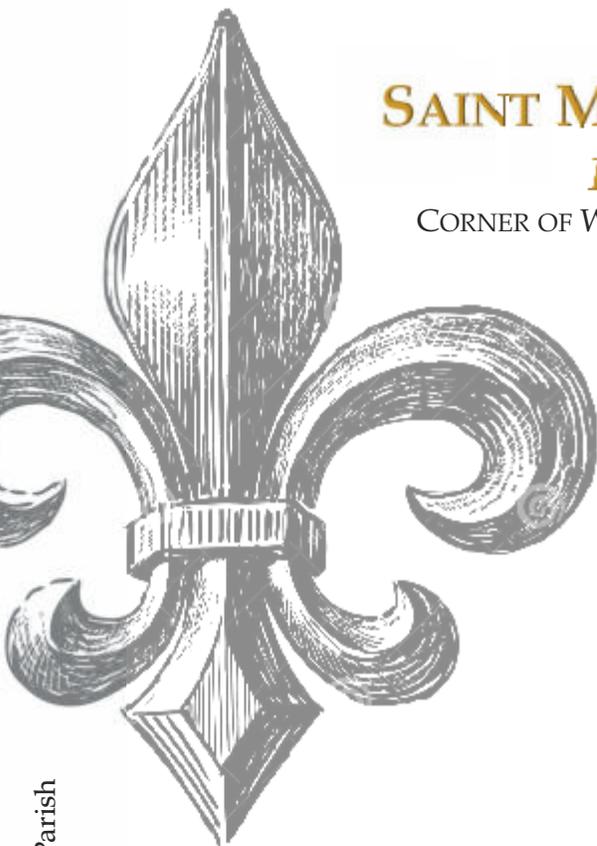


"To feed, care & connect"

The Mission Statement of Saint Mary's Parish



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Welcome...

From wherever you have traveled or have been led on your spiritual journey, we, the Catholic community of Oneonta, are glad that you are among us. We invite you make yourself at home and consider joining in our Christian way of life, worship and service.

Students of Hartwick and SUNY Oneonta, welcome! We encourage you to participate and volunteer in all liturgical and service ministries while you are among us

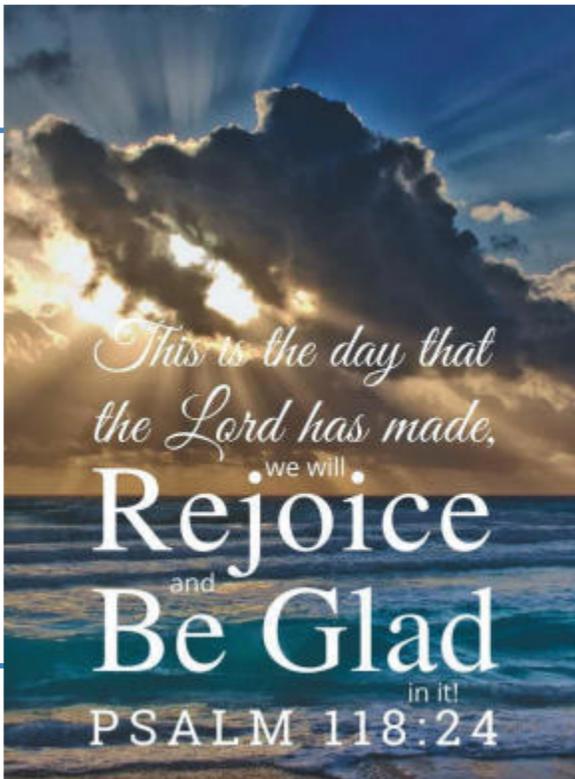
We are home to...

- ◆ Saint Mary's Newman Catholic Community
- ◆ Columbus – Council 4989



First Reading: Acts 10: 34a, 37-43

Peter proceeded to speak and said: "You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."



Second Reading: Colossians 3: 1-4

Brothers and sisters:

If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.

UPDATE ON OUR SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS IN GUATEMALA!

We have received ten letters from our students in Guatemala. Two of our students entered their last year of schooling. One will become an early education teacher and the other will graduate from the Guatemala school of Commerce as a bookkeeper. All our students are having to deal with "hybrid" models of schooling; i.e. attend school on certain days and stay home, and if possible, do online schoolwork. If they do not have computers additional schoolwork is sent home for them to do on their own.

