

*Welcome to St. Mary's Church, Clayton  
& the Catholic Community of Alexandria, Alexandria Bay*



## Christmas and The Feast of the Holy Family

### **Deacon Neil Fuller**

**Pastoral Life Coordinator**

Phone: 315-405-6910

email: [pastoralliasociate@stmarysclayton.org](mailto:pastoralliasociate@stmarysclayton.org)

### **Rev. Arthur J. LaBaff**

**Sacramental Minister**

St. Mary's Rectory: 315-686-3398

### **Rev. Douglas G. Comstock**

**Pastor Emeritus**

St. Cyril's Rectory: 315-482-2670

### **Deacon Assistants**

Bruce Daugherty  
Gary Frank

Bernie Slate  
Joel Walentuk

### **Parish Office**

Maribeth McFadden, Secretary

email: [reception@stmarysclayton.org](mailto:reception@stmarysclayton.org)

**Mailing Address:** 521 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624

**Office Hours:** Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm

### **Religious Education**

**St. Mary's:** Jennifer Barton 315-686-2638

email: [religioused@stmarysclayton.org](mailto:religioused@stmarysclayton.org)

**St. Cyril's:** Trina Henry 315-482-2252

email: [thenry2252@gmail.com](mailto:thenry2252@gmail.com)

**Buildings/Grounds & Cemeteries,** Jason Montondo

Call the Parish Office 315-686-3398

### **Websites:**

[www.stmarysclayton.org](http://www.stmarysclayton.org)

[www.stcyrils.org](http://www.stcyrils.org)

## MASS SCHEDULE:

### FRIDAY, December 24, Christmas Eve

5:00 (SC) Members of Our Parish Family  
5:00 (SM) All Souls

### SATURDAY, December 25, Christmas

10:00 (SM) Faithful Departed  
10:00 (SC) People of the Parishes

### SUNDAY, December 26, Holy Family

9:00 (SM) People of the Parishes  
10:30 (SC) Pamela Shepherd by John & Toni Howard

### MONDAY, December 27

8:00 (SC) No Liturgy  
9:00 (SM) Communion Service

### TUESDAY, December 28

8:00 (SC) Henry Kahrs by Dc. Bernie Slate  
9:00 (SM) Communion Service

### WEDNESDAY, December 29

8:00 (SC) Donald Watson by Estate of Emma George  
9:00 (SM) Elmer Greey by Dc. Neil & Dee Fuller

### THURSDAY, December 30

8:00 (SC) Faithful Departed  
9:00 (SM) Hedy McClosky by Herb & Elaine Listerman

### FRIDAY, December 31

4:00 (SM) Chester Burns by Cab, Jan, & family  
5:00 (SC) Intentions of the Celebrant

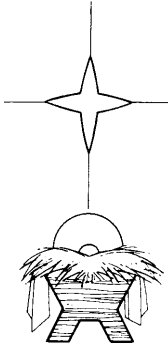
### SATURDAY, January 1

10:00 (SC) All of Our Parishioners  
4:00 (SM) People of the Parishes

### SUNDAY, January 2, Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 (SM) Rick Gifford by the People of St. John's  
10:30 (SC) John Durand by John & Patty Kendall & family

**St. Mary's Booster Club:** Winners of the first weekly drawing on December 10 are Diane Lamon, Shirley McGrath, and Gloria Musser. Tickets are still available for this Booster Club. Ticket cost is \$15 which enters you in weekly drawings and the dinner on February 12. The Booster Club is a fun, social event that supports St. Mary's parish. To join, volunteer, or for questions, contact Donna (778-8672), Tim (778-2484), or the parish office (686-3398).



## December 26, Holy Family

**The Lord Calls:** "He gave power to become children of God." If you think you may be called to share the Father's love as a priest, deacon, sister, or brother, talk to Fr. Art LaBaff, Fr. Chris Carrara at ccarra-ra@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, or Sister Mary Eamon Lyng at elyng@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, ext. 1345.

### St. Mary's Christmas Community Table:

Thank you to everyone who helped with this event. Whether you provided a dish or worked at the event, or made phone calls, your help made the event a great success! Raffle winners are JoeyLynn Ramsier, Linda Daly, Norma Zimmer, Lucy LaPierre, Elizabeth Docteur, Yvonne Pike, Nat Natali, Hannah Woodley, Myrna Carter, and David Morse.

