



# 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**  
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Linda Banker, **Pastoral Associate for Pastoral Care**  
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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 May 14 & 15  
Attendance 322**

**Collection for May 7 & 8  
\$3,258.00 Includes E-Giving**

**FEAST OF THE ASCENSION**

Thursday, May 26th is the Feast of the Ascension and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are as follows:

Wednesday, May 25, 7:00pm

Thursday, May 26, 8:30am

**A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE**

God of love,

Our world is wrought with war and violence,  
as brother turns on brother,  
and the innocent awake to gunfire and bombs.

May Your compassion and healing  
move hearts and bring a new day to Ukraine.

Fortify your children to resist aggression  
and instead become instruments of Peace.

We ask this in the name of the One  
who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

Amen

**SUMMER FUN**

**TRI-CITY VALLEY CATS**

St. Henry's has tickets for Faith and Family Night at the Valley Cats on Friday, June 3. Seats are located behind the net between Home Plate and Third Base. Cost is \$12. per "loaded ticket", which includes admission plus \$5.00 loaded value to be used at concession stands, kiosks, or in Southpaw's Den. Just 15 tickets are still available. Please call the office at 674-3818 if you are interested. Why not join your parish family for some summer fun?

**CHAIR-EASY YOGA 5 SESSIONS LEFT**

Some of the Diabetes Support Group attended Chair Yoga sessions during the Spring of 2021, benefitting from the exercise and relaxation techniques presented by Keri Stern. Keri has agreed to hold 8 classes at St. Henry's Community Room, beginning on Wednesday, May 4, at 5:15 and running for 45 minutes, until 6:00. The offering per person will be \$68. for 8 weekly sessions.

There will be ample room for social distance precautions.

Please call the office (518-674-3818) for more information.

**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.

**Please Note** - The parish office will be closed on **Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day.**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Congratulations to our youth who were confirmed on May 14th.**

Cecilia Margaret *Bernadette* Colton

Evan Coon

John Edward *Kendrick* Galvin

Jonah Thomas *Jude* Jones

Clayton *Florian* LeBlanc

Andrew David *William* Loucks

Nick *John* Rogers

Zach *Joseph* Rogers

Hannah *Lucy* Stewart

Amelia *Maria* Peura

Eamonn *Francis* Kelly

Edwin Harold Corbin IV

Benjamin *Anthony* Keens

Romeyn *William* Murray

Ava Connery *Juliana* Faragon

Dylan Lee Gregory Sutton

A special **Thank You** to those who helped prepare our candidates for this day. Our parents, sponsors, and our pastor, Rev. Thomas Holmes and our catechists, Laura Buzon, and Peter Wrenn. We also thank those who provided the lovely reception after the ceremony.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Our youth are the future of the church. Without faith what do we really have in our lives? A very important part of our job as a community is to pass that faith on to our children. Without catechists to guide our youth we may lose them in the future. **We ask that you take the time to consider volunteering to be a catechist for faith formation.** There are many other ways to volunteer as well. The commitment might seem large, but the benefit will last our youth forever. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Sarah Tripp at 518-674-3818.

**WELCOME TO ST. HENRY'S**

We are happy that you decided to worship with us. If you are visiting just for today, we pray that God will be with you on your journey. If you are seeking a church to call home, we would be honored to welcome you into our parish community. If you are interested in joining our parish family, please call the parish office at 518-674-3818.

## DEACON BOB'S CORNER

Sixth Sunday of Easter by Mary M. McGlone

"This will spell the end of Christianity!"

How many times has history recorded a similar warning? The first written report of this threat comes in today's reading from Acts. This crisis could have relegated the Jesus movement to obscurity or even ended it.

Reading Acts 15, it's easy to overlook the comment: "There arose no little dissension and debate." The community faced a serious conflict pitting Paul against faithful Christian Jews who knew in their bones that God's covenant demanded strict faithfulness to the Mosaic law and practices. Contemporary comparisons to the thinking that divided the Judeans and Paul's crowd might include bishops who openly criticize Pope Francis' teachings, or the priorities espoused by the majority of the 45,000 Catholic sisters in the United States (nearly 660,000 in the world) and the approximately 95,000 worldwide members of Opus Dei. All sides believe they are being faithful to God's will.

Karl Rahner, one of Catholicism's greatest theologians, [once wrote](#) that there have been three pivotal moments in the history of the church. The first was early Jewish Christianity defined by the events of the death and resurrection of Jesus. The second, which followed quickly, was the community structured by Acts 15. This allowed Christianity to become established in the Greco-Roman world such that it would become the major faith tradition of Western civilization. Finally, according to Rahner, we have the transition begun in the Second Vatican Council. In this, the Western church began to become a truly world church. Acts 15 might be just what we need to discern what the Spirit would call forth from the polarizations of our day.

