



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



Nov 14 & Nov 21, 2021 • Edition 48 • Weeks 87 & 88

A Word (or Two) From Fr. Joe

Dear Parish Family both near and far away,

Happy Thanksgiving!

This is our last Newsletter before Thanksgiving and I'd like to share some information on activities as the end of November approaches.

This Saturday and Sunday is the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time; next weekend is the Solemnity of Christ the King. We celebrate the First Sunday of Advent on the last weekend of November. We have some Thanksgiving prayer traditions to keep in mind.

There are two ecumenical prayer services in our area – both on Tuesday, November 23rd at 7 pm: St. Patrick's Church of Athens and the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem.

St. Mary's and St. Patrick's parish families are invited to a Thanksgiving Mass at St. Patrick's in Ravena on Wednesday, November 23rd at 6 pm. Our Mass will be live streamed on St. Patrick's YouTube page and on Mid-Hudson cable, channel 901. People are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item or a monetary donation... with all donations going to the St. Patrick's Food Pantry. Our next Newsletter (the weekend of November 27-28th) will include news on our Advent activities and our Christmas Mass schedule.

Although we're in mid-November, parishioners may still bring pictures of loved ones for our Altars of Remembrance at St. Mary's and St. Patrick's. It's not too late. Please put your name on the back of your picture. Thank you for sharing your loved ones with our parish family.

Stewardship: weekly offertory and the Diocesan Appeal

Thank you to the Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. Patrick's for your generous, loyal support! Everything happens in our parishes because of your continuing stewardship – your time, talent and treasure. Working together, we can accomplish great things in Jesus's name.

Many parishioners support our offertory using weekly envelopes and e-giving. Envelopes are a weekly reminder to prioritize our stewardship and all the programs and activities that serve us. E-giving is a way to make choices conveniently and not worry when you leave your envelope or checkbook home. Some people like to affirm their choice weekly using their envelope. Some people are comfortable making their payments by electronic transfer.

Find the way that works best for you. Please contact your parish office to learn more. If you'd like to try e-giving risk free and change your mind at anytime [Click Here](#).

I received my Diocesan Appeal mailing just a few days ago... they had sent it to my old address in Scotia. In a change from years past, all pledges or gifts can be mailed directly to the Appeal office using the envelope enclosed with your mailing. You can consult their website <https://thediocesanappeal.org> to make a gift or pledge online or get more information on the Appeal.

Together we seek the Lord!

Fr Joe

Schedule

SUNDAY 11/14	7:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
MONDAY 11/15	8:00 = Prayer with Eucharistic Exposition, St. Mary's By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish homepages
TUESDAY 11/16	8:00 = Prayer with Eucharistic Exposition, St. Mary's 11:00 = Women's Bible Study St. Patrick's – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) 5:30 = Reconciliation (St. Mary's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 11/17	9:00 = Prayer with Eucharistic Exposition, St. Patrick's
THURSDAY 11/18	9:00 = Prayer with Eucharistic Exposition, St. Patrick's 1:00-2:00 = St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 11/19	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 11/20	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)
SUNDAY 11/21	7:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel) 6:30 = Eucharistic Exposition at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)
MONDAY 11/22	8:00 = Prayer with Eucharistic Exposition, St. Mary's By Noon = New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish homepages
TUESDAY 11/23	8:00 = Prayer with Eucharistic Exposition, St. Mary's 11:00 = Women's Bible Study St. Patrick's – Classroom 5 2:00 = Rosary, St. Patrick's Church (All are welcome!) 5:30 = Reconciliation (St. Patrick's) 6:30 = Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 11/24	9:00 = Prayer with Eucharistic Exposition, St. Patrick's 6:00 = Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901)

THURSDAY 11/25	Thanksgiving – Give thanks unto the Lord! Parish office closed
FRIDAY 11/26	8:00 = Morning Prayer (St. Mary's) Parish office closed
SATURDAY 11/27	4:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)
SUNDAY 11/28	7:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 = Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 = Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)

Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow

Spaghetti Dinner Raffle winners:

\$500 heating fuel - Donna Biscone
58" TV - Bob Barber
90 day Full Service Hoffman Car Wash - Michele Czyzyk
10 local Restaurant gift cards - Tina Irwin
\$100 and handmade afghan - Charles Brooks

This dinner brought \$4,242 in for St. Patrick's. Thank you!