All of our students talk about the ways they help their families and several have families that are struggling to make ends meet as a result of the Pandemic. Keep these students and their families in your prayers!

A Reading from the Gospel of John 20: 1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

Aid For Nicaragua

Benjasmin Herrera, one of our parishioners, is originally from Nicaragua. He worships among us with his wife, Jennifer and their two sons, David and Lucas. Ben has come to our community with a request for aid through his brother, **Deacon Walter Elias Herrera Lopez** of the parish of Sagrada Corazon de Jesus [The Sacred Heart of Jesus] in Augusto Cesar Sandino, Nicaragua.

The parish is requesting financial assistance in support of completing a new adobe house for **the family of Alonso and Concepcion Pineda**. Their house was a simple structure of crumbling pony walls and sticks and leaked badly in the rain. With donated labor, coordinated by the deacons of the parish, a foundation has been laid for a new house with handmade adobe bricks. **Their need now is for \$2,200 in metal supplies for the roof.** The Penida's are a poor family of six children with limited resources. The father has suffered a stroke and one child has been physically disabled since birth. The Nicaraguan Church is asking for help with the cost of the roof because they weren't able to collect enough from the community.



Would you consider helping this family have a better, safer home? Donations can be sent by mail or placed in the Sunday collection. Checks should be made out to **Saint Mary's Church**, on the envelope and in the Memo of the check, write, **Nicaragua Aid**. Thank you for any assistance great or small to assist the Penida family and our sisters and brothers in Nicaragua...

Fr. David

Sabbatical 2022

Our diocese provides the opportunity every ten years for each priest to take a sabbatical. I took advantage of this opportunity in 2009 studying theology at the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. I presented a proposal for 2019 but due to the pandemic it has been postponed until 2022.

Through my next sabbatical, I will study architecture as used for sacred and theatrical space throughout Europe, and experience and reflect on the use of light as an architectural element. This includes how these spaces support the acts of the liturgy, and allow people to encounter the immanence and transcendence of God. I hope to utilize this experience and knowledge for St. Mary's Parish.

As part of this process I am applying to the **Lilly Endowment** for a **Clergy Renewal Grant**. Grants range from \$15,000 - \$50,000 to support not only the sabbatical period for the pastor but also can be used to support programs within the parish while the pastor is away. Thus it is a double period of renewal for the parish and the pastor. As part of the application process, the **Lilly Endowment** requests not only a rationale and design of the sabbatical but also a statement from parishioners in support of the pastor's sabbatical. I have asked Michelle Eastman [Trustee], Paul Cerosaletti [Deacon], Kathy Neuer [Administrator] and Paul Adamo [Volunteer/Member, Renovation Committee] to draft such a statement.

I ask for your support and prayers in this endeavor

....Fr D.

Refundable Bottle and Can Collection

The Peace and Justice refundable bottle and can collection will begin on April 17 and 18 from 9 am to noon each day. Dates this year are: May 15 & 16, June 19 & 20, July 17 & 18, August 14 & 15, September 18 & 19, and October 16 & 17. Please make sure ALL bottles and cans are **Nickel refundable in NY** and are empty. **NO** wine, Gatorade or juice containers. The recyclable container will be in front of the parish garage. Thank you for your support of our ministry to help those in need.



Annual Peace and Justice Rummage Sale

The Annual Peace and Justice Rummage Sale will resume on August 27 and 28. Donations will be accepted beginning August 21. All safety regulations governing Covid 19 at the time of the sale will be followed. Please consider donating as we help those in need locally, nationally and internationally.

Our Sacramental Life

Sacrament of the Eucharist

The Lord's Day (Sunday)

10:30am

Holy Days as announced in the bulletin.

Sacrament of Baptism

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Adult baptism is the norm for initiation into the Catholic Faith. This is accomplished through a process of inquiry, prayer, instruction and introduction to the Christian Life. Please see Fr. David and/or Mel Sperti in regard to beginning the process.

Infant Baptism

The Church continues to baptize infants, entrusting their growth in prayer and formation in the faith to parents. Parents who wish to seek Baptism for their children should contact a parish priest.

