

Historic St. Joseph's Church

"Year of Saint Joseph"

A Roman Catholic Community founded in 1862

600 State Street, Schenectady, New York 12305

Parish Office (518) 374-4466 email: saintjoes225@yahoo.com

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m. + Sunday: 9:30 a.m. + Weekdays: 12:15 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first weekend of the month during Mass. A Baptism preparation class is a requirement prior to Baptism. Please call the Parish Office for further information.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Reconciliation is celebrated each day following the 12:15 pm Mass or by appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony

NOTICE: Engaged couples who desire to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage at St. Joseph's, should contact the Parish Office at least nine months prior to setting a date. No other plans or deposits should be made until a Church date has been secured.

Visitation and Anointing of the Sick

Please notify the Parish Office when serious illness occurs or when the sick, aged or homebound requests the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or a visit from our Visitation Ministers.

Faith Formation Program

Faith Formation classes are available for grades Pre-K through 11th grade, including sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. Classes meet on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. Please call the Parish Office at (518) 374-4466 to register or for more information.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Dominic P. Isopo, Pastor

Sacristan/Bulletin Editor: Donald W. Penta, dpenta30@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: Ann Marie Coons

Music Director: Mark C. Reilly

Faith Formation: Julie Biittig & Annemarie LeClair, Coordinators

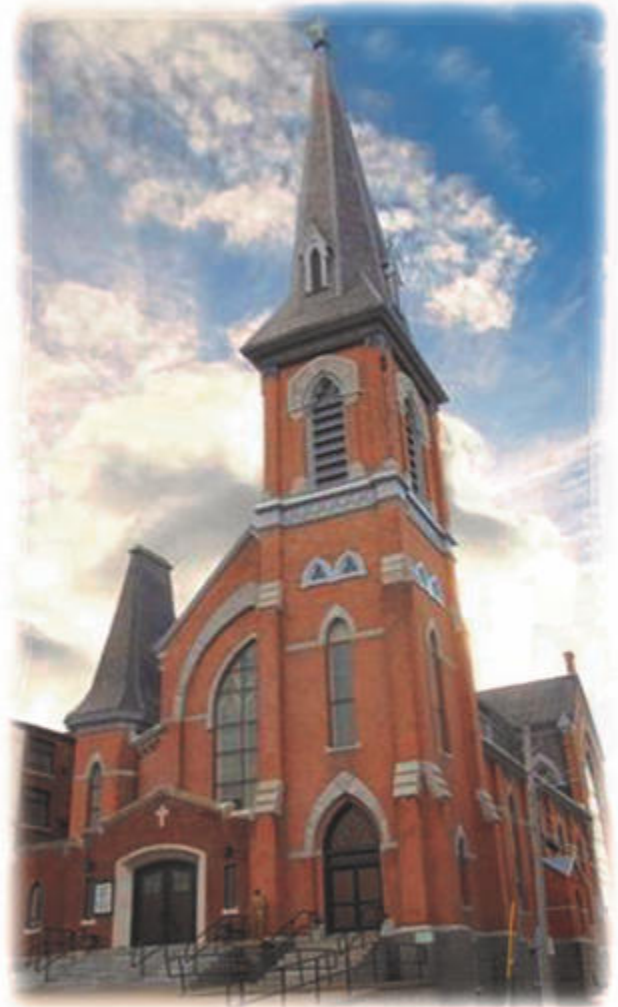
Office: 225 Lafayette Street, Schenectady, New York 12305

Cemetery Superintendent: Matthew Mountain, please call (518) 372-8805; or email: stjosephschenectady@gmail.com, 100 Kings Road, Schenectady, New York 12304

Sunday's 9:30 a.m. Mass Taping, aired on Channel 1301, Tuesdays, at 2:00 p.m. and the following Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

New Parishioners

All are welcome to join our Parish. Registration Forms may be found at the Church entrances.



**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 5, 2021**

St. Joseph's Place: 837 Albany Street, Schenectady, New York, 12307 at (518) 982-0355. **Coordinators:** Sr. Ann Christi Brink, CSJ and Sr. Linda Neil, CSJ. St. Joseph's Place is an outreach ministry of St. Joseph's Church, a drop in center serving the Hamilton Hill area. **Summer Hours:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 5, 2021



“EPHATHA! – THAT IS BE OPENED!”

On this Labor Day Weekend, let us take a welcome rest from our labors – be they in a factory or field, store or office, school or home – and appreciate the time we take with the One who promised that His yoke was easy and His burden light. Today let us pray especially for those whose own burden is difficult: those who need to work more than one job to support their families, those who do not receive the gratitude and compensation they deserve for their work, and those who are unemployed or underemployed.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday – Col 1:24-2:3; Lk 6:6-11; Tuesday – Col 2:6-15; Lk 6:12-19; Wednesday – Mi 5:1-4a; Mt 1:1-16,18-23; Thursday – Col 3:12-17; Lk 6:27-38; Friday – 1 Tm 1:2,12-14; Lk 6:39-42; Saturday – 1 Tm 1:15-17; Lk 6:43-49.

