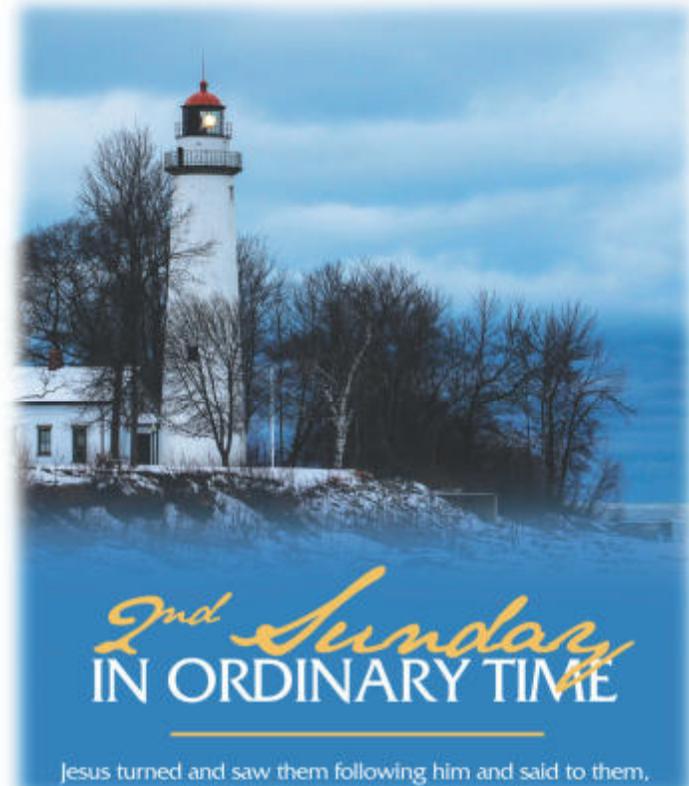




Church of the Holy Spirit You are welcome here!

JANUARY 17, 2021 | THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?"

REOPENING INFORMATION

Here's what you need to know before you join us for Mass:

- You will need to bring your own mask and sanitizer.
- Gathering before and after Mass is discouraged.
- Seating in the church has been modified to maintain social distancing.
- Ushers will ask for your name upon arrival. This is to assist in contact tracing if a case of COVID 19 is detected in a parishioner. All attendance records will be sealed and destroyed after 30 days if no case emerges.
- The communion process will take a bit more time. Follow the ushers' cues and be patient.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we work to keep everyone healthy and safe! Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns that you might have. We look forward to seeing you again!

Contact us:
667 Columbia Turnpike
East Greenbush, NY 12061
518-477-7925
<http://hsceg.org>

Due to physical distancing during the COVID 19 pandemic, the parish office is closed. Please contact us by leaving a message or by email



Dear friends in Christ!

May the grace and peace of Jesus be with you always! We are a few days into the New Year, and I hope that you are doing fantastic on your New Year's resolutions. Returning to Ordinary Time, John the Baptist in today's gospel directs our focus to Jesus as he points toward Jesus and says "Behold, the Lamb of God". The word "behold" in this case is not just to "look" but to give our undivided attention to the presence of Jesus in our midst. John challenges us to put aside our fear, the busyness of life, and all distractions and to open our hearts to Jesus' presence who is transforming our lives and the world. We just celebrated the nativity of Jesus Christ and learned that God became human in the person of Jesus. By becoming human like us (without sin), Jesus takes upon himself our own weakness, messiness, disappointments, and embarrassments and shows how to deal with it all with generosity, compassion, and grace. Today we are invited to come and see God's marvelous works of healing, teaching, embracing, and forgiving in our lives. By seeing and experiencing God's work of healing and forgiving in our lives, we are called to bring others to Jesus, telling them all the great things that God has done for us.

Our nation observes Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this weekend. We remember the impact that Dr. King has made in history. His message helps us to look beyond the color of skin into the beauty of each human person and the fact that each of us is made in the image and likeness of God. Let us remember his great work and pray that we might continue to work together to build a community where all people feel welcome, and the gifts that they offer are cherished and shared in service to all those in need. May you have a blessed week!

