



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



Jan 9, 2022 & Jan 16, 2022 • Edition 52 • Weeks 95 & 96

A Word (or Two) From Fr. Joe

Dear Parish Family both near and far away,

May God's bountiful blessings be with you and your families in 2022!

One of the first pieces of news I received in the New Year was from the Cathedral Corporation, our weekly offertory envelope distributor. Between staffing and supply shortages, Cathedral was going to be delayed two weeks in sending out envelopes to parishioners.

In addition, with the latest COVID surge, so many people locally have been waiting for test results, have been quarantined or have had the virus. Many others are being very careful. I've seen this in noticeably lower Mass attendance these past few weeks. Many have been praying at home, tuning in to our livestreamed Mass throughout the Christmas Season.

I hope you and your family are safe and we all look forward to coming to Mass again, to pray with our neighbors and friends and receive the Body of Christ. Our celebrations won't be complete until our community can gather again as one. We all pray that day comes soon!

But for now, would you please help with a practical matter? This week I mailed two envelopes you can use for your offertory gift to our parish. You will also find envelopes in the church. You can place them in the collection basket at Mass or mail them or bring them to our parish office. Be sure to write your name on the envelope to ensure you receive credit for your contribution.

Please feel free to use these envelopes if:

- Your offertory envelopes have not arrived in the mail, or...
- You haven't been able to come and you're praying at home with our livestreamed Mass, or...
- In view of your health, you're staying at home, being careful with this latest COVID variant.

This may be a time to consider supporting St. Mary's or St. Patrick's through electronic giving. You may sign up online at any time; please check <https://bit.ly/2K7aaJB> for more information.

Thank you for your generous and loyal support over the years. Your stewardship has helped us grow St. Mary's and St. Patrick's so we can provide for you, your family and our community

Blessings, Fr. Joe O'Brien

Schedule

SUNDAY 1/9	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
MONDAY 1/10	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's By Noon New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish homepages

TUESDAY 1/11	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's 8:30 Weekday Mass at St. Patrick's Rosary following Weekday Mass, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) 11:00 Women's Bible Study St. Patrick's – Classroom 5 5:30 -6:30 Reconciliation, St. Patrick's 6:30 Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 1/12	8:00 Weekday Mass at St. Mary's 8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's 1:00-2:00 St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
THURSDAY 1/13	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's
FRIDAY 1/14	8:00 Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 1/15	4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)
SUNDAY 1/16	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901) 11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
MONDAY 1/17	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's By Noon New Prayer Service for small groups posted on parish homepages
TUESDAY 1/18	8:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Mary's 8:30 Weekday Mass at St. Patrick's Rosary following Weekday Mass, St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) 11:00 Women's Bible Study St. Patrick's – Classroom 5 5:30 -6:30 Reconciliation, St. Mary's 6:30 Rosary, St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
WEDNESDAY 1/19	8:00 Weekday Mass at St. Mary's 8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's
THURSDAY 1/20	8:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Patrick's 1:00-2:00 St. Patrick's Men's Prayer Meeting – Classroom 5
FRIDAY 1/21	8:00 Morning Prayer (St. Mary's)
SATURDAY 1/22	4:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!)
SUNDAY 1/23	7:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) 9:30 Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome!) (also St. Patrick's YouTube channel or Mid-Hudson 901)

	11:30 Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!) (also St. Mary's YouTube channel)
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Please Note: When RCS or CA schools are closed or delayed due to bad weather the respective Churches will not have Mass or prayer and the respective Parish Office will be closed.

Opportunities For You – To Serve/Pray/Grow



A sincere thank you to all who participated in the Giving Tree- those who donated, those who put the bags together and those who delivered to Catholic Charities and our homebound parishioners. We collected over 150 gifts along with a generous donation that allowed another whole family to be adopted. In addition, we also collected a record \$1,260 in Stewart's gas cards. Your generosity made Christmas possible for so many!

Calling Potential Choir Members! St. Mary's and St. Patrick's choirs are looking for members to help with their music ministry. Did you know along with the social benefits of joining a choir there are several health benefits too? Singing releases endorphins which reduce stress and anxiety levels and also lifts your mood! Some studies even indicate regular singing can increase life expectancy due to beneficial effects on lungs and breathing. Lastly, many of us have heard that singing is like praying twice! If you enjoy singing and wish to dedicate yourself to our parish music ministry through regular or seasonal attendance at rehearsal please reach out.

St. Mary's - Music Director Lisa D'Arcangelis, (518) 567-3620 ldarc55@gmail.com
Sunday Masses at 7:30am and 11:30am Rehearsals Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:45pm

St. Patrick's - Pastoral Associate for Music and Liturgy, John Vasto, (518)756-3145 x 104,
tcospmusic@icloud.com Sunday Mass at 9:30am Rehearsals Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:45pm



HELP WANTED! The St Patrick's Video Camera Ministry needs volunteers to operate the camera for Masses. No special skill necessary. You will be trained. Confirmation Candidates are especially encouraged. If interested, call the St. Pat's Rectory or Bill Horton directly at 518 768-2693.

