

Epiphany of Our Lord Church

10893 SISSON HWY.
NORTH COLLINS, NY 14111



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 5TH & 6TH

337-2686 • Fax: 337-0028

www.epiphanyofourlordrc.com

Email: epiphanyparish@gmail.com

Facebook: Epiphany of Our Lord R.C. Parish Community

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9am-12pm

Tuesdays and Thursday: 9am-12pm and 2pm-4pm

Please call the office if you need to make an appointment outside of Office Hours.

Saturday Vigil Mass- 4:00pm

Sunday Masses— 8:30am & 11:00am

Daily Mass: 8:30am

Monday-Friday and First Saturdays

CONFESSIONS

Every Day after each Mass and by appointment (703-4066).
Please speak with Father if you would like to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Mitch Byeck (703-4066)

DeaconRoy Dibb

Parish Business ManagerSarah Jo Schmitt

Faith Formation Coord. Tracy Tremblay

Music Director

Cantor/Leader of Song

Facility Coord. (Volunteer) Mary Ann Gabel

Maintenance (Volunteer) Roger Powenski

PARISH LAY TRUSTEES..Daniel Gabel • Bonnie Hohman

PASTORAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chairperson Roger Powenski

Secretary Bonnie Hohman

Vicariate Council Representative Marty Ptak

Vicariate Council Representative Mary Richmond

PARISH MINISTRIES

Baptismal Prep FormationTina Kron

Finance Committee Robin Hohman

Liturgy Committee..... Annette Noto

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Compassion Ministry..... Anne Schmitz

Bereavement Contact Parish Office, 337-2686

PARISH HALL RENTAL: To reserve the hall for a function, please contact Mary Gattie at 337-3150.

For Information on Baptisms, Weddings, Faith Formation, Parish Registration, and other Church Activities, please call the Parish Office.

Stay awake, for the day of the Lord is at hand. The voice of God breaks into our world through sacred Scripture and the witness of modern-day disciples. Does it resound and echo in our thoughts, words, and actions, forming and shaping our lives? Or, is it dulled and dimmed by our worldly ways? Now is the time to listen, now is the time to act, for the kingdom of God is at hand.



**Mass Intentions
For the Week of December 6th
(C) Church**

Sat., Dec. 5th: *Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent*

4:00pm (C) +Donna Motak
By Carolyn Andolina and Family

Sun, Dec. 6th: *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:30am (C) +Rick Jemison
By Joyce Schmitz and Dave Winter
11:00am (C) +Otto Werneth
By Hilde Werneth

Monday, Dec. 7th: *Saint Ambrose*

8:30am (C) +Roy Hornberger
By Betty and Family

Tuesday, Dec 8th: *The Immaculate Conception*

8:30am (C) +Rick Jemison
By Norm and Sylvia Grapes
7:00pm (C) +Jim Schmitz
By The Family

Wednesday, Dec. 9th: *Advent Weekday*

8:30am (C) For All Epiphany of Our Lord Parishioners
By Father Mitch Byeck

Thursday, Dec. 10th: *Advent Weekday*

8:30am (C) +For All Souls
By Parish All Souls Intentions

Friday, Dec. 11th: *Advent Weekday*

8:30am (C) +Mary Regina Koessler
By Phil & Tracy Tremblay

Sat, Dec. 12th: *Vigil of Third Sunday of Advent*

4:00pm (C) +Ron Schmitt Sr.
By Ronnie and Monnie Geiger

Sun, Dec 13th: *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:30am (C) +Edwin Gabel
By Denny & Dolores Trimm
11:00am (C) +Werner Stang
By Folts Family

The Sanctuary Candle in Church is lit this week for Otto Werneth as requested by Hilde Werneth.

The Sanctuary Candle in the Rectory Chapel is lit this week for Ronnie and Connie Gabel as requested by MaryAnn and Girls.

