



Church of the Holy Spirit

You are welcome here!

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 | TWENTY-FOURTH 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 sanitize your hands before receiving the Holy Communion.
- ❖ Wearing masks 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 on a 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.



May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always! I pray that you are well. Schools have begun,

and children are already starting the new year, learning and studying new things. We pray that God blesses them and their teachers as they begin a new school year. May this year be a time of grace and growth in faith, knowledge, and wisdom.

This weekend marks the 20th Anniversary of the attack of September 11, 2001. Let us remember those who lost their lives on that day. Violence is still happening every day in our world, and many people continue to suffer from it. We continue to pray for healing and peace in our nation and the world, especially we keep in our prayer those in Afghanistan and around the world affected by violence or instability.

The gospel message for all of us this weekend is very challenging. Jesus talks to his disciples about his own suffering, passion, and death as he approaches Jerusalem. He gives another perspective of seeing the good in suffering through the eye of faith. In reality, suffering is not a thing that all of us want for ourselves because it causes us hurt and pain. Jesus' mission is to preach the good news of the gospel and God's salvation to mankind, and with the mission is the unjust persecution and death at the hands of the Pharisees and other religious leaders. Despite what the suffering may bring, Jesus makes clear that good comes out of the suffering; and the good that Jesus brings forth is the glorious resurrection and victory over death. Understanding the mystery of suffering is through the eye of faith, trusting completely in God's plan. Suffering is a part of our lives that we must face each day. The good news is that Jesus has experienced the suffering, and He will be present with us as we face our own suffering. We must trust in God that he will bring forth the good out of our own suffering. Have a blessed week!

Fr. Joey Vo

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

- ✠ Despite his suffering, the prophet Isaiah insisted “the Lord God is my help.” In what way do you need the Lord’s help today?
- ✠ James sees faith alone as insufficient for Christians. He even asserts: “I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.” Could you do the same ?
- ✠ We hear today Jesus’ definition of discipleship: “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” How well do you measure up to this definition of discipleship ?
- ✠ How do you understand Jesus’ words “whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake/ and that of the gospel will save it?”



This Sunday’s Reading:

First Reading: Is 50:4c-9a
Second Reading: Jas 2:14-18
Gospel: Mk 8:27-35

Next Sunday’s Reading:

First Reading: Wis 2:12, 17-20
Second Reading: Jas 3:16—4:3
Gospel: Mk 9:30-37

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING



Week of 9/5/21:

- * Collection weekend masses: **Unavailable**
- * Collection thru mail: **Unavailable**
- * Collection thru E-Giving: **Unavailable**

Total Collection: Unavailable, due to early submission of the bulletin.



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.



Bishop Scharfenberger invites you to a “**Diocesan Day of Prayer and Celebration**” for ALL the people of the Albany Diocese

**Come Holy Spirit!
Renew Our Strength
Reaffirm Our Hope**

**Saturday, Sept. 25th- 9 AM to 2 PM
St. Edward the Confessor Church, Clifton Park**

To Register: <https://webapps.rcda.org/ParishFaithFormation>
 OR Call The Office of Lay Ministry & Parish Faith Formation
 (518) 453-6670. There is NO cost for this event



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 SEPTEMBER 2021

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle —We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Seasons of Faith – Fall Season begins this week! All parishioners are invited to explore your faith with our Seasons of Faith courses this fall season. We have many options including mini retreats, scripture discussion, family gatherings, a book group, more in-depth learning and more! Registration and information can be found on our website: <https://holyspiritchurcheg.weebly.com/> Come explore with us.

Upcoming Events

Day/Date	Occasion	Time	Place
Tues 9/14	Eucharist Adoration	7 p.m.	Church
Wed 9/15	Adult Bible Study	6:30 p.m.	Conference Room
Thurs 9/16	Young Adult Bible Study	7 p.m.	Conference Room



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.