St. Mary's Altar Server Training: We have very few Altar Servers: 2 for 7:30 am Mass and 7 currently trained for 11:30 am Mass (hopefully 3 more for 11:30 Mass after today). This small number makes it difficult to have a robust schedule that doesn't overburden the currently trained servers. Please talk to your children/youth in grades 3 and above about the important ministry of Altar Serving, it's what Angels do for God in the Heavenly Mass in eternity. If your child/youth is interested in learning more, please contact Bob Desrosiers at stmaryffo@aol.com or 518 731-9268.

COFFEE HOUR AFTER MASSES AT ST. MARY'S

We would like to resume this community building activity. Some volunteer teams are needed to make this happen. First, we need an overall coordinator to set up the schedule. This can be done on a quarterly or semi-annual basis. A weekend team consists of a set up person and (2) persons (per Mass) to facilitate serving after each Mass (5 total). After the 11:30 Mass Coffee hour, the servers for that Mass 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 our church in this ministry, please contact Bob Desrosiers at 518 731-9268 or stmaryffo@aol.com.

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!

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 – 3 pm or Saturday mornings from 9 – Noon.
(Could you volunteer on Saturdays from 9 – Noon? We could use your help.)

Faith Formation of St. Patrick's**Christa Desrosiers | 518-756-3145**

Are you thankful to always have a warm, safe place to rest with a meal on the table? If you would like to show your gratitude for that security and share the blessings you have, we have a deal for you!

WHAT: Provide a meal for 15 at one of the Albany overnight missions

WHEN: Every 4th Friday of the month December-April

HOW: Help us make the meal locally and we will deliver. No need to do it alone - we can meet in the kitchen, prepare the meal together and have some fellowship while we do it! Openings are available for January-April. Contact Christa derobccr@gmail.com or 518-756-3145 for more details.

St Patrick's Faith Formation wants to help you to help us spread the comfort of Jesus' love!

Our 3-6th graders will be leading an effort to fill and distribute 'Blessing Bags' once again this year. We would like some help from parishioners to bring in items that will be used to fill these bags. Students will organize, fill and pray over these bags that are meant to carry in our vehicles to share with those less fortunate than us as we travel on our errands. Items that are needed: small tissue packets, hand warmers, lip balm, single serve cereal packets, Bumble Bee 'snack on the run' chicken or tuna kits, cheese and cracker snacks (like Austin brand), Granola bars, Individual dried fruit/nut packets, Beef Jerky (mild flavors), hot cocoa/instant coffee packets, gum.

Please bring your donations to Mass on the weekends of Jan 15/16 and Jan 22/23. Our students will be assembling the bags during class on Jan 23rd. They will be blessed and distributed back to parishioners on Jan 29/30.

Contact Christa Desrosiers for questions/more info.

Youth & Faith Formation of St. Mary's**Bob Desrosiers | 518-731-9268****FAITH FORMATION 2022:**

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

Grade 10/Confirmation Group: By now you should have chosen your sponsor. If they are from St. Mary's then you need to fill out the form for sponsors that has been handed out. If you still need one, ask Bob Desrosiers (stmaryffo@aol.com) for one. If the sponsor is from another Catholic Church, please ask the sponsor to get a certificate of sponsorship from their Church Administration Office (Rectory).

Grade 10/Confirmation Group: There will be a meeting for candidates and sponsors on **Sunday Feb. 13** following the 11:30 am Mass (around 12:45 pm) in the Church. If a sponsor can't make it, we ask a parent to come in their place.

Grade 2 Sacramental Preparation: There will be a meeting for parents on **Monday Jan. 24** during class time (6:30 - 7:30 pm).

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: We hope to resume the Children's Lectionary Program (Children's Liturgy of the Word) at the 11:30 am Mass. Since the last Mass that we were able to have the program, 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 facilitates about once a month. If there are any youth (7th grade or higher) who wishes to serve the church in this capacity, please let Bob Desrosiers know. The goal is to resume the program with a full complement of teams as soon as possible. **We can't resume the program unless we have children ages 4-6 years old come to Mass in order to participate in the program!! So families please come to Mass so we can connect the Gospel with our young ones!**

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.



Help us meet our goal! 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** or donate on-line here: Diocesan Appeal or type the following: <https://thediocesanappeal.org/donate/>



Baby Bottle Coin Drive for the Alight Center - Please return your baby bottles so we can forward them onto the Alight Center. Thank you to all who participated in this great cause.

Use Your IRA to Support Your Parish: As we begin a new year it's good practice to look ahead and formulate a plan for our finances. For parishioners with Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA), there is an option available to you that permits you to support your parish and enjoy a tax benefit.

At age 72 Individual Retirement Account (IRA) owners must withdraw an annual required minimum distribution (RMD) from their accounts. These withdrawals are normally taxable pushing people into a higher tax bracket.

