



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**

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STAFF

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

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

Deacon Frank Lukovits, **Pastoral Associate**
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Linda.Banker550@gmail.com

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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

Saturday3:00 - 3:30pm

**WEEKEND OF April 16 & 17
Attendance 560**

**Collection for April 9 & 10
\$7,864.00 Includes E-Giving**

ORDER CHICKEN - FIGHT ADDICTION

The Church of the Covenant Men's Group and Salem United Methodist Church will hold a Chicken Bar-B-Que on Saturday, April 30 from 4:00 til 6:30 PM, at the Salem UMC, 349 Shaver Rd., West Sand Lake. This is an eat-in or take out event.

The cost is \$15. per meal, which includes ½ chicken, potato, cole slaw, roll, pie, and bottled water. Please call Ralph @ 518-429-7855 to reserve your meal.

All proceeds benefit NOPIATES! Additional donations gratefully accepted!

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The Sand Lake Area Association of Churches is sponsoring a National Day of Prayer Breakfast to be held on May 3rd, 7:00am at the West Sand Lake Fire House. There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Area. Cost is \$8.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER !!!

We, the Community of St. Henry's Church, warmly congratulate those who have completed the course of study necessary to receive Sacraments at our Easter Vigil Mass on April 16th. Vincent Robert Reiter and Kaleina Marie Bowen received their first Holy Communion. Kristian Powell received First Holy Communion and was Confirmed. He is now in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church. We are grateful to Deacon Bob, Fr. Tom, Shirley Neiss and Barbara Urgento, who worked with Kristian, Kaleina and Vincent to prepare for the Sacraments. Please keep all of them in your prayers and offer congratulations when you see them.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

St. Henry's Diabetes Support Group will meet on Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30 pm in the Community Room. Our topic for the evening will be Combating Stress-Emerging from Isolation to Socialization.

We will also learn about New Drug Therapies for Diabetes, including Show and Tell Demonstrations.

All are welcome to attend, whether diabetic, caring for someone with diabetes, or interested in a healthy lifestyle. For more information, please call the office at 518-674-3818.

EASTER REMINDER FOR EGIVERS

We are not able to accept donations for the Easter collection electronically. Please use the envelopes in the gathering area or a regular envelope with your name and, if possible, your envelope ID#. Thank You!

SILVER AWARD BOOKMARKS BENEFIT ST. HENRY'S PATRONS

We are pleased to announce that as of Palm Sunday, our parishioners will now have the use of some pretty and practical bookmarks for the Breaking Bread Missals. Zoey Sapp and Emma Schwenke, Cadettes from Girl Scout Troop 1580, developed the idea for the church community for their Girl Scout's Silver Award. This is the second highest award the Girl Scouts can earn. The thought behind their good deed was that the bookmarks would assist the church members and guests with reading the prayers and singing the hymns more. Since, with the bookmarks, they would be able to mark the various pages with the variety of ribbons on each bookmark. With Father Tom as their advisor (thank you, Father Tom!), they designed the bookmarks and carried out their creation. Thanks to some assistance from Sarah Tripp and the Middle School Faith Formation class, they were able to finish the production of the 350+ bookmarks needed by Palm Sunday. **They would like to ask that parishioners leave the bookmarks in each missal so they can be utilized by all people attending all masses in the weeks, months, and years to come!** Enjoy!

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

We are so pleased to tell you that there will be 25 children receiving First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 7th at 10:00 AM. All are welcome to attend.

On Saturday, May 14th, at 1:00 PM we welcome Bishop Edward Scharfenberger to St. Henry's to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with 16 of our young men and women. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We thank God for the blessing that these young people are to this parish family!

SAVE THE DATE

Save the date! St. Henry's Parish Picnic will be July 10th from 11:30am to 5:00pm, at North Greenbush Dedrick Town Park.

MOTHERS DAY DIAPER COLLECTION

Please join us to support families with infants and toddlers who are not able to afford the high cost of diapers and baby wipes. We are asking that you bring in any size package of diapers and/or baby wipes to the Community Room on Mother's Day weekend, May 7th & 8th. Larger sizes are appreciated. They will be distributed to local agencies to assist families in need.

