Welcome!

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 church family!
To register, please contact the Parish Office.

Parish Office - 518-399-5713   Fax Number - 518-399-5761
Rev. John Varno, Sacramental Minister
Deacon Frank Thomas
John Lorenc, Trustee
Polly Van Nostrand, Trustee
Lucille Feerer, Associate for Administration & Finance

Faith Formation Office - 518-384-0109
Roberta Quinn, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation
Grace Ellen Fay, Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministry
Donna Mayer, Associate for Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Music Ministry - 518-399-6316
Patty Dolezal-Neumann, Music Director
Rachel Bowcutt, Accompanist
Joan Suda, Accompanist

Maintenance - 518-399-5713
James Repice, Pastoral Associate for Property Management

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism is celebrated during all the Masses. Preparation sessions for adults presenting infants for Baptism are held every other month. Please call the parish office for an appointment at least eight weeks in advance of the Baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage: Couples should contact the parish office at least six months in advance to make arrangements.

Adult Initiation: The Church welcomes all inquirers in the faith. Please call the parish office for further information.

Care of the Sick: We would like to bring the Eucharist to our homebound parishioners and would also like to visit parishioners in hospitals and nursing homes. Please call the parish office to make us aware of persons who would like a visit.

July 4-5, 2020

Our Lady of Grace Parish is a welcoming community of believers, being disciples of Christ through worship, the sacraments, ongoing faith formation, evangelization and Christian service to others.

Liturgy of the Eucharist
Saturday      5:30 P.M.
Sunday        10:30 A.M.
Weekdays      8:30 A.M. (when scheduled)
Holy Days     7:00 P.M.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday before the 5:30 P.M. Liturgy
(or by appointment)

Staff email addresses
Lucille Feerer - feererl@nycap.rr.com
Roberta Quinn - quinnr@nycap.rr.com
Grace Fay - olgsjym@gmail.com
Donna Mayer - mayerd@nycap.rr.com
Patty Dolezal-Neumann - lvmusik@nycap.rr.com

The Catholic Community of
Our Lady of Grace
73 Midline Road
Ballston Lake, NY 12019
www.olgchurchbl.org

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www.icglenville.com   www.stjosephschurchscotia.net
Our Lady of Grace is holding Masses next weekend July 11-12

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

Last week you should have received via US mail, an update letter and a volunteer signup form. If you did not, please call or email the parish office. Our ability to hold in-person Mass is contingent upon having enough volunteers to complete the tasks as outlined by NYS and the Albany Diocese.

Volunteer categories and a brief outline of tasks:

- **Greeters** need to greet people in the parking lot/walkway entrance and gently educate parishioners who have not yet adapted to the ‘new normal’ of wearing masks and social distancing.

- **Contact Trackers** will help people fill out their tracing form and assign seats to each household group.

- **Ushers** will escort your household group to their seats.

- **Hygiene Ministers** will disinfect areas after the Mass.

- We are also looking for people to help **record/stream and post** the Mass. On Saturday or Sunday so it will continue to be available to those who cannot attend.

If enough people volunteer for each task, individuals will only have to serve once every other week or monthly. Many hands make light work. Training will take place this week, July 6-10. Volunteers will be contacted separately.

To attend Mass, there are a few things you need to know before you come:

1. Please be 10-15 minutes early for your Mass time.
   a. The doors to the church will be locked at the start of Mass. No one will be admitted late.
2. Choose an open area to park in.
   a. Six feet of social distancing applies to the Parking lot as well in the building.
   b. Masks should be worn from the time you leave your car until you return to it.
   c. The secondary handicapped entrance, on the side of the building that enters directly into the worship area, is Unavailable until further notice. Everyone will use the main parking lot (NYS - only one entrance, exit.)
   d. More handicapped spaces will be available in the main lot.
3. Remember patience is a virtue while waiting your turn as people go through the tracing desk and are shown to their seats.
   a. *Every* person needs to turn in a tracing form for each Mass they attend. Tracing forms will be available when you arrive and will be emailed next week for those who wish to print their form ahead of time. Please bring your own pen.

b. Household groups will be shown to their seats by an usher. The seating arrangement has been changed to allow for social distancing.

