

# THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

68 Court Street, Canton, New York 13617

PHONE: (315) 386-2543

OFFICE HOURS Monday thru Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

www.cantoncatholics.com • cantoncatholics@gmail.com



**Sacrament of Baptism** – For Children to be Baptized, please call the Rectory to schedule a meeting.

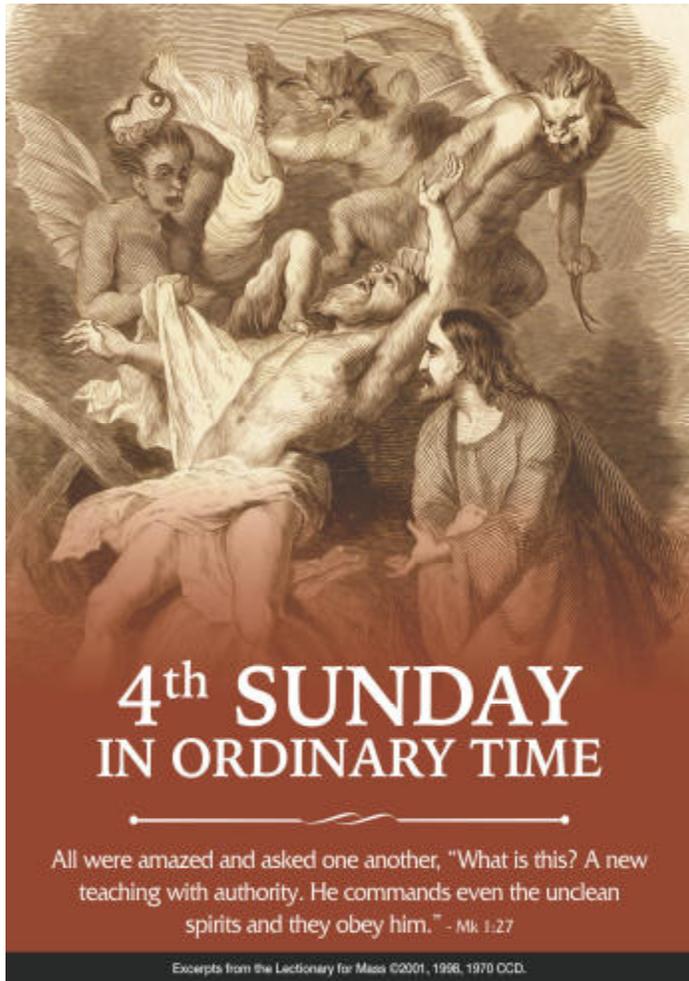
**Sacrament of Penance** – Confessions :Tuesdays 5:45pm–6:15pm, Saturdays 3:45pm–4:45pm , or by appointment.

**Marriage** –Make arrangements with the Pastor at least six months in advance. Pre-Cana instruction is necessary.

**Anointing of the Sick** – Please advise the parish office of the serious illness or hospitalization of a parishioner.

**Communion for shut-ins** – Please notify the Rectory if anyone is unable to attend Sunday Mass regularly.

**New Parishioners** – Register at the Rectory during normal office hours.



## *Our Vision and Mission*

We the members of  
St. Mary's Catholic Church,  
in order to become the saints  
God calls us to be:

- ◇ Welcome the wanderer to the Way
- ◇ Educate the seeker with the Truth
- ◇ Worship the beauty of Christ's Life

### PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Bryan D. Stitt, Pastor

Mr. James M. Snell, Deacon (315) 262-0491

Mr. Paul J. Schrems, Pastoral Associate for Administration

Mr. Peter J. Mueller, Campus Minister and Assistant for Administration

Mrs. Amanda J. Conklin, Director of the New Evangelization

Parish Nurses • (315) 322-1836      Surviving Spouses Group • (315) 379-1650

Ms. Terrienne Yanulavich, Child Safety & Victims' Assistance Coordinator (Offsite):

(518) 651-2267 [terriannyanulavich@yahoo.com](mailto:terriannyanulavich@yahoo.com)

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 31, 2021**

## Pastor's Corner



I have to start this week on a very somber note. We received news from Bishop LaValley this week that **Thomas Higman** by his actions has excommunicated himself from the Church. You might remember Tom from when he was in Canton as a seminarian about a dozen years ago. The details are complicated and more than I need to get into here; I'm willing to talk with anyone who wants more of the story. The short version is that Tom was ordained a Catholic Priest in 2012, but recently has left the Church and been received as an Episcopalian minister. This is confusing to all of us—and it saddens those of us who love both him and the Church. This confusion is compounded by the media (both social and print) which has presented the story as if this act of schism was good and positive. In the end, Tom, his family, and all those who love him need our prayers. May unity among Christians be restored and divisions cease. Again, please let me know if you would like further information or a copy of the Bishop's letter.

