

ONE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY WITH THREE WORSHIP SITES
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, SACRED HEART CHURCH & OUR LADY OF KNOCK SHRINE

January 24, 2021 - Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have mercy of us. Our Lady of Knock, Intercede for us. St. John the Baptist, Pray for us.

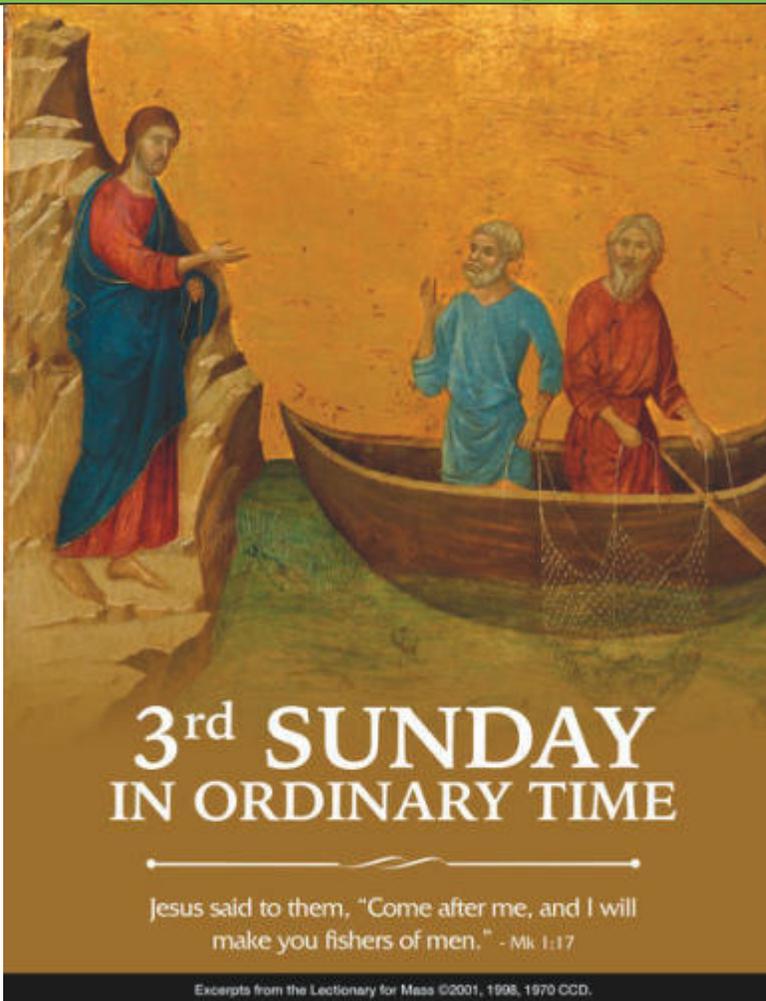
While Ash Wednesday is about 3 1/2 weeks away, the Gospel today has us hearing the words we hear on that day when we are receiving ashes: "**Repent and believe in the gospel!**" (Please see the article describing the seasons of the church year that was printed last week.

It is re-printed this week. A key line is that there are two central mysteries of our faith (Christmas and Easter). As we continue our journey to the celebration of Easter, yes Easter - we'll need to go through the prayerful season of Lent to prepare for that very important mystery of our Christian faith.

Perhaps during these next 25 days we can pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance regarding what we need to repent for. In my homily last week, I asked everyone to look for things that fill the emptiness in our lives that takes the place of God. Just maybe, some of those things (alcohol, drugs, adult movies, overeating, etc.) are areas where we need to repent from as well.

During these pre-Lenten days while still the "new" year, we should take some time each day - or take additional time each day - to ask for God's help in prayer.

As for me, I will be going on prayerful retreat this week and won't be here the weekend of Jan. 30 & 31. Please be assured of my prayer for you and I ask that you pray for me. (I'm going to a retreat center in NY state, so don't worry, I don't expect to have to quarantine upon my return to Greene County.) *Blessings, Fr. Steve*



The 10:00am mass on **Wednesday, January 27th** will be online only this week.

Please join us live on Facebook at 10:00am, or after that on Fr. Steve Matthews YouTube channel or at www.sholk.weebly.com to view mass at a later time.

Our Fall and Winter Mass Schedule is as follows:

(Effective Through May 23, 2021.)

Saturday vigil **4:00 pm** (Our Lady of Knock Shrine).

Sunday **9am** (St. John the Baptist Church) and **11am** (Sacred Heart Church).

Reservations are required for all masses.

Please plan on arriving at least **30 minutes** early at all public masses until further notice.

Parking lots close 15 minutes before mass.

