



SOLEMNITY of MARY THE HOLY MOTHER of GOD

January 1, 2023

Monday, January 2

No Scheduled Mass

Tuesday, January 3

12:00pm (SE) - John & Nancy Boisseau by the Estate

Preceded by Holy Hour at 11:00 am

Wednesday, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

12:00pm (SPJ) - Walter Collins

by Thomas Spierto & Joan Spierto Collins

Thursday, January 5 - St. John Neumann, Bishop

12:00pm (SPJ) - Deceased Members of the Sayward Family

by Carolyn, Jane & Nick

Friday, January 6

12:00pm (SPN) - Russ Paquette by the Huchro Family

Saturday, January 7

4:30pm (SE) - Colleen Bryant by Nancy & Paul Kullman

Sunday, January 8

8:30am (SPN) - Pro Populo

10:30am (SPJ) - Deceased Members of the McGlinchy & Reiss

Families by Peter McGlinchy

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown

(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro

(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex

(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of January 2

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3-6/Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-9/Jn 1:35-42

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1-5/Jn 1:43-51

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Jn 2:1-11

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth - Attendance: 22

Envelopes: \$437.25

Christmas Flowers: \$20.00; Fuel: \$40.00

Total: \$497.25

Immaculate Conception: \$122.25

Retirement Fund for Religious: \$15.00

Immaculate Conception: \$10.00; Holy Christmas: \$395.00

Saint Philip Neri - Attendance: 53

Envelopes: \$2,095.00; Plate: \$214.00

Fuel: \$10.00; Christmas Flowers: \$20.00

Total: \$1,328.00

Holy Christmas: \$369.00

St Philip of Jesus - Attendance: 26

Envelopes: \$665.00; Plate: \$50.00

Fuel: \$50.00

Total: 765.00

Holy Christmas: \$465.00

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The monthly fuel collection will take place next weekend at all our Churches. Thanking you in advance for your anticipated generosity!

SEEKING A SUMMER YOUTH CAMP DIRECTOR

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is seeking an energetic and dedicated individual for the position of Summer Youth Camp Director at the Guggenheim Center. Located at, 1468 County Route 18, Saranac Lake, NY, Summer Camp Guggenheim has been a "home away from home" for young people ages 12 to 18 years old since 1972. Hike, Swim, Praise, and a whole lot more! Summer camp Guggenheim is a high energy camp filled with exciting activities & opportunities for campers to experience their faith & joyfully celebrate it.

To apply please visit:

www.rcdony.org/information/employment

Questions or inquiries contact:

Tom Semeraro, Director of Youth Ministry

315-393-2920 ext. 1415

www.rcdony.org/youth

WORLD DAY OF PEACE

World Day of Peace, celebrated on January 1 every year, is primarily a Catholic feast day dedicated to universal peace on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. World Day of Peace began in 1967 when Pope Paul VI announced that the world needs to be sensitized and oriented for peace and understanding. The theme of the feast has always been about creating a culture of care. The Pope and the Vatican Church stress the need to care and share tolerance for each other, and to create a society that focuses on good moral values and does not yield to the temptation to disregard others. How to observe the World Day of Peace?



PRAY for Peace,
LEARN about Peace,
ACT for Peace.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...



Our Christmas Octave would not be complete without paying special attention to the glorious Mother of God! Mary, the mother of Jesus, the mother of the Savior of the World, is properly called the "Mother of God." It is worth reflecting upon this powerful title of our Blessed Mother. And it's important to understand that this title says just as much about Jesus as it does about His Blessed Mother. In calling Mary, the "Mother of God," we especially acknowledge one fact of human life. A mother is not just the source of one's flesh, she is not just the mother of the body of her children, she is the mother of that person. Being a mother is not just something biological, it is something sacred and holy and is part of the divine order of God's creation. Jesus was her Child, and this Child is God. Therefore, it is proper logic to call Mary the "Mother of God." It's an amazing fact to think about. God has a mother! He has a particular person who carried Him in her womb, nursed Him, raised Him, taught Him, loved Him, was there for Him, and pondered who He was throughout His life. This last fact is especially beautiful to meditate. As we begin this New year 2023, may we make a strong resolution that we keep our Blessed Mother as a constant companion in our journey of faith by seeking her intercessions and above all trying wholeheartedly to imitate her virtues in our call to Holiness. Wishing you and your loved ones a very Blessed New Year. **Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.**

With Love and Prayers....  Fr. J.T.

PERSONAL NOTE...

On behalf of our parish family, I would like to THANK all who helped with cleaning and decorating our Churches for Christmas. I appreciate your time and ministry in service to God. A special word of Thanks to **Dorothy Bean** who painted the beautiful images of St. Philip Neri and St. Isaac Jogues on a Triptych as to give us a sacred background for the Tabernacle in Westport. Thanks to Tom who helped with installing it. God Bless you all.

