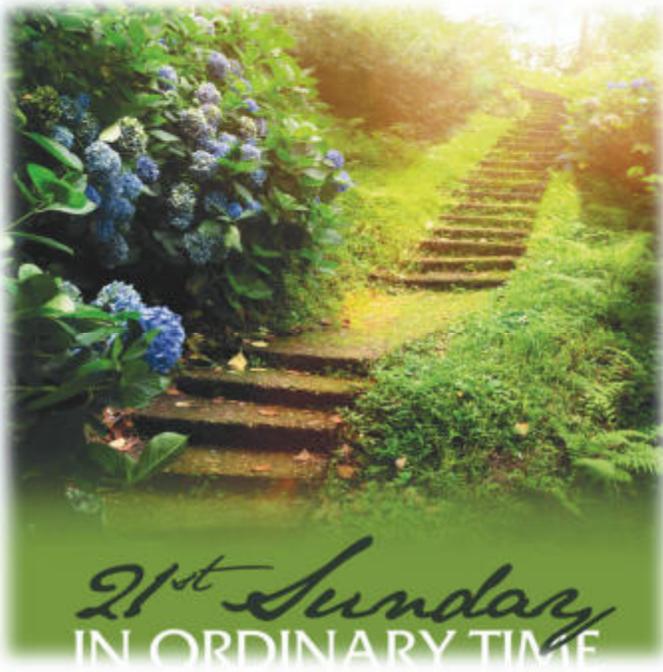




Church of the Holy Spirit

You are welcome here!

AUGUST 22, 2021 | THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



AS WE RETURN TO MASS IN PERSON

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

- ❖ Hand sanitizer is available for you to use. Please use to sanitize your hands before receiving the Holy Communion.
- ❖ Wearing a mask while we are indoors is strongly recommended whether you are fully vaccinated or unvaccinated.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ 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.



May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always! I hope that your week goes well. One of the great things about God is that he gives us freedom to make our choices or decisions. Making a decision or choice is part of daily living. We make choices every day. For example, as the sun is rising, we make a choice whether or not we want to get up and go to work. We make a choice of what kind of food we need to eat or even the clothes that we want to wear for the day. These are the things in life that we face each day, and when it comes to making choices, we love to have choices between two "good choices."

This weekend we hear the rest of the debate between Jesus and the crowd on the "Discourse of the Bread of Life." Today, Jesus' disciples and the crowd are facing a choice. This is a difficult choice they have to make; it is a choice between life and death. Jesus says to the crowd in order to have eternal life, they have to believe in the One whom God the Father sent—Jesus. In the beginning of John's gospel, we learn that the Word of God became flesh and dwelled among us. Jesus is the Word of God, and the Word is proclaimed through Jesus. The words that Jesus speaks are spirit and life. The question is "do you believe in the words that Jesus speaks and his teaching?" This is a choice that the disciples, and all of us, have to make. If we choose to follow and believe in Jesus, then we must reject what is contrary to his words and teachings. We must allow Jesus and the Holy Spirit to work within us and transform our way of living. When Jesus asks the disciples "Do you also want to leave?", Peter makes the great choice by saying, "Master, to whom should we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." (John 6:68-69). Peter and his friends make the best choice—to stay with Jesus. Jesus asks you today, "Do you also want to leave?" What would be your answer? Have a blessed week! — *Fr. Quigley*

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

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
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Instagram: @holyspiriteg

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ✠ Joshua, who helped settle the Israelites into the Promised Land, knew the struggle ahead lay in Israel's fidelity to God. How does anyone best show fidelity to God?
- ✠ Toward the end of his letter, Paul takes up the topic of husbands and wives. He speaks of the importance of mutual subordination and love. What do you see as secret to a successful marriage?
- ✠ Jesus' bread of life discourse ends with the report that "many of Jesus' disciples" no longer followed Jesus. How should we respond to family or friends who choose to walk away from Jesus?



This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

Second Reading: Eph 5:21-32

Gospel: Jn 6:60-69

Next Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

Second Reading: Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Gospel: Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING



Week of 8/15/21:

- * Collection weekend masses: \$2912.00
- * Collection thru mail: \$865.00
- * Collection thru E-Giving: \$248.00

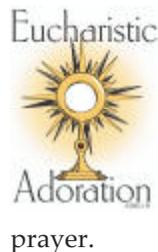
Total Collection: \$4025.00



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.