Please be in your seat by 10 minutes before mass, when the doors will be closed.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Please note that the 11 am Mass will be on Facebook Live starting at 11:00 am and on our websites and YouTube later on Sunday. We apologize if there are any technical difficulties.

Confession Times - call office for an appointment.

Anointing of the Sick - call either parish office.

Deadline for next week's bulletin is Monday, January 25th @ 12noon

Welcome to our One Roman Catholic Faith Community!

While we can only gather in smaller groups in our worship sites, we can all continue to pray for each other. We can also join together in prayer via YouTube, Facebook and our parishes' websites (see addresses below). Fr. Steve

Sacraments

Roman Catholics believe in Seven Sacraments. If you or someone you know is behind in receiving any of the sacraments, Please contact us and we'll help you get "caught up."

Rev. Steve Matthews, Pastor

FrSteveMatthews@gmail.com

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTdE-NcnATWiSfH7JbIFukw>

St. John the Baptist Church
Sacred Heart Church/Our Lady of Knock Shrine
While a new website is under construction please go to sholk.weebly.com for information.

St. John the Baptist Church

Parish Office:
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 340
Greenville, NY 12083
518-966-8317

(Physical address:
4987 State Route 81
Greenville, NY 12083)

Mrs. Paula Dennis
Parish Office
sjbgreenville@gmail.com

Emails for faith formation should be sent to
3faithin1@gmail.com

Sacred Heart Church & Our Lady of Knock

Parish Office for both Sacred Heart & Our Lady of Knock:
35 Church Street,
Cairo, NY 12413
518-622-3319

Our Lady of Knock
(do not send mail to this address)
2052 NY-145,
East Durham, NY 12423

Ms. Melissa Rompolski
Parish Office
sacredheartolok@gmail.com

New Office Hours Starting the week of January 25, 2021

St. John the Baptist

Office open with no appointment:
Tuesdays 10:30am - 2:30pm
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday - call for appointment
518-966-8317

Sacred Heart Church/Our Lady of Knock Shrine

Office open with no appointment:
Wednesdays 10:30am - 2:30pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - call for appointment
518-622-3319

If you are planning to come in for a mass card please call ahead with the information so we can have it ready for you.

When leaving phone messages, please remember to state your name and phone number clearly, distinctly and repeat the number twice. We have received a number of messages that we cannot understand the name or the number. We apologize if we can't call you back!

Also please note that a parish volunteer handles our Facebook page, if you need to get in touch and would like to get a message to us please send an email to either parish office not a message through Facebook. Thank you.

Roman Catholic Church Year

There are Four major sections of the Church Year. (Advent/Christmas; Lent/Easter; Ordinary Time – part 1 and part 2.) The first section starts in late November with the beginning of the Advent Season, which leads to the Christmas Season, which ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

The second section is the first part of Ordinary time, which goes from the Monday after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, until the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, which starts the holy season of Lent. As you know, Lent runs for a number of weeks and ends on the afternoon of Holy Thursday. (While the Triduum is considered a separate season, for our purposes we will consider it part of the Lenten/Easter section. These three days will be discussed in a future article in this bulletin.)

The Easter Season starts on Easter and runs until Pentecost Sunday. While we endure the prayerful season of Lent for 40 days, we celebrate the great season of Easter for 50 days!

The Fourth section of the church year is the second part of Ordinary time. For clarification, "ordinary" is not ordinary at all. It is the time the church looks more closely at the life, teachings, and miracles of Jesus. It's the time between the seasons of Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter. The reason it is called "ordinary" is in reference to using ordinal numbers – the position or rank of the week – second Sunday of ordinary time, 14th Sunday in ordinary time, etc.

Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. (More on Solemnities as they occur.)

Christmas Time and Easter Time highlight the central mysteries of Our Faith, the Paschal Mystery, namely, the life, death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion.

This is living the life of Christ.

(Adapted from the USCCB website)

Our Fall/Winter Worship Site Hours:

Sacred Heart Church - only open for Sunday Mass - 10:15 until 12:15 only.

St. Catherine of Siena Chapel (on Sacred Heart grounds) usually open 24 hours a day.

Our Lady of Knock Shrine - Open - Sunday through Thursday: 10am until 4pm; Fridays: 10 am until 3pm and Saturdays: 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm (for mass only).

Saint John the Baptist - Eucharistic Chapel (in rear of church) open 24/7 Monday through Saturday; Sundays closed from 8am until 10:30am - open the rest of the day. The main church is open from 8:15am - 10:15am (for mass only).

Diocesan Appeal for Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021:

Thank you to all who have responded to the Bishop's request to support this annual appeal. As previously mentioned, there are a number of ways that we in our one faith community have been assisted by the diocese (at no cost to us).

