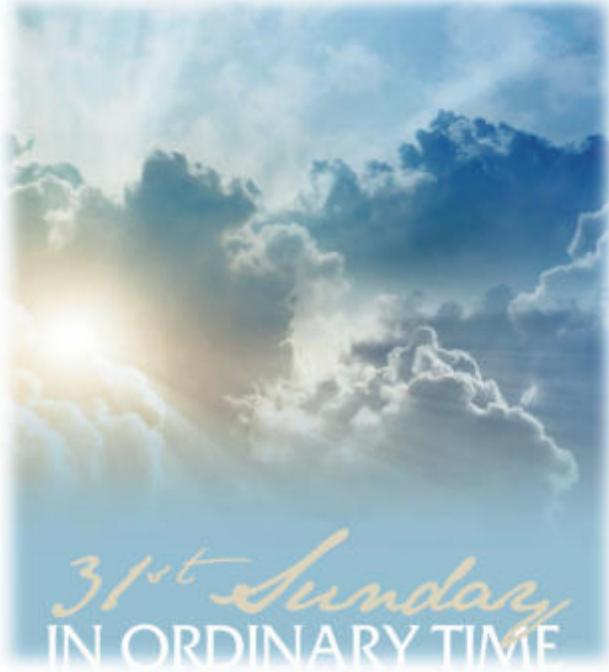




# Church of the Holy Spirit

## You are welcome here!

OCTOBER 31, 2021 | THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### AS WE CELEBRATE 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 be changed, 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.

#### Contact us:

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

#### Parish Office Hours:

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



Dear friends in Christ,

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus be with you! Fall season is a beautiful time of the year because of the changing colors of the leaves. I hope that you are enjoying the beautiful fall weather that God has given us.

This coming Monday (11/1) is the feast of All Saints. This feast was started by Pope Boniface IV. In the early centuries of the Church, the saints venerated by the Church were martyrs. They were the ordinary people who truly lived a life for God and acted on the will of God. The saints were the faithful witnesses to Jesus' teaching. They lived their lives according to Jesus' Beatitudes and shed their blood for the sake of the gospel. At the end of their lives, our heavenly Father rewarded them into heaven. They now stand before the throne of God and pray for us. The feast of All Saints should inspire us with tremendous hope. The saints walked the way of the cross in their lives. They had many struggles and temptations like us; however, God's love and grace strengthened and helped them overcome their own struggles. They lived it. They did it. Therefore, we should not fear at all because we know the saints walk with us, in a spiritual way, and pray for us each day. There will be a mass at 8:30 a.m. on Monday with the parish school. Please try to make every effort to attend the mass if you are able. On Tuesday November 2 we celebrate the commemoration of the Faithful Departed—All Souls. There will be a mass at 7:00 p.m. On this day, we remember our deceased relatives, friends, and all the faithful departed who may yet be waiting for the full joy of heaven in purgatory. We pray for them by offering mass intentions for them throughout the month of November. May they rest in peace!

*Fr. Aug. 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](http://holyspiritchurcheg.weebly.com)  
**Follow us on:**  
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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ✠ Moses taught the Israelites the importance of passing on the faith to their children and grandchildren. What are some faith traditions you practice in your family?
- ✠ Hebrews speaks of Jesus as the heavenly and eternal high priest who intercedes to God on our behalf. How often do you offer prayers of intercession to the Lord?
- ✠ Jesus and the scribe agree on the two greatest commandments: to love God and to one's neighbor. Which of these two commandments do you find most challenging?



## This Sunday's Reading:

**First Reading:** Dt 6:2-6  
**Second Reading:** Heb 7:23-28  
**Gospel:** Mk 12:28b-34

## Next Sunday's Reading:

**First Reading:** 1 Kgs 17:10-16  
**Second Reading:** Heb 9:24-28  
**Gospel:** Mk 12:38-44

## HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING



### Week of 10/24/21:

- \* Collection weekend masses: **\$2463.00**
- \* Collection thru mail: **\$590.00**
- \* Collection thru E-Giving: **\$1693.19**

**Total Collection: \$4746.19**

**World Mission Sunday: \$920.00**



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.



Whenever we interact with our priests, do we see them as human and frail like the rest of humanity? Or on the other hand, do we see them as supermen, able to withstand all the stresses and strains of being human? I hope you see your priest as very human. Quite possibly, even more human than most of us. Why? Because they not only have their own struggles being human, but they accompany us in our humanness too.

Therefore, this Priesthood Sunday, turn the tables. Attempt to be the listener to the human side of your priest. Do not automatically tell him your troubles; begin by asking him what is going on in his life. Thank him warmly for giving up so much to spend his life in service to others. Try it. You might be surprised to find out your priest is just like you!



