



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. HENRY

WELCOME TO ST. HENRY'S

We extend a warm welcome to all new members of our parish. We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith life will grow. Please introduce yourself after one of the Masses and do not forget to register. You may register on-line or by calling the parish office at the number below.

**ST. HENRY'S CHURCH P.O. BOX 550
AVERILL PARK, NY 12018**

P: 518-674-3818

F: 518-674-1043

EMAIL: HENRYPARISH550@GMAIL.COM

WEB: WWW.STHENRYAVERILLPARK.COM

STAFF

Rev. Thomas F. Holmes, **Pastor**
TFVH426@aol.com

Deacon Robert Pasquarelli, **Pastoral Associate**
rpsquar@nycap.rr.com

Deacon Frank Lukovits, **Pastoral Associate**
fluko@taconic.net

Linda Banker, **Pastoral Associate for Pastoral Care**
Linda.Banker550@gmail.com

Kerin Banker, **Administrative Assistant**
henryparish550@gmail.com

Sarah Tripp, **Rel. Ed. Coordinator (Gr. Pre-K-12)**
sarah.tripp550@gmail.com

Duncan Cumming, **Music Director**
dcumming@albany.edu

OFFICE HOURS

The parish office hours are:

Monday—Thursday 9:00am—4:30pm

Friday 9:00am—2:00pm

STEWARDSHIP—TAKE A STEP

Our weekly donations need to average \$7500 to meet operating expenses. E-Giving is available online. Please contact the parish office to receive an email to help set it up .

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Instructional classes for parents prior to the Baptism of their children are held the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00pm, at St. Henry's Church. Please call the parish office to register for classes. Baptisms are celebrated on the second Sunday of the month during Mass and the fourth Sunday of the month following the 10:00am Mass.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION

St. Henry's Sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation & First Communion will begin after completing at least (1) year of Faith Formation. This is the prerequisite to registration into the sacramental preparation classes. Participants will attend weekly classes, Mass and a retreat to further their faith education experience. For more information, please call the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament is conferred in Tenth grade. The diocese requires a two year preparation period. That takes place in grades 9 & 10 with a retreat and two day mandatory preparation.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements for marriage should be made at least 6 months in advance. Kindly call the parish office for an appointment.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm
Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am
Weekdays..... 8:30am

NO MORNING MASS ON THURSDAY

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 - 3:30pm

**WEEKEND OF December 11 & 12
Attendance 316**

**Sunday Collection for December 3 & 4
\$13,960.00 Includes E-Giving**

**Sunday Collection for December 11 & 12
\$4,471.00 Includes E-Giving**



Dear St. Henry's Parishioners,

Once again, we celebrate Christmas as a faith community. Although this past year has been a challenge with the Co-Vid virus continuing to disrupt life as we have known it, we also can give thanks for things that have somewhat returned to semi-normal. As we celebrate the Word made Flesh at the Birth of Jesus into our World, let us be reminded that in Co-Vid life, God still loves us beyond measure. He loved us so much that he had his Son born into the world to redeem us. This Christmas may we take time to give thanks to God for the gifts that we have been graced with through our God, family, friends and fellow parishioners. I pray that all of you have a Blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with many blessings from God and all those you know in this life.

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Peace,

Fr. Tom and Staff

WIN A DELL 15" LAP TOP COMPUTER



The Knights of Columbus is raffling off a new Dell 15" Lap Top Computer. Drawing will be January 22nd. Only 100 tickets are sold. Hurry and get yours today before they are all sold out.

PARKING

Please **DO NOT** park in the parking lot across the street. It is not church property.

RESPECT LIFE

"Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, 'in every situation, Joseph declared his own 'Fiat'. His 'yes' to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph's devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us."



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DONATION ENVELOPES

Envelopes are in the gathering area if you wish to make a donation for flowers or need a donation envelope for Christmas. If your gift is in memory of a loved one, please print their name clearly on the envelope.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Please remember that if Averill Park Schools are closed or delayed due to inclement weather, St. Henry's will be closed and Mass will be canceled.

CALENDAR APPRECIATION

Thank You, Tim Komdat at Perry Komdat Funeral Home for providing us with calendars for the New Year. Please be sure to pick one up. They are available in the Gathering Area.

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, January 7th, is the first Friday of the month and we will begin the morning with Mass at 8:30am, followed by Benediction at 9:00, Rosary intention at 9:30 and Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 10:00am. Closing prayer will be at 11:30am. Please join us for all or any part of the morning's devotions.

WEGATHER DONOR MATCH PROGRAM

The holiday season is one of the largest giving seasons for our church. Our online giving provider, We Gather, is generously providing a donor match program to help us increase recurring giving. Online gifts help reduce costs and our time spent handling other forms of payment. For every first gift from a new recurring donor that is added between November 1 and December 31, 2021, WeGather will match that first gift, up to \$50. To be eligible for the matching gift, more than one installment must be set-up and the first recurring gift **must be transacted by December 31, 2021**. We appreciate your generosity and your support of our Church. We prayerfully ask that you consider helping us meet this goal by letting us help you to set up your recurring online gift today. Please contact the Parish office today at 518-674-3818 or at **518-419-1013 after hours** and we would be glad to help you.