Peace & Blessings
Fr. Guy Vo



Saturday: 4:00 p.m. — Indoor Mass
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. — Indoor Mass
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. — Indoor Mass

Live stream Mass Schedule:
Saturday 4 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass
Links can be found on
Youtube channel
Holy Spirit Church eg

Our Seasons of Faith website:
holyspiritchurcheg.weebly.com
Follow us on:
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Instagram: @holyspiriteg

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- † Eli was the priest of the temple in Shiloh. He raised Samuel and helped Samuel to hear God's voice in his life. Who have you taught to hear God's voice?
- † Paul taught the Corinthians that believers should "glorify God in your body" by avoiding immorality. What do you think is needed to live a good, moral life?
- † In John's account of the call of the first disciples, Jesus poses the question, "What are you looking for?" In your own spiritual journey, how do you know you have found Jesus?
- † Jesus is identified as the Lamb of God, as Teacher, and as Messiah. What do these titles tell you about Jesus' identity?



This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a

Gospel: John 1:35-42

Next Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING



Week of 1/10/21:

- * Collection weekend masses: **\$744.00**
- * Collection thru mail: **\$2,100.00**
- * Collection thru E-Giving: **\$2,641.00**
- * Christmas Collection: **\$150.00**
(including thu mail & E-Giving)
- * Fuel Collection: **\$220.00**
(including thu mail & E-Giving)

Total Collection: \$5,855.00



Please consider online giving. Our parish is grateful for your continued support. If you are away, please remember the parish with your envelope gift on your return.

Also, you can make your gift/donations by using the E-Giving on our parish website.



ENVELOPES & TAXES: It is that time of year when tax returns have to be filed. As you may know, you can claim your church offertory contributions as a tax deductible donation, as long as we have a record of your contributions (i.e. if you use envelopes and E-giving). This is a good time of year to encourage those who do not use envelopes to think about using them. Contribution statements are available by calling the parish office at (518) 477-7925 or email us halo@hsceg.org



Who is Seasons of Faith intended for? Seasons of Faith is Holy Spirit's lifelong faith formation process for adults and families. Adults can participate in any of our courses and events for one seasonal fee. We have options to reflect, learn, pray and study. Choose the courses and events that work for you. We look forward to having you join us! Parents are the first and primary witnesses of faith for their children. We encourage you to begin attending Seasons of Faith as a family by the time your child is 5 years of age. For young families, we recommend the Church Life course. For families with older children, choose the course that works best for your family. If your family has a range of ages, choose one course or a few. Please contact us to work out what options are best for your family. Email Laura Countryman at faithformation@hsceg.org. Register, renew your registration and learn more on our Seasons of Faith website: holyspirtchurcheg.weebly.com



POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2021

Intention for evangelization—Human fraternity
May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.



Is your child going to be ready First Reconciliation and Eucharist? Before children can begin formation for these sacraments, candidates need to be participating in Seasons of Faith along with their family for at least 3 prior seasons before we begin formation for Reconciliation and Eucharist. Contact Laura Countryman at faithformation@hsceg.org and check out our Seasons of Faith website; holyspirtchurcheg.weebly.com. It's never too early to begin Seasons of Faith as a family. We look forward to accompanying your family at this special time.



Is celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in your family's future? Confirmation is the beginning of your life as a full member of the Church. Before formation for Confirmation can begin, the candidates and their families need to be participating in Seasons of Faith. At least three prior seasons are needed before we can begin the formation for Confirmation. Contact Laura Countryman at faithformation@hsceg.org and check out our Seasons of Faith website: holyspirtchurcheg.weebly.com for more information. We look forward to accompanying your family during this formation process.

Are you an adult who put off celebrating their Eucharist or Confirmation? It's never too late. Contact Fr. Vo at the parish office (518) 477-7925 or email him at pastor@hsceg.org to learn about how we can help you with this process.



**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED**

Question: Why do parishes have the Blessed Sacrament in a separate room?

