



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



June 13 & 20, 2021 • Edition 37 • Weeks 65 & 66

*Keeping us connected during the Coronavirus Pandemic*

### Fr. Scott's Sharing Spot

Dear Parish Family...

The-about-to-be-Father Dan McHale was raised just three miles from Coxsackie, and may well have been a parishioner, if they had only built a bridge across the Hudson to make that possible. His parents still live in the family homestead in Stuyvesant, a short crow's flight from St. Mary's.

Dan's vocation journey began in his junior year at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, during a period in his life where the Catholic faith of his youth was no longer a priority. One weekday morning Dan heard a voice telling him to get out of bed and go to Mass. He did, and recalls standing there questioning my sanity as Mass began. Then a line in the Responsorial Psalm hit him like a ton of bricks, "*You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek.*" It made him ask himself: "Am I supposed to be a priest?"

After lengthy discussions with Fr. Bath, his pastor, and the Vocations Director from the Diocese of Albany, he dismissed the idea for almost a decade. He went on to earn a master's in history and taught at Mount Saint Mary College and SUNY New Paltz for ten years. Throughout that time, he shared a house with his Poppy, his widowed maternal grandfather, and cared for him as he aged.

A health crisis in 2014 drew Dan back into serious discernment for the priesthood. The following year he applied for seminary study and served a fruitful pastoral year assignment at Mater Christi, a suburban Albany parish. In 2017, Poppy moved into the Firemen's Home in Hudson and Dan moved to Pope St. John XXIII Seminary in Boston (my alma mater) for four years of study and preparation for what is now coming to fruition. Throughout his four years of study, Dan has regarded the rectory at St. Patrick's as a "home base" during his school breaks.

His choice to have a Mass of Thanksgiving among us is a major honor, a memory that we will cherish and memorialize as a red-letter date in our parish history. There have been only a handful of these Masses in the history of St. Patrick's and St. Mary's. In fact, this is only the second time in St. Mary's 167-year history that this has occurred. Fr. Ralph Woodward, the brother of longtime parishioner Florence Warren, celebrated his first Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Mary's on June 8, 1952. The next day, he baptized a niece, Margaret, who was a month old at the time. A number of our parishioners (now in their 70s and older) were present then. One of them, in hearing the news about Fr. Dan's Mass, told me, "I never thought I'd be at two Masses like this in my life. Wow!" Fr. Woodward died 33 years later in 1986 and chose to have his funeral at St. Mary's, just before Fr. Moyna began his 29 years as pastor.

St. Patrick's has hosted a number of First Masses of Thanksgiving over the years, due in part to how many "sons of the parish" have answered a call to the priesthood. Ravena parishioners will remember a Mass of Thanksgiving that occurred not very long ago at St. Patrick's, when long time parishioner, equine veterinarian, and father of three, Fr. Rick Lesser, celebrated his Mass of Thanksgiving on June 21, 2015. Fr. Rick is now the pastor of St. Thomas in Delmar and St. Matthew's in Voorheesville.

Fr. James O'Neill, the founding pastor of Transfiguration Parish in Spiegelstown celebrated a "First Mass" at St. Patrick's on Sunday, June 2, 1957. Our parish historian, Joe Boehlke, found a comment in a write-up from that time describing him as the "first local boy in many years to become priest."

Fr. Bill Pape, the longtime rector of the Cathedral, celebrated a First Mass at St. Patrick's on Sunday, May 31, 1970. 500 people attended the reception that followed that Mass in the parish hall! Just a few months later, the late Fr. Anthony Diacetis had his Mass on Sunday, July 19, 1970. Incredibly, we squeezed 450 people into the church that day!

Fr. Peter Russo, who just retired a year ago from St. Joseph's in Scotia, celebrated his Mass at St. Patrick's on Sunday, May 9, 1976.