DEACON BOB'S CORNER

Mary Pondered, by [Mary M. McGlone](#)

The Lord bless and keep you!
The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

What better way to begin the new year than with this blessing? The Virgin Mother herself probably heard it pronounced over her and her people. How might she have understood her own blessedness? The summary phrase of the blessing is “The Lord give you peace.” Of course, Mary would have heard the word “shalom” for peace, a word almost exactly replicated by our Muslim brothers and sisters with their word “salaam.” “Shalom” expresses the depth of the concept of peace. The Hebrew shalom means more than peace; it means peace, justice and integrity in relationships. It implies safety and growth in wholeness as if the entire universe was woven together and functioning as God intended. The blessing of shalom prays that humanity and the entire universe may live the communion God created us to enjoy. Today we celebrate the “Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.” That title would have surely overwhelmed the simple woman of Nazareth. But she didn’t have to concern herself with theology, dogma, titles and solemnities. Instead, she had a new baby, a confused but faithful husband and unexpected visitors coming to witness the scene where her family was trying to make do in spite of the inhospitable circumstances in which they found themselves. What do we know of this young woman? First, we learned that God looked upon her kindly, or in Luke’s words, she had found favor with God. Then, we witnessed her humble self-description: “Here I am, the handmaid of the Lord.” In spite of the inconceivable dimensions of what she had been told, Mary’s response exhibited shalom. She trusted, gave birth to her child and simply cared for him. When the shepherds appeared on the scene they knew far more than Mary could have expected. Delighted to discover her son in the manger, they started spreading the word as if they understood exactly what was going on. Like many of us, those shepherds were quick to make proclamations about what they thought God was up to in their midst. Like Jesus’ own disciples, these first witnesses may well have had the right vocabulary, but it’s highly unlikely that they fully comprehended what they had encountered. The shepherds talked, others were “amazed,” and we don’t hear a single word from Mary.

Luke tells us that “Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” Her name would be remembered in the scriptures of Christianity and Islam. Generations to come would call her blessed, and the Fathers of the Church would defend her title as “Mother of God.” But, from the day of Jesus’ birth until his death, the little we hear from her amounts to no more than one question, a subtle request on behalf of others and a reflection of her own discipleship: “Son, why have you done this to us?” “They have no wine,” and “Do whatever he tells you.”

When Luke tells us that Mary kept things in her heart, the word he uses indicates a long process of mulling, a life of discernment, trying to put together disparate pieces of a mystery. While the process didn’t lead to quick conclusions, it doesn’t mean she gave up on it. Luke’s statement about her ongoing reflection is one of the reasons some conclude that Mary herself gave Luke the Nativity story.

Whether or not the narrative originated with Mary, Luke portrays her as the contemplative in action. Mary had more to ponder than anyone else in this story. She had to question her experience and her response. She had to make sense of all that she had encountered while balancing it with the traditions of her people. She must have accepted living with more questions than answers and far more hope than certainties. In addition to all of that, she had to change the diapers and fix dinner.

Mary, Mother of the God who came in the flesh of a needy infant, learned to remain open to God’s shalom, to allow her faith to exceed her uncertainties and her hope to give her resolve beyond her power to imagine. She sought to do God’s will as she baked their daily bread. We look to the Mother of God to teach us how to live simply as contemplatives in action.



Mass Intentions

Monday, January 3

8:30AM For the People

Tuesday, January 4

8:30AM For the People

Wednesday, January 5

8:30 AM Clayton Mosher—Daughter

Thursday, January 6

10:00am NO MASS

Friday, January 7

8:30AM All Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, January 8

4:00 PM Arthur L. Mardon Jr.—John & Marilyn Reichard
Paul Yonkers—John & Marilyn Reichard
Michael Murin—The Murin Family
John Kronau—Bette & Ken Teal

Sunday, January 9

8:00 AM Bill Rentz—Wife, Anne
Walter E. Powers III—William Powers & Family

10:00 AM Andrea Scanu—Donna Tallman
Michael Maloney—Family

Monday, January 10

8:30AM Michael Esposito—The Colvin Family

Tuesday, January 11

8:30AM For the People

Wednesday, January 12

8:30AM For the People

Thursday, January 13

8:30AM NO MASS

Friday, January 14

8:30 AM All Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, January 15

4:00 PM Florence M. Smeland—Fr., Tom & Staff
Art Mardon—Bette & Ken Teal
Catherine Reichard—John & Marilyn Reichard
Stephanie Gannon—Family

Sunday, January 16

8:00 AM Paul Yonkers—Your Brothers of the Knights
of Columbus

Glasser/Santora Family—Family

10:00 AM Agnes & Jack Flavin—Ann Flavin Ahlborn
Jim Hankle—Ann Flavin Ahlborn
Frank Nocella & Family—Gail Lindeman



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 1/8 & 1/9

1. Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7 or Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
2. Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7 or Acts 10:34-38
3. Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 1/15 & 1/16

1. Isaiah 62:1-5
2. Corinthians 12:4-11
3. John 2:1-11

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 01/22 & 01/23

1. Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
2. Corinthians 12:12-30
3. Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21



Saturday, January 1
4:00pm

Altar Servers
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Counters

Sunday, January 2
8:00am

Altar Servers
Lectors
Counters

10:00am

Altar Servers
Lectors
Counters

January
4:00pm

Altar Servers
Lectors
Counters

Sunday, January
8:00am

Altar Servers
Lectors
Counters

10:00am

Altar Servers
Lectors
Counters

Calendar of Events

Prayer Group meets every Tuesday 1:00pm in the Blue Room

Rosary Group meets every Tuesday 6:00pm in the Chapel

Mens Scripture Group meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm

1/15 1st Reconciliation Retreat 2:00pm to 4:00pm

1/17 Office Closed (Martin Luther King Day)

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