MOTHER McAULEY COLUMBIETTES

Reminder that the Mother McAuley Columbiettes will meet on **Tuesday, November 23rd** at 7:00pm in Room 4 of St. Patrick's Parish Center. If you would like to join us, please contact Patricia Visconti, at 518-756-9569.

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICES

This annual service sponsored by the Coxsackie-Athens Ecumenical Clergy Association will take place on **Tuesday November 23rd** at 7 PM at St. Patrick's in Athens. All are welcome to come and participate.

This annual service sponsored by the RCS Council of Churches will take place on **Tuesday November 23rd** at 7:00 PM at the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem.

DONATIONS FOR MASS INTENTIONS

When a parishioner requests a Mass to 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 as a Mass Stipend. Recently, Bishop Scharfenberger recommended an increase in the suggested amount for the donation to \$15.

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



Both St. Mary's and St. Patrick's parishes are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of roles at Mass on the weekend. Some roles may require you to arrive at church 20 minutes prior to the start of Mass. We are particularly looking for lectors for the 11:30 Mass, but need altar servers, greeters, ushers for all four Masses. If you have an interest in learning more please call either of our Parish offices. Training will be provided. We would like to have enough people to fill these roles so that you will only be called upon once every 6-8 weeks.

COFFEE HOUR AFTER MASSES AT ST. MARY'S

We would like to resume this community building activity. We need some volunteer teams to make this happen. A weekend team consists of a set-up person and two (2) persons (per Mass) to facilitate serving after each Mass (5 total). At the 11:30 Mass the servers also clean-up (which is minimal). Right now we have one full team and Patty McCarroll is a Set-up person for a second team. If you feel called to serve in this ministry, please contact Bob Desrosiers at 518 731-9268 or stmaryffo@aol.com.

Cleaning at St. Patrick's

Danielle Parks | 518-756-3230

Volunteers are still needed to clean the church every other Thursday from 9:30 AM – noon. If you can spare some time and are interested in helping clean our church please contact Danielle Parks at 518-756-3230. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Food Pantry at St. Patrick's Ravena

Diane Hoffman | 518-330-6789

Thank you to all that support the Food Pantry with your food and monetary donations!
We are in need of the following non-perishable items:

Lunch Box Snacks, Cookies, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, and Bathroom Tissue.

Also, the Pantry is requesting monetary donations to assist with the cost of providing baskets to families for Thanksgiving. A donation of \$25 goes a long way in covering the cost of the basket. However, all donations are greatly appreciated.

As in years past the Pantry asks those attending the Thanksgiving Mass to bring a non-perishable food item to help restock the shelves.

Food Pantry is Open: Tuesdays & Fridays 10–11 AM and Wednesdays 6–7 PM.

Food Pantry, Coxsackie

Lorraine Camurati | 917-572-3300

Coxsackie's Food Pantry hours are Tuesday afternoons 1 - 2 PM, Thursday nights, 7 - 8 PM and Saturday mornings 10 - 11 AM. The food pantry is located at 117 Mansion Street in the D.M. Hamilton Steamer #2 Fire Station, next to McQuade Park. .

Thrift Shop at St. Patrick's

Marianne McCool | 518-756-9184

Come visit Thursdays from 1:00 – 3:00 PM or Saturday mornings from 9:00 – Noon.
(Could you volunteer on Saturdays from 9:00 – Noon? We could use your help.)