STEWARDSHIP

Many thanks to all who continue to support the Parish with your time, talent and treasure. St. Joseph’s depends upon the weekly contributions of our Parishioners to remain financially healthy and solvent. If you are away or not able to attend Mass on the weekend, please make up your contributions upon your return. We depend upon the generosity of each Parishioner to meet our rising expenses. Your stewardship is an important part of Discipleship and the life of St. Joseph’s and we thank you sincerely!

MUSIC AT MASS

Next weekend, in addition to the hymns, we will resume our regular music program of singing all the parts of the Mass. St. Augustine once wrote that to sing is to pray twice. Please join in offering our praise and gratitude to God by singing out with gusto!!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Am I open to hearing God’s word, even from unexpected sources? How do I live out my baptismal call to proclaim God’s word?

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome **Christopher & Medina Grant**, who joined our Parish Family in August!

WE HOPE YOU ARE ENJOYING A SAFE AND HAPPY LABOR DAY WEEKEND!

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Weekend of:	Actual	Budget
August 28/29	\$2,240.00	\$2,600.00

Thank You for Your Generous Support!

BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH!

LOOK AT THE ADVERTISERS SUPPORTING OUR CHURCH BULLETIN!

Celebrate With Us -
September 6 to September 12, 2021

- Monday**
12:15 PM **Church & Parish Offices Closed for Labor Day!**
- Tuesday**
12:15 PM Frances Fitzsimmons, by Doug & Theresa Marx
- Wednesday**
12:15 PM The Hamelman Triplets—Mary, Frances & Barbara
79th Birthday, req. by Fran Underhill
- Thursday**
12:15 PM Ruth Clarke, req. by Fazio Family
- Friday**
12:15 PM Keith Wells, req. by Barbara Gillooley & Family
- Saturday**
5:30 PM Joseph & Jessie Malecki, req. by Son & Daughter
Christopher Caulfield, req. by Fran Underhill
- Sunday**
9:30 AM Romeo & Cecile Duquette, req. by Barb Perry &
Bob Dressel
Richard Greiner, req. by Family

SANCTUARY LAMP
In Memory of Farry & Connolly Families
req. by Family

HOW TO BECOME CATHOLIC –
RCIA INFORMATION NIGHT SCHEDULED

Have you or someone you know ever expressed an interest in becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Faith, but did not know how to go about it? **Come to our Information Night scheduled for Monday, September 20th, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Luke’s Pastoral Center.** This is an opportunity for adults who are: not baptized in any faith denomination; those baptized in another Christian denomination; or for those baptized Catholic but have yet to receive First Eucharist and/or Confirmation, to learn how to go about becoming part of the Roman Catholic faith through the R.C.I.A., **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**. The Information Night will outline the process of the RCIA and how full membership in the life of the Catholic community can enhance, deepen a relationship with Jesus Christ and give meaning and direction in life. If you are interested in learning more, please call Donald Penta, (518) 374-4466, ext. 13, dpenta30@aol.com or Fr. Isopo, (518) 346-3405, slrcc7@gmail.com. **Sponsored by Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Joseph’s, St. Adalbert’s, St. Paul’s and St. Luke’s Parishes.**

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION
Triumph of the Holy Cross

On **Tuesday, September 14th at 6:00 p.m.**, commemorating the **Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross**, St. Luke’s will host their **Annual Eucharistic Procession** for religious liberty and respect for life issues. The Eucharistic procession will begin in the Church with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament will be taken in procession through the Central State Street Neighborhood with hymns, the rosary and prayers. Join with others from many parishes as we give witness to our Roman Catholic values. All are welcome to join us.

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!

EPHATHA! BE OPENED!