As you can tell, these moments give shape to a parish's history. They stick in people's minds and hearts and are a blessing for everyone lucky enough to be there. On Father's Day – **Sunday, June 20 at 4 PM** – newly ordained Albany diocesan priest, Fr. Dan McHale, will celebrate a Sunday Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Mary's and you are invited! Come join Fr. Dan and seven priests from our Diocese, his family and friends and other parishioners for what is likely to be for most of us a once-in-a-lifetime event. It will even include the presentation of a sacred gift for his mother... one of the special traditions of an ordination weekend. After Mass, we'll have a light reception and Fr. Dan will offer a blessing to anyone who would like one... another traditional component of the weekend. It's not to be missed.

Capacity is obviously limited, but is open to all parishioners of St. Patrick's and St. Mary's parishes, so please call **518-756-3145 x2** to reserve a spot today! We hope to see as many of you there as we can fit in the church.

With gratitude & joy,

Fr. Scott 😊

## Schedule

SUNDAY 6/13	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901)
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MONDAY 6/14	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 6/15	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) <b>5:30 = Confession (St. Mary's)</b> 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 6/16	
THURSDAY 6/17	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 6/18	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 6/19	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )
SUNDAY 6/20	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901) <b>4:00 = Fr. Dan McHale's Mass of Thanksgiving (St. Mary's)</b>
MONDAY 6/21	By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish Homepages
TUESDAY 6/22	11:00-12:00 = St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary (St. Patrick's Church) (All are welcome!) <b>5:30 = Confession (St. Patrick's)</b> 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 6/23	
THURSDAY 6/24	1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 6/25	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 6/26	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Mary's YouTube channel</a> )
SUNDAY 6/27	9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also <a href="#">St. Patrick's YouTube channel</a> or Mid-Hudson 901)

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

### **JOIN FR. DAN McHALE FOR MASS ON HIS 1<sup>ST</sup> FULL DAY AS A NEW PRIEST!**

On Father's Day – **Sunday, June 20 at 4 PM** – newly ordained Albany diocesan priest, Fr. Dan McHale, will celebrate a Sunday Mass at St. Mary's and you are invited! Come join Fr. Dan and seven priests from our Diocese, his family and friends and other parishioners for what is likely to be for most of us a once-in-a-lifetime event. It will even include the presentation of a sacred gift for his mother... one of the special traditions of an ordination weekend. After Mass, we'll have a light reception and Fr. Dan will offer a blessing to anyone who would like one... another traditional component of the weekend. It's not to be missed.

Capacity is obviously limited, but is open to all parishioners of St. Patrick's and St. Mary's parishes, so please call **518-756-3145 x2** to reserve a spot today!

When you call to make your reservation please advise how many will be in your party and if you would like to be seated in a socially distanced area.

### **CENTRAL HUDSON - JOIN US JUNE 16 AT NOON FOR A FREE FACEBOOK LIVE EVENT**

We'll discuss payment assistance programs that are designed to help reduce undue stress and get you back on track with your energy costs. Representatives from Central Hudson and the Department of Community and Family Services will help answer your questions.

To participate, tune in on [Central Hudson's Facebook page](#) on June 16 at noon.

### **SAGE GATORS' BASKETBALL CAMP FOR BOYS AGES 7-15**

July 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> @ Russell Sage, Albany campus. Register online at [Sagegators.com](#) or contact Brian Barnes at 518-292-1969 or by email [barneb@sage.edu](mailto:barneb@sage.edu) for more information.