Readings for the Week of December 6th

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17/Lk 1:26-38



Weekly Collection (11/29): \$1,768.00
Total Budget (Sept. 1st - Aug. 31st)
\$145,000.00

Current Collection Total for this Fiscal Year:
\$31,803.62

Lector Schedule

December 12th, 4pm– Sylvia Michalski
December 13th, 8:30am– Paul & Robin Hohman
December 13th, 11am– Annette Noto

Compassion Ministry

To place someone on the prayer list, please complete and return a card available at the entrances of the church, or call the rectory. Individuals will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless the rectory is notified otherwise. *If you have a loved one on our list and they pass away, please let the parish office know.*

Vicky (Achtly) Alessi, Lena Anzalone, Cindy Gabel Amacher, Ann Andzel, Nellie Jo Ballard, Elaine Bauer, Romie Lee Bettinger, Ernest Bracikowski, Christine Brown, Mary Jane Butzer, Joey Crocker, Paula Czora, Esther Dittenhofer, Norie Donhauser, John Duggan, Otto Duggan, Anne Edwards, Art Gernatt, Norm Grapes, Patrick Grapes, Sylvia Grapes, Mark Grugel, Ashley Haettich, Bob Holbrook, Robert Hogan, Jeanne Hutchings, Daniel Kozub, Rose Kohn, Irma Martin, Sara Mackey Dunn, Andrew Marconi, Diane May, Bob McNerney, Millie Muehlbauer, Marty Niefergold, Jean Ott, Holly Pearce, Andrew Remero, Pat Ricotta, Levi Rothfuss, Kathy Smith, Danielle Stark, Lorraine Stark, Donelle Thomas, Trisha Weiss, Ed Urban, Gary Wentland, Mike Winter.



Christmas Flower Sale

Envelopes will be available in the back of Church, and at the side door, to order Flower Memorials for Christmas. Orders need to be returned to the office (or in the collection basket) by **Monday December 14th.**

If you would like to order poinsettias for home, please call the Parish office. Orders for home are due by December 7th.

Christmas Card Blessings

We invite you to bring your, **addressed and postage stamped** Christmas Cards to Mass with you and place them in the basket in front of the Advent Wreath. A label will be placed on them saying that they were blessed at Epiphany. They will be mailed out for you on the following Monday!



Covid-19 Update: SCOTUS Ruling November 25th, 2020

From the Diocese of Buffalo Office of Worship

Late on November 25, 2020, the Supreme Court of the United States issued an opinion in *Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn, New York v. Andrew Cuomo, Governor of New York* in a 5 to 4 decision which affects the state's ability to define finite capacity numbers in houses of worship.

After consultation with Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Buffalo, parishes are encouraged to:

- Follow all CDC guidelines and rational advice of medical professionals and maintain six foot physical distance.
- Continue to require the use of masks at all liturgies and follow other well-established diocesan policies for the celebration of Masses.
- Worship may be conducted, with no finite maximum, maintaining six feet of physical separation, as this is still a cautious approach, which experience has shown over the last several months in a variety of settings to be safe.

The Bishop welcomes this ruling, as "food and drink for the soul are as essential as food and drink for the stomach."



Dear Parishioners,

As much as we would love to be able to do the Angel Tree as we have in years past, the organizations involved feel that this year, because of distancing and time constraints, it would be best if it could be done purely as gift cards. The families can use gas cards, groceries, discount stores, and restaurants. Please try and keep the cards as local as possible (North Collins/Eden) as many lack transportation. Amazon cards would work as well, as things can be delivered.

I will put a large, wrapped "Gift" box underneath the tree in the back of Church. Please put the gift cards/certificates into the box, by no later than December 6th. We will see that they get distributed to those in need.

As always, thank you for your continued support.
Nancy Koester, Angel Tree Chair

Second Collection December 12th/13th

Next week, our special collection will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious. "Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses," says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Mass Intentions for 2021 may now be scheduled!

To schedule a Mass please contact the parish office.

A Mass is a sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, brought forward in time to the present. At Mass you could say that a "time warp" is opened in which the sacrifice of Jesus is mystically brought forward to be present to us. When we are present at a celebration of the Eucharist, we are not merely turning our attention to the past, we are actually bringing forward into the present the most pivotal moment of human history.

Masses can be offered for a number of intentions: for the deceased, to invoke the Lord's special graces for a friend or loved one, for a successful surgery and recovery, or for an anniversary. A \$15 donation is asked for each Mass requested.

If you would like to request a Sanctuary Candle to be lit, please contact the Parish Office. A \$10 donation is asked per week of the Sanctuary Candle being lit.



Due to the current guidelines that we are working with this year, we have decided to add additional Masses to our Christmas Schedule. All Masses will also be live-streamed on our Facebook Page.