**2021 Donations:** Tax rules require that donations to your parish for 2021 be received by December 31. Donations received January 1 or after will be applied to the 2022 tax year. Letters acknowledging your 2021 donations will be mailed by January 31 by bulk mail. *Bulk mail is not forwarded to your winter address.*

## Weekly Giving

*Thank you for your continued support.*

<u>St. Mary's</u>	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 1,804.00	\$ 3,558.08
Plate	\$ 3,618.00	\$ 1,025.00
Fuel	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 46.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 1,047.11	

<u>Alexandria</u>	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 924.00	
Plate	275.00	
Electronic	0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,199.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,367.00</b>
Fuel	\$ 66.00	Fuel Goal
<b>Fuel to Date</b>	<b>\$ 16,371.65</b>	<b>\$19,357.00</b>
Immaculate Conception	\$ 249.00	
Christmas	450.00	
Religious Retirement	580.00	

Please consider electronic giving...a safe and consistent way to support your parish.

**From the Parish Life Coordinator:**

At this special and sacred time of the year, I wish to extend to you and your loved ones Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year. While we might recall difficult times and frustrations in 2021, we continue with faith, love, joy, and hope in 2022.

The generosity of your gifts given to the Lord are modeled upon what the Three Wise Men presented to the newborn King. The times spent on First Fridays in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Morning Prayer, and the many gatherings of prayer, and praises to the Lord spent by you are very moving and a blessing.

The talent you share from ministering at Mass to making others feel Christ's compassion and love by visiting the home-bound, bringing a meal, or just a smile to many is impressive. All you offer in support and sustenance of our Church, as well as shaping its future, is indeed a blessing to all.

At "this most wonderful time of the year" may you and your loved ones find joy and fulfillment as surely did Joseph and Mary.

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of goodwill.

**Christmas Collection:** The Diocese of Ogdensburg's Retirement Plan for Priests has long been supported by a percentage of parish contributions from its annual Christmas collection. 75% of this year's Christmas collection will support the Plan, with our parishes keeping 25%. Currently 40 retired priests, and 12 active priests age 70 and older are expected to receive pension benefits of \$1,020,000 in 2021-22. Also 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests, estimated at \$250,000 this fiscal year is paid by the Plan. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will help provide for the retirement needs of priests who will retire in the future. Say thank you to your pastor and all priests of the diocese through a generous contribution to our Christmas Collection.

**2022 Calendars** are available at the entrances of St. Cyril's Church, thoughtfully provided to you by Costello Funeral Service. Calendars are at St. Mary's entrances, thoughtfully provided by Cummings Funeral Services.

*St. Mary's Christmas Flower Memorials*

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| M/M Lawrence Balcom  | Bill Carpenter      |
| M/M Harrison Balcom  | Ronny Woodley       |
| M/M Joseph Hunt  | Mary Woodley        |
| Elizabeth Balcom Ridell  | Martha Strouse      |
| Daniel Nicholas, Jr.   | Fred Keil           |
| Jamie Nicholas   | Bruce Umstead       |
| M/M Victor Natali, Sr.   | Geroge Leavery      |
| M/M Ray Leavery  | Victor Natali, Jr.  |
| Arlene & Gerald Orvis, Sr.   | Robert Pacific      |
| Harlo & Lila Phelps  | Waylon Phelps       |
| Grant & Teresa Roden   | Thomas Corroon      |
| Doc, Betsy, & Peter Eppolito   | John Ablan          |
| Frank & Bertha Bond  | Pa Larkin           |
| Michael Geiss  | Dan Hudson          |
| Curtis & Florence Bristol  | Gerald Bristol      |
| Fred & Rena Ely  | George Ferjet       |
| Bob & Gladys Hunter  | Agnes Heckmann      |
| Mary Lou Handy   | Sally Walton        |
| Bill & Frances Wallace   | Joe & Ruth Kelly    |
| Charles & Bettie Cipullo   | Michele Wild        |
| Leonard O'Brien  | Pat Bentley         |
| Charles & Beatrice Arnold  | Ron Houppert        |
| Gil & Nancy Houppert   | Robert Serafin      |
| Charles & Aneita Heath   | Miriam Bowes        |
| George & Beatrice Bowes  | Paul Clobridge      |
| Phillip & Lydia Zang   | Mary Bastian        |
| Carl & Albertine Woodard   | Maureen Littlefield |
| George & Evelyn Drake  | Timothy Bristol     |
| Emma & Sye Lingenfelter  | Richard LoMonaco    |
| Bill & Loretta Aubertine   | Teresa Mitchell     |
| Larry & Anne Aubertine   | Patrick Moore       |
| Bill & Chris Ierlan  | Thomas Lawrence     |
| Mary & Pat Cantwell  | Dominic Lynch       |
| Bruce & Frances Ierlan   | Frances Lynch       |
| Tom, Pete, & Ruthie Ierlan   | Patricia Link       |
| Martha & James Riches  | Sally Baker         |
| Clay & Mari Jo Riches  | Diane Riches        |
| Ernest & Ernie Amyot   | Joseph Amyot        |
| Elizabeth & Augustus Tabolt  | Joann Collins       |
| Claire & Gerald Tabolt   | Polly Jobson        |
| Russell & Mary Tabolt  | Grandpa Barton      |
| Raymond John Heady, Sr.  | Grandpa Hesler      |
| Deceased Arnold, Forget, Houppert, Hopper, & Willis family   |                     |
| Deceased Bond & Larkin family  |                     |
| Deceased Sourwine & White family   |                     |
| Deceased Lucia, Talbot, Buckley, Sisson, & Gaetano family  |                     |
| Deceased LaClair, Bragger, Carlin, Blank, & Heulbert family  |                     |
| Deceased Wilder, Bloodough, Casselman, LaClair, House, LaLonde, Brabant, Walker, Margrey, Richardson, Gregor, and Aubertine family |                     |

