

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

Parish Office

68 Court Street, Canton, New York 13617
PHONE: (315) 386-2543 • FAX: (315) 386-8870
www.cantoncatholics.com • catholicrectory@twcny.rr.com

St. Mary's School

2 Powers Street • (315) 386-3572 • stmarysc@twcny.rr.com • www.stmaryscantonny.com



Sacrament of Baptism – For Children to be Baptized, please call the Rectory to schedule a meeting.

Sacrament of Penance – Tuesday from 5:40pm until done, Saturday 3:45—4:45, pm and by appointment.

Marriage – Make arrangements with the Pastor at least six months in advance. Pre-Cana instruction is necessary.

Anointing of the Sick – Please advise the parish office of the serious illness or hospitalization of a parishioner.

Communion for shut-ins – Please notify the Rectory if anyone is unable to attend Sunday Mass regularly.

*** **New Parishioners** – Register at the Rectory at any time. ***



OUR SACRED PURPOSE:

*Christ-led,
Christ-fed,
and Hope-filled*

The Diocese of Ogdensburg joyfully
invites the people of the North Country
to the journey of faith
through the proclamation of the Gospel,
the celebration of the Eucharist and
the Sacraments,
and the loving service of neighbor.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Bryan D. Stitt, Pastor • stittamdg@gmail.com

December 10, 2017

Mr. James M. Snell, Deacon • deaconsnell@gmail.com • (315) 262-0491

Mr. Paul J. Schrems, Pastoral Associate for Administration • catholicrectory@twcny.rr.com

Mrs. Amanda Conklin, Campus Ministry • conklina@canton.edu or aconklin@stlawu.edu

Ms. Jamie Burns, Religious Education Coordinator • religiouused66@twcny.rr.com

Ms. Terrienne Yanulavich, Child Safety & Victims' Assistance Coordinator: (518) 483-3261 terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com

Mrs. Michele Meyers, Principal • smsprincipal@twcny.rr.com

Mrs. Terry Feuka, Administrative Assistant • cantoncatholics@gmail.com

Gabriel Project • (315) 244-8232 • Parish Nurse • (315) 322-1836 • Surviving Spouse Group • (315) 379-1650

Pastor's Corner

"It's beginning to look a lot like"....well, you know. Now that the feast of the Immaculate Conception has come and gone, I personally start getting into the Christmas preparation full bore. Although we don't officially decorate the Church until just before Christmas, we're getting all our homes and hearts ready. (On that topic, please note the full day of Confessions on Tuesday the 19th.)

Thanks in a special way to the College students that helped with some of the physical preparations: those who raked our grounds this week (the pastor moved slowly on getting that chore done this year) as well as those who came for dinner on Friday and helped set up Christmas decorations in the rectory.

—Fr. Bryan Stitt



Planning ahead for Christmas

Pink for a Day You'll hear it said, "Real Men Wear Pink." I don't really know what that means for the rest of the world, but here in Church it's because the Church asks us to lighten up on the dark purple 2 Sundays a year. Gaudete Sunday (Dec 17) is the 3rd Sunday of Advent—the day we light the Rose candle and the day we pull out the rose colored vestments. Please plan to join me in pink—or more accurately "Rose".



Mass Schedule This year the 4th Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve- Dec 24th. It is not possible for me to celebrate all of the Sunday morning 4th Sunday of Advent Masses and Christmas Eve Masses on the same day. I do not think that many people will want to go to the 4th Sunday of Advent Mass on Sunday morning and then come back that evening for their Christmas Eve Mass. So, we will be having two (2) anticipation Masses on Saturday, December 23rd for the 4th Sunday of Advent (5pm & 7pm) and only one Mass on Sunday, December the 24th at 9:00 am.

Christmas Masses only after sunset on the 24th, do we start celebrating Christmas. Our schedule will be on Christmas eve: 4:00 PM, 6:00 PM, 10:00 PM and on Christmas Day 9:00 AM.

Decorating Since we can't leave all the decorating until after the 4th Sunday of Advent (See above), we'll be decorating during the week before. Please join us Friday evening the 22nd.

Pageant Plans For years, there has been a lot of participation by the youth at the 4:00 and 6:00 Christmas eve Masses. We're always looking to get our young people involved. (Of course, we hope that many of our young people will help us by serving at the altar and as greeters.) As in year's past, we'll have some dressing like the Holy Family, shepherds and magi at the beginning of the earlier Christmas eve Masses, but this year we're going to simplify the performance component. Hopefully this will allow youth that are visiting at Christmas to participate as well. All will get a chance to help welcome Jesus at the manger. Contact the office to let us know if your child would like a costume and which Mass you'll be attending.