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. Today we celebrate the feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. It is the 8th day after the Birth of Jesus and like all Jewish boys, it is the time he is presented to the Lord. He is circumcised and receives the name that the angel gave him at the Annunciation: God saves. How do we respond to the wonders that God works in our lives? Do we, like Mary, ponder in our hearts about who this Jesus is and what he has done for us? Because only then, like the shepherds, can we go and tell the whole world this amazing story. Only then can we truly be witnesses to the Good News. (from the Diocesan Office of Evangelization)

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify us.
Body of Christ, save us.
Blood of Christ, inebriate us.
Water from the side of Christ, wash us.
Passion of Christ, strengthen us.
O good Jesus, hear us.
Within your wounds, hide us.
Let us never be separated from you.
From the malignant enemy, defend us.
In the hour of our death, call us,
And bid us come to you,
That with your saints we may praise you
Forever and ever. Amen.

WHY DO WE CALL MARY "MOTHER OF GOD"?

The image of Mary as Queen Mother is directly related to the first official Marian dogma defined by the Church: Mary's status as Mother of God. The Greek word for the title is "Theotokos," which literally means "God-bearer." That title is one of the oldest and most commonly used titles for Mary, with Christians using it in the very first centuries of the Church. The title also appears in one of the oldest known Christian prayers, the Sub *Tuum Praesidium* ("Beneath Your Protection"), an early form of the "Memorare" that dates to the third century. The first Christians called Mary the "Mother of God" without hesitation. There was scriptural precedent, and it seemed logical. If Jesus was God, and Mary was his mother, then that made her the Mother of God. That sort of logic depends on a principle called the "Communication of Idioms." According to that principle, whatever one says about either of Christ's natures can be truly said of Christ himself. That's because his two natures, the divine nature, and the human nature, were united in Him. He is one divine person. Calling Mary "Mother of God" states a truth that must be stated in order to protect an essential truth about Christ. In a similar way, that's what all Mary's queenly predecessors did for their sons. One of the three essential tasks of the Queen Mother was to be a sign of her son's legitimacy. She was the link between his father, the former rightful king, and her son, the present rightful king. Likewise, Mary as the virginal "Mother of God" is the link between her Son's humanity and divinity. She is the sign that He is both God and man.

Things to Ponder.....

You can say anything you need to say...

...if it is done in kindness!



Don't forget to patronize and thank our advertisers!



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

St Philip of Jesus parish hall
Immediately Follows 10:30am Mass
All are welcome

Upcoming Dates - Mark Your Calendar

January 22 - Peace February 26 - Lent

March 26 - Easter

REPORT MISCONDUCT

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrienne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone 518-651-2267 days; 518-569-0612 evenings; or Father Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy; ccarrara@rcdony.org Phone 315-393-2920 ext 1340. If you have a complaint of suspected sexual abuse or related misconduct by the bishop, contact the **Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service** at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org



The EPIPHANY of the LORD January 8, 2023

Monday, January 9 – The Baptism of the Lord

4:00pm (SPN) - Pastor's Intention

Tuesday, January 10

12:00pm (SE) - Msgr Stephen Wojciechowski

by the Estate

Preceded by Holy Hour at 11:00 am

Wednesday, January 11

12:00pm (SPJ) - Deceased Members of the Remancus Fmily

by Margaret Smith

Thursday, January 12

9:00am (SPJ) - Candita Gutschmidt by Anonymous

Friday, January 13

12:00pm (SPN) - Thanks and Praise for Our Providential

God's Love And Mercy

Saturday, January 14

12:00pm (SPN) - Memorial Mass

for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

4:30pm (SE) - Special Intentions of the Family

by Cheryl Hutchins

Sunday, January 15

8:30am (SPN) - Peter C Kullman by Pam (Brush) Kelley

10:30am (SPJ) - Pro Populo

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown

(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro

(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex

(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of January 9

Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Ps 29:1-4, 9-10/Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2, 5-9/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-4, 6-9/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-11/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3-4, 6-8/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8-10, 15/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

January 22 - Peace

St Philip of Jesus parish hall

Immediately Follows 10:30am Mass

All are welcome

Upcoming Dates - Mark Your Calendar

February 26 - Lent

March 26 - Easter

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS 2021

If you would like a record of your contributions for 2022 from any of our 3 churches for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and return it by mail or place it in the collection basket. **We will mail them to you before the end of January.**