Please see the diocesan website (referenced below) for a number of ways the diocese helps parishes, including our one faith community, throughout the 14 counties of the Diocese of Albany.

As I mentioned last weekend, the diocese was instrumental in keeping pastors and staff informed during the initial stages of the Covid 19 Pandemic. Of utmost importance expressed was the safety of staff, parishioners, volunteers. When it came time to plan to reopen, the diocesan headquarters communicated numerous suggestions, guidelines and rules to have churches (and where applicable schools) reopen safely. Their funding comes from the Diocesan Appeal.

If you have not yet made a pledge or donation, both the Bishop and I would appreciate if you would do so as soon as possible.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration! This year instead of mailing your pledge or donation to either parish office, the diocese asks that all pledges and/or checks be sent to the Stewardship Development office at 40 North Main Ave., Albany NY 12203

For information:

www.rcda.org/offices/stewardship@rcda.org

or call 518-453-6680.

Thank you for your generosity.

Goals:

For St. John's the goal is **\$30,000.00**.

For Sacred Heart/Our Lady of Knock the goal is **\$25,464.00**

Amounts received through Jan 13, 2021

St. John's \$17,884 (about 60% of goal) and

Sacred Heart \$8,709 (about 34% of goal).

Thank you to all who have donated and pledged!

Food Donations: .

Are you or do you know of anyone who needs some help with food during these winter months?

If so, have them call either parish office and leave call back information. Through the generosity of the parishioners of our one faith community, we can and will help! We just need to know who you are (an how many live in your household).

If you would like to donate to either parish's food pantry, please bring **non-perishable foods** to the St. Catherine's Chapel (on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church).

For the Greenville Food Pantry, which St. John's supports, please bring to the front doors to the church.

While the inner doors are locked, the outer doors are not and there is a basket for your donations.

Thank you for helping to feed the hungry of Greene County!

AA Meetings, Monday to Friday, 12 noon in St. John's Hall.

Please contact your sponsor for any change to this meeting.

AA meets every Friday at **7:00 pm** in St. Mary's Community Center in E. Durham

**Souper Bowl of Caring coming up
Watch bulletin for details**

Public Mass Protocols-Updated

As many know by now, we need to follow strict guidelines when coming to, praying at, and leaving mass. The number of COVID cases in our community are rising, therefore, I must insist that everyone coming into any of our worship sites for mass follow all safety protocols. If you are unable or unwilling to do so, you will not be able to stay. On behalf of all who want to safely pray at mass, thank you for your cooperation! Fr. Steve

Reservations Required – anyone wishing to attend mass will need to make a reservation beforehand through Flocknote and have your confirmation on hand in case there are any questions. The link to register can be found on our website, on our Facebook page or send an email to either parish office. If you do not have a reservation, you will need to wait until everyone arrives to see if there is room for you and provide us with contact information.

Arrival and Parking – please arrive at least 30 minutes before mass starts. Someone will be at the parking lot entrance to check your reservation. The parking lot closes 15 minutes before the scheduled mass time and the doors to the worship site close 10 minutes before mass time. Once the doors are closed, no one will be admitted. Please note there are **no rest rooms available before, during or after mass.**

For non-streamed masses, mass will begin as soon as all registered people are in their seats and everything is set. Thank you for your understanding.

Ushers will be at the entrance if you need assistance, otherwise your name will be on your assigned pew. Please remain in your place during the entire mass. Only those who are ushers for the mass should be standing at the doors of the church. Watch for the ushers direction upon exiting the church in a socially distanced manner. **If you get up to leave after mass has started, we may ask you to not return.**

Face Coverings are REQUIRED to cover both your nose and mouth. They must remain on from the moment you leave your vehicle to come to mass and until you are in your vehicle after Mass.

Sunday Obligation is still suspended. If you cannot or will not follow all safety protocols, please stay home and watch mass online.

Thank you to all who follow and cooperate! Thank you also to all who have stepped up with our extra need for volunteers.

Flocknote

Please see our website for the link to Flocknote and the one-time electronic registration process. Once completed, you will receive an email when the mass is open for reservations, (usually Sundays at noon) or you can go into Flocknote at any time to sign up for mass, even if you missed the email.

By signing up for mass, you agree with all the health and safety protocols required to participate at an in-person mass. These include that you are not ill, are not under quarantine, have no fever, cold or any other symptoms related to the flu or Covid 19, including excessive coughing, temperature, or sweats.

You also agree to follow proper precautions including social distancing, wearing face coverings (over nose and mouth) through the entire mass and using hand sanitizer when entering church.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mass Intentions for January 25 – January 31

Weekday Intentions:

For the peaceful transfer of power of our government.
For all those affected by COVID 19 pandemic.

