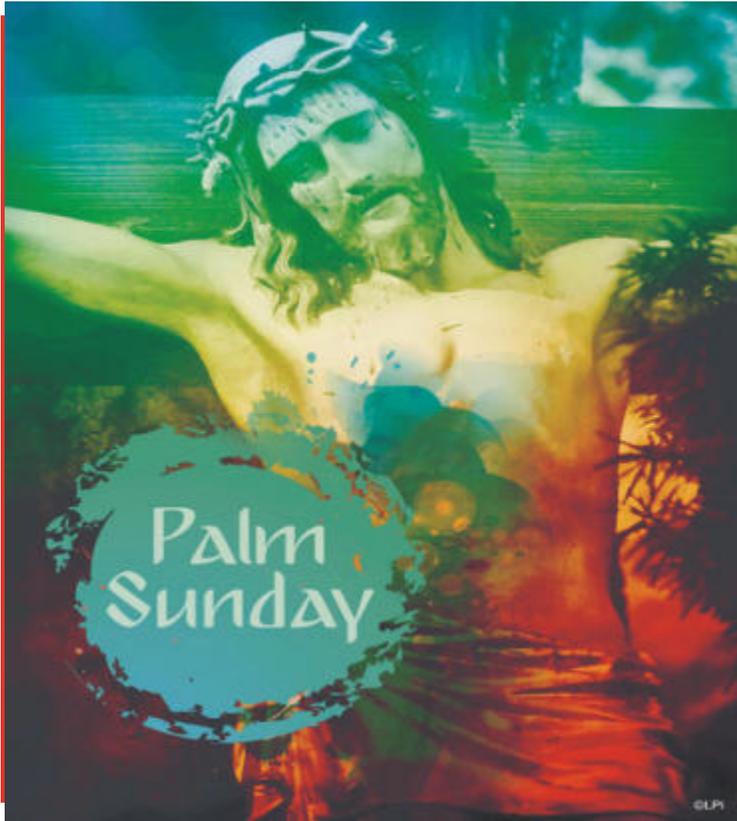


ONE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITH COMMUNITY WITH THREE WORSHIP SITES
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, SACRED HEART CHURCH & OUR LADY OF KNOCK SHRINE

March 28, 2021 - Palm Sunday

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



Quote of the week – Holy Week!
“Into Your hands I commend My spirit.”

(Psalm 31:6)

Jesus uses these words as we hear in Luke’s version of Jesus’ passion. Jesus says these words just before he dies on the cross. Of course, Jesus knew this psalm as a teacher and Jewish Rabbi.

He did not say these words as someone without any hope. No, he said them because He trusted in His and Our Heavenly Father.

We hear this psalm and these words on Good Friday as our response to the first reading.

Perhaps our prayer this week and throughout the year when we need to “let go,” can be

“Lord, into Your hands, I commend my spirit.”

(Adapted from Patricia Livingston article in Living with Christ.)

Let us pray for each other during these our holiest days of the church year!

Worship Schedule for Holy Week

Reservations for Holy Thursday and Good Friday are now closed.

You are invited to join us in prayer Holy Thursday and Good Friday evenings at 7pm, live, on our Facebook page, or later on YouTube.

For Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil, you are invited to watch our Diocesan Easter Vigil from the Cathedral and/or the Easter Vigil from Rome with Pope Francis. (Go to sholk.weebly.com for the links)

For Easter, our 11 am Mass can be seen live on our Facebook page and on YouTube early in the afternoon.

Thank you for praying with us and your cooperation!

Please see inside for other Holy Week schedules

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 through Flocknote or by phone only (no email)

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.

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

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

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

Help Wanted

Part time Faith Formation Administrator. Ten to twenty hours a week. Must be practicing Catholic with deep understanding of Catholic faith. Technologically proficient.

If interested please send resume to sacredheartolok@gmail.com by Monday, April 12th

Online Giving

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

Thank you for your ongoing support!



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



Holy Week Morning Prayer, Stations, Special Worship site & office hours

Thurs., April 1st 9am -Morning Prayer at Sacred Heart Church

Fri., April 2nd 9am - Morning Prayer at Our Lady of Knock
3pm - Stations of the Cross at Sacred Heart Church

Sat., April 3rd 9am - Morning Prayer at St. John the Baptist
Followed by the Blessing of the Easter food

Reservations are not needed for morning prayer, stations or blessing of food

Please see Flocknote for all other Holy Week celebrations

Office Schedule

Both parish offices will be closed from Monday, March 29 through Monday, April 5. Emergency calls will be returned as soon as possible. Deadlines for mass reservation via calls to the office or through Flocknote will need to be strictly enforced. If you missed any deadline, please watch online through our website, Facebook page or YouTube. Thank you for your cooperation.

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.

Sacred Heart Church - Open Holy Thursday for morning prayer and again for evening Mass. Open Good Friday for stations. Open Easter Sunday for Mass only.

St. Catherine of Siena Chapel (Sacred Heart grounds) open 24/7
Our Lady of Knock Shrine - Open - Sunday through Wednesday
Closed Holy Thursday, open Good Friday for morning prayer and again for evening service only. Closed Holy Saturday.

Open Easter Sunday for Mass only

Saint John the Baptist - Eucharistic Chapel (in rear of church) open 24/7 Monday through Holy Thursday until 10:00pm.

Closed Good Friday, Holy Saturday and will be open Easter Sunday on, 24/7.