The 49th Annual Diocesan Marriage Jubilee Celebration will be held Saturday, October 30th, 2021 at 2:00 PM at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany. Couples — celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th or other special wedding anniversaries are invited to attend this celebration. Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger will celebrate the Mass at 2:00 PM and greet couples and their guests at a reception in the gathering area at the Cathedral immediately following Mass. Please register through your parish office or by email to Marriage.Jubilee@rcda.org.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question: I've noticed that when I go to Mass at different parishes, sometimes people say and do different things. Why is that?

Answer: The Mass in its current form has taken shape over the course of 2,000 years. Over time, traditions, structures, and prayers have been put into place. There are certain rubrics for the Mass that are normative wherever you go. This means you could attend Mass in Malawi or Thailand or Italy and still watch the same basic liturgy unfold, even if you don't understand the language. There may be some cultural differences from place to place, things that aren't specifically listed. For example, in the United States most people go up for Communion in a nice neat line. In Europe, everyone gets up around the same time. It's a bit of a free-for-all!

Some people might take it upon themselves to change things individually. People may not like something that feels too "liberal" or "conservative," and they may take a well-meaning stance in the opposite direction. When people (including the presiders) do things that are distracting or change the liturgy, it introduces an element that breaks the unity of the assembled community. The important thing to remember is that we gather as the Body of Christ to celebrate the Eucharist. If you are confused, ask! If you are frustrated, pray for the spirit of charity.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Rest in the presence of God simply because God is God and you are you. This is all that is necessary. Out of this relationship will come inspiration, understanding, courage, constancy, truth, and virtues of all kind. We will find ourselves knowing the true meaning of things and developing a depth of insight that is not found following purely human venues. It is God who inspires and opens human hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, we understand all of our relationships with a richer appreciation and come to know who Jesus, who speaks of God's kingdom, really is. The trust that is fostered from resting with the Divine One allows us to see that God's ways are not our ways. There is something bigger going on in this picture of life. It is something mystical and magical that seeks to surprise us at every turn. It is not for us to cling to this world and its limitations. Our adventure is to dream bigger and brighter, realizing that it is even in suffering that the radiant light of the dawn will come. God's ways allow for our paths to be rocky, challenging, difficult, and even crippling at times. Purely human eyes cannot understand the 'why' of such experiences. The eyes and mind of God, however, reveal and detail a journey that ends in glorious resurrection joy. When we lose our axis and become too human in our thinking, Jesus rebukes us and gently reminds us how to see.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them.



How long do most Catholics need to fast before receiving the Eucharist?

- a) 6 hours
- b) 18 hours
- c) 1 hour
- d) 30 minutes

Answer is C: According to Canon Law #919 para. 1 states that one is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain from any food or drink, with the exception only of water and medicine, for at least the period of one hour before Holy Communion

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.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Saturday 9/11—Weekday in Ordinary Time

4 p.m. Vigil:

- ✠ Albert Blevins—Req. by Mary & Anne Mary Blevins
- ✠ Mary Murphy—Req. by H.S Funeral Ministry

Sunday 9/12—Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11 a.m. Mass: (Mass will be at the Town park)

- ✠ For the people of the parish
- ✠ Janet Hollenbeck—Req. by Crystine Morehouse

Tuesday 9/14—The feast of the Exultation of the Cross

9:00 a.m.: Intention Available

Wednesday 9/15—Our Lady of Sorrows (School Mass)

8:30 a.m.: Intention Available

Thursday 9/16—Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

9:00 a.m.: Intention Available

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 9/18—Weekday in Ordinary Time

4 p.m. Vigil: Intention available

Sunday 9/19—Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Mass:

- ✠ Fr. George St. John—Req. by HS

11 a.m. Mass: Ann Loughlin—Req. by Jerry and Mary Hayes



Don't forget the parish picnic this Sunday at the town park. Join us for mass at 11 AM followed by the picnic. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

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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