



Church of the Holy Spirit

You are welcome here!

JANUARY 16, 2022 | THE SECOND 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.



Dear friends in Christ,

May the grace and peace of Jesus be with you always! As we return to the Ordinary Time, we hear a story about the miracle that happened at the wedding feast in Cana. At the wedding feast, the wine has run out. When the couple acknowledges the situation, they seek help by going to Mary. Mary intercedes with Jesus on their behalf. An important piece of advice Mary gives to the married couple and the servers is to listen to Jesus, "Do whatever he tells you." When they listen and do what Jesus asked, their request is granted. Jesus transforms water into good wine.

Listening is one of the most important skills that all of us have, and very infrequently do we use our listening skills to the utmost. Our lives are filled with many good relationships, and sometimes those relationships get damaged through conflicts (i.e. miscommunication, or misunderstandings). When our relationship with others is damaged, we need to communicate and listen to each other from the heart. Sometimes we have to say "I am sorry and please forgive me." When we do this, we are truly becoming God's image of mercy. It is then that God transforms, heals, and mends our broken relationship. It is then we taste the good wine that God gives 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.

Peace & Blessings

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 and Friday:
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
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REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ✠ The prophet Isaiah used marriage imagery (bridge and groom) to describe the Lord's love for his people, Israel. What do you see as some implications of this marriage imagery?
- ✠ Paul taught the Corinthians that the individual gifts of the Holy Spirit are meant to benefit and unify the community of faith. How do you use your spiritual gifts within your faith community?
- ✠ Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana was one of the first public "signs" he performed revealing his divinity. It also showed Jesus' compassion, sparing the family shame at running short of wine. How do you imagine the family reacted to Jesus' intervention and rescue?



This Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: Is 62:1-5
Second Reading: 1 Cor 12:4-11
Gospel: Jn 2:1-11

Next Sunday's Reading:

First Reading: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
Second Reading: 1 Cor 12:12-30
Gospel: Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING



Week of 1/9/22:

- * Collection weekend masses: \$1,235.00
- * Collection thru mail: \$945.00
- * Collection thru E-Giving: \$3,064.55

Total Collection: \$5,244.55



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.



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



Join us in 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 JANUARY 2022

For true human fraternity—We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



Please join us for our Dine To Donate Fundraiser at **Crisp Cannoli on January 18th**. Use Code **HOLYSPIRIT2022** for a portion of your purchase to benefit the school!

The **Parish Office** will be closed on Monday, January 17th in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The **Youth Council** gathering scheduled for Sunday, January 16th is canceled.

Words of Wisdom—Join our new book discussion: *Between Heaven and Mirth. Why Joy, Humor and Laughter are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life* by James Martin, SJ. Discover how a healthy spirituality and a healthy sense of humor go hand-in-hand with God's great plan for humankind. Our Chapter One virtual gathering will be on Wednesday 1/26 at 6:30pm. Books can be purchased from the publisher, Harper Collins or wherever books are sold. Contact Laura Countryman at faithformation@hsceg.org in the Parish Office to register. Come join the discussion!



Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Pope Francis has said that respect for life is not just about the unborn child in the womb, but also about the least of our brothers and sisters. Yes, it is even upon the undocumented resident alien who has no voice but ours. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are all called to protect the voiceless.

Good and gracious God,
you blew into our nostrils the breath of life.
You are the One to whom we owe our very existence.
Give us the courage to take that unpopular position of protecting those who have no voice, the unborn child in the womb to the person taking his or her last breath.
The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure.
Embolden us to speak the truth about protecting the child, the elderly, and the one without a voice in the public square. With thankful hearts, we ask all this of the One God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



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

Question: How can we pray for the dead throughout the year?

Answer: We commemorate the faithful departed on November 2nd each year. However, we can and should continue to pray for the dead. Our growth in Christian perfection takes a long time. At the time of our death, many of us might not be saints yet. But God, in His mercy, allows for those who love Him to experience purification after death. Our word for that state is Purgatory. It's the antechamber of heaven, so to speak. We know we're getting in the house, but we're not quite ready to go all the way in. There's rain to shake off our coats and dirt that's clogging our shoes.

Here on earth, we can pray for the souls in Purgatory. One way is to request that your parish offer a Mass for the intention of a specific loved one. We can also remember the departed in our daily prayers. Just as we have special intentions for family and friends here on earth, we can pray for those who have died. It's also a good act of Christian charity to pray for the forgotten, those who have no one else to pray for them. God knows who they are!



Not much is known about the life of St. Sebastian (256 – 287), except that he was a Roman martyr whose name has been mentioned throughout history since early 350.