Main church will be open Holy Saturday morning for prayer and again for Easter Vigil.

(Please see sholk.weebly.com for regular hours)



Opportunity for Almsgiving during Lent!

CRS Rice Bowl collection – if you have not already done so, please return the amount you put aside for the poor of the world as soon as possible. If you are able, please convert the coin into dollar bills or convert all the money you want to donate into a check and mark the subject “Rice Bowl.” Thank you for helping with this wonderful international program.

Once again, thank you to all who have generously responded to our diocesan appeal. Please see the website listed below to see all the ways the diocese assists parishes throughout the 14 counties with 126 parishes.

If you have not yet made a pledge or donation, it is a wonderful way to share your gifts with others in our diocese as well as help you with one of the three-fold parts of the spirit of Lent - Almsgiving.

While the appeal year goes until June this year, the “match” for donors only lasts until tonight. Please mail in your pledge to the diocesan office (address listed below) or go online before midnight tonight. We need every dollar to meet our goals. As you can see below, we are barely at 50% for Sacred Heart/Our Lady of Knock and 64% for St. John the Baptist.

Please mail your donation directly to the Stewardship Office at the diocese at the following address:

Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany
Attention Stewardship Office

40 North Main Ave., Albany, NY 12203

For further information go to their website at:

www.rcda.org/stewardship or call: 518 - 453-6680.

Thank you again 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 3/17/2021

St. John’s \$19,149 (about 64% of goal) and

Sacred Heart \$12,554 (about 49% of goal).

Thank you to all who have donated and pledged!

Respect Life

Two weeks ago the house passed the equality act, which would greatly advance gender identity ideology and advance discrimination against girls and women, facilitate direct funding for abortion, do away with the conscience clause forcing catholic medical personnel to perform gender transition and/or abortions and greatly impede churches and Christians to live out their vocations.

Now comes the Equal Rights Amendment (E.R.A. Act). This also passed the house. The two laws are similar however the E.R.A. act institutionalizes abortion directly into the Constitution which would allow all existing pro-life laws restricting abortion to be struck down.

Not only do these acts codify abortion, these two acts represent a great danger to Christians by stripping away all constitutional protections afforded them in the first amendment. They would pave the road to soft persecution. Please contact your senators and ask them to vote “NO!” For more information regarding the

E.R.A. Act go to the USCCB website here,

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/2021.ERA%20Factsheet%20final.pdf> and contact your senators,

Kirsten Gillibrand at (202) 224-4451, and

Chuck Schumer at (202) 224-6542

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. If not signed up to Flocknote reservations can be made by calling 518-622-3319 before noon on Friday. Please note reservations cannot be made by email. 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 March 29 – April 4

Weekday Intentions:

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:

For all in our one faith community

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

March:

At St. John the Baptist:

Brett Burger by Marie & William Fabian

At Sacred Heart & Our Lady of Knock: in memory of
Thomas Rohan by his loving wife, Anne & family

Prayer

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

(continued from last week)

As mentioned previously, during these days of Lent we are preparing to renew our baptismal promises on Easter that were made for many of us when we were baptized as children.

For some, these promises were made by us who were older to decide on our own to respond to these questions. Additional promises that we need to agree to are really a re-phrasing of some of the ones we read and prayed about last week.

Do you renounce sin,
so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

Do you renounce the lure of evil,
so that sin may have no mastery over you?

Do you renounce Satan,
the author and prince of sin?

Hopefully, you are able to respond when asked these questions with a strong faith-filled response of **I do!** (*If not, why not?*)

Easter Flower Donation and Novena

If you would like to help offset the cost to decorate our three worship sites during the Triduum and Easter Season in memory of a loved one, please write their name(s) on an envelope and mark it Easter Flowers and we will make sure it is put to good use and (more importantly) that your loved ones are remembered during all masses during this novena.

Thank you for your generosity!

This coming Sunday's readings: **Sunday, April 4, 2021**

Easter Sunday

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Our Response: Ps. 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Second Reading: Col. 3:1-4

Gospel of: Jn. 20:1-9



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/040421.cfm>

Save the Dates - 2021

April 1 - Holy Thursday

April 2 - Good Friday

April 3 - Holy Saturday

April 4 - Easter Sunday

May 13-The Ascension of the Lord

Upcoming Second Collections:

March 27 & 28 - Snow removal & heat

April 2nd - Holy Land

April 17 & 18 - Catch up from Pandemic

Second Collections

Thank you to all who donated to our fuel collection last week and/or the snow removal and fuel collection this week!

If you missed them, you may place in an envelope marked as such and place in any passing of the basket. We will make sure it is placed in the correct account for these purposes.

Thank you very much!

Good Friday Special Collection

Annually, Pope Francis (and other popes before him) asks for support of the Holy Land churches. This request is held on Good Friday. May I ask that if you come to any of our services that day to plan to donate. We will have a basket out at Morning Prayer and Stations of the Cross. We will pass the basket at the Commemoration of our Lord's Passion and Death (Flocknote reservation required). If you cannot make any of these services and would like to help, please place your donation in an envelope marked, Good Friday/Holy Land collection. On behalf of Pope Francis and the churches in the Holy Land, thank you!

Walk Every Step with Christ

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have

Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie.

Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them.

Cherish them. Be present for each one.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



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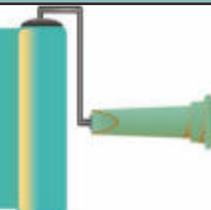
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