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 OCTOBER 2021

**Missionary Disciples** — We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel.



**ALL SAINTS REFLECTION**—I heard a story the other day of a very holy man. The commentator said, "We shouldn't call him a saint. If we sanctify him, we don't have to imitate him." This is precisely the opposite of the meaning of saints! Throughout the Church's history, we have honored saints, but not to set them apart. We honor saints to remind us what is possible for a person who loves God. The

saints have stories as varied as our own. We have bishops, martyrs, teachers, doctors, former thieves and prostitutes, politicians and kings, soldiers and pacifists, single mothers, desert hermits; the list goes on! On this Solemnity of All Saints, we remember this garden of holiness, rich with diverse flowerings of a holy life. When you look at the life of your favorite saint, ask yourself, "How can I imitate this person? What is possible for me when I love God?"



November 2nd, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, dovetails with November 1st, the feast of All Saints. The saints, our models of Christian living, are one with God in heaven. All the faithful departed are those who have died with hope and trust in a loving God who calls us to greater growth and development, even beyond death. This growth and development occurs in a

state of being that we have traditionally called purgatory. While the Western Church has emphasized the cleansing and purifying nature of purgatory, the Eastern Orthodox Church has emphasized the growth and development aspect of it. Today, belief in purgatory allows one who has died in Christ to continue growing and developing before meeting God face to face. God continually invites communion with these loved ones, but some feel the need to continue growing and developing before entering into full communion with God. These November feasts vividly remind us of the rich reality known as the communion of saints. This belief stresses the strong affirmation that the church is always one in Christ. Death does not sever any of the bonds that unite us in Christ. That is why it is a fitting practice to pray for the dead and to ask them to pray for us. Just as we do that for each other when we are alive, so, too, do we continue that bond and concern for each other even beyond death.



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

**Question:** Many parishes throughout the world have been focusing on issues of peace and justice. What are the principles that guide decision making and social morality?

**Answer:** There are seven principals of Catholic social teaching that guide our sense of social morality. These seven key points are the hallmarks of a just society, moral laws, and good leadership. They help shape our social "conscience" and lead us to choose those things that characterize social justice. They are 1) respect for the life and dignity of the human person; 2) call to family, community, and participation; 3) rights and responsibilities; 4) a preferential option for the poor; 5) the dignity of work and the rights of workers; 6) solidarity; and 7) care for God's creation. Catholic social teaching has had a great influence in our history and continues to guide us well. We must value every person in all walks of life, but especially those who are weak, vulnerable, and least able to defend themselves. We cannot justify the ends with the means, so no life can ever be sacrificed for the sake of another. The basic necessities of life cannot be denied someone: food, shelter, clothing, and medical care. We can and must find ways to put into practice the Gospel values we preach and proclaim, so that all people can know and experience God's love for them. That might be the greatest principle of all!



**PRAYER FOR PRIESTS**

Lord God, most holy,  
we approach you in gratitude for your holy  
ordained priesthood.

You have called these men to be set apart and to  
shepherd your people,  
as you shepherd your entire church.  
We pray for them in their daily work.

Grant to them an increase in spiritual gifts and  
grace, so they may be prepared for the tasks at hand.

Lead them not into temptation

and protect them from the grasp of the evil one.

It is through the sacraments they confer that we encounter the  
divine in a real and profound way.

May your church never lose sight of these,  
your special sons, and may we, the body of Christ,  
never fail to cherish the gift of their lives,

which they have freely given to you and your holy church.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son. Amen.



A big "Thank You" to Lorrette and Fred Carr, and all those who helped make our pasta dinner a successful event. May the Lord bless your kindness and reward you richly in heaven.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

**The 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Centuries of God's devoted people have found this prayer on their lips: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!" The fundamental prayer has been laid as the cornerstone of many spiritual lives. Where did you learn how to pray or did you? Maybe there is a wisdom figure in your life who inspired and guided you by the genuine, holy simplicity of their lives. His or her example may have led you to God and taught you how to pray. Or perhaps you discovered this art on your own after stumbling over yourself enough times and finally realizing it was time to reach out to Someone greater than yourself. There is a timeless truth that we not only tend to forget, but may have never learned. There is only one God, the Lord alone! As a result, we often worship other gods rather than the One true God. Everything in our life gets distorted and we find ourselves lost and off center.

If we haven't learned it yet, there is a life lesson at the top of all of the possible lessons to be learned. There is One True and Eternal God who alone has a solitary claim on us and must be loved with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Until we learn this primary lesson, we run the risk of getting distracted and sidetracked. We will also never really figure out what is at the heart of the relationships we share with the other human beings on this planet with whom we share life. That one primary lesson will teach us the second most valuable lesson: that we must love our neighbor as ourselves. You cannot have one without the other. The presence of God in the core soul of each one of us requires that all of our relationships work together. This truth is at the heart of the Gospel.