2017 Bishop's Fund Appeal

We're currently at (83.4%) **\$30,445** of our \$35,000 Bishop's Fund goal. And we have had **171** households participate out of our goal of 211. If you would like to contribute, use the envelopes on the tables at the doors of the church or contact the rectory. Thanks as always for your generous support.



Bottle Drive

The dumpster is gone, but you can still help support St. Mary's School. Bring your cans and bottles to Bessette's on Gouverneur St.

And simply tell them you are supporting St. Mary's



December 9, 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

This Lord's Day, our parishes will conduct the appeal for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**, an annual collection that benefits 32,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Our senior religious are a treasure. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and numerous social service organizations across the North Country. We are indebted to the many religious communities of men and women who have served and continue to serve across our Diocese. We are grateful for their ongoing prayer and witness that enriches us in countless ways. I am sure you can recall a sister or brother who made a positive difference in your life.

Most religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. Rising health-care costs and decreased income compound the challenge to meet day-to-day needs such as medications and nursing assistance. The Retirement Fund for Religious offers financial support that helps religious communities provide quality, loving care for older members while ensuring younger religious can continue the good works of their elders.

I understand you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you to give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for God's continued blessing on all our women and men religious. Rest assured they are praying for us!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

Campus Corner

College March for Life trip to D.C.
January 18-21, 2018



If you're between 18 and 35 and have a love for life, consider joining Fr. Bryan Stitt, Chaplain and College Students and Young Adults from the Diocese of Ogdensburg for a pilgrimage to D.C. The Pilgrimage will include the Vigil Mass for Life at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (Th. 1-18), the March (Fri 1-19), participation in the Cardinal O'Connor Conference on Life (Sat 1-20), hotels accommodations, and meals, and other stops at shrines and memorials. The all-inclusive cost is \$185 per person. For more information, or to get a registration form sent to you, please contact Amanda or Fr. Stitt or email: Father Timothy Canaan, Diocesan Director of Campus Ministry frtim@broadstreetcatholics.org **Space is limited. Registrations are only complete with payment and must be in by December 15.**

Help religious communities

"Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry," writes a religious sister. Your gift to **today's collection** for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.



Help is needed to prepare, cook and deliver Christmas **meals** to those in need in our community. Monetary donations to assist in this project will be taken at the rectory. Sign-up sheets are in the back of church. Please call Dan Sweeney for information at: 315-854-4253



Daily Mass Time Change

Our times for Masses on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays have changed. **Instead of offering Mass at 8:30 AM, we are starting at 8:10 AM.** This will help accommodate the schedule of the school children who join us

once a week and hopefully some of our parishioners trying to get to work in the morning.



Liturgical Ministers

(Lectors, Greeters, Altar Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion)

We will be setting up the 2018 Jan. to June schedule. Please let Terry know of any changes you would like

to make for that time (vacation, holidays, etc.). (315)386-3572 *Those of you who signed up to begin these ministries, thank you for doing so. Our trainings will be held shortly.*



Principal's Corner

School Christmas Concert
Dec. 13 at 6:30 pm in the school.

Winter Recess will start on
Friday December 22 and classes
will resume January 3, 2018.



Bishop LaValley announced the Solidarity in Faith initiative last April in response to Pope Francis' call to assist Christians of the Middle East who are persecuted for their faith. We have twinned with the Maronite Diocese of Latakia, Syria to develop a mutually enriching relationship of sharing, solidarity and understanding. Bishop Antoine Chbeir of Latakia will visit our diocese December 11-18. Please take the opportunity to hear about the lives of Christians in Syria; amid our many differences, we share so much. Bishop Chbeir will preside at Mass and meet parishioners at the following:

Dec. 12, 11 am and the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

Dec. 13, 12 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Dec. 14, 10 am at Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh

Dec. 16, 4 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Dec. 17, 11 am at the Church of the Holy Family in Watertown.

Please spend some time at <http://solidarity.rcdony.org> to learn more about our twinning initiative with Latakia.



Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of illness. O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with your gentle love, and grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden. Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us. Amen.