This week we'll be  **blessing the candles**  for the year at the Feast of the Presentation (Tuesday, February 2nd). The following day is the Memorial of St. Blaise when we traditionally  **bless throats** . Due to COVID precautions, the throat blessings this year will be from a distance. Blessed candles will also be available for you to take home. I hope you all have a blessed week.

—Fr. Bryan Stitt

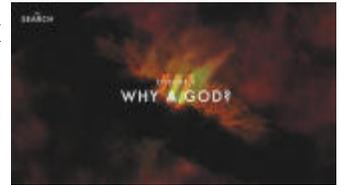
## Super Bowl Pool

Time for the annual Campus Ministry fundraiser! **\$10 per square**, with the chance to win four prizes. You can buy a square after Mass or call the parish office: 315-386-2543.



## "The Search" This Week

When was the last time you had a great conversation? A conversation that wasn't just on the surface, but one where you were free to explore the deepest questions? Ask a friend to watch "The Search" with you, the new, seven-part series that goes to the heart of the deepest questions about life.



Due to parish sponsorship, the complete series is available for free on [formed.org](http://formed.org), a streaming service which can also be connected to your Roku; if you haven't signed up yet, it's simple. Go to [formed.org](http://formed.org) and click "Sign-up". If prompted, choose to register as a "parishioner". Type in the Canton zip code (13617) to search for our parish, select it, and click "Next". Enter your name and email address, click "Sign Up", and you're in!

## Sprinkling of Ashes

Ash Wednesday (February 17), begins the holy season of Lent, and Masses will be offered as usual. This year, to avoid physical contact, the **ashes will be sprinkled** upon our heads instead of marked in the shape of a cross. The tradition of ashes being sprinkled is not only common practice in many parts of the world, but is also mentioned repeatedly in the Bible as a sign of mourning and penitence:



*When Mordecai learned all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city and wailed loudly and bitterly. (Esther 4:1)*

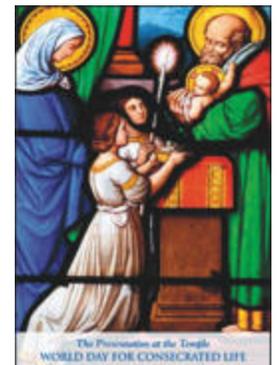
*Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until the evening, both he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads. (Joshua 7:6)*

*I repent in dust and ashes. (Job 42:6)*

*And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!' (Revelation 18:19)*

## World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

On **February 6-7, 2021**, the Church celebrates a World Day of Prayer For Consecrated Life. On this day we recognize and pray for those men and women who have chosen the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Through their example of discipleship, may we be inspired to deeper communion with Christ, and may there be more who answer the call to consecrated life.



If you would like to speak with a religious priest, brother or sister, or would like more information about religious life, contact the Vocation Office at 315-393-2920 or email Fr. Chris Carrara at [ccarrara@rcdony.org](mailto:ccarrara@rcdony.org) or Cathy Russell at [russell@rcdony.org](mailto:russell@rcdony.org).

## What is Candlemas?

Candlemas ("Candle-Mass"), also known as the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord or the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is a Christian Holy Day commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple, as described in



Chapter 2 of Luke's Gospel. It falls on **February 2**, the 40th day after Christmas, and in some cultures it marks the end of the Christmas season. On Candlemas, many Christians bring their candles to their local church, where they are blessed and then used for the rest of the year. For Christians, these blessed candles serve as a symbol of Jesus Christ, who referred to Himself as the Light of the World.

## Return Your Blessed Palms

As you may know, we burn last year's palms to make this year's ashes for Ash Wednesday. Please bring your palms to the baskets at the doors of church or the parish office. Lent starts on **February 17**.



## Campus Corner

Until further notice, we'll have the following schedule for Newman Club meetings:

### Virtual Meetings—Wednesdays at 7pm

(via GoogleMeet: link will be emailed out in advance, if you're not on the email list, contact Peter)

### In-Person Meetings—Thursdays at 3pm

(In the library of the parish center, the old school building next to the church)

For further information about Catholic Campus Ministry in Canton, contact Peter Mueller at 315-386-2543 or [cantoncatholics@gmail.com](mailto:cantoncatholics@gmail.com)



## Happy, Healthy and Holy with Hoops

St. Mary's has a **parish youth basketball program** to help our children remain healthy physically, mentally, and socially during this time of pandemic. For insurance purposes, this is only open to St. Mary's parishioners who are also Canton Central School students in Grades 1-12.