If every human being, each in their own way, could stumble upon and genuinely embrace this truth, look how different life would be! Our priorities will immediately shift from "I and me" to "us and we" and we will develop a more inclusive vision for our brothers and sisters. Concerned not only about my own wellbeing and happiness but also that of our brothers and sisters, humanity stands a chance at succeeding in the struggle with injustice, abuse, inequity, violence, war, entitlement, and privilege. It seems that getting to this point has been at the heart of the Gospel and the kingdom of God from the moment Jesus first started to preach. It's a wonder why, then, why so many centuries later, we have still failed to achieve his vision. Maybe we just haven't learned our primary lessons yet.



**Thanksgiving Food Baskets for ConsensU—**

We will be collecting instant mashed potatoes for the Thanksgiving baskets at ConsensU on **November 6-7**. Please place donations in the baskets in the front of the church. Thank you for your generosity to our less fortunate neighbors.

Please remember to patronize the sponsors of our bulletin.

## Holy Spirit Directory

Parish: 518-477-7925 [office@hsceg.org](mailto:office@hsceg.org)

School: 518-477-5739 [hssoffice@hsseg.org](mailto:hssoffice@hsseg.org)

### Parish Pastoral Team

*Pastor:* Fr. Quy Vo [pastor@hsceg.org](mailto:pastor@hsceg.org)

*Deacon:* Bill Dringus [deacon1275@aol.com](mailto:deacon1275@aol.com)

### *Pastoral Associate for Administration:*

Sowmya Sudulaganti [info@holyspiritchurcheg.org](mailto:info@holyspiritchurcheg.org)

### *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy:*

\* Fr. Quy Vo [pastor@hsceg.org](mailto:pastor@hsceg.org)

### *Family Ministry & Lifelong Faith Formation:*

\* Laura Countryman [faithformation@hsceg.org](mailto:faithformation@hsceg.org)

*Accountant:* Aimee Martin-Vieira [finance@hsceg.org](mailto:finance@hsceg.org)

*Secretary:* [office@hsceg.org](mailto:office@hsceg.org)

*Maintenance Services:* Paul Weidman, Tim Casalla

**Holy Spirit School** - 54 Highland Drive

*Principal:* Michael Kosar [principal@hsseg.com](mailto:principal@hsseg.com)

### Pastoral Council

Ellen Murphy: 518-479-7217 [ebmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:ebmurphy@gmail.com)

### Finance Committee

Steve Wiech: 518-477-5351 [steve\\_wiech@msn.com](mailto:steve_wiech@msn.com)

### Trustees

Matt Heitker: [heitkergm@acm.org](mailto:heitkergm@acm.org)

Kevin Haggerty: 518-378-5428 [khaggerty51@gmail.com](mailto: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 is 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!**

**BULLETIN & PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE:** Please submit a hardcopy or email ([info@holyspiritchurcheg.org](mailto:info@holyspiritchurcheg.org)) no later than 9:00 a.m. on Monday for that week's bulletin and Pulpit announcement. Thank you for your cooperation.

### 31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—Mass Intentions

**Saturday 10/30—St. John of Capistrano, Priest**

**4 p.m. Vigil:** Joyce Lapham—Req. by Gale Carroll

✠ Carmella & Anthony Montanino (Anniv.)

Req. by Ashley, Arriana, & Jack

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

**Sunday 10/31—Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8:30 a.m. Mass:** Fr. George St. John & the deceased members of Fr. George's Family—Req. by HS

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

✠ Margaret Collins

**Monday 11/1—Feast of All Saints (School Mass)**

8:30 a.m.—Intention Available

**Tuesday 11/2—Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**

**7 p.m.:** All Souls intentions

**Wednesday 11/3—St. Martin de Porres, Religious**

**9 a.m.:** Intention Available

**Thursday 11/4—St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop**

**9 a.m.:** Intention Available

### THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Saturday 11/6—St. John of Capistrano, Priest; BVM**

**4 p.m. Vigil:** Peggy Oswitt—Req. by Nettie

✠ Marguerite Edwards—Req. by HS Funeral Ministry

✠ Joyce Lapham—Req. by Kathy & Steve Wiech

**Sunday 11/7—Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8:30 a.m. Mass:** Fr. George St. John & the deceased members of Fr. George's Family—Req. by HS

✠ Joyce Lapham—Req. by HS Funeral Ministry

**11 a.m. Mass:** Bernadine Blake—Req. Bob & Mary Kay Blake & Family

✠ Joann Dion—Req. by Cecilia Geocos

✠ Anne Marie Riley—Req. by Cecilia Geocos

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## **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](http://albanyvocations.org) (518) 453-6690.



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