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Parish: _____

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth – Attendance: 43

Envelopes: \$384.25; Plate: \$95.00

Fuel: \$5.00

Total: \$484.25

Solemnity of Mary: \$153.00; Holy Christmas: \$75.00

Saint Philip Neri – Attendance: 36

Envelopes: \$550.00; Plate: \$82.00

Fuel: \$125.00

Total: \$757.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$98.00; Holy Christmas: \$145.00

St Philip of Jesus – Attendance: 45

Envelopes: \$580.00; Plate: \$299.00

Fuel: \$50.00

Total: \$929.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$168.00; Holy Christmas: \$70.00

SEEKING A SUMMER YOUTH CAMP DIRECTOR

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is seeking an energetic and dedicated individual for the position of Summer Youth Camp Director at the Guggenheim Center. Located at, 1468 County Route 18, Saranac Lake, NY, Summer Camp Guggenheim has been a “home away from home” for young people ages 12 to 18 years old since 1972. Hike, Swim, Praise, and a whole lot more! Summer camp Guggenheim is a high energy camp filled with exciting activities & opportunities for campers to experience their faith & joyfully celebrate it.

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THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Is. 60:1-6/Ps. 72: 1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13

Eph 3: 2-3A,5-6/ Mt 2:1-12

The word Epiphany means manifestation. Today we celebrate the feast of God revealing of his glory. Our gospel tells the story of the Magi, the wise men. They followed the star to find the new king. They came bearing gifts of gold (to crown a king), frankincense (to worship God), and myrrh (for healing and also, for anointing a body for burial. Even at Christmas we have a hint of what is to come). What gifts do we bring to our Lord? How do we *rise up in splendor for our Lord has come?* Instead of gold, frankincense and myrrh, can we bring the best of ourselves? Instead of gold, can we offer our love for our neighbor? For frankincense, can we offer true worship and lift up our prayers like incense? And instead of myrrh, can we bring comfort to those in need? Can we see Christ in the other and bring the light of Christ to a dark winter world? (from the Diocesan Office of Evangelization)

Things to Ponder.....

**Maintain inner peace...
...in a world of turmoil!**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...



“Epiphany” means **manifestation**. Therefore the “Epiphany of the Lord” is Jesus’ manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it’s also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem, they realized that something special was happening. So, the **first** lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the “star” that God is using to call you. It’s closer than you may think. A **second** thing to note is that the Magi prostrated before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. **Lastly**, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honor Him in this threefold way.

With Love and Prayers....



Fr. J.T.

PERSONAL NOTE...

...I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Nancy Dawson and her family for their kind gesture of requesting to make donations in honor/memory of the late Jim Dawson to St. Elizabeth's Church in E-Town. Thank you and be assured of our prayers.

...The family of Richard Smith from Willsboro wishes to thank all who extended their support, encouragement, visits, gifts, and prayers in their time of sorrow. In Margaret's words "Your kind and caring demeanor gave us strength during a trying time. I do not think that we would have made it through this trying time without you. Thank you".

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify us.

Body of Christ, save us.

Blood of Christ, inebriate us.

Water from the side of Christ, wash us.

Passion of Christ, strengthen us.

O good Jesus, hear us.

Within your wounds, hide us.

Let us never be separated from you.

From the malignant enemy, defend us.

In the hour of our death, call us,

And bid us come to you,

That with your saints we may praise you

Forever and ever. Amen.

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Have you ever wondered, “Why did Jesus need to be baptized?” It’s a good question, and one that John the Baptist himself asks. In Matthew’s gospel we read, “John tried to prevent him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me’” (Matthew 3:14). We know from Luke’s gospel that John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Luke 3:3). Since Jesus had no sin, why does he go to John to be baptized? What does Jesus’ baptism reveal about his mission and identity? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, “The baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God’s suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already ‘the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.’” Jesus’ act of humble submission to John’s baptism is a sign of his submission and total acceptance of the Father’s mission. We will see this total submission to the will of the Father in its beautiful climax in the garden of Gethsemane later in Jesus’ life. The baptism of Jesus is commonly seen as the beginning of his public ministry in the synoptic gospels. It is in his baptism that Jesus assumes the mission of the suffering Servant who will heal his people through his suffering and death. Jesus’ baptism marks the beginning of a journey that will ultimately lead him to the Cross. At his baptism, Jesus sets the tone for his entire ministry and mission. In essence, Jesus is saying, “I’m not afraid of your mess; I came to unite myself to humanity, to take your brokenness upon myself, and to heal you.” Jesus acts on this desire to “seek and save the lost” (Luke 19:10) and immerse himself in the messiness of humanity over and over again in the gospels. If you feel stuck in sin, the messiness of life, or your own brokenness—do not lose hope! Jesus shows us in his baptism that he doesn’t stand aside and watch as sinners struggle toward healing and holiness. Jesus wants to be “baptized” with you in that difficulty, he desires to “immerse himself” in the messiness of your life. It is when we unite our sin, addiction, brokenness, etcetera to Jesus that it can be overcome and healed on the Cross. We have to exercise the humility of John the Baptist and avoid the temptation to push Jesus away. May the Holy Spirit give us the strength to welcome Jesus into the difficult places in our hearts and allow us to experience the transforming love of God as whenever we call to mind our own Baptism which makes us true children of God.