## From the Bishop:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At our Christmas Vigil Mass, we will hear St. Luke tell us that God was born in a manger because there was no room for Him in the inn. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior this year, it is fitting that we ask ourselves: Is there room for God in my heart?

Today, there is so little room in our hearts for many—the unborn, the poor, those suffering from mental illness, the migrant, the victim of unjust discrimination, the elderly, the addict, the lonely, the imprisoned, indigenous peoples, the abused, the terror-stricken refugee. So many women, men, and children are hurting. They are members of our families. They are us!

We enter this Advent Season, preparing for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, grateful for blessings received, but also keenly aware of our Christian duty to be the hands and tender heart of Christ to those who currently warrant scarce attention from us. This Christmas, let us resolve, inspired by our own time spent with Jesus, to see His Face in our sisters and brothers who we too often neglect. We yearn to make room in our hearts and in our lives for the hurting. Their human dignity demands it. Our Christian dignity impels us.

We pray that the beautiful acts of generosity that characterize the Christmas Season, will be transformed from seasonal gestures of charity to lifelong acts of justice and mercy. Such personal transformation will give tangible evidence that we are *Christ-led, Christ-fed, and Hope-filled*. We can do great things in Christ Jesus, the Savior whose birth we celebrate with such joy and gratitude. Our God's unconditional love and boundless mercy became flesh and bones in the Person of Jesus Christ so that we might extend God's compassion and love.

May the Christ Child bring you and your loved ones the Gift of Love, the Blessing of Hope and the Promise of Peace. A blessed Christmas and joy-filled New Year!

Faithfully yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg

## Religious Ed News

**St. Mary's:** Classes will resume on January 9.

**St. Cyril's:** Meeting after Mass on Sunday, January 9 to review and hand out next lessons.

## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24

5pm at St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay

5pm at St. Mary's, Clayton

### Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25

10am at St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay

10am at St. Mary's, Clayton

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### December 26 Weekend Masses

#### St. Cyril's

No Anticipated Mass

10:30am Sunday, Dec 26

#### St. Mary's

No Anticipated Mass

9am Sunday, Dec. 26

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### Feast of Mary, Mother of God

#### St. Cyril's

5pm Friday, Dec 31

10am Saturday, Jan 1

#### St. Mary's

4pm Friday, Dec 31

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### January 2 Weekend Masses

#### St. Cyril's

No Anticipated Mass

10:30am Sunday, Jan 2

#### St. Mary's

4pm Saturday, Jan 1

9am Sunday, Jan 2

### Music Ministry Notes:

#### St. Mary's, Clayton

The words "great anxiety" stood out to me from today's Gospel reading, and I feel it more or less summarized a feeling with which parents constantly battle. I once read: "Motherhood is really about accepting the fact that you will be permanently worried for the rest of your life". I tend to agree, and can empathize with Mary's fear in the Gospel reading. One of the things that I think best combats anxiety is faith, and the lyrics from our offertory hymn help to reinforce that concept: *"Like a child rests in its mothers arms, so will I rest in you"*.

If you are interested in joining the choir, contact Corrine Willis at [corrinewillis@gmail.com](mailto:corrinewillis@gmail.com) or 315-221-3689.

#### St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay

The St. Cyril's Choir gathers at 9:45 for practice before 10:30 Mass. We love new members. For questions, contact Becky Rose at [becky.a.rose@gmail.com](mailto:becky.a.rose@gmail.com) or 315-778-8419.



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