For further information and a copy of the permission slip, please see the parish website. Please contact Paula Jones at [pjones@ccsdk12.org](mailto:pjones@ccsdk12.org) or (315) 267-6200 if you have any questions.

### Schedule

#### Monday and Wednesday

4:30-5:30 pm—Boys Grades 7-8

Kelly O'Neill • [kellyponeill@verizon.net](mailto:kellyponeill@verizon.net) • 315-854-0707

6:00-7:00 pm—Mixed Grades 4-6

Matt Metcalf • [metcalfm@canton.edu](mailto:metcalfm@canton.edu) • 315-854-5681

7:30-8:30 pm—Boys Grades 9-12

Paula Jones • [pjones@ccsdk12.org](mailto:pjones@ccsdk12.org) • 315-267-6200

#### Tuesday and Thursday

4:30-5:30 pm—Girls Grades 7-8

Eli White • [eliwhite02@yahoo.com](mailto:eliwhite02@yahoo.com) • 315-854-0773

6:00-7:00 pm—Mixed Grades 1-3

Paul Redfern • [coachfern@gmail.com](mailto:coachfern@gmail.com) • 717-891-4991

7:30-8:30 pm—Girls Grades 9-12

Shelly Roiger • [sroiger@stlawu.edu](mailto:sroiger@stlawu.edu) • 315-600-6216

### Mass Attendance

January 9-10

5:00 PM Saturday	29
9:00 AM Sunday	46
5:00 PM Sunday	19

January 16-17

5:00 PM Saturday	28
9:00 AM Sunday	44
5:00 PM Sunday	26

January 23-24

5:00 PM Saturday	40
9:00 AM Sunday	61
5:00 PM Sunday	21



### Let There Be Light

If the church looked brighter for last week's Masses, there's a reason! We replaced all our bulbs with new LED lights that are both brighter and use much less electricity. Thanks to Deacon Jim for spearheading the project,

Tracy Dow from Everything Electric in Potsdam who gave us a discount, and Peter for climbing ladders like a ring-tailed lemur!

### Lenten Resource for Ladies

**Blessed is She** is a sisterhood that desires two things: prayer + community. If that sounds up your alley, we're so glad you're here. Our Lenten Devotional Journals run \$25 a piece and can be purchased at [blessedisshenet.net](http://blessedisshenet.net) or you can sign up for one in the back of church for \$20.



### United in Faith—2020 Bishop's Fund Appeal

2020 Bishop's Fund Appeal  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany

As of January 22, **143** families in our parish have made a gift or pledge to the Bishop's Fund Appeal, for a total of **\$30,795.00**. This puts us **88%** of the way towards our parish goal of 211 families and a total of \$35,034.00.

Please remember—every gift makes a difference—every gift counts. Pledge envelopes can be found in church, or you can give online at <https://rcdony.org/bfa.html#donate>.

# FORMED

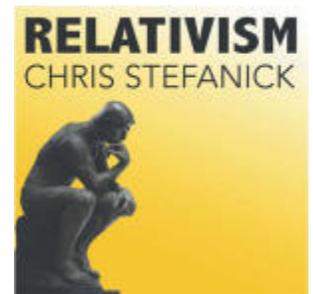
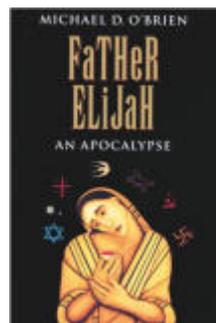
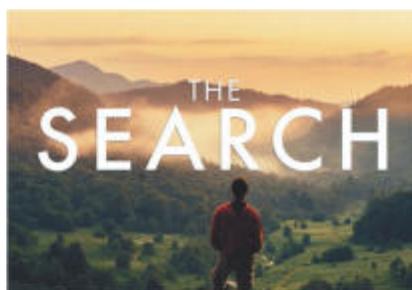
THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

[www.cantoncatholics.formed.org](http://www.cantoncatholics.formed.org)

Participate in THE SEARCH (see page 2 for details)

Listen: *Father Elijah: An Apocalypse* (audio book)