CATECHISM IN A YEAR-HURRY, START NOW!

Ascension is launching *The Catechism in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz)* on January 1, 2023!

With this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- See how Church teaching is rooted in Sacred Scripture
- Absorb over 2,000 years of Sacred Tradition
- Encounter God’s plan of sheer goodness
- Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded.**

If you have ever wanted to **understand what it means to be Catholic** and allow those truths to shape your life—this podcast is for you!

We can’t wait to start this incredible journey with you!

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 15, 2023

Monday, January 16

12:00pm (SPJ) - Richard Smith by Bill Allard

Tuesday, January 17 – St. Anthony, Abbot

12:00pm (SE) - The William & Ellen Keenan Family

by the Estate

Preceded by Holy Hour at 11:00 am

Wednesday, January 18

No Scheduled Mass

Thursday, January 19

12:00pm (SPJ) - Mary Brown & Husband by the Estate

Friday, January 20

12:00pm (SPN) - All Retired Priests by Helen MacDougal

Saturday, January 21

4:30pm (SE) - Pro Populo

Sunday, January 22

8:30am (SPN) - Nathan Schreiber by Tammy Johnson

10:30am (SPJ) - Special Intention for Rose Mary Rogers

by John O'Hara

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown

(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro

(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex

(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of January 16

Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1-4/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:2, 4-5, 9-10/Mk 2:23-28

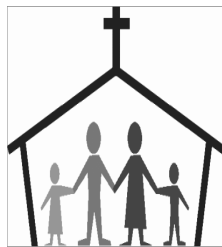
Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17, Ps 110:1-4/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-10, 17/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8, 10-14/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Is 8:23—9:3/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17
Mt 4:12-23



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

NEXT SUNDAY—January 22 - Peace

St Philip of Jesus parish hall

Immediately Follows 10:30am Mass

All are welcome

Upcoming Dates - Mark Your Calendar

February 26 - Lent

March 26 - Easter

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Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Parish: _____

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth— Attendance: 36

Envelopes: \$404.00; Plate: \$372.20

Fuel: \$204.00

Total: \$980.20

Solemnity of Mary: \$40.00

Saint Philip Neri— Attendance: 34

Envelopes: \$255.00; Plate: \$140.00

Fuel: \$103.00

Total: \$498.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$20.00

St Philip of Jesus— Attendance: 37

Envelopes: \$1,350.00; Plate: \$321.00

Fuel: \$40.00

Total: \$1,711.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$20.00

RESPECT LIFE SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, January 21/22, parishioners will have the opportunity to help pro-life efforts in our diocese. Last year the Respect Life collection awarded 14 grants including 5 Gabriel Projects, Birthright, Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center, Lewis County Right to Life, Liferight in Watertown, Walking with Moms in Need and more. **Thank you for your continued generosity.**

SEEKING A SUMMER YOUTH CAMP DIRECTOR

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Questions or inquiries contact:

Tom Semeraro, Director of Youth Ministry

315-393-2920 ext. 1415

www.rcdony.org/youth

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Is 49:3, 5-6/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. John the Baptist points Jesus out with these words. If he was interested in his own following, looking for his own glory, he could have remained quiet, but he pointed Jesus out. This was his mission. Some of John's disciples followed the Lord. These would be some of the first Apostles who would bring others to Christ. At every Mass we hear the same words: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. We too, like the Apostles are first called to follow, but then, to introduce Jesus to all those we meet. (from the Diocesan Office of Evangelization)

Don't forget to patronize and thank our advertisers!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...



Lack of virtue in the world today has contributed to the high level of immorality and vices in our society. The big question that arises here is what is virtue? Virtue is the moral excellence and exhibition of good behavior by a person. Virtue is universal and highly recognized by all cultures and tradition of the world. However, irrespective of the recognition of virtue by all the cultures of the world, vices, immorality, and indecency still exist in our society today. In the present-day modern society, virtues have slowly begun to lose their importance. The high level of indecency and immorality is indeed a major issue that needs to be addressed urgently. The question here is why is virtue important? Virtues are important because they are the basic qualities necessary for our wellbeing and happiness. By recognizing the importance of virtues, in our lives, it will lead to better communication, understanding and acceptance between us and our fellow man. The Catechism has defined virtue as "habitual and firm disposition to do good." The virtues help us habitually do what is good. They are the building blocks for Christian moral living. Accordingly, the Church has developed a theology of the virtues, building on what the ancients discovered through natural law and what God revealed through divine inspiration. Catholic tradition recognizes **four cardinal virtues** that are also known as human, natural, or moral virtues. They are prudence (wisdom), justice, fortitude (courage), & temperance (self-control). In addition to the four cardinal virtues, there are **three theological virtues**: faith, hope, and love (charity).