Answer: While many Catholics of a certain age have memories of the Blessed Sacrament being housed in the tabernacle on the high altar of the church, many parishes in the decades since the Second Vatican Council have chosen to build a separate space — a reservation chapel — where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. Although this practice is not universal, it is in keeping with the guidance offered by the US Bishops in their document *Built of Living Stones* (see nos 77-78). The goal is to create a space that is separated from the nave and sanctuary, but which is “integrally connected with the church” which can foster “reverence and can provide the quiet and focus needed for personal prayer.” This can be especially important for communities that have continuous eucharistic adoration, allowing people to come and pray in a space separate from the normal activities of parish life.

The practice of reserving the Eucharist in a separate space — or in a dignified location away from the altar where Mass is celebrated — is that it emphasizes the importance of the liturgy itself, which is the “source and summit” of the life of the Church.

As with many things in the Church, the practice of placing the tabernacle in the sanctuary or in a separate chapel is not universal (as can be seen in visits to historic churches in Rome and other places). The important thing is that as communities question where to place the tabernacle, they listen to the voice of the Church, explore the ancient and varied liturgical tradition of the Church, consider the needs and life of the community, and also take into account the architecture and limits of the spaces they might already have.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

We have often heard it said that God is always calling but we are not always listening. It is not only that we are not listening, but that we are not familiar enough with God to even recognize that it is God who is calling! We can easily mistake God’s voice for someone or something else and miss some profound opportunities for connection. We have to train our minds, hearts, and souls to specifically listen for the voice of God. It is a voice that draws us to deeper places, leading us to moments of grace and more profound God awareness. To look at Jesus and be able to say, “Behold, the Lamb of God,” means that I know something special about this person whom others know as simply a man. I will become more attentive and receptive when he says, “Come, and you will see.” I may even be more willing to set aside what I am doing and actually go.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our faith is not just about ideas. It’s really about having an encounter with God and, in particular, the Risen Christ! Once we give ourselves over to the notion of God’s presence, we have to train ourselves to listen for God’s voice and be attentive to God’s call. Having companions on our faith journeys is so incredibly important as they can help us fine-tune our listening skills and discern God’s voice from others we may be hearing. Faith is all about having these profound encounters not only with God but with our brothers and sisters, and creation itself. Anyone or anything that is alive with God’s presence becomes an occasion for God to speak and call us to deeper graces and experiences. “Come, and you will see.”

The example and teaching of Jesus, the lives of the saints, those living among us and those glorified in heaven, and the wonder and beauty of creation can all serve to help us listen more clearly and assist in positioning ourselves for this profound God meeting. It is an encounter that can quickly and easily lead to a friendship and intimate intertwining of our souls to their Maker, making a claim on us like no other. Then, the Word of God moves from being just a body of ideas to something we simply accept and do. The person of Jesus Christ swiftly moves from being just a good prophet in word and deed to the incarnate presence of God Himself, the Lamb of God. The voice leads us to the Person behind it.

The Gospel is hard to follow. We can intellectually debate whether what Jesus said is really what we are asked to do. The Gospel ideas do not always make sense in our practical, secular world. The person of God always does. We can debate the practicality and sense of ideas and doing so often keeps the more difficult ones at a safe distance away from us. Jesus said to love our enemy, but we really don’t need to do that, our minds try to convince us. It just doesn’t make sense. Yet, if we are truly in love with the God who is behind the voice of those words, they make perfect sense. Our deep and intimate love of this God would even find us laying down our lives for Him if necessary. Speak Lord, your servant is listening.



PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

God, who are unity in three holy persons--
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
you have called us to live in peace with all
people. You have also called us to work toward unity
in purpose to spread the Gospel to all nations.
Graciously give us the courage
and strength to work toward unity,
and act toward each other as brothers and sisters.
We ask this in the unity of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Holy Spirit Directory

Parish: 518-477-7925 office@hsceg.org

School: 518-477-5739 hssoffice@hsseg.org

Parish Pastoral Team

Pastor: Fr. Quy Vo pastor@hsceg.org

Deacon: Bill Dringus deacon1275@aol.com

Pastoral Associate for Administration:

Antonio Morabito halo@hsceg.org

Pastoral Associate for Liturgy:

* Fr. Quy Vo pastor@hsceg.org

Family Ministry & Lifelong Faith Formation:

* Laura Countryman faithformation@hsceg.org

Bookkeeper: Aimee Martin-Vieira finance@hsceg.org

Secretary: office@hsceg.org

Maintenance Services: Paul Weidman, Tim Casalla

Holy Spirit School - 54 Highland Drive

Principal: Michael Kosar principal@hsseg.com

Parish Council

Ellen Murphy: 518-479-7217 ebmurphy@gmail.com

Finance Committee

Steve Wiech: 518-477-5351 steve_wiech@msn.com

Trustees

Matt Heitker: heitkergm@acm.org

Kevin Haggerty: 518-378-5428 khaggerty51@gmail.com



Seasons of Faith is our parish model for lifelong, intergenerational faith formation, centered around opportunities to learn about, share and experience our faith in the company of all parishioners, from the newly baptized to the most mature members, leading us to an even deeper relationship with God and each other. Each season is

four months long, with three seasons per year:

Winter/Spring (Jan-April)

Summer (May-Aug)

Fall (Sept-Dec)

Seasons of Faith is for families *and* adults.

Parents are their children's first faith witnesses. Now more than ever, we want to support families and give them a variety of opportunities to *be* family. Seasons of Faith are specifically designed for the entire family.

Adults are never too old to learn. Seasons of Faith encourages faith growth for adults too!

Seasons of Faith is for *all* who consider Holy Spirit their home. All are welcome!

Please remember to patronize the sponsors of our bulletin.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 1/16—Weekday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm. Vigil Mass:

✠ Peggy Oswitt—by Netti

✠ Gerald & Joanne Haase—by Ellen & Jim Murphy

Sunday 1/17—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Mass:

✠ Constance Ligato—Req. by Peter Lai

11:00 am Mass:

✠ Fr. George St. John—Req. by Bob & Mary Kay Blake

Tuesday 1/19—Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Mass—Intention Available

Wednesday 1/20—St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr

9:00 am Mass—Intention Available

Thursday 1/21—St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

9:00 am Mass—Intention Available

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 1/23—St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin; BVM

4:00 pm. Vigil Mass:

✠ Joseph Palasz—Req. by Betty Palasz

Sunday 1/24—Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Mass:

✠ For the people of the parish

11:00 am Mass:

✠ Mary Lynn Ranger—Req. by Bob & Mary Kay Blake

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

Through the Sacraments, God shares his holiness with us so that we, in turn, can make the world holier. (USCCB)

Sacraments of Healing

Reconciliation

✠ Saturday from 3:00-3:30pm or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick (and homebound visits)

✠ Available by appointment, for any stage of illness

Sacraments of Initiation

Congratulations as you begin and continue your initiation. These three sacraments provide the foundation for a life of Christian faith. Formation and preparation begin with forming faith. Join us for Seasons of Faith as we journey together as a parish family.

Baptism—is available at any age. Please contact the parish office.

Eucharist—Student candidates must be at least age 7 by December 1st and be participating in ongoing Seasons of Faith Gatherings for at least one year prior.

Confirmation—Student candidates must be participating in Seasons of Faith for at least one year prior to beginning formation for Confirmation in the spring.

Sacraments of Commitment

Sacrament of Marriage—Congratulations on your engagement! Please contact the parish as soon as you are engaged, at least six (6) months in advance. Pre-Cana is expected. Wedding dates will be scheduled after meeting with the Pastor.

Holy Orders and Religious Life—Congratulations as you begin your discernment. Please contact Fr. Vo at the parish office, or the diocesan Vocations Office at albanyvocations.org (518) 453-6690.

Please contact the office for more information or to set up an appointment. We look forward to accompanying you on your sacramental journey.



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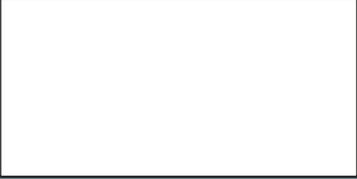
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