Please consider attending the additional Masses to help spread the number of people at each Mass because of the Covid-19 restrictions:

- Thursday, December 24th: 4pm
- Thursday, December 24th: 8pm (additional Mass)
- Friday, December 25th: 12am (Midnight)
- Friday, December 25th 8:30am (additional Mass)
- Friday, December 25th 11am



This year's penance service will be held on Wednesday December 16th at 7pm in the Parish Hall. There will be 4 priests available to hear confessions that evening.

Second Sunday of Advent Reflections

John the Baptist is the last prophet before the coming of the Christ, and he is the first to recognize Jesus once he came. John fulfills Isaiah's prophecy as that voice crying out in the desert— *prepare the way of the Lord*. His clothing of camel's hair was traditional garb for prophets, and his diet of *locusts and wild honey* perhaps reflected either Jewish purity laws or a particular communal asceticism. As it was, it stood in stark contrast to the finery of the Jewish religious leaders and elders of that time, namely the Sadducees and Pharisees.

Yet John was drawing large crowds to the Jordan riverbank. Some likely came out of desire, believing he would lead them to the Messiah. Others perhaps came out of curiosity. John spoke like no one else, and called them to conversion, speaking with conviction. With such a following, it would have been easy for John to proclaim himself the Christ, and even easier for the people to believe him. Yet his humility and holiness meant that John could not lie or mislead them. He made it clear that his message and baptism were both inferior to the one, as he said, *who is mightier than I*.

John's preparation of the way for Christ is a model for us, especially in this Advent season. He challenges us to consider whether we lead others to Jesus, or whether our actions are motivated by a need for attention and affirmation. Is our lived faith attractive to those who have none? This last question is especially important, for while we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, we also prepare for his Second Coming. And, as Saint Peter says in our second reading, *The day of the Lord will come like a thief*.

Peter helps us regain the sense of urgency regarding our preparations for the return of our king, when he says, *the Lord does not delay... he is patient with you... not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance*. Jesus is giving the whole world time for conversion; that we might play a part in sharing the Good News of Christ with the world, for the salvation of the world, is a great and weighty gift. And now is the time.

As we await the new heavens and a new earth, Saint Peter tells us we get to choose what *sort of persons [we] ought to be*. We are given these days to grow in holiness and devotion so that we will be *eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace*, when he comes. During this busy time of year, a time when we are doing so much to prepare for the coming of Christmas, let us make sure to heed the voice crying out in the wilderness— to prepare for the coming of the Christ, not just as a babe in Bethlehem, but his imminent return in glory as our King.

First Annual Epiphany Christmas Tree Lighting!

Friday December 18th at 7pm

Join us as we light the decorated outdoor Christmas tree located near the front of the Church.

Christmas Carol Signing

Hot Chocolate and Cookies



All Are welcome at this free community event!

Decrease Pain
Increase Function
Heal!



870-3993
North Collins

Tracy Tremblay
Physical Therapy



Water Well Specialists since 1986
Water Softeners • Drinking Water Systems
Goulds Pumps & Tanks
Solutions for Low-Yield Wells
Quality Service • Iron/Sulfur Removal
10720 Sisson Highway • Langford, NY
337-0088

MUSACCHIO & PYLE
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
*Family Law, Wills & Estate,
Personal Injury and Real Estate Law*

215 West Main Street
Gowanda, New York 14070

Office: 716-532-3351
JAMES A. MUSACCHIO

JOHN HAIER
BULK MILK
& WATER HAULING
Pools & Wells
992-9630



**MENTLEY
FUNERAL HOME**

411 Rock City St.
Little Valley, NY
716-938-9159

105 E. Main St.
Gowanda, NY
716-532-2652

catholicmatch®
New York



CatholicMatch.com/NY



Dump Truck / Water Truck Service
Commercial Landscaping
Backhoe • Bulldozer • Septic
Don/ Don Jr./ Dave/ Daryl Fox
337-2546
3728 Langford Rd., N. Collins

**ADT-Monitored
Home Security**

Get 24-Hour Protection
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251

**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**



\$29.95/MO
BILLED QUARTERLY

PLUS
SPECIAL
OFFER

CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE

Contact **James McGee** to place an ad today!
jmcgee@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6429

Too Sick for Mass?

SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!

Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered
right to your inbox!

www.parishesonline.com



**WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES**



- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT: careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

**WENTLAND
FUNERAL HOME
AND MONUMENT**

N. Collins
New York
337-2632



4-D-5-3

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

14-0209