With Love and Prayers....  **Fr. J.T.**

REMINDER...

As mentioned last weekend, once again I apologize for the inconveniences caused for your parish envelopes not arriving in your mailboxes yet. I have been notified by the company that there might be a possibility we may have to go without it this month and February since there is a lack of employees and delays in shipping. May I kindly request you use the loose envelopes at the back of the Church and write your names on it for next few weekends as your support is very vital for our parishes. Thank you for your understanding.

LOVING AUTHENTICALLY

Sex, Happiness and Catholic Teaching

All diocesan and parish leaders are invited to attend this free seminar designed to deepen our understanding of how Church doctrine on sexual morality connects with our happiness. Lunch is provided.

Newman Center, Plattsburgh ~ Sunday, February 12

St. Bernard's, Saranac Lake ~ Saturday, April 22

St. Mary's, Ticonderoga ~ Saturday, May 20

To register:

<https://www.rcdony.org/lovingauthentically>. For more

information contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920

or startaglia@rcdony.org

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify us.
Body of Christ, save us.
Blood of Christ, inebriate us.
Water from the side of Christ, wash us.
Passion of Christ, strengthen us.
O good Jesus, hear us.
Within your wounds, hide us.
Let us never be separated from you.
From the malignant enemy, defend us.
In the hour of our death, call us,
And bid us come to you,
That with your saints we may praise you
Forever and ever. Amen.

WHY DO WE NEED TO OBSERVE MOMENTS OF SILENCE DURING & BEFORE THE MASS?

Firstly, silence in liturgy is there to make sure we digest as much of what GOD is giving as we can. The less distracted we are, the more we receive, the more we have to give. More so, these periods of silence are intended to bring reality into focus. At Mass we express to God our contrition, we hear his word, and we receive his physical presence sacramentally. These realities go beyond our comprehension. To hear and understand the Word of God is an expression of his great love for us. To receive the body of Christ is the deepest kind of communion with God. The silence in the liturgy punctuates a rich and profound time of prayer with opportunities to reflect on the reality of our experience. The silence of the liturgy is a gift which helps us to understand the greatest gifts we can receive. Late Pope Benedict XVI described the liturgical silence as a "silence with content ... a positive stillness." He meant that our silence in prayer is not to be an emptying meditation alone. Instead, silence in prayer is an occasion to understand the Mass more deeply itself. The Church gives us silence in the liturgy to train our hearts and minds in silent prayer. Even though we may often find it difficult to focus. The Church encourages us to ask the Lord to help us to experience his presence. As we cultivate silence, we will begin, more frequently, to hear the voice of the Lord. Be still and know that I am God! (Psalm 46:10) Once again, I humbly request you all to try your best to maintain a **SACRED SILENCE** in our Churches prior to Mass and not to engage in conversations during Mass.

Thank you for your **RESPECT** towards the Most Holy Eucharist.

9 DAYS FOR LIFE

Pray to protect human life January 19-27

9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can download the novena or sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text message at 9daysforlife.com.





THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 22, 2023

Monday, January 23

12:00pm (SPJ) - Mrs. William Allard by Bill Allard

Tuesday, January 24

St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

12:00pm (SE) - The William & Ellen Keenan Family

by the Estate

Preceded by Holy Hour at 11:00 am

Wednesday, January 25

No Scheduled Mass

Thursday, January 26-St Timothy & St Titus, Bishops

12:00pm (SPJ) - Richard Smith by Bill Allard

Friday, January 27

12:00pm (SPN) - James Dawson by Helen MacDougal

Saturday, January 28

4:30pm (SE) - Colleen Bryant by Nancy & Paul Kullman

Sunday, January 29

8:30am (SPN) - Pro Populo

10:30am (SPJ) - Atwood F & Carrie Dickerson Pierce

by Laurie Mero & Joseph Pierce

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown

(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro

(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex

(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of January 23

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1-6/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 10-11/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1-2/Mk 16:15-18

Thursday: 2 Tim 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-3, 7-8, 10/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-75/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