The readings for this 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time are filled with baptismal references. Isaiah in the 1st reading uses vibrant water imagery to show how God's grace bubbles up and spills over to give life. Streams and rivers and pools and springs burst forth into dry places, allowing for growth and vitality where there was none. The Gospel tells the story of a man who cannot hear or speak and of Jesus dazzling command *Ephphatha!* Be opened! Perhaps it's time to revisit our own baptisms. Many of us, baptized as infants, don't remember the gift of this day. We may have photos, if we are lucky, but our lack of personal memory or experience is a bit ironic. The most significant day of our lives, a defining moment of identity and mission is lost to us because, as infants, we simply cannot remember. And so, we depend on the collective memory of the church. We know what baptisms are like from our experiences of them at Mass or at a baptism of a family or friend. We can also rely on the important witness of those who are baptized as adults for theirs is a different story, often filled more dramatically. Theirs is a story of choice and challenge and change. Baptism at any age requires courage, because in baptism we are really and truly changed. This is why Baptism can only be done once and never repeated. God claims us irrevocably. We are once and for all made daughters and sons of God. But living our baptisms is an ongoing process. In much the same way that weddings are celebrated on one day but begin a life-long marriage, so too is baptism celebrated once while also beginning a new way of life. We have the chance to choose again and again to live up to our baptisms, much like those who are married choose again and again to live up to their marriage vows. In both cases, some days are easier than others. On the easy days, our good habits and good works kick in, the choice is easy and the duties are joyful. On the hard days, our vices may get the better of us. We often fail to live up to the holiness for which we were made. Both in marriage and baptism, we are called to lean on the grace of the sacrament, renew our bows and continue to strive for that holiness. Challenges arise because we often experience spiritual dryness. While the effects of baptism are permanent, our human emotions are fickle and do not always reflect the reality. We do not always feel the life God has given us. Our hearts are sometimes frightened, Isaiah speaks, "*say to those hearts that are frightened: Be strong! Fear not.*" Strength is found in God's action, not our own. That is what resolves our fear of trusting in God's work in our lives. But perhaps more common than fear is boredom. Here too, we need to depend on God to bring us through, to grant us the grace to persist even when the emotional reward is low, even when we are bored. What is clear in all these readings is that God is on our side. This is our God who secures justice for the oppressed and sustains the widows and orphans. St. James assures us in the 2nd reading that God chooses those who are poor, promising them richness in faith and an inheritance in the kingdom...the very gifts of baptism. God's preference for the poor has to do first of all with real, literal poverty. But, in another sense, all of us are poor in comparison to God and God faithfully promises to stand with us on our spiritual journey. We remember our baptisms and renew the promises made that day. If you don't know the date of yours, try to find out. Put it on your calendar and celebrate it in some way. Light a candle, have a treat, find ways to keep those promises alive. Baptism is the day we are made holy! God bless...Fr. Isopo.

ALCOHOL ANOYMOUS BIG BOOK MEETING
Mondays at 2:00 p.m.
At St. Joseph's Church
(600 State Street, Schenectady)
Please use side entrance on Lafayette Street
Free Parking behind the Church
(Use Smith Street Parish House/Offices entrance)
Please bring your BIG BOOK if you have one

WE WELCOME YOU WITH GREAT JOY!

We sincerely hope you feel at home and among friends. If you are a visitor just for today, we bid you Godspeed on your journey. If you **are seeking a Parish Community**, we will be delighted to **Welcome You** into our Parish Family! To register, there are Census Forms at both entrances of the Church in the top slot of the wooden stands. You can mail said form to the Parish Offices, place it in the offertory collection basket or hand it in by seeing Donald Penta. Thank You!

PASTORAL CARE

Just as a reminder – upon admission to ANY hospital or nursing home, please be sure that the **name of our Church as well as your religion is specified**. In addition, **please** have someone call the Parish Office at (518) 374-4466, either ext. 10 or 13. **If we are not called, we are not aware of the fact that one of our Parishioners/family has been admitted**. Also, if you know of a Parishioner who is homebound, please let Donald Penta, (518) 374-4466, ext. 13, know that as well. Thank you!

ST. JOSEPH'S RESTORATION FUND

We invite you to honor a deceased loved one or remember a friend's anniversary, birthday or other special event through a gift to our **Restoration Fund**. Envelopes are available at the bulletin stations. Amounts of all gifts are confidential and acknowledgments are sent.

SANCTUARY LAMP

We invite you to honor a deceased loved one, as an anniversary or birthday memorial, or as a living memorial or special intention etc. The Sanctuary Lamp intention will be reserved for one week (Monday thru the next Sunday) for a \$10.00 donation by seeing Donald Penta, or by calling the Parish Office at (518) 374-4466 Monday to Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p. m.

ST. JUDE PRAYER LINE

There is a container available at the St. Jude statue for you to place your intentions in. Said intentions will be phoned to those on the prayer line. You only need to put the intention in once, as it stays on the Prayer Line thereafter. If anyone wishes to sign up for the Prayer Line, see Donald Penta or call me at the Parish offices, (518) 374-4466, ext. 13. Thank you!

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

Our beautiful "Devotional Light" stand is in front of the Blessed Mother's altar. We invite you to honor a deceased loved one, for living/special intentions, birthdays, anniversaries, for good health, etc. You may reserve one anytime or a \$10.00 donation by seeing Donald Penta, (before or after Mass) or by calling the Parish Office at (518) 374-4466, Monday thru Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Intentions are listed in the bulletin.

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY

100 Kings Road, Schenectady, New York 12304

Matthew D. Mountain, Superintendent

By Appointment: (518) 372-8805

Email: stjosephschenectady@gmail.com

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Sister Ann Christi Brink, CSJ
Sister Linda Neil, CSJ

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