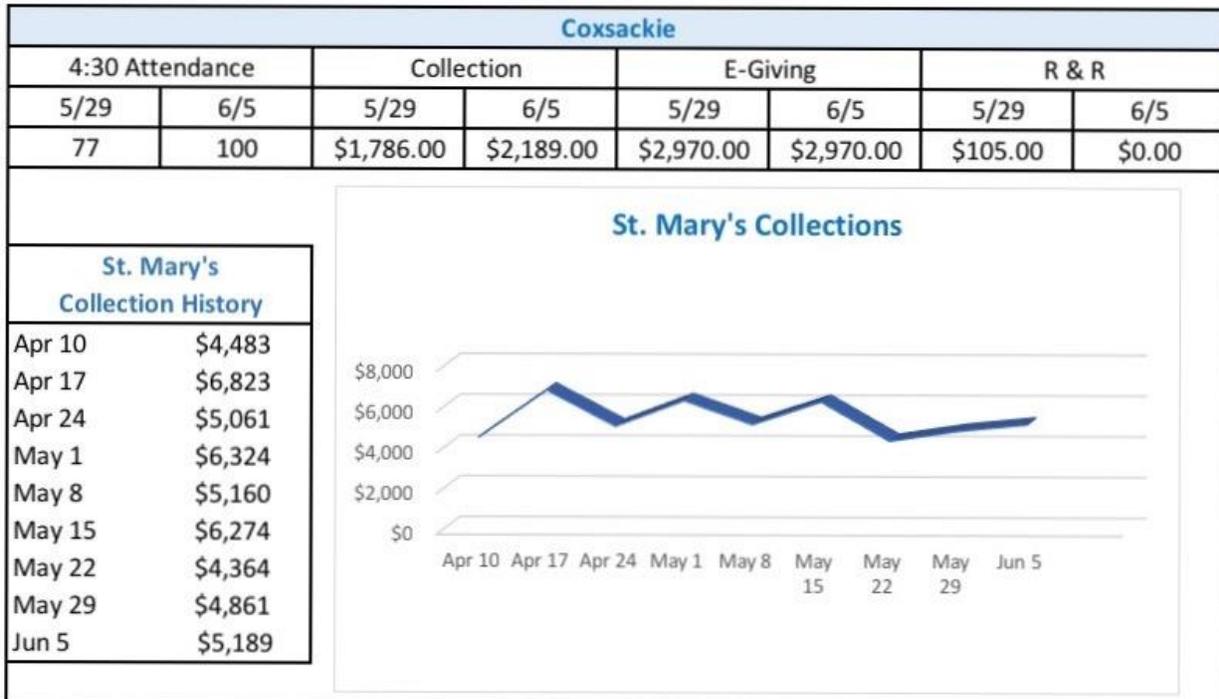
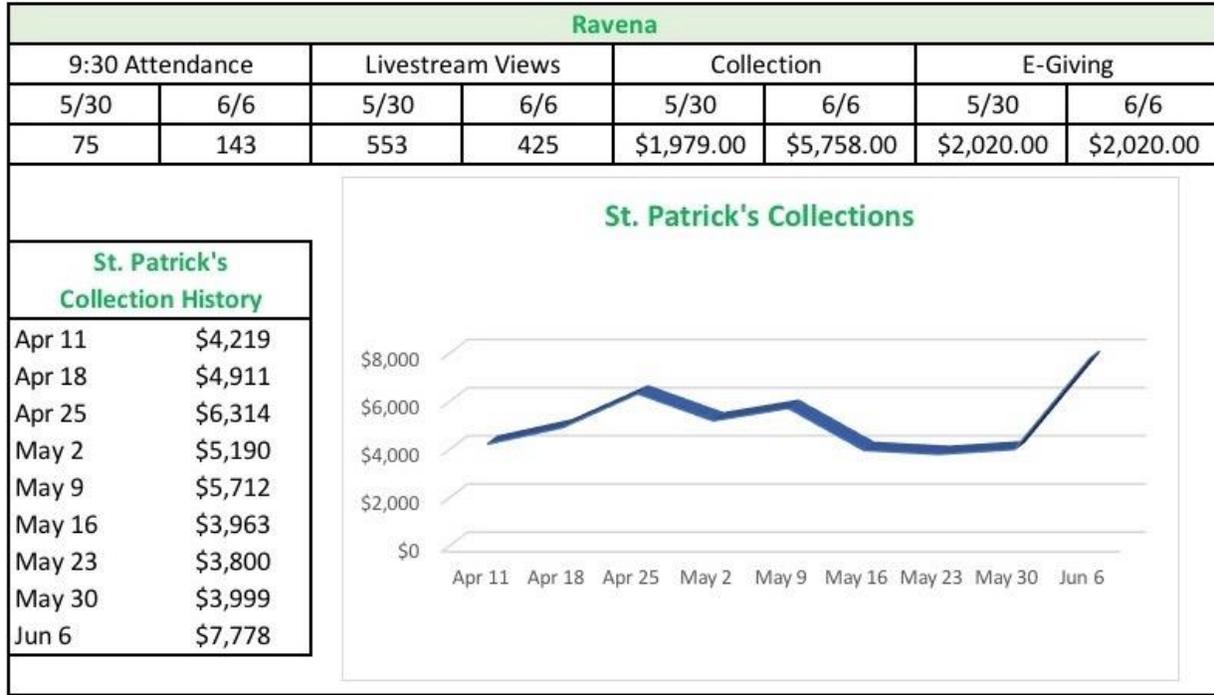
## **Volunteer Assistance Needed E-Mail Dawn Brownson | [parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com](mailto:parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com)**