HEAP & EAP

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps income eligible customers with their home heating bills. To learn more visit: <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/> or call the Hotline at 1-800-342-3009.

Enrollment in the Energy Affordability Program (EAP), which provides a monthly bill discount, is automatic with receipt of a HEAP payment for National Grid customers. The EAP discount continues for those who apply for HEAP annually. To learn more visit ngrid.com/discount.

Regular Arrears HEAP Supplement Benefit

If you are eligible, the Regular Arrears Supplement HEAP benefit can help you pay for gas and/or electricity utility arrears.

The Regular Arrears Supplement is a one-time benefit based on the actual amount of current utility arrears, up to a maximum of \$10,000 per applicant household. Benefits are paid directly to the household's gas and/or electric utility vendor(s).

You may apply for the Regular Arrears Supplement benefit with your [HEAP Local District Contact](#).

Youth & Faith Formation of St. Mary's

Bob Desrosiers | 518-731-9268

FAITH FORMATION 2022:

Please pay attention to Faith Formation Schedules. If you haven't received your schedules for Grades K-6, Grades 7-9 and Grade 10, please contact Bob Desrosiers at stmaryffo@aol.com.

Second Grade Sacraments: Preparation for First Reconciliation – Families should continue working at home with your child on the Reconciliation Take Home program.

Jesus Festival: The culmination of the First Reconciliation preparation process is the Jesus Festival that takes place on **Saturday, December 4** at 1 PM in the Church. Please arrive by 12:45 PM to check in.

First Reconciliation: we will celebrate First Reconciliation on **Saturday, December 11** at 1 PM in the Church.

VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS still NEEDED FOR GRADES 7 & 8

Could God be calling you to this vital work for our young people? Please contact Bob Desrosiers at stmaryoff@aol.com or 518-731-9268. He is currently covering these two groups.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:

We hope to resume Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11:30 AM Mass. Since last year, we have lost almost all of our Teen Catechists to graduation! Right now we have **3** teams; it works best with **4 or 5** so that each team serves about once a month. If there are any youth (7th grade or higher) who wish to serve in this ministry, please let Bob Desrosiers know. The goal is to resume the program with a full complement of teams as soon as possible. We invite our young families and their 4-6 year old children to take part in our Children's Liturgy of The Word program. This is a wonderful way to introduce the Gospels to our youngest children.

Altar Server Training at St. Mary's

Bob Desrosiers | 518-731-9268

There will be training for new Altar Servers on **Sunday, December 5** at 9 AM in the Church. Any boy or girl in grade 3 and above may serve our Church in this important ministry. Altar Servers serve the priest and the parishioners as the Angels do for God and the Communion of Saints (Book of Revelation Chapters 4-8). Please let Bob know who will be coming to the training at 518 731-9268 or stmaryffo@aol.com. This may also serve as refresher training for our present Altar Servers.

Bring the joy of Christ to kids who may never get a Christmas present! **Box of Joy** is a Catholic outreach to some of the poorest nations in our hemisphere. It's simple - pick up a shoebox after Mass or in the Parish Office at either church, fill it with some essentials and goodies (a list of suggestions is provided!) and return it to church the weekend of November 13th and 14th or the parish offices no later than Monday, November 15th. If you don't have time/ability to fill a box, you can leave a monetary donation marked **Box of Joy** and we will buy supplies to fill some extra boxes for you!

We are planning an **ADVENT EVENT! and we would love your help!!** We are putting together an evening of fellowship and preparation for all parishioners on Saturday, **December 11th after the 4:30 PM Mass**. Details will be in the next newsletter as we get plans finalized.

Here's what we need to make this event a success - many hands, light work!