4. Each bathroom will have only one stall open. Plan your visit accordingly.

5. The changes in Mass flow will be explained at the beginning of Mass.

6. When exiting the church, social distancing must be maintained. Ushers will dismiss parishioners row by row.

The process will be reassessed after the Masses and changes will be made as deemed necessary. Your patience is appreciated as we fine tune the process.

While it would be wonderful to see everyone in person, if you are feeling ill, have a fever or flu symptoms, PLEASE STAY HOME! The suspension of the obligation to attend Mass is still in effect. If you are in a high-risk category, please attend Mass online. When this pandemic is ‘over’ we want EVERYONE to be back together again.

**Stay safe, stay healthy, we miss you.**

Stewardship is a way of life, a way of thanking God for all God’s blessings by returning a portion of the time, talent and treasure allotted to us.

Offertory collections by mail or online for the past week amounted to **$3,188**.

Your continued support to Our Lady of Grace is greatly appreciated and needed.

“Prayer is not a spare wheel that you pull out when in trouble; it is a steering wheel that directs us in the right path throughout life.”

Remember in your prayers those members of our parish who are sick or suffering in any way, all those in hospitals or nursing homes and our homebound. We pray for all those who have recently died. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Let us not forget the victims of violence at home and abroad. We remember the men and women serving in the armed forces and their families, as we continue to pray for peace. **Let us continue to keep our first responders, doctors and nurses and all those in the health care profession in our prayers as well as all essential workers.**
Thoughts on **PRAYER**

from the Dominican Retreat & Conference Center

How many times have you said to your children or grandchildren, “Pay attention”? Or how many times has someone said to you, “Are you listening to me?” It is easy in this new norm to feel scattered or to have a hard time staying focused. It takes a certain amount of energy to rethink ways of doing things that once were very normal tasks. Prayer is a way of giving God our attention and allowing ourselves to be the center of God’s attention.

Here are some ways we can pray by paying attention:

**Use your senses.** When you are cooking, be aware of the smells and taste. If you are out walking, feel the sun on your face, see the beauty of the flowers, hear the chirping of the birds. Thank God for these small ways God is present to you.

**Take some time to give God your full attention.** Find a quiet spot and a quiet time in your day to simply sit with God and invite God to sit with you. Let God listen to you and take some time to listen to God.

**Look for God.** Actively look for God hidden in your current experience, conversation with another, or activity. God is playing Hide-and-Seek all around us! The more we find God, the more we will notice God in the most unlikely places. God delights in being found.

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**Be well and be at peace!**

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**Turf Tavern**

Restaurant - Banquets - Catering

40 Mohawk Avenue, Scotia - 518-393-3671

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**First Holy Communion** for our second graders will take place on Sunday, September 13 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. A letter will be sent home to the parents regarding the Covid-19 diocesan guidelines for attending Mass.

Shortly, we will have an online registration form. Please sign and make any updated changes and return it to the Faith Formation office. Because of new classroom guidelines, it is even more important to have your child registered as soon as possible. Classes will begin Sunday, September 27 at 9:15 a.m. Further information will be forthcoming.

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**Congratulations from Our Lady of Grace Faith Formation to our 2020 graduates.**

“For I know the plans I have for you” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29-11

Roberta M. Quinn

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Our Lady of Grace has a prayer chain. Members are dedicated to prayer and believe that God answers prayers. A person in need of prayer can call the parish office or a member of the prayer chain and the prayer request will be passed on to the group. We believe that it is one of the greatest gifts we can give one another.

If you have a prayer request, please contact Pam Northrop at 518-399-3009, Diane Simpston at 518-399-9322 or Mary Fekete at 518-384-3393. New members to the prayer chain are always welcome.

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**Setting up “auto pay”** is easy and flexible. Access your account’s online feature and look for “bill pay” or “auto pay.”

Then **set up** your payee - Our Lady of Grace Church, 73 Midline Road, Ballston Lake, NY 12019. If you are being asked for more than this, please call your bank.

**Next schedule your payment,** the amount you want to contribute and when you want to have the money taken out of your account. Be sure to indicate that this is a recurring payment. The bank takes care of the rest. Your contribution will be reflected on your monthly bank statement. You have control over these payments. You can change the time or the amount.

**As always,** thank you for your continued support of Our Lady of Grace Church.