St. Patrick's is in need of one or two people who can offer a few hours of time to share in the task of mowing the lawn around the church and rectory. Call the office at 518-756-3145 and leave your name and number. We'll get back to you with the details. We are always grateful for all of the time parishioners offer that helps us maintain our buildings and grounds.

### **Call for Volunteers for the Residents Encounter Christ (REC) Prison Ministry Program.**

REC Prison Ministry volunteers come from all walks of life and they share a desire to follow Christ and encourage the prison inmates to become more active Christians. REC volunteers find the ministry deeply rewarding and spiritually enriching.

For more information, please attend an information session for potential volunteers on June 15 at 7 p.m. For more information visit [www.recrda.org](http://www.recrda.org) or email [recrda@gmail.com](mailto:recrda@gmail.com).



We are in need of the following: **Vegetable Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Cookies, and Lunch Box Snacks.** 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**

### **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).

### **WITH THE NEW YEAR COME NEW NEEDS**

**We will need Volunteers to come forward to serve as Catechists for the following grades: Grades 6, 8, 9 at St. Mary's. Without catechists we face the possibility of not being able to offer FF in those grades.** So please pray intently and see if this is something God is calling you to give your time, talent and treasure to. Please contact Bob at [stmaryffo@aol.com](mailto:stmaryffo@aol.com) or by phone at 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 Reaghan Hellen will participate in the Middle School program and Therese and Katherine Desrosiers and Gabe and Grace Hoglund the High School program. Christa Desrosiers is the coordinator for the Middle School and Bob Desrosiers will assist with Music for the Middle (and maybe HS) School.

### **YOUR OPINION MATTERS**

What did you like about this year's format? What would you like to see tweaked/changed? Contact Bob with your feedback...he will appreciate your comments.

### **COMMUNITY**

Thanks to all who participated in our annual Ecumenically Sponsored Baccalaureate for the Class of 2021. Thanks to Fr. Scott for letting us have the event here at St. Mary's! Thanks to John Vasto for doing the program, to Lisa D'Arcangelis for working with Michelle Edwards from the High School on music, for Michelle and her select chorus for providing two absolutely angelic songs(!), our Ecumenical Clergy Association for their sponsorship and participation. I especially thank Christa Herting-Desrosiers for handling the challenging aspect of seating. As we continuing to transition with easing COVID restrictions, she lovingly and skillfully ensured everyone was made comfortable in the church! Praise God for the opportunity to bless our beloved graduates of the Class of 2021!

**WEEKEND MASSES:**

4:30 PM Saturday at St. Mary's

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

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**



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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)

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**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