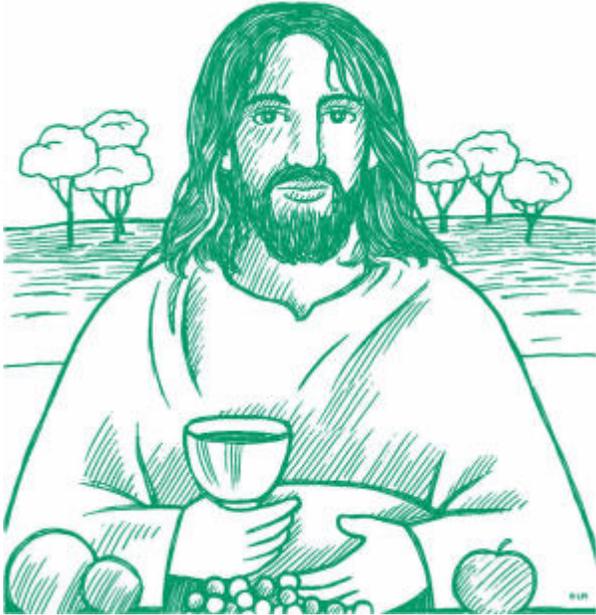




Church of the Holy Spirit

You are welcome here!

AUGUST 1, 2021 | THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." Jn 6:33

AS WE RETURN TO MASS IN PERSON

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

- ❖ You will need to bring your own sanitizer.
- ❖ You may remove the mask if you are fully vaccinated.
- ❖ A few seating sections in the church has been modified to maintain social distancing.
- ❖ The communion process will take a bit more time. Follow the ushers' cues and be patient.
- ❖ The Holy Water is back in the font at the entrance of the church. The Holy Water will change, and the font will be cleaned weekly basis.
- ❖ We continue to clean and sanitize the church at the end of each mass.



Weekend:

- ❖ **Saturday:** 4 p.m. Vigil Mass
- ❖ **Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Weekdays: Tuesday—Thursday: 9 a.m.
(Mass will be held in Rectory's Chapel)

Holy day of Obligation: Consult the bulletin and announcement for the mass time. Mass will be in the church.

Contact us:

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

Parish Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday: 9am-1pm
Wednesday & Thursday: 1pm-5pm
Please call if you need to make an appointment



May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always! Here we are into the month of August. In this month, our recent high school graduates are preparing to go away to college for the first time. This can be the most exciting time for them! I ask that we keep new college freshmen in our prayers.

Food is necessary for life. Good healthy food provides good nutrition to our physical body. It helps us to grow strong and healthy. In a similar way, our spiritual life needs good spiritual nourishment. Today's gospel tells us that Jesus is the Bread of Life—the true bread that comes down from heaven, and those who believe in Jesus will never thirst. Jesus is the precious gift from the Father; and we have the privilege and honor to receive this precious gift when we gather to celebrate the Eucharist. At the Eucharistic celebration, Jesus not only feeds us with his Word, but also His Body and Blood in the form of Bread and Wine. We are very fortunate to be invited to Jesus' banquet each weekend. Let us be mindful and grateful for the gift of Jesus, the Bread of Life.

This coming Friday, August 6, is the feast of Transfiguration. Jesus took Peter, James, and Andrew to Mount Tabor where he transfigured before them. The three disciples get glimpses of what heaven is like. Jesus' transfiguration not only gives us and the disciples great hope, but also teaches us that we too can transfigure like Jesus. Sins disfigure and corrupt us in many ways. Jesus restores us back to life. Jesus' transfiguration reminds us that we, too, can be transfigured with Jesus. Our strong faith in Jesus and his grace will help us to overcome temptations and sins. There will be a morning mass at 9 a.m. on Friday, August 6, in the rectory chapel. Come and celebrate the feast of Transfiguration. Have a great week!

Peace & Blessings
Fr. Joey Vo

Live stream Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4 p.m. Vigil Mass
Links can be found on
Youtube channel
Holy Spirit Church eg

Our Seasons of Faith website:

holyspiritchurcheg.weebly.com
Follow us on:
Twitter: @HolySpiritEG
Facebook: @holyspiritchurcheg
Instagram: @holyspiriteg

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ✚ Early in their Exodus journey, the Israelites expressed fear and frustration to Moses. God heard and responded to their “grumbling” by sending bread from heaven. When have you experienced God answering your plea for help?
- ✚ Paul told the Ephesians that as believers in Christ you should “put away” the bad parts of “your former way of life.” How have you done this in your life as a believer in Christ?
- ✚ We hear today the introduction of Jesus’ extended “bread of life” discourse. In referring back to the ancient Israelites who ate “manna” (bread) in the desert, Jesus tells the crowds: “I am the bread of life.” How would you explain to someone how Jesus sustains you?



