FRIDAY<br>6/11   | 8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)  |
| SATURDAY<br>6/12 | 4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!)<br>(also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )   |
| SUNDAY<br>6/13   | 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)<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!

**LAST CALL: GIVE CHRISTIAN COMFORT TO IMMIGRANT FAMILIES CAUGHT “IN LIMBO”**

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.

Before we conclude May, consider doing one or more of these 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

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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>“¡Bienvenidos hermanos!<br/>Los queremos<br/>y los tenemos en nuestras oraciones.”</b> | <i>“Welcome, brothers &amp; sisters!<br/>We love you<br/>and we have you in our prayers.”</i> |
|---|---|

Please send notes and gifts to:

All Saints Church  
1342 Lancaster Ave.  
Syracuse, NY 13210

**Collections & E-Giving**      **E-Mail Dawn Brownson | [parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com](mailto:parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com)**

**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN – JUNE 5/6**

Next weekend our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. 50% of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Albany to fund local communications efforts, while the other 50% supports projects around the world. In our diocese, your support allows our diocesan Communications Office to spread the word about vocations, respect for life, Catholic schools, youth ministry, special liturgies, and more. With your help we are able to inform and inspire, educate and evangelize. Thank you for your generous support.

**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!

| Ravena          |      |                  |      |            |            |            |            |
|-----------------|------|------------------|------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 9:30 Attendance |      | Livestream Views |      | Collection |            | E-Giving   |            |
| 5/16            | 5/23 | 5/16             | 5/23 | 5/16       | 5/23       | 5/16       | 5/23       |
| 84              | 73   | 556              | 528  | \$2,022.00 | \$1,859.00 | \$1,941.00 | \$1,941.00 |

  

| St. Patrick's Collection History |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Mar 28                           | \$5,671 |
| Easter Svces                     | \$6,825 |
| Apr 11                           | \$4,219 |
| Apr 18                           | \$4,911 |
| Apr 25                           | \$6,314 |
| May 2                            | \$5,190 |
| May 9                            | \$5,712 |
| May 16                           | \$3,963 |
| May 23                           | \$3,800 |

  

| Coxsackie       |      |            |            |            |            |          |          |
|-----------------|------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 4:30 Attendance |      | Collection |            | E-Giving   |            | R & R    |          |
| 5/15            | 5/22 | 5/15       | 5/22       | 5/15       | 5/22       | 5/15     | 5/22     |
| 80              | 76   | \$2,736.00 | \$1,239.00 | \$2,970.00 | \$2,970.00 | \$568.00 | \$155.00 |

  

| St. Mary's Collection History |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| 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  |
| May 15                        | \$6,274  |
| May 22                        | \$4,364  |

## Food Pantry at St. Patrick's

Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789

We are in need of the following: **Vegetable Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Carrots, Cookies, Lunch Box Snacks, Toothbrushes.**

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.**

## 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

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

We are grateful for Colleen Lynch, a masterful teacher, who has volunteered to serve as catechist for the Confirmation class of 2022.

We seek volunteers to come forward to serve as Catechists **Grades 6, 8, and 9** at St. Mary's. 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.**

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

6 of our teens 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.

### REGISTER ONLINE FOR ST. MARY'S FAITH FORMATION

Soon Bob will send out registration forms by e-mail. Later this summer we will launch an interactive registration page on our website (more to come on that).

## 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



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

[stmary's.stpatrick's](#)

st.mary's  
st. patrick'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