Bakers for treats (at least 10) to be delivered December 10th

Servers for treats (at least 4) to help on December 11th

Set up team - NO heavy lifting, just decorating with nativity sets, Advent wreaths, candles and lots of lights! Date/time TBD - probably December 9th or 10th (4-6 ppl)

Chair movers - (at least 4) Yes, that's exactly what we need - maybe a few tables too. date/time TBD - probably December 9th or 10th

Christmas Play Adult helpers (at least 4) - a twist on our traditional pageant, done outside of Mass - on the stage. One rehearsal on **Sunday, December 5th** during FF time, second rehearsal TBD after first.

Contact Christa if you want to be a part of this enchanting evening.

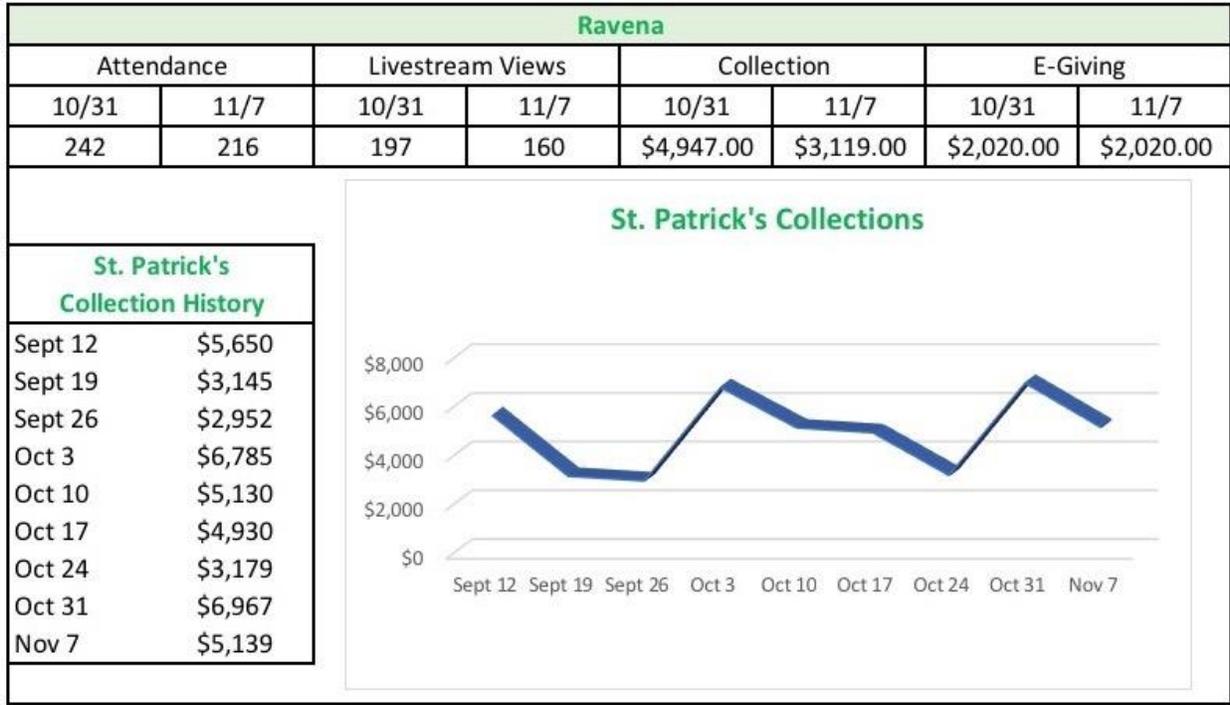
The next monthly collection for the St. Mary's **Repairs and Renovations Fund** is **November 14th**. 100% of this monthly collection funds any planned or emergency maintenance needs for the church, rectory or yard.

Envelopes for Fuel and Food Pantry Collections at St. Patrick's

For those who do not use envelopes or for people who would like to make a dedicated donation we now have envelopes in the back of the church for the Fuel Collection and for the Food Pantry. Feel free to make a donation using these envelopes at any time during the year.