This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4; 12-15
Second Reading: Ephesians 4:17, 20-24
Gospel: John 6:24-35

Next Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8
Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2
Gospel: John 6:41-51



How many books are in the New Testament?

- a) 34
- b) 56
- c) 27
- d) 18

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING



Week of 7/25/21:

- * Collection weekend masses: **\$2,219.00**
- * Collection thru mail: **\$980.00**
- * Collection thru E-Giving: **\$1,813.92**

Total Collection: \$5,012.92

Peter's Pence Collection:

- * Collection weekend masses: **\$661.00**
- * Collection thru E-Giving: **\$15.00**

Total Collection: \$676.00



We are grateful for your continued financial support during the pandemic. We ask you to help us to reach our weekly budget by increasing your weekly offertory. If you are away, please remember the parish with your envelope gift on your return. Online giving is the best way to give your donations. Please consider this option.



Join us in the Eucharist Adoration every Tuesday evening beginning at 7 p.m. We will be praying the Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet. Confession is available for all. Please invite your family & friends to come and spend time with the Lord through prayer.



POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2021

The Church—Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Simply Scripture: Join us on Thursday, August 5th at 6:30pm as we explore the readings for the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time from the comfort of home. Contact Laura Countryman at faithformation@hsceg.org to register. What is the message that you need to hear this week?



RCIA—Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

We welcome those who are not Catholic to discover and learn about the Roman Catholic Faith Tradition. Those who have not been baptized are prepared to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Candidates raised in another Christian community are invited to full-communication in the Catholic Church by celebrating Confirmation and Eucharist. If you know of anyone who have not been baptized and want to discover the Catholic Faith Tradition, please encourage the person to contact the parish office at (518)477-7925.



2021 MASS INTENTIONS BOOK REQUESTS

—The parish 2021 Mass Book is open to receive mass intentions. It is first come, first served basis. We will be accepting up to **7 intentions** per mass on weekends (Sat & Sun, each day), and **3 intentions** per mass on weekdays (Mon—Thurs). The intentions will be listed in the bulletin and announced during the liturgy. Please call (518) 477-7925 or stop by the office and our staff will do their best to accommodate your requests. Please be sensitive to the needs of other parishioners, especially if you have a large list. The donation for one mass intention is \$15.00.



Lemonade Sale

Some of our wonderful parish children are selling lemonade after Sunday 11 a.m. mass this weekend. All to benefit our Parish. Please support these ambitious children with a donation in any amount. All proceeds will go toward our parish.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question: : What can I do to help our family practice our faith each day?

Answer: Some families practice their religion together as just another event on their schedule: go to church, observe Lent, help at the parish picnic, go to a meeting, volunteer time, make your confession, use your envelope... But the focus needs to be on who we are—God’s people, in relationship with him, loved, forgiven, and redeemed, and called to live and proclaim the Gospel. Our awareness of God’s presence and our sense of mission are supported by the daily rituals, celebrations, and traditions that help us stay focused. Sharing our faith strengthens us and clarifies the beliefs and values of Christian living.

Daily family practices include time for prayer—before meals, before bed, before important meetings and activities. Attend Sunday Mass together and discuss the homily afterward. Create family celebrations for holy days and holidays. Make religion a regular part of your discussions. Include others, especially the elderly and the less fortunate, in your activities and charitable efforts. By applying the virtues of faith, hope, and love to each day, faith becomes part of who your family is. It influences how you act towards others, what you value, and how mindful of God you are. Faith is the leaven of life that helps all of us rise to our calling and dignity as God’s people.



Asian Crispy Chicken dinner—Holy Spirit will be hosting a chicken dinner, take out only, on **Saturday, August 14, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. – 7 p.m.**

The menu includes a quarter of chicken, fried rice, spring rolls, and desert. The cost of a ticket is \$15.00 dollars. Only 150 tickets will be sold. All proceeds will go toward the parish 100th Anniversary celebrations.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