Ostensibly, the problem that divided the early community had to do with circumcision. But as Rahner points out, the Judean faction rightly realized that once circumcision was no longer required, such things as the centrality of Jerusalem, the Sabbath, the accepted Scriptures and moral traditions could all be in jeopardy. In simplistic terms, the question was whether one had to be a religious Jew in order to be a Christian. When baptism replaced circumcision, women and gentile disciples were as legitimate as any male Jew. This debate was not about a simple surgical procedure! As a result of it, the future for followers of Jesus would be as different from the Jewish past as the heavenly Jerusalem was from the world in which Jesus had been tried and condemned to death.

Through a process that presaged Francis' synodality, the church debated and prayed. They surely argued and came to tears. Finally, they arrived at the point that they could say to the whole church, "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place undue burdens" on the gentile Christians. The people of the "whole church" who met in Jerusalem came to the earth-shattering conclusion that Jewish law and practice were not essential to faith in Jesus. They saw that John's heavenly Jerusalem no longer needed a temple because God dwelt among the people. They realized that the core of Christianity was characterized by relationships of love that reflected the reign of God Jesus had preached.

It's hard for us to grasp just how bold that conclusion was. In hindsight, it's easy to affirm that the community was led by the Holy Spirit. They were laying claim to the promise of today's Gospel, that the Holy Spirit would remind them of everything Jesus had taught. More importantly for us, they realized that in doing so, the Spirit did not reproduce or tie them to Jesus' exact words. Instead, the Spirit would constantly orient them in the direction in which Jesus had led them — toward union of heart and mind with God and one another.

The fierceness of the disagreement among the disciples proved their deep commitment to the Gospel message. When they gathered to debate and pray, their commitment only grew deeper as they recognized the Spirit working through them, forming them into a community more attached to Christ than to their opinions. In the words of the [preparatory document for the upcoming synod](#), they gained the "ability to imagine a different future for the Church" because they all took part in "processes of listening, dialogue, and community discernment."

As we prepare for Pentecost, we realize that once again, we can devolve into competing sects or collaborate with God's unifying grace. The future of the church is in our hands. Today again, we are called to believe strongly enough in the promise of the Spirit that we will risk dialogue and discernment, the synodality which God expects of us in the third millennium. It is possible that we too will be able to say, "It seems good to the Holy Spirit and to us that ... "



# Mass Intentions

## Monday, May 23

8:30AM For the People

## Tuesday, May 24

8:30AM For the People

## Wednesday, May 25

8:30 AM For the People

7:00pm Ascension of the Lord

## Thursday, May 26

8:30AM Ascension of the Lord

## Friday, May 27

8:30AM All Souls in Purgatory

## Saturday, May 28

4:00 PM The Murray Family—Steve Coffey

Michael Murin (B-Day)—Family

## Sunday, May 29

8:00 AM For the People

10:00 AM Ben Lindeman (B-Day)—Family

## Monday, May 30

8:30AM Frank Colvin

## Tuesday, May 31

8:30AM For the People

## Wednesday, June 1

8:30AM For the People

## Thursday, June 2

8:30AM NO MASS

## Friday, June 3

8:30 AM For the People

## Saturday, June 4

4:00 PM Floyd Ernest—Family

The Wimmer Family—Steve Coffey

George Murin—Family

## Sunday, June 5

8:00 AM Ruth Kerin VanAmburgh (B-day) - Family

10:00 AM Maribeth St.Germain—Family

Harry Kwartá—Donna Tallman

## 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**

**If you would like to help prepare a meal quarterly for Joseph's House or monthly for Damien Center please call Lynn Waterman at 518-674-3377 or 518-469-8687**



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 5/28 & 5/29

1. Acts of the Apostles 7:55-60
2. Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20
3. John 17:20-26

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 6/03 & 6/04

1. Genesis 11:1-9
2. Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b
3. John 7:37-39

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Sat.—Sun 6/11 & 6/12

1. Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2, 22-29
2. Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23
3. John 14:23-29



**Saturday, May 28  
4:00pm**

**Altar Servers**

**Lectors**

Bill Petley and Jean Chenette

**Counters**

**Sunday, May 29  
8:00am**

**Altar Servers**

**Lectors**

Theresa Schmid and Mike Hayes

**Counters**

**10:00am**

**Altar Servers**

**Lectors**

Stephanie Hayes and Mary K Lettko

**Counters**

**Saturday, June 4  
4:00pm**

**Altar Servers**

**Lectors**

Bob Wereb and Kathy Jimino

**Counters**

**Sunday, June 5  
8:00am**

**Altar Servers**

**Lectors**

Bob Lutringer and Ruth McGlew

**Counters**

**10:00am**

**Altar Servers**

**Lectors**

Mark Frost and Gretchen Schulz

**Counters**

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