TODAY — January 22 - Peace

St Philip of Jesus parish hall

Immediately Follows 10:30am Mass

All are welcome

Upcoming Dates - Mark Your Calendar

February 26 - Lent

March 26 - Easter

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS 2022

If you would like a record of your contributions for 2022 from any of our 3 churches for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and return it by mail or place it in the collection basket. We will mail them to you before the end of January.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Parish: _____

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth — Attendance: 32

Envelopes: \$412.25; Plate: \$210.00

Fuel: \$100.00

Total: \$722.25

Saint Philip Neri — Attendance: 27

Envelopes: \$2,025.00; Plate: \$106.00

Fuel: \$10.00

Total: \$2,141.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$50.00

St Philip of Jesus — Attendance: 35

Envelopes: \$600.00; Plate: \$72.00

Fuel: \$50.00

Total: \$722.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$5.00

RESPECT LIFE SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend, January 21/22, parishioners have the opportunity to help pro-life efforts in our diocese. Last year the Respect Life collection awarded 14 grants including 5 Gabriel Projects, Birthright, Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center, Lewis County Right to Life, Liferight in Watertown, Walking with Moms in Need and more. Thank you for your continued generosity.

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Is 8:23—9:3/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Jesus begins his public ministry after John the Baptist is arrested. Repent, and believe in the Gospel. Gospel means good news. What is this good news? The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light. Many around us are sitting in darkness, struggling to find meaning in life, struggling with sin, many of them without hope. Can we bring them the light of Christ and share with them the Gospel, the Good News?

(from the Diocesan Office of Evangelization)

9 DAYS FOR LIFE—Continues...

Pray to protect human life January 19-27

9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can download the novena or sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text message at 9daysforlife.com.

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify us.

Body of Christ, save us.

Blood of Christ, inebriate us.

Water from the side of Christ, wash us.

Passion of Christ, strengthen us.

O good Jesus, hear us.

Within your wounds, hide us.

Let us never be separated from you.

From the malignant enemy, defend us.

In the hour of our death, call us,

And bid us come to you,

That with your saints we may praise you

Forever and ever. Amen.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...



January 23rd this year is designated as the

“Day of prayer for the Unborn Children”.

Marriage has been called the “school of love,” where husband and wife learn to cherish each other and to make sacrifices for each other; it is directed to the good of the

spouses and ordered to the procreation and education of children. By accepting children lovingly from God, husband and wife become parents who can experience the fullness of joy and love in marriage. In the beginning, God had this purpose in mind. When He made man and woman for each other, to be united as one, He also commanded them to be fruitful and multiply, to be partners with Him in creation by bringing forth new life. Some people have attempted to justify abortion in the name of social justice by including abortion under the domain of a person's rights; specifically, the right to choose. However, the right to life is the most fundamental of all rights; there can be no social justice if this most basic right is ignored. Social justice and the promotion of the right to life go hand in hand. The Church teaches that human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception through natural death. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person – among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. (CCC 2270) On June 24, 2022, the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision overturned Roe v/s. Wade, and we praise God for the great opportunity state and federal legislators now have to protect pre-born children. While God, in His mercy, ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand, right now state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to pre-born children. So, great prayer and advocacy is very needed from our part to create a culture of LIFE.

With Love and Prayers.... Fr. J.T.

REMINDERS...

...Envelopes: May I kindly request all who are using our parish regular weekend envelopes to use the envelopes that are placed on your pews or at the back of the Church until March. Please feel free to take as many as you want and please don't worry about your number. Just be kind enough to write your name on it and the office will take care of it. Thank you for your understanding and support towards the parish.

...Live-Stream: Margaret Smith is live-streaming the Mass from Willsboro on Sundays in the Facebook page called “St. Mary's prayer room”. Though the dispensation is now lifted, and everyone is strongly encouraged to attend the Holy Eucharist in person... I request you to use this option only in the event of sickness or are not able to make it to Church for genuine reasons. Thank you.



Don't forget to patronize and thank our advertisers!

From Bishop Terry R. LaValley...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Have things gotten better since the U. S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade? Surely, it was a huge step in the right direction in confronting our culture of death. However, news stories and our own experience tell us that there has been a new wave of opposition, even violence, suffered by many faith-based pregnancy centers since last June's Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization opinion.

Clearly, this judgment was a necessary first step, but not sufficient. St. Pope John Paul II wrote, “A radical solidarity with women requires that the underlying causes which make a child unwanted be addressed.” Similarly, Pope Francis observed that abortion is a brutal result of our failure to care for one another. So, what can we do to build a Culture of Life?