Listen: *Relativism: Do You know How it is Affecting You?* By Chris Stefanick





**Ministry Schedule**

**January 30 and January 31, 2021**

<b>Sat. 5:00 pm</b>	Lector	Edd White
	Greeters	Phil and Mary Shatraw
<b>Sun. 9:00 am</b>	Lector	Pat White
	Greeters	Shelly and Zadok Roiger

**February 6 and February 7, 2021**

<b>Sat. 5:00 pm</b>	Lector	Brad Mintener
	Greeters	Bill and Carol O'Horo
<b>Sun. 9:00 am</b>	Lector	Shelly Roiger
	Greeters	Maureen Howard, Pete Mueller



**PRAYER REQUESTS**

*Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servants to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us.*

*Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of illness. O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with your gentle love and grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden. Amen.*

Katie Coakley Ba	Debbie Gainey	Doni Peters
Betty Bessette	Joe Guarino	Joan Pope
Sam Bisonette	Helen Hilts	Nolan Joe Redmond
Camille Brown	Arleen Jordan	Judy Ruddy
Peggy Cashman	Shirley Lamendola	Renee Smith
J.J. Crooks	Lori Law	Natalie teRiele
Phyllis Cunningham	Betty Lucia	Rose White
David Datush	Leward Lucia	Abuse Victims & their
Carol Gainey	Laurence McKenna	Families

**Parish Support**

<b><u>Week of January 24</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>
Envelopes	\$5,381.00	\$2,993.00
On-Line Giving	\$437.00	\$798.00
Plate	\$516.20	\$142.00
Children's Envelopes	\$1.00	
Solemnity of Mary		\$33.00
Respect Life Collection	\$896.26	\$450.00
Winter Fuel Collection	\$110.00	\$210.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,341.46</b>	<b>\$4,626.00</b>

(Recent Candle Donations — \$29)

**Thank you for your support & generosity each week!**

*Please continue to remember how important your weekly offering is to the life of our parish!*

**Many thanks to those who have dropped their envelopes off at the Rectory or have signed up for Online Giving!**

## *MASS & PARISH SCHEDULE*

<p><b>Saturday, January 30:</b> 3:45- 4:45 pm 5:00 pm Mass</p>	<p><b>Weekday</b> Confession <i>Vigil, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Josephine Ferguson by Henry Sieg</p>
<p><b>Sunday, January 31:</b> 9:00 am Mass 5:00 pm Mass</p>	<p><b>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Elizabeth Molnar by Kelly, Kerisa, and Dawna For All the People of the Parish</p>
<p><b>Monday, February 1:</b> 7:30 am Mass 8:15 am (Facebook)</p>	<p><b>Weekday</b> Harold Burke by Judy Wilson and Family Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, February 2:</b> 8:15 am (Facebook) 4:10-5:10 pm 5:15 pm Mass 5:45-6:15 pm</p>	<p><b>Feast of the Presentation of the Lord ("Candlemas")</b> Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer Holy Hour for Vocations Gerald Smilgin by the parish Confession</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, February 3:</b> 7:30 am Mass 8:15 am (Facebook)</p>	<p><b>Weekday/Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr/Saint Ansgar, Bishop</b> Don Wilson by Judy Wilson and Family Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer</p>
<p><b>Thursday, February 4:</b> 8:15 am (Facebook) In Private 5:15 pm Mass</p>	<p><b>Weekday</b> Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer Rosary for Life Beverly O'Brien by the parish</p>
<p><b>Friday, February 5:</b> 8:15 am (Facebook) 7:30 am Mass</p>	<p><b>Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr/First Friday</b> Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer Barb Kelly by the parish</p>
<p><b>Saturday, February 6:</b> 7:30 am Mass 3:45- 4:45 pm 5:00 pm Mass</p>	<p><b>Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs/First Saturday</b> Deceased members of the Edward Bronowicz Family by Henry Sieg Confession <i>Vigil, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Sally Yasment by Nancy Layhee</p>
<p><b>Sunday, February 7:</b> 9:00 am Mass 5:00 pm Mass</p>	<p><b>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> For All the People of the Parish Josephine Swift by Henry Sieg</p>



*The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for*

### **All Those in Consecrated Life**

*If you desire to have the Vigil Lamp lit for a loved one or for your intention, please contact the Rectory.*

#### Readings for Jan 31

Deut 18: 15-20  
Ps 95: 12, 6-7, 7-9  
1 Cor 7: 32-35  
Mark 1: 21-28



#### Readings for Feb 7

Job 7: 1-4, 6-7  
Ps 147: 1-6  
1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23  
Mark 1: 29-39

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 Charles E. Palm, Esq. - Retired  
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