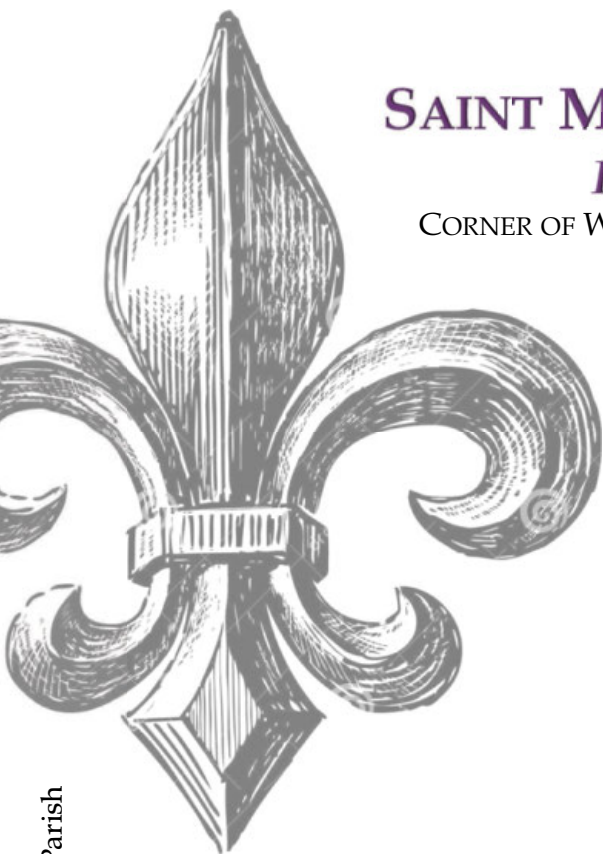


“To feed, care & connect”

The Mission Statement of Saint Mary's Parish



SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE "CITY OF THE HILLS"

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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
 - ◆ Knights of Columbus – Council 4989
 - ◆ Boy Scouts of America – Troop 23

3rd Sunday
OF LENT

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down.’” - Lk 13:7a



UPDATED: PROTOCOLS FOR MASS

Effective immediately for Eucharist on Sunday and its Vigil:

1. The wearing of **MASKS will be OPTIONAL** for all participants at Mass, except Eucharistic Ministers when distributing Holy Communion.
2. People who continue to choose to wear masks, please sit in the **NAVE [MASKED]** of the church. People who choose to be unmasked, please sit in the **TRANSEPTS UNMASKED**.
3. **OPEN SEATING.**
4. The **COMMUNION PROCESSION** will be reinstated. It is requested that everyone receive Holy Communion *in the hand so as to protect the ministers and those receiving Communion after you.*

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and healthy during this difficult time. The Eucharist is celebrated: Sunday 10:30am / Evening Vigil 5:00pm / Weekday: Monday & Friday 8:30am.



FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS to be held at St. Mary's at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, April

2nd - In 1917, the Virgin Mary appeared at Fatima, Portugal, and entrusted her messages to mankind to 3 young children. On July 13, 1917, the children were shown a vision of hell after which Our Lady spoke, "**You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. God wishes to establish devotion (later**

known as the FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS) to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace..." We cordially invite you to join us in praying the Rosary and fulfilling Our Lady's request for this devotion, especially during their period of so many uncertainties. If questions, call Mary at (607) 433-2067 and leave a voice message



The Way for Women...

is a 3-day retreat for adult female survivors of abuse offered by Pyramid Life Center
May 20-22, 2022 in Paradox, New York.

Registration deadline is May 1, 2022.

Please contact Brian Evers at
pyramidlifereservations@gmail.com
or Call: 518-585-7545

For more information. www.pyramidlife.org.

Camp Breakaway

Catholic Summer Camp

**June 26
to
July 1**

Camp Breakaway is the premiere Catholic Summer Camp experience for young people entering grades 6-12 (Fall 2022). Youth participate in prayer experiences, swimming, boating, Archery, ropes course, small groups and much more.

For more information on Camp Breakaway, please visit www.pyramidlife.org.

St. Mary's Women's Retreat - 2022

It's time to mark our new calendar and reserve the week-end of May 13-15 for our annual retreat at the Dominican Retreat and Conference Center in Niskayuna, NY

This will once again be a hybrid retreat. **Sr. Kay Kanick, RSM** will lead us in a consideration of *Micah 6:8* "This is all that I ask of you..." Flyers (green) are available in the carousel in the church gathering area. Questions? Call Martie 432-2852.

Job Opportunity: The Oneonta Plains Cemetery is looking to hire a non-smoking individual with Christian work ethics. Mid-April to Late-October. Work includes mowing, trimming, helping with burials, general upkeep. If interested, please contact their Superintendent, Larry Mattice, 607-287-0676.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Deserts can be lonely, isolated, and treacherous places. When a person wanders in a desert, they can easily get disoriented, dehydrated, confused, lost, and vulnerable. Temptation is at its peak, especially when confronted with something that may offer some respite or relief, even a mirage. Deserts can bring us to our weakest moment and tempt our faith. The Christian journey can be described as a desert experience as we vacillate back and forth, falling victim to the mirages of our lives versus the true, life-giving water offered by God. We need a burning bush experience in our lives that convinces us of the power of God and reveals Him as the "I am" of all existence.

Moses was leading his flock across the desert when he found himself at Mount Horeb. Mountains give us a fuller perspective of life, a panoramic view of what would otherwise be hidden from the limitations of our sight. That's when Moses met God. We have to find our way to a mountain experience where our vantage point can take on a wider view of life.



Many things can do this for us: the birth of a child, the death of someone we love, the joy that comes from marveling at the beauty of God's work, the pondering of life's mysteries, and the ache of longing found deep within our souls. There are many things in life that can wake us up, give us a clearer, better view of things and become occasions where a bush may burn and God's presence as the eternal uncreated One is revealed.