We see St. Sebastian many times in art, especially from iconic paintings from Guido Reni, Andrea Mantegna and Hendrick ter Brugghen. Historical scholars now agree that a spiritual story has the beloved saint entering the Roman army because only there could he assist Christian martyrs without arousing suspicion on himself. Eventually he was found out, brought before Emperor Diocletian and delivered to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death. Pierced with arrows, he was left for dead, but managed to survive. He recovered from his wounds but still refused to leave.

One day, St. Sebastian took up a position near where the emperor was to pass. He confronted the emperor, condemning him for his cruelty to Christians. This time the sentence of death was carried out, and St. Sebastian was beaten to death with clubs. Today he is the patron saint of athletes.



Please join us on Thursday evening, January 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM for a Mass **for the Legal Protection of the Unborn.** This mass will be held in union with the

annual March for Life in Washington DC, and we will be praying for an end to legal abortion in the United States. If you cannot make the march in Washington, please consider joining us! Sponsored by the Respect Life Team of Holy Spirit Church.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

God delights in you. How do you feel when you hear that? Delight usually comes with an exuberant flow of joy that seemingly arises from one's toes with the expression of great glee. Reflecting upon the deep measure of joy God has in us can be a source of joy for ourselves. Delight is infectious. A very young brother and sister were playing on the beach when the all too familiar ice cream truck made its daily rounds. The boy shook with excitement and delight as he took his sister's hand and exclaimed, "The ice cream man is here, isn't it great!" As they ran off toward the truck, one could hear the girl reply, "Yeah, I can't wait!" The experience of a child's delight in something so simple as ice cream, lifts our spirits from our burdens and transports us to the lighter, more innocent side of life.

Life is not meant to be a burden. Believe it or not, God actually wants us to be happy! In fact, the wedding feast at Cana shows us that God even puts His blessing on our happiness. It is okay to celebrate the wonder of ourselves and others. Life is good. It is always interesting to note that Jesus saves the good wine until last. You would think it would be the other way around. The superb quality of Jesus' wine points to the superior quality of life we find in Christ. It is not a life of burdens but a life of wonder and delight! In Christ, we are lifted from the superficial and mundane to a life of purpose, hope, and love.

God is with us through the long haul, through the challenges and sorrows as well as the successes and accomplishments. In spite of the fact that we often wander from the path, God's celebratory delight in us remains. As spouses are asked to remain faithful to each other through whatever life brings, God remains faithful too. This promise remains through this life and into the next. All we have to do is take the advice of Jesus' mother to heart when she says, "Listen to him." This wisdom saves us from foolishly giving in to the illusion that we can make better wine than Jesus.



The Diocesan Appeal 2021-2022 (formerly called the Bishop's Appeal) has already begun. Our parish goal to reach the Diocesan Appeal's Assessment is **\$52,049**. Your generous contribution to the Diocesan Appeal will help with training priests and deacons in their formation programs, assisting in faith formation programs, the work of diocesan tribunal in difficult marriages, and many other programs that will assist parishes throughout the diocese. Please make a prayerful consideration to give to the appeal. Envelopes for the appeal are available in the back vestibule or you can give the donation by using the online giving option at www.thediocesanappeal.org.

Holy Spirit Directory

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

School: 518-477-5739 hssoffice@hsceg.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

Accountant: Aimee Martin-Vieira bkhse@rcda.org

Secretary: office@hsceg.org

Maintenance Services: Paul Weidman, Tim Casalla

Holy Spirit School - 54 Highland Drive

Principal: Michael Kosar principal@hsceg.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.

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) no later than 9:00 a.m. on Monday for that week's bulletin and Pulpit announcement. Thank you for your cooperation.

Saturday 1/15—Weekday in Ordinary Time

4 p.m. Vigil:

- ✠ Robert Casillo—Req. by Anne & Mike Cronin
- ✠ Mary Murphy—Req. by Ann Taylor

Sunday 1/16—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Mass: Fr. George St. John & the deceased members of Fr. George's Family

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

Tuesday 1/18—Weekday in Ordinary Time

9 a.m.: Intention Available

Wednesday 1/19—Weekday in Ordinary Time

9 a.m.: Intention Available

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

6:30 p.m.: Intention Available

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 1/22—Weekday in Ordinary Time

4 p.m. Vigil:

- ✠ Patricia Isabella by Anne & Mike Cronin
- ✠ Loren Dubay by Doris & Gary Beardsley

Sunday 1/23—Third 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:

- ✠ Frank Mercurio by the Mercurio & Grady families
- ✠ Maureen Angerami by the Mercurio & Grady families

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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