When we lose our ability to trust, we become afraid. When we are afraid, we may begin to grumble and question whether where we are is where we need to be. For us who have faith, we even question whether God is who God says He is. Trust is so important to our success on our journey. Often, the road of our lives can become a bit treacherous. We may find ourselves feeling more unsettled than comfortable and less fulfilled than we would like to be. As much as we try, the pieces of our puzzle don’t quite fit together as they ought. We wonder if we will ever experience happiness again. Then, something reminds us that God is very much present in this mess we call life. God is still bringing hope out of despair and life out of death. After all, God is the true bread that comes down from heaven to give life. All that is necessary is for us to trust in this truth, even when we may be lacking in some of life’s essentials. The God who gives life is the same God who sustains it. He is also the same God who assures us that we will not perish.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The 18TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

“You cannot see the forest for the trees” is a widely known saying that can bring wisdom to our understanding of our journey. Often, our sight becomes limited to what is immediately before us. We lose touch with lessons and experiences from the past and promises and hope for the future. As human beings, we have the privilege of being able to choose things. What I like and don’t like, want, and don’t want can be major preoccupations of our minds and hearts. Our preferences and desires begin to define us more than the simple fact of our being. Who we are matters more than what we are or what we have. If we don’t move beyond the external and superficial stuff to what really is of essence, we risk becoming very unsettled, disorientated, angry, and unhappy. We fail to see the bigger picture of hope and promise that lies ahead and the Divine Presence that has sustained and carried us before.

We like it when the “now” time of our lives satisfy us. Even the people who witnessed Jesus feed the five thousand got confused and distracted. It felt good when thousands of people were able to eat. They wanted to know what they could do to get this to happen again! But Jesus quickly reminds them that this is not the point of this sign. As much as the now time of our lives is of concern, it is not what is ultimately important. We need to learn the difference between being and doing, drawing more strength from who we are and who God is rather than what is happening around us and the choices we can make. Jesus is the true bread that came down from heaven. Jesus is the very incarnate presence of God who sustains life and assures us that we will not perish. This is not easy to understand and feel. We have to practice being in the presence of ourselves, others, creation, and God. We are brought to a holy place when we encounter the sacredness of being. This is real prayer.

Then, we learn to trust. It is when we cease trusting that we start to become afraid, uncertain, apprehensive, and doubtful, and overly self-concerned. We even start to grumble. God has our back. That is the essential powerful message of the living bread come down from heaven. God, who is alpha is also omega, the beginning and the end, and has everything in between in his care as well. A woman once remarked that her most powerful God moment happened when she and her husband cuddled with their new baby for a time. Without exchanging words and using only the affection communicated through sight and touch, they rested in being with each other. This brought them to the sacred, where they realized that a greater Being was with them. It was real. They knew that they were part of something bigger, intimate, and profound. When we rest in the Living Source of life, we will find that our souls are no longer hungry or thirsty.

Please remember to patronize the sponsors of our bulletin.

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:

Sowmya Sudulagandi info@holyspiritchurcheg.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

Pastoral 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!



We are looking for those who would like to volunteer to serve the parish as money counters. Training will be provided. If you would like to participate in this ministry or obtain more information, please contact Sowmya, our parish manager by calling the parish office (518) 477-7925 or email info@holyspiritchurcheg.org.

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**



**Saturday 7/31—St. Ignatius of
Loyola, Priest**

4 p.m. Vigil: Laretta McGuirk—Req. by HS school

Sunday 8/1—Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Mass: Fr. George St. John—Req. by HS

✠ Martyr Geraghty—Req. by Ned and Connie O'Brien

11 a.m. Mass: For the people of the parish

Tuesday 8/3—Weekday in Ordinary Time

✠ **9 a.m. Mass**—Intention Available

Wednesday 8/4—St. John Vianney, Priest

✠ **9 a.m. Mass**—Intention Available

Thursday 8/5—The Dedication of the Basilica of St.

Mary Major

✠ **9 a.m. Mass**—Intention Available

Friday 8/6—The feast of Transfiguration

✠ **9 a.m. Mass**—Intention Available

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Saturday 8/7—St. Sixtus II, Pope, & Companions,
Martyrs; St. Cajetan, Priest**

4 p.m. Vigil: David Halloran—Req. by Lawrence and
Linda Rowse

✠ Roger R. Goding—Req. by Doris and Gary Beardsley

Sunday 8/8—Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Mass: Fr. George St. John—Req. by HS

11 a.m. Mass: Franklin Grant—Req. by Beatrice Grant

✠ Helen Fischetti—Req. by Bob & Mary Kay Blake
and Family



The sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of

James J. Franklin Grant

Given by Bea Grant

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

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

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—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—Please contact Fr. Vo at the parish office, or the diocesan Vocations Office at albanyvocations.org (518) 453-6690.



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