Shirley Ames	Lori Ashley	Jean Baycura
John Bessette	Keith (Sam) Bisonette	Sarah Bogart
Timothy Bogart	Sue Briggs	Camille Brown
Donald "Joe" Burnham	Shirley Burns	David Butler
Peggy Cashman	Jana & Jeremy Cassler	Joan Clarke
Steve Connolly	Jenny Cook	Scarlett Friot
Debbie Gainey	Gordon C. Gladden	Jeri Gorman
Mike Gorman	Darren Greenwood	Patricia Hayden
Ginny & Butch Hotzler	Garrett Hughes	Eugenia Jusiak
Barbara Kelly	Dan Kinsley	Irene Krencesk
Shirley LaMendola	Danny Law	Chubby LeRoux
Laura Lombard	Leward and Betty Lucia	Arlene Maroney
Paul Marsh	Margaret McDonald	Stephanie McKeel
Eric Mende	Barbara Moritz	Eric Roach
Matilda Mary Smith	Cheryl Sopos	John Steiger
Karen Stever	Natalie teRiele	Ethel Thomas
Dorie Thompson	Linda Trill	Lynn Watson
Jeffrey White	Meggan Whiteford	Eric Whitmarsh

Christmas Wreaths

Order yours by filling in the forms in the back of church. These lovely wreaths are made by Sue Dean and team and have been a popular holiday favorite! Proceeds benefit St. Mary' School.



The church Sanctuary Lamp will burn
this week in memory of

Mike Mace

by

His Family

*If you desire to have the Vigil Lamp lit for a loved one or for
your intention, please contact the Rectory.*

Schedule

December 9 and December 10, 2017

Sat. 5:00 pm

Lectors: Jeannine Ballard, Brenda Sanderson
Eucharist: Cathie O'Horo, Michael Christy + 2 more
Altar Servers: Gabe Ballard
Greeter: Mary Thivierge

Sun. 9:00 am

Lectors: Shelly Roiger, Russ Backus
Eucharist: Barb teRiele, Keith Zimmerman, Cheryl Curry
Greeter: Joseph Roiger, Zadok Roiger

Sun. 11:15 am

Lector: George Trejos
Eucharist: Rebecca Trejos, John Beaudette
Altar Servers: Ava Hoy, Madison Hoy
Greeter: (need)

December 16 and December 17, 2017

Sat. 5:00 pm

Lectors: Edd White, Bernie Proulx
Eucharist: Lisa Guccione, Freda Michaud, Joan Pope,
Pat Furgal
Altar Servers: (Need)
Greeter: Mary Thivierge

Sun. 9:00 am

Lectors: 5th and 6th Graders
Eucharist: Barb teRiele, Virginia Burwell, Judy Bailey, Mel S.
Greeters: Helen Dominy & 5th and 6th Graders

Sun. 11:15 am

Lector: Judy Rasmussen
Eucharist: Mark Dalton, Don Rasmussen
Altar Servers: James Bailey
Greeter: (need)

Readings for Sunday December 10:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt
3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Readings for Sunday December 17:

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-
54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



MASS & PARISH SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec. 11: **Advent Weekday/St. Damasus I, Pope**
8:10 am Mass The Cunningham Sisters by their Estate

Tuesday, Dec. 12: **Our Lady of Guadalupe**
4:00 pm Holy Hour for Vocations
5:10 pm Mass Don Wilson by Carol Vargulick
5:40 pm+ Confessions

Wednesday, Dec. 13: **St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**
10:30 am (Highrise) All Souls by the Parishioners

Thursday, Dec. 14: **St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church**
5:10 pm Mass Marion Kotz by Bernie Proulx

Friday, Dec. 15: **Advent Weekday**
8:10 am Mass Margaret Landers by a Friend

Saturday, Dec. 16: **Advent Weekday**
No Morning Mass
3:45-4:45 pm Confessions
Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent
5:00 pm Mass Floyd Firman by his Family

Sunday, Dec. 17: **Third Sunday of Advent**
9:00 am Mass Geraldine Lawrence by the Estate
 (Grades 5/6 to assist in Mass)
10:00 am Religious Education Classes
11:15 am Mass For the People of the Parish
5:00 pm Mass Dolly Sodomini by Sheila Harrington
6:00 pm Confirmation Classes



The totals below for Envelopes & Plate include a late deposit from last week's collection.

Week of December 2nd & 3rd	2016	2017
Envelopes	\$6,693.00	\$8,721.00
Plate	\$885.15	\$957.70
Children's Envelopes		\$2.25
Christmas Flowers	\$1,340.00	\$1,675.00
Donation		\$100.00
Campaign for Human Dev.		\$137.00
Total	\$8,938.15	\$11,592.95

2017 Christmas Candle

To burn for the Twelve Days of Christmas,
 beginning Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th

In Memory of/In Honor of :

Requested by:



Please return this form and a \$25 offering by **Dec. 13.**