The Church in the North Country continues to care for and promote a Culture of Life in a culture determined to demean, even destroy human life. For years, your generous support of our annual Respect Life Collection has enabled the Diocese of Ogdensburg to assist many local efforts in promoting the dignity of the human person. These include, most recently, helping five Gabriel Projects in Potsdam, Brasher Falls, Massena, Plattsburgh and Ogdensburg. Needed help was offered to the Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center, Malone Catholic Charities Childbirth and Parenting Education program, Watertown's Walking with Moms in Need, Birthright, Liferight, Light of Truth Radio, Lewis County Right to Life and the diocesan Natural Family Planning efforts.

As you see, many are engaged in parish and community initiatives to walk with pregnant women and new moms and their families. The Catholic Church is the largest charitable provider of social services to women, children, and families in the United States. We understand that our neighbor needs help not just during pregnancy, but throughout the whole of life's journey. Such assistance, such accompaniment provides rays of hope that a Culture of Life is attainable, one person, one family, one community at a time.

Colleen and John Miner, Directors of our Respect Life Office, coordinate the steps we take in protecting and supporting the life and dignity of every human life. We are grateful for their important ministry here in the North Country. Thank you for your prayers and generous support of the 2023 Respect Life collection and for all your efforts in changing minds and touching hearts.

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

ELIZABETHTOWN THRIFT SHOP



St. Elizabeth's parish has received the latest donation from the thrift shop...this is for December and is in the amount of \$1,282.51. Sincere thanks, once again, to all the dedicated volunteers, shoppers and those who donate goods. God Bless!



**FOURTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

January 29, 2023

Monday, January 30

12:00pm (SPJ) - Richard Smith by Pat & Larry Trzaskos

Tuesday, January 31 – St. John Bosco, Priest

12:00pm (SE) - Robert & Jane McDevitte

by M/M Harold Bean

Preceded by Holy Hour at 11:00 am

Wednesday, February 1

No Scheduled Mass

Thursday, February 2 – The Presentation of the Lord

12:00pm (SPJ) - Finn Jaquish by Jack & Judy Hamms and

Patti Jaquish Benway

Friday, February 3

12:00pm (SPN) - Loretta Gero by the Hoskins Family

Saturday, February 4

4:30pm (SE) - Pro Populo

Sunday, February 5

8:30am (SPN) - Deceased Members of the Bottiroli & Walker

Families by John & Elaine Bottiroli

10:30am (SPJ) - Katheryn Varian by Peg & Connor Sheehan

(SE) = St. Elizabeth, Elizabethtown

(SPJ) = St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro

(SJ) = St. Joseph, Essex

(SPN) = St. Philip Neri, Westport

Readings for the Week of January 30

Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20-24/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26-28, 30-32/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7/11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7-10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40

Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8-9/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-6/Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

St Philip of Jesus parish hall
Immediately Follows 10:30am Mass

All are welcome

Upcoming Dates - Mark Your Calendar

February 26 - Lent

March 26 - Easter

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS 2022

If you would like a record of your contributions for 2022 from any of our 3 churches for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and return it by mail or place it in the collection basket. **We will mail them to you before the end of January.**

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Parish: _____

Last Weekend's Collection

Saint Elizabeth – Attendance: 17

Envelopes: \$440.25; Plate: \$82.00

Fuel: \$12.00

Total: \$534.25

Respect Life Collection: \$106.00

Saint Philip Neri – Attendance: 39

Envelopes: \$695.00; Plate: \$116.00

Fuel: \$30.00; Easter Flowers: \$10.00

Total: \$939.00

Respect Life Collection: \$88.00

Easter: \$25.00

St Philip of Jesus – Attendance: 42

Envelopes: \$650.00; Plate: \$214.00

Fuel: \$250.00

Total: \$1,114.00

Respect Life Collection: \$91.00

THOUGHTS ON EVANGELIZATION

Readings: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

Today's Gospel reading is the Beatitudes: Blessed Are ... the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, etc. Jesus said Blessed ARE, not blessed will be ... They are blessed now, in today's reality. If we are poor, mourning, meek, hungry for justice... persecuted, we may not FEEL blessed, but yet we are. This gospel grounds us in the reality where we find ourselves, where, relying on our God we strive for justice and humility. (from the Diocesan Office of Evangelization)

CHILD OF THE UNIVERSE

Before the earth was swathed in light

Or rivers ran to sea

Before the eagle in his flight

Surveyed its majesty

Before the mountains took their form

Or prairie grass grew wild

Before the earth was cold and warm

God loved this unloved child

Who is this little one, so rare?

Fashioned not of clay...

Just once in time did skin, eyes, hair

Combine this perfect way

Of the universe, this child

All nature waits in awe

But life revered is now reviled

And love defers to law.

