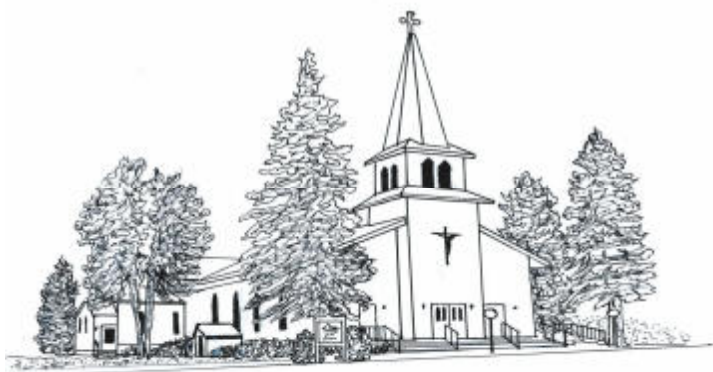


The Roman Catholic Communities of

St. Mary's Church of Brushton, New York & St. Augustine's Church of North Bangor, New York



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office@stmarysbrushton.org

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Office for parishes at St. Augustine

2472 State Route 11

North Bangor, New York 12966

Voice & fax (518) 483-6674

staugustine6674@gmail.com



THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC.

Website:

www.staugustinesandstmary

SHUT-INS

Do you know of someone who is not able to go to Mass on Sunday, because of weather or sickness? Please call Dianne Russell at 529-7474 or Dick Hurteau at 483-1832 for someone to bring Holy Communion on a weekly or monthly basis.

ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY

Open 1 pm - 4 pm

2nd and 4th Mondays of the month

Sacrament of Baptism: Infants: contact the parish office before or soon after birth. Adults: inquire about the RCIA

Sacrament of Penance: Saturdays 2:45-3:00 p.m. St. Mary's Church. You may also contact Fr. Ray

Sacrament of the Sick: Contact Fr. Ray in advance of surgery or as soon as possible when serious illness occurs

Sacrament of Marriage: Contact the parish office at least 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date to begin preparation.

TO REPORT ABUSE: If you have a complaint or suspect misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees, or volunteers, contact the Diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator Terrienne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com - Phone: 518- 651-2267 days; 518-569-0612 evenings. Or Fr. Chris Carrara, Episcopal Vicar for Clergy; ccarrara@rcdony.org - 315-393-2920 ext. 1340. If you have a complaint of suspected sexual abuse or misconduct by the bishops, contact Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org.

Mass Intentions for the Week

MON: Dec. 27 – Advent Weekday

9:00am SM: Helen Stearns by Jane Boyea

TUE: Dec. 28 - Advent Weekday

9:00am SA: Terry Trudeau** by Margaret Leahy

WED: Dec. 29 - Advent Weekday

9:00am SM: Carol Keese by Janie & Tommy

THURS: Dec. 30 - Advent Weekday

9:00am SA: Blanche White

by Wayne Miller & Sally White

FRI: Dec. 31 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY

4:00pm SA: Margaret & Daniel Hallahan

by Ann Hallahan

SAT: Jan. 1 - Epiphany of the Lord

4:00pm SA: For the People of the Parish

SUN: Jan. 2 - Epiphany of the Lord

8:00am SA: Marguerite Doucette by Roger Bombard

11:00am SM: Patrick Curran by the Hutchins Family

This week's Sanctuary Candles:

SA /SM - For the Safety of our Troops

SM - Readings for the week of Dec. 27, 2021

Sun: Sir 3:2-6,2-14/Ps 128:1-2,3,4-5/

Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or

1Sm 1:20-22,24-28/Ps 84:2-3,5-6,9-10/

1Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Mon: 1Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tue: 1Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-3,4-5,7b-8/Mt 2:13-18

Wed: 1Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a,2b-3,5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Thurs: 1Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a,8b-9,10/Lk 2:36-40

Fri: 1Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2,11-12,13/Jn 1:1-18

Sat: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sun: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13/

Eph 3:2-3a,5-6/Mt 2:1-12

LIVE THE LITURGY

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

On January 1, Feast of Solemnity of Mary, the Church asks us to join in prayer for the World Day of Peace. Beginning in 1967 with Pope Paul VI, each pope addressed heads of state and governments especially, and all people in the world. We are called to create a culture of care as a path to Peace, one that will promote justice and peace between individuals, communities, peoples and nations. Mary, Queen of the Universe, pray for us.

COLLECTION:

Due to the Christmas holiday and the early publication date of this bulletin, the weekend collection of December 18/19 & December 25/26 will be posted in next week's bulletin.

St. Augustine - Dec. 11/12

Envelopes: \$1,239.00; Plate: \$128.00

Christmas Flowers: \$120.00; Imm. Mary: \$37.00

Total: \$1,524.00

Christmas: \$30.00; Rel. Ret.: \$416.00

St. Mary - Dec. 11/12

Envelopes: \$857.00; Plate: \$159.00

Christmas Flowers: \$110.00; Imm. Mary: \$27.00

Solem. of Mary: \$30.00

Total: \$1,233.000

Rel. Ret.: \$349.00; Christmas: \$50.00

ST. AUGUSTINE / ST. MARY PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours this week for both churches are:

Monday through Thursday 9am to 12 noon only.