Our second collection this week will be for the **Catholic Home Missions Appeal**. Right now, over 40% of dioceses in the United States are considered mission territory because they are unable to fund essential pastoral work in their communities. Your support of this appeal eases the struggle and assists in forming vibrant faith communities. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. We will be taking up this collection at all masses this weekend



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 as we reflect on the readings for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time on Thursday, August 26th at 6:30pm from the comfort of your home. What will God have to say to you this week?

Upcoming Events

Day/Date	Occasion	Time	Place
Tues 8/24	Eucharist Adoration	7 p.m.	Church
Wed 8/25	Adult Bible Study	6:30 p.m.	Conference Room
Thurs 8/26	Young Adult Bible Study	7pm	Conference Room
Thurs 8/26	Simple Scripture	6:30 p.m.	Zoom Meeting



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 has not been baptized and wants to discover the Catholic Faith Tradition, please encourage the person to contact the parish office at (518)477-7925.

Basket Raffle- We will be holding our famous basket raffle at the church picnic on September 12. If you would like to donate a basket filled with goodies, please drop it off at the Rectory by Thursday August 26. The baskets will be on display for two weekends prior to the picnic and at the picnic. Have fun and be creative! If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Murphy at 518-479-7217 or ebmurphy@gmail.com

Last week's sanctuary candle was lit in memory of **Agnès Hurley** given by Christina Larsen.



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

Question: : We live in a country that upholds the separation of Church and state.

What is the role of Catholics in society?

Answer: The role of the Church in the world has taken different forms over time, but the theme is the same. Be disciples in it! As the lay faithful — that is, not vowed priest or religious — we are called to live and love in the circumstances of our daily lives. St. John Paul II wrote a document about the laity. In it he wrote, “In their situation in the world, God manifests His plan and communicates to them their particular vocation of seeking the Kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God” (On the Lay Members of Christ’s Faithful, 15).

God wants us in the hospitals, the board rooms, the law offices, the food pantries, and the little league games! We are to engage in the affairs of the world. But when we’re there, we should live the plan of God. We need to respect those around us, engage in just business and legal practices, and love our children. We should care for the earth, use our money wisely, and get to know our neighbors. We must advocate for social policies that respect human dignity and human freedom. No matter our state in life, we are invited to build the kingdom of God!

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Many people give their allegiance to something until they are asked to do something challenging or radical. Then, they find themselves rethinking whether they want to be associated with it. The same holds for God. Either we serve God, or we don’t. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom, love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, and trust that the Eucharist is in fact Jesus’ very Body and Blood. For some, buying into these things may prove too difficult and a return to a life without them is preferred. But truth is truth and it can only be found in God. If we find it hard to accept it from the mouth of Christ, where else can we go to find it? The task before us is to commit to the truth even when it may be easier to pursue something else. Truth is always worth obtaining even when it is difficult. Jesus offers us the truth of life, a life that is found in his own flesh and blood and a life of discipleship.



A huge thank you to our seminarians and parishioners who helped to make the chicken dinner fundraiser a successful event. Our parish community is grateful and thankful for your support. May the Lord reward you richly in heaven!

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods.” We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these “gods” because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with “who is God” and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised “more.” But in pursuing the more and the satisfying, we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only “feels” true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It’s a choice we all have to make.



What is NOT a name of the four sets of rosary mysteries?

- a) Joyful
- b) Awakening
- c) Glorious
- d) Luminous

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 Sudulaganti 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.

Saturday 8/21—St. Pius X, Pope

4 pm. Vigil:

- ✠ Anthony Montanino—Req. Ashley, Arianna, & Jack
- ✠ Lawrence E. Daly—Req. Vince & Annette Gizzi
- ✠ Mary C. Murphy—Req. John & Sue Bond



Sunday 8/22—Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am Mass:

- ✠ For the people of the parish
- ✠ Father George St. John—Req. HS parish

11 am Mass:

- ✠ Mass of Thanksgiving—Req. by Sowmya Sudulaganti

Tuesday 8/24—St. Bartholomew, Apostle

- ✠ **9 a.m. Mass**—Intention Available

Wednesday 8/25—St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

- ✠ **9 a.m. Mass**—Intention Available

Thursday 8/26—Weekday in Ordinary Time

- ✠ **9 a.m. Mass**—Intention Available

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 8/28—St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

4 p.m. Vigil:

- ✠ Catherine (Rita) Beardsley—Req. Dois & Gary Beardsley
- ✠ Dominic N. Ali—Req. the Chiffolo Family

Sunday 8/29—Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Mass:

- ✠ Fr. George St. John—Req. by HS parish

11 a.m. Mass:

- ✠ For the people of the parish



The sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of

Philip Egan

Given by Ann Egan

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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