For the health and safety of all who minister to the sick and those in nursing homes, homebound or hospitals, and for all first responders.

Weekend Intentions:

Denis Mahoney by Alice & Tony Gatti

Agus Staurinedes by Eric Maurer

Bridie Harley by Eileen McPartlan

Josephine Graham & James LeSuer by the Colangelos

Julia Byrne by the Byrne family

Barbara J. Frazier by Donna Mundt

John Lynch by the Griffins

Intns. of Susan C. Fisher

This Month's Eucharistic Gifts

Contributions towards the hosts and wine, which become for us *the Body and Blood of Christ* were made for the month of **January:**

At St. John the Baptist: in memory of

Frederick, Ethel and William Ackerman by Paula Dennis

At Sacred Heart & Our Lady of Knock: in memory of

Thomas Rohan by his loving wife, Anne & family

Winifred Hogan & Kevin Griffin by Griffin family

Steve McGrath, Jean & Jerry Buckley

by Patrician & Colleen McGrath

This coming Sunday's readings: **Sunday, January 31, 2021**

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deut. 18:15-20

Our Response: Ps. 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9

Second Reading: Cor. 7:32-35

Gospel of: Mk. 1:21-28



Please take a few moments this week to read and pray about any or all of the above readings. Review these readings online at:

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/013121.cfm>

Respect Life- *John Paul II exhorts us: "Christ needs you to enlighten the world to show it the "path to life" (Psalm 16:11). The challenge is to make the Church's "yes" to life concrete and effective. The struggle will be long, and it needs each one of you. Place your intelligence, by our talents, your enthusiasm, your compassion and your fortitude at the service of life!"*

We should ask ourselves:

How do we help show the path to life? Do we treat our elders with respect? Do we encourage mothers? Are we understanding and loving toward those with disabilities?

Concrete actions are required of us. The 'path to life' goes from conception to natural death. We should take care to give encouragement and joy to all we encounter in each of our daily actions.

Volunteers needed – if you are interested in responding to the call of God, please consider volunteering to lector – proclaim the Word of the Lord! Training is available and you are scheduled in advance, so you have time to prayerfully prepare the readings in advance.

Online Giving

For Sacred Heart Parish and
St. John the Baptist Parish go to
www.sholk.weebly.com.

Thank you for your ongoing support!



Finance Corner – Fiscal Year 19-20 Report

Our annual financial reports were distributed after all the Christmas Masses. If you missed them you can find them online. As always, thank you for your generous support of our One Faith Community, Two Parishes and One Shrine with Three Worship Sites! May God continue to bless you through the coming calendar year! Fr. Steve

Save the Dates - 2021

February 17th - Ash Wednesday

Upcoming Second Collections:

January 30th & 31st - Fuel/Heat collection

Poverty Awareness Month!

Please see the following link for information from the USCCB (US Catholic Bishops) regarding Poverty Awareness Month (PAM) 2021: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/2021%20PAM%20Longer%20Reflections.pdf>

During this Poverty awareness month, you are invited to get informed, get involved and pray..

"I want a Church which is poor and for the poor."

- Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*

Almighty and ever-living God,
empower your one human family to join hands
on our journey of faith.

Send us your spirit of hope,
so that we may work

to alleviate human suffering

and foster charity and justice in our world.

We ask this through our newborn King, Jesus your Son, Christ
Our Lord... Amen.

In today's Gospel Jesus calls us to discipleship. What is required of us? Well, Jesus is telling us that the kingdom of God is now, not tomorrow, not in the future, it's now! Are we choosing God now? Do we desire a place in God's kingdom forever?

If we do, that would require us to choose God today.

What did Jesus ask of the fishermen in today's Gospel? He asked them to leave their jobs and their family to follow him. Is that even possible for us in this world today? If we look a little closer, our jobs and our family are usually the two things that keep us grounded. Jobs and family may be things that require us to think or act certain ways. For some, fitting in and being part of a family and a workplace, we may think we need to believe certain things, vote for certain people, criticize or judge others that may be different from us.

Sometimes leaving, or breaking free from this mindset, expands our minds to see that the everyone is welcomed into the kingdom of God. That God created everyone!

That God is universal and He calls us to love everyone, to see everyone as his children and to leave the judgments to Him. Will we choose the kingdom of God today and forever?



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INTERCEDE FOR US
PRAY FOR US

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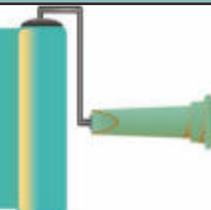
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