Office #518-483-6674.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Deacon Lee Trudeau

Director of Religious Formation

Phone: 518-529-0403

Email: lee@stmarysbrushton.org

Grades K to 8: 9:15-10:45am

St. Mary's Parish Center, Brushton

Sunday, Jan. 9 & 23, 2022



NEW YORK STATE DISCERNMENT RETREAT:

January 2-4

Please consider this opportunity for men 18 years old and 35 to attend this year's Winter Discernment Retreat at Christ the King Retreat House, Syracuse, NY. This retreat can assist in discerning a call to priesthood. Every year, the dioceses in New York State, predominantly the upstate ones, participate in a discernment retreat in Syracuse. The Discernment Retreat is being held at Christ the King Retreat House from January 2-4, 2022. Those who have attended previously found it to be an opportunity to grow closer to the Lord and to think and pray about discernment. Discerners will be joined by seminarians, vocation directors and Bishop Douglas Lucia, Bishop of Syracuse, who will be celebrating the Mass. If you are interested in participating, please contact Fr. Ray or Fr. Chris Carrara, Vocation Director or Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, Vocation Coordinator.

RSVP for the Retreat by Tuesday, December 28 to vocation@syrddio.org.

MASS REQUEST

To request a Mass for a loved one, or for a special intention, call the parish office 518-483-6674 with your request or send a note to 2472 St Rt 11, North Bangor NY 12966. A stipend of \$10.00 is the usual donation for a Mass.

ADDRESS CHANGES

In order to keep our records current for St. Augustine & St. Mary please notify the Church office of any changes in your address or phone number by calling the office at 518-483-6674 or placing a note in the collection basket.

From Father Ray & Deacon Lee....

Because the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God (January 1st) falls on a Saturday this year, it is **not** a Holy Day of Obligation. Thus, the Vigil Mass will be the only Mass celebrated at **4:00 p.m. Friday, December 31st at St. Augustine Church** for the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God. Please note there will be **no changes with the current weekend Mass times and locations for January 1st and 2nd.**

We wish to thank all who have helped to make Christmas at our churches a time of peace and love and renewal. Thank you to the people involved in decorating the churches. Thank you to our various liturgical ministers: our Altar Servers, Greeters, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, organist Joe Lewis and our Folk Choir Members led by Stan Eldridge and Roger Poirier.

We also wish to express our gratitude for your Christmas cards, gifts, baked goods and prayers! Your support is deeply appreciated and we are exceptionally blessed to be part of these wonderful communities of faith. It is good to share the joys and struggles of life with people who are so loving and faith-filled.

A blessed and Happy New Year to all of you!

2021 CALENDARS

The 2021 Calendars have arrived and are at the entrance of our churches for your taking. A special note of thanks to Jamie Sienkiewyz of Flint Funeral Home in Moira for providing our churches with such beautiful Catholic Calendars. The Calendars Jamie provides for our churches every year, along with his donations at our various fund-raisers throughout the year, help our parishes immensely. When you see Jamie say a thank you to him!

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Religious give thanks. A sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting our Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

THE CHOSEN SEASON 2

Join the Office of New Evangelization and the parishes of St. Mary of the Fort in Fort Covington/St. Mary in Waddington for a viewing and discussion of the second season of THE CHOSEN, either in-person or via zoom. It is highly recommended that participants have seen season 1 before participating in this second series of 8 episodes. We will watch the video via zoom. If you prefer, you can meet in person at either location St. Mary's Parish Center, Waddington or Fort Covington Adult Center in Fort Covington. Our first session will be January 4, 2022 from 6:30-8pm. Online Registration is required at www.rcdony.org/chosen.

BROWN BAG SERIES:

Lunchtime Discussion via Zoom

The Office of New Evangelization will be running a new Brownbag Chat starting Wednesday, January 5 from noon-1pm via Zoom. We will use the Revive Parishes Series by Bishop Andrew Cozzens on **The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church**. We anticipate running the series in seven sessions. In each session, we will watch a video together via zoom and then have an informal discussion.

Description of the Series:

The Eucharist is indeed Jesus Christ, and as Catholics, a gift that requires our response. And what a gift it is! In this groundbreaking new course, Bishop Cozzens breaks open the new document published by the USCCB: "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church." This is the perfect companion resource!

If you would like to join us this series of lunch-time chat discussions, please sign up online at <https://www.rcdony.org/brownbag>. For more information, contact Marika Donders at mdonders@rcdony.org

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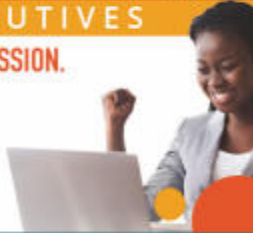
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