EASTER FLOWERS

Envelopes (with memorial listings) for Easter flowers are available in the gathering area. We welcome donations for flowers during the entire Easter season, ending at Pentecost.

DEACON BOB'S CORNER

Doubting Thomas by St. Joseph Sr. Mary M. McGlone

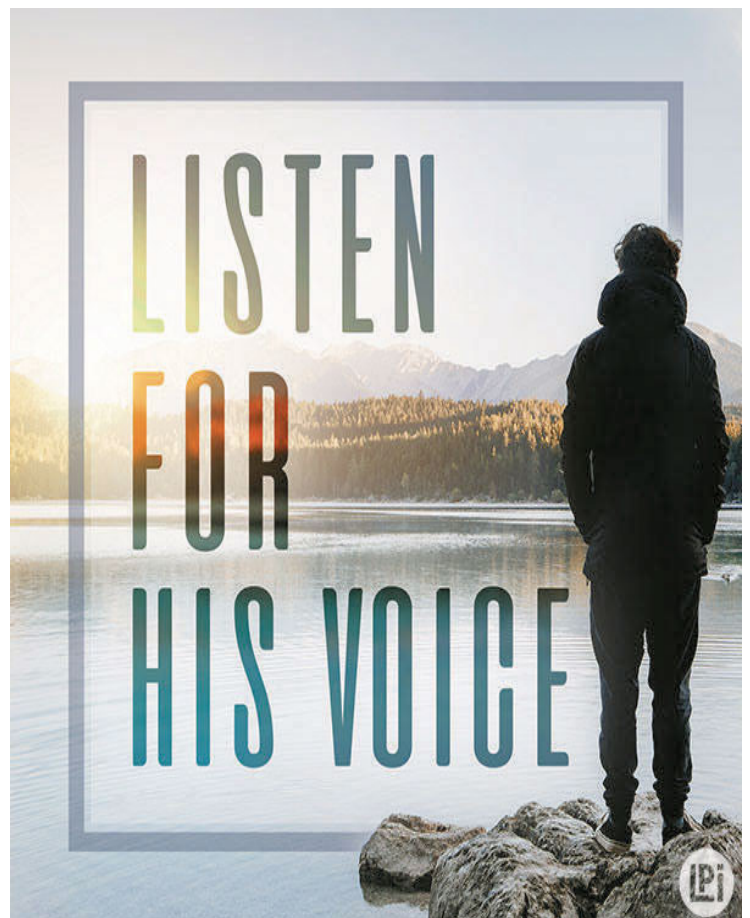
Did you ever wonder why Thomas was not with the others on that first Easter night? A group — we know not how large — of women and men who had been disciples of the slain Jesus had gathered together in fear and confusion on the most mystifying evening of their lives. Did they lock the doors before Thomas arrived? Was he too sad or angry or ashamed to gather with them? Obviously, he wasn't completely cut off because soon thereafter somebody told him that Jesus had appeared in their midst. Maybe someone went looking for Thomas precisely because of what Jesus did that night. Jesus had broken in on their fear and hiding, he blessed them with peace and then revealed to them the greatest power in the universe: the love that creates forgiveness. The breathtaking thing about forgiveness is that it positively transforms the effects of the past. People whose sins are retained can be tethered forever to the millstone of their mistakes, defined by their worst moment. In forgiveness, they are freed to reconfigure (another word for redeem) what has been destructive of relationships. When Jesus made himself part of the group gathered in hiding, he simply said, "Shalom, peace." Shalom is an insider word. It says, "I have no fear of you and hold nothing against you." One ancient Jewish teaching maintains that shalom-peace is "the only vessel God found capable of holding a blessing." The word is also a name for God.