Reception into Communion

Baptized Christians from other denominations who desire to come into communion with the Catholic Church do so through a process of inquiry, prayer and preparation for reception and the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Please see Fr. David and/or Kate Johnston in regard to beginning the process.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Usually celebrated at the 10th grade level through participation in the Faith Formation process of the parish. Anyone who has not received the gifts of the Holy Spirit and desires to receive the Sacrament should make their request to Fr. David and/or Kate Johnston at 432-3920

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- By appointment
- Seasonal Communal Celebrations

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament should be requested for anyone who is seriously sick in the hospital, healthcare facility or home. Volunteers visit Fox Hospital, Fox Nursing Home, Chestnut Park Nursing and Rehabilitation, Robynwood Adult Home, and Hampshire House weekly. If you have family members in another area facility please notify the parish office.

Sacrament of Holy Orders and Religious Life

Priesthood: www.albanyvocations.org

Diaconate: www.rcda.org/Offices/deacons

Religious Life: www.albanyvocations.org

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact a parish priest 6 months to a year prior to the proposed date of marriage. Please make no other wedding arrangements until initial contact is made.

Prayer corner.....

We ask that you remember in your prayers, the following persons who are ill: *Art Franson, Marlies Kneis, Norrie Beken, Sharon Wilsey O'Donnell, Ana Vendemmia, Paula Hickey, Linda Burch and Alberto Marcos*

We pray for the men and women of our parish and community who are serving in the military.

We remember in prayer all priests of the Albany Diocese.

Let us remember those who have died, especially the members of our families and parish community.

(Names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks, and then removed unless notified by family-thank you)

Pastoral Staff

Rev. David Wm. Mickiewicz, *Pastor*

Paul Cerosaletti, *Deacon*

Kathleen Neuer, *Administration*

Diane DeDominicis & Sandi Milavec

Administrative Assistants

Trish Dukes, *Financial Assistant*

Carmel Ann Sperti, *Pastoral Care*

Linda Burns, *Food Ministry Coordinator*

Kate Johnston,

Faith Formation

Coordinator

Matthew Houle,

Campus Ministry

Bob Goss,

Buildings and Grounds



Stewardship Report

Our total Parish Budget for the year....**\$677,622.00**

Less projected Other Income.....**\$304,422.00**

(this includes investment income, grants, other donations)

Amount needed from collections (annually)....**\$373,200.00**

Needed from the collection weekly.....**\$7,177.00**

Due to early publication of this bulletin, the collection for Sunday, March 28 will appear in next weekend's bulletin.



WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING:

"To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."
(Acts 10:43)



PSALM:

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (Ps 118)
Or Alleluia.



SECOND READING:

Think of what is above, not what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. (Col 3:2-3)



GOSPEL:

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. (Jn 20:8)

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Who are you? This question was most assuredly asked of Jesus on the day of resurrection and it is a question asked of each of us. Our identities can be described in so many ways. We can start with our gifts and our talents, expertise and unique personality expressions. We can describe things we like and things we prefer to set aside. As descriptive and captivating as these can be, none come close to our essence, our real and true self. While accurate in their own right, the self who lives and interacts with the world is the self we want others to see, the one we project. But there is much more to us just as there is much more to Jesus.

Jesus could describe himself based on all of the same criteria we use for ourselves. After all, Jesus is totally human. With all that people witnessed and all that Jesus knew about his physical human self, his divinity also shined forth. There was so much more to know about him. Whereas once Jesus was transfigured on top of a mountain before his disciples' eyes, so today he is transfigured before our eyes as he reveals his resurrected self as the Christ. Alleluia, Christ is risen! His glorified presence stands before us showing us that we are all much more than we see ourselves to be and show to others. We have a depth, purpose, and essence that go way beyond the superficial treasures of our existence to the very core of who we are.

Within each one of us is a spark of Divine Love where creature and Creator meet, and we are known uniquely by the name God whispers to us. It is not the earthly name that was given to us but the one that flows from Divine Power and claims us as one who is special and chosen in God's eyes. This is the self that will rise one day with the eternal Christ of God and live eternally as God provides. This is the self that when free from all superficial constraints layered upon it in this life can discover and know freedom in a way never possible before. This is love lifting us up and transforming us into who we really are, not who we want or need ourselves to be. Who are you? A special, unique child of God who has been fashioned in God's image, sustained by the power of God's love and kept eternally with the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Get to know this deeper, truer self as it is who you really are.

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