God is very patient and gives us the time and space we need to figure things out and bear some

good fruit. He doesn't rush to cut us down or get frustrated with our barrenness. But we have to remember that the desert journeys of our lives come with some risks. The major risk is that we will mistakenly believe that the mirages are real. Thus, we fall victim to thinking that the respite and refreshment we seek is discovered in a place other than where it actually is. Our faith and the life of the Church are the safeguards we need to keep us properly orientated so that we don't get lost or confused and stay on course.

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?'" - Lk 13:6-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil 19 March 2022
5:00 pm James Carter By Verna Carter
Lisa Romiti
By Mark & Armida Colone
Deceased members of the Chicorelli and
DeLise Families
By Lucrezia Lettis

SUNDAY 20 March 2022
10:30 am Paul Osterdahl By Kathleen Grygiel
Geneva Keable
By daughter, Sandra
Birthday Remembrance
Izabela & Walter Niedziela
By the children
All the deceased of this parish

MONDAY 21 March 2022
8:30 am Paul Osterdahl, MD
By Ellie & Jim Keane

Friday 25 March 2022
8:30 am Prof. David Ring
By Grace Ts'ao

Saturday Vigil 26 March 2022
5:00 pm The deceased of Colone & Romiti families
By Mark & Armida Colone
Joseph A. Vagliardo
By son, Billy & dgt.-in-law, Denise
Julia Church
By daughters, Barbara & Carol
Dorothy "Dottie" Hurlburt
By Family

SUNDAY 27 March 2022
10:30 am Fredrick Shriver
By Steve Baldwin
Izabela & Walter Niedziela
By Children
Prof. David Ring
By Grace Ts'ao

Prayer corner.....We ask that you remember in
your prayers, the following persons who are ill:

Arigo Sugihara, Michelle Lee, Kathleen Genzardi,
Anna Spencer, Marlies Kneis, Norrie Beken,
Ana Vendemmia, Sharon Wilsey O'Donnell,
Linda Burch, and Alberto Marcos

We also ask your prayers for the men and women of
our parish and community who are serving in the
military, all priests of the Albany Catholic Diocese, and
who have died from our families and parish.
(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
Amy Cerosaletti, Faith Formation Assistant
Matthew Houle, Campus Ministry
Bob Goss, Buildings and Grounds



FRIDAY, March 25, 2022

Stewardship Report

Our total Parish Budget for the year.....\$605,673.00
Less projected Other Income.....\$253,673.00
(this includes investment income, grants, other donations)
Amount needed from collections (annually)....\$352,000.00
Needed from the collection weekly.....\$6,769.23

Collection for March 13, 2022.....\$3,579.00
Electronic Giving for March 7-13.....\$500.00

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany is excited to announce the below events:

Young Adult Holy Hour & Happy Hour

The Holy Hour will include a scripture with a reflection, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, worship music, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Holy Hour is a beautiful opportunity to slow down and spend some quiet and prayerful time in the presence of our Lord in Adoration. After the Holy Hour we will jump into our social gathering / Happy Hour. Happy Hour includes fun social time with free food and beverages.

- Thursday, March 24 at 7 PM at St. Joseph the Worker Church in **Richfield Springs**

For more information on any of these events, please contact Tom Cronin at Thomas.Cronin@rcda.org

Are You Grieving?

"I sat with my anger long enough...until she told me her real name was Grief".

Saint Mary's Consolation Group meets on the **THIRD THURSDAY** of each month at 10:00 am, in the rectory. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, job, life situation, pet, the freedom to travel or anything else important in your life, please join us. All are welcome—Bring a friend!

Join the Pro-Life Prayer Group this Lent!

Join the Central New York Coalition for Life in praying for an end to abortion this Lent (March 2nd - April 10th). Groups will be meeting outside Family Planning in Oneonta weekly in prayerful witness. You can pray out on the sidewalk, from your car, at church, or at home. Your prayers will be heard from wherever you are!

For more information or to join the weekly prayer group, please contact us at: contact@cnylifecoalition.com. To learn more about the CNY Coalition for Life, please visit our website: cnylifecoalition.com.



Save the Date: Easter Tuesday, 19 April 2022.

Saint Mary's will host a listening session for the Synod to which everyone is invited.

To learn more about the Synod in our area, visit www.rcda.org/synod

St. Oscar Romero | March 24

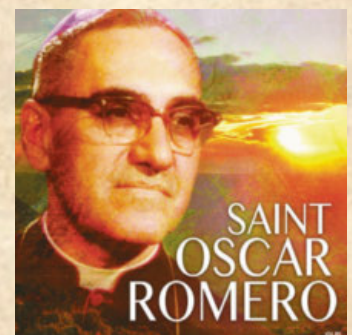
When St. Oscar Romero was appointed Archbishop of San Salvador in 1977, his country was in chaos. Many people in El Salvador were living in poverty, while a smaller elite group controlled all political and economic power. In 1980, El Salvador broke out in a 12-year civil war that left over 75,000 people dead. St. Oscar Romero set up pastoral programs to assist the victims of oppression. He also became an outspoken advocate for human rights, appealing to the Salvadoran military to stop killing their own citizens.

On March 24, 1980, St. Oscar Romero was murdered while celebrating Mass in El Salvador. A car pulled up outside, and a gunman fired a single shot straight into St. Oscar Romero's heart.

Calling him a "a martyr for the faith" nearly 40 years later, Pope Francis canonized him in 2018. For the occasion, Pope Francis chose to wear the same blood-stained belt that Romero was wearing at the altar when he died.

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A beautiful image of St. Oscar Romero can be found in the Daily Mass Chapel alongside the image of St. Mother Teresa.



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