Shalom was Jesus' first word to his friends after he had suffered. Jesus' shalom recreated his relationship with each and all of the gathered disciples. In some ways, it was as astounding as his resurrection itself. In some ways, it is identical with his resurrection because it expresses the reality that the power of love cannot be overcome. Shalom, Jesus' word of forgiveness, conferred redemption. For some reason, those who found Thomas on another day weren't capable of communicating the whole message to him. They did well enough to get him to join them a week later, but he still didn't quite grasp the transformation that had begun among his friends — and in the history of the universe. In reality, the other disciples hadn't fully caught on yet either: One week after the Resurrection they were back behind locked doors. Once again, Jesus appeared in their midst. Once again, Jesus said, "Shalom." Then, turning to Thomas, Jesus invited them all to face their doubts as he said, "Touch me. I am no ghost. I bear the scars of rejection and abandonment. Shalom. Touch me and know shalom."

With that, Thomas grasped what none of them had comprehended. Thomas looked at Jesus' scarred hands and wounded side and said, "My Lord and my God!" Thomas grasped the terrifying, wondrously scandalous truth that Jesus reveals that God is not exempt from suffering. Thomas realized that God's forgiveness expresses a love as vulnerable as human beings' and more powerful than evil. The story of the Resurrection would not have been complete without Thomas. He was the one who didn't just stand back in awe; he had to plumb the depths of what it meant. Thomas was the one who needed proof that the effects of evil, horrendous as they were, were not omnipotent. Thomas was the one whose faith did not come easy, and for that reason it could become unshakeable. If not for Thomas, we might think of forgiveness superficially, as a mending or a forgetting. If it were not for Thomas, we might not fully understand that God forgives us in freely chosen vulnerability. But with Thomas we realize that the God who suffered and still suffers in the world's victims invites us into history-changing transformation.

Thomas reminds us that honestly facing our doubts can open us to greater faith. The courage Thomas showed in doubting allowed the risen Christ to reveal God's face in a new and fuller way. Thomas' story also demonstrates that Christ's resurrection frees us to forgive and be forgiven.

Let us celebrate and emulate Thomas as a patron of great and courageous faith.



Mass Intentions

Monday, April 25

8:30AM For the People

Tuesday, April 26

8:30AM Leo Marion—Rita Evans

Wednesday, April 27

8:30 AM For the People

Thursday, April 28

8:30AM NO MASS

Friday, April 29

8:30AM John B. Madden Jr.—Vince and Kathy Jimino
All Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, April 30

4:00 PM Charles V. Drozd Jr.—Steve Coffey
Heidi Wimmer Coffey—Steve Coffey

Sunday, May 1

8:00 AM Helen Lettko—Ann Jensen
Gregory S. Keefe—Tony Lomonoco & Elizabeth

10:00 AM Theresa M. Marro—Cathy & Tony Atanasio
Carol Donovan—Kathy & Ed Lilly

Monday, May 2

8:30AM For the People

Tuesday, May 3

8:30AM For the People

Wednesday, May 4

8:30AM For the People

Thursday, May 5

8:30AM NO MASS

Friday, May 6

8:30 AM All Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, May 7

4:00 PM Marjorie Bassett—Linda Biittig
The Callahan Family—Steve Coffey

Sunday, May 8

8:00 AM Kathy Bayly—Jim & Cindy Coleman

10:00 AM For the People



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



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 4/30 & 5/1

1. Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32, 40b-41
2. Revelation 5:11-14
3. John 21:1-19

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 5/7 & 5/8

1. Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52
2. Revelation 7:9, 14b-17
3. John 10:27-30

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 5/14 & 5/15

1. Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27
2. Revelation 21:1-5a
3. John 13:31-33a, 34-35



**Saturday, April 30
4:00pm**

Altar Servers

Lectors Bob Wereb and Dave Helwig

Counters

**Sunday, May 1
8:00am**

Altar Servers

Lectors Mary Sapp and Jim Colton

Counters

10:00am

Altar Servers

Lectors Mary K Lettko and Gretchen Schulz

Counters

**Saturday, May 7
4:00pm**

Altar Servers

Lectors

Counters

**Sunday, May 8
8:00am**

Altar Servers

Lectors

Counters

10:00am

Altar Servers

Lectors

Counters

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