A North Country Catholic, 1989

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

World Day for Consecrated Life will be **celebrated in the Church on Wednesday, February 2, 2023 and in parishes over the weekend of February 4-5, 2023.** In this vocation women and men seek an intimate relationship with Christ living a consecrated life to show the world that we are all ultimately called to unite with Christ. Please pray for all those living this radical life of following Jesus. Be sure to thank them on their special day, especially those who serve in your parish and school community.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...



FAITH is one among the three Theological Virtues which requires both the solitude and community. We must be able to find God in the solitude of our hearts and participate in intimate relationship and love with Him there. As individuals we can seek God out in the truth of His revelation by reading, studying, and asking questions from the scripture and teachings of the Church. We can seek Him out in the beauty of nature, art, and music. We can find Him in the goodness of the world through the observation or participation in the good works we see being done all around us. All these things give us the faith and assurance of God's existence and allow us to interact with him on an individual level. However, faith cannot exist alone and survive without a communal component as well. As members of the Body of Christ, we must cooperate in expressing our faith. Faith requires communal worship in liturgy and an acknowledgement of the Communion of all the Saints as unseen members of our Body. Community creates an atmosphere for discipline and obedience as we hold ourselves accountable to one another and the Church which He created. The intimacy between God and humanity is expressed through faith and authentic faith requires action. "If anyone says, 'I love God,' but hates his brother or sister is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother or sister whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen," (1 John 4:20). In loving and forgiving our neighbor, we serve as a witness to our faith and demonstrate our love for God.

With Love and Prayers....  **Fr. J.T.**

REMINDER...

Envelopes: May I kindly request all who are using our parish regular weekend envelopes to use the envelopes that are placed on your pews or at the back of the Church **until March.** Please feel free to take as many as you want and please don't worry about your number. Just be kind enough to write your name on it and the office will take care of it. Thank you for your understanding and support towards the parish.

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify us.

Body of Christ, save us.

Blood of Christ, inebriate us.

Water from the side of Christ, wash us.

Passion of Christ, strengthen us.

O good Jesus, hear us.

Within your wounds, hide us.

Let us never be separated from you.

From the malignant enemy, defend us.

In the hour of our death, call us,

And bid us come to you,

That with your saints we may praise you

Forever and ever. Amen.

**FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD
IN THE TEMPLE (Feb. 2nd)**

This feast is celebrated in our Church forty days after Christmas, marking the day that Mary and Joseph would have brought Jesus into the Temple. Though Mary was pure and free from sin from the moment of her conception, and though the Son of God did not need to be redeemed, Mary and Joseph fulfilled these ritual obligations as was commanded in the Old Testament. Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who obeyed the Law of Moses. Jewish Law prescribed that two ritual acts needed to take place for a firstborn son. First, the mother of a newborn son was ritually unclean for seven days, and then she was to "spend thirty-three more days in a state of blood purity" (Leviticus 12). During these forty days she was not to "touch anything sacred nor enter the sanctuary till the days of her purification are fulfilled." For this reason, today's feast has at times been called the "Purification of Mary." "**Candlemass**" is also a traditional name given to today's feast because as early as the fifth century, the custom of celebrating this feast with lighted candles developed. The lit candles symbolized Simeon's prophecy that Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." Lastly, this Feast has been referred to as the "Feast of the Holy Encounter" because God, in the Person of Jesus, encountered Simeon and Anna in the Temple. At the heart of this celebration is the encounter of Simeon and Anna with the Christ Child in the Temple.

It is in that holy encounter that Jesus' divinity is manifested by a human prophet for the first time. At His birth, the angels proclaimed His divinity to the shepherds, but in the Temple, Simeon was the first to understand and proclaim Jesus as the Savior of the World. He also prophesied that this salvation would be accomplished by a sword of sorrow that would pierce the Immaculate Heart of Mary. As we celebrate Mary's ritual purification and Jesus' ritual redemption, we should see them as acts in which we are called to participate. First, each of us is unworthy of entering the true Temple of the Lord in Heaven. Yet we are invited to enter that Temple in union with Mary, our Blessed Mother. It was her consent to the will of God that opened the door of God's grace to us all, enabling us to spiritually become Jesus' "mother" by allowing Him to be born in our hearts by grace. With her, we are now able to appear before God, purified and holy in His sight. We must also see Saint Joseph redeeming us as he presented Jesus in the Temple because in offering Christ Jesus to the priest to offer Him to the Father, Saint Joseph also presents all who strive to live in union with Jesus. The hope is that, like Simeon and Anna, others will see God alive within us and experience the Savior of the World through us. May we always try to present ourselves as true children of God in word and deed.

Things to Ponder....

**When sorrow comes, remember that you
have experienced joy and will again!**