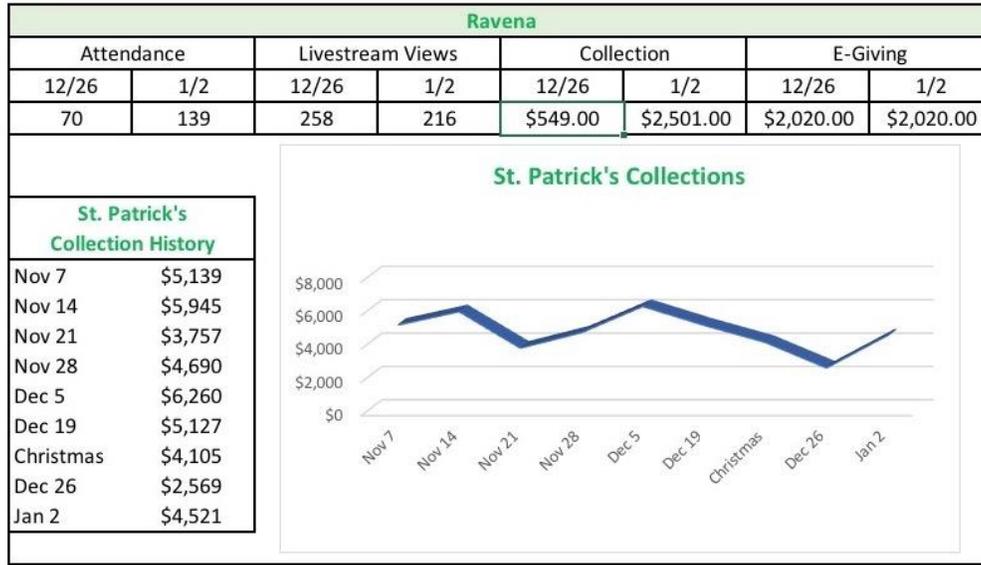
Did you know you can make a Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD) to a registered non-profit using the funds from your RMD? Your Catholic Parishes are considered non-profits. QCDs are generally not considered taxable income and do count toward fulfilling your annual RMD. QCDs must be paid directly

from your IRA to the charity of your choice. You can benefit regardless of whether you itemize or take the standard deduction. Consult with your financial advisor for any questions you may have.

St. Mary's of Coxsackie EIN: 14-1464470

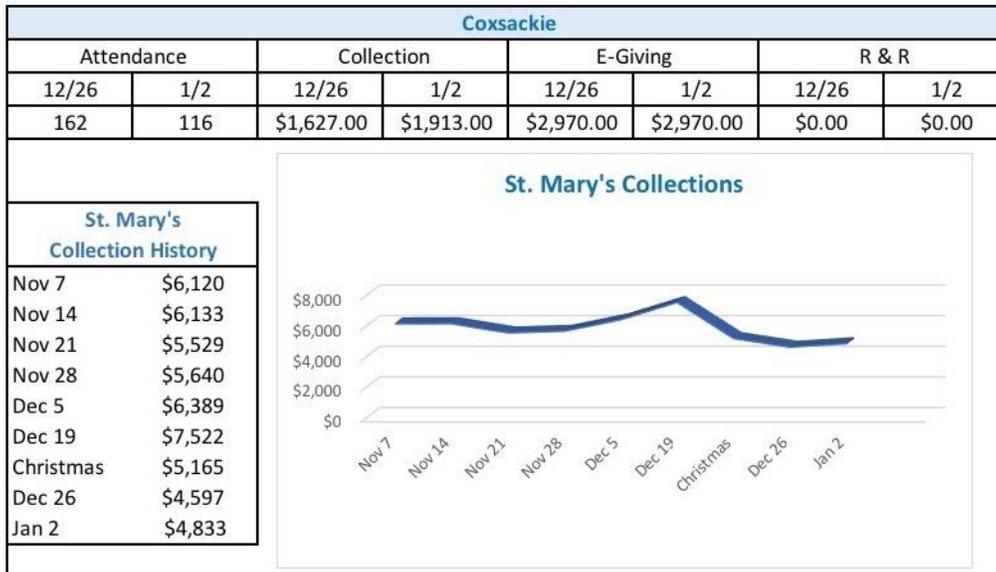
St. Patrick's of Ravena EIN: 14-1341164

Collections & E-Giving **E-Mail Dawn Brownson | parishbusinessmanager@gmail.com**



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WEEKEND MASSES:

4:30 pm Saturday Mass at St. Patrick's (All are welcome)
7:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Mary's (All are welcome!)
9:30 am Sunday 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 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 (Except for Holy Days)

St. Patrick's Tuesday 8:30 am
St. Mary's Wednesday 8 am

FR. JOE'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL FOR HOMILIES AND MESSAGES:

[Click here](#) and then please hit



FIND US ONLINE:

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

[stmarys.stpatrick's](https://www.instagram.com/stmarys.stpatrick)



EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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 am - 12 pm on Tuesdays at St. Patrick's in classroom 5 of the school

MEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

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