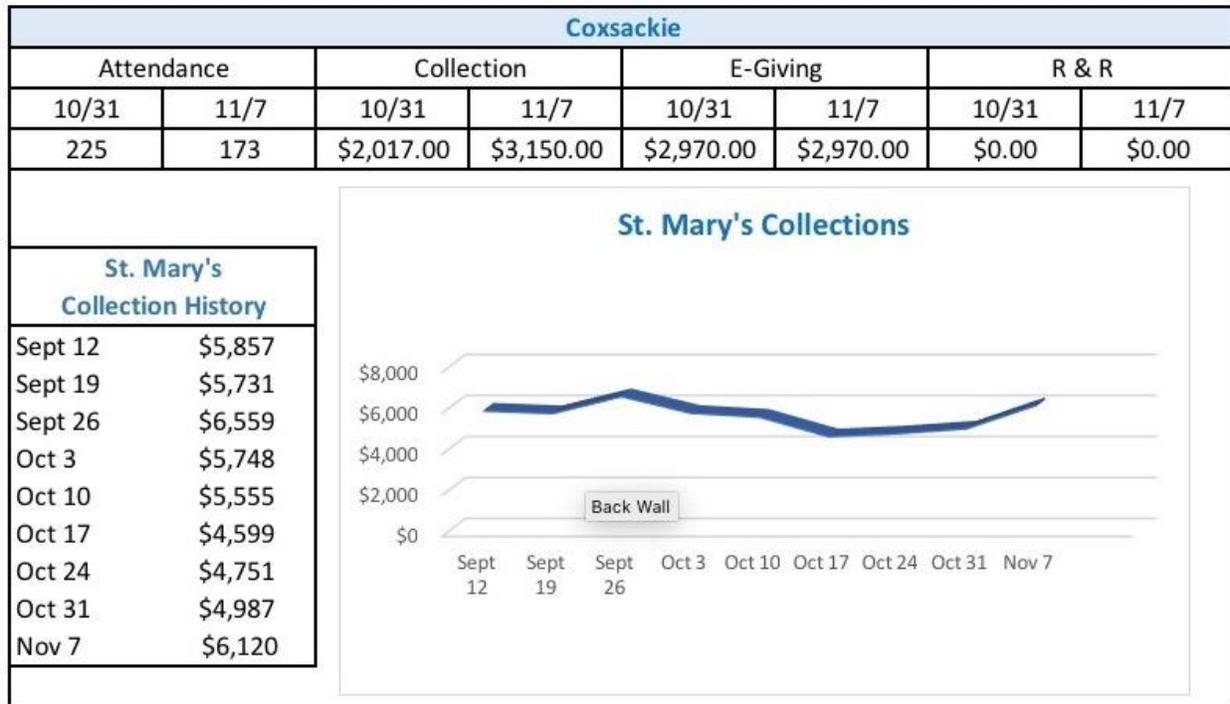
The next **Fuel Collection** is the **weekend of November 14th**. There are not specific dates for the Food Pantry Collection.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Working on the Margins, November 20th & 21st: our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Forty million people in the United States live in poverty with countless more moving toward poverty as a result of COVID 19. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to bring permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.



ENVELOPES ARE GREAT, BUT E-GIVING HELPS YOUR PARISH MORE

Try it risk free and change your mind at any time: [Click Here](#)



WEEKEND MASSES:

4:30 PM Saturday Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome)

7:30 AM Sunday Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!)

9:30 AM Sunday Public Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)

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)

11:30 AM Sunday Public Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!)

11:30 AM on **St. Mary's YouTube** channel (also on-demand)

[Click here](#) and then please subscribe

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. JOE'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL FOR HOMILIES AND MESSAGES:

[Click here](#) and then please hit

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Parish Facebook Pages (updated daily)

CONTACT US BY PHONE:

St. Patrick's Office: 518-756 -3145

St. Mary's Office: 518-731-8800

MY PARISH APP (Two Parishes, One App):

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

INSTAGRAM (Two Parishes, One Instagram):

[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