

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

Parish Office

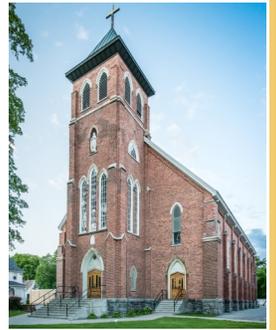
68 Court Street, Canton, New York 13617

PHONE: (315) 386-2543

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.

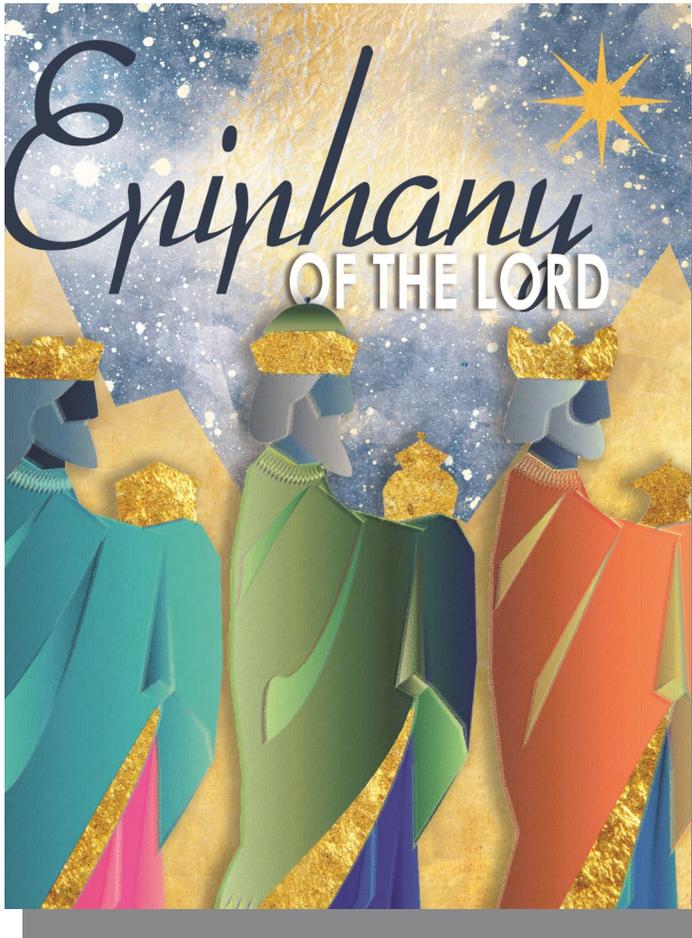
Sacrament of Penance – Tuesday from 5:40pm until done, Saturday 3:45—4:45, pm and by appointment.

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.

January 6, 2019

PARISH STAFF

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

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 J. Conklin, Campus Ministry • conklina@canton.edu • oraconklin@stlawu.edu

Ms. Jamie J. Burns, Religious Education Coordinator • religioused66@twcny.rr.com

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

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

Mrs. Terry M. 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

Due to the printer's holiday schedule, this bulletin needed to be submitted on Friday, December 28th. A lot has probably happened since then, but I hope you're all enjoying a happy, healthy, and holy Christmas season.



Will you be able to join us for the Open House at the rectory this Sunday? Family's are encouraged to first attend the Family Gathering at the school and then stop by the rectory for a snack after. All others feel free to come over for some festivities right after the 9:00 AM Mass.

Finally, last year at the family gathering for Epiphany, I rediscovered a beautiful tradition that I'd like to share with all of you: the Epiphany Home Blessing (see below). It can be done on any and all the doors of your home—most notably on your front door (Like the Jews at the first Passover putting the blood of the lamb on their doorposts.) Please pick up a bag of the blessed chalk at the doors of the church.

—Fr. Bryan Stitt



EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING WITH CHALK

It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to hand out blessed chalk at the Masses for Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year.

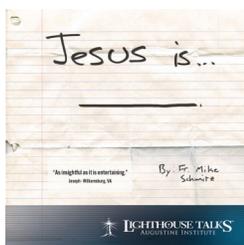
The home blessing can be done as follows: Use the blessed chalk to write: 20+C+M+B+19 above the doorways: 2019 for the year; C, M, B for the 3 Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, Latin for "May Christ Bless this House."

As you are writing, pray the following prayer:

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CD of the Week:

Fr. Michael Schmitz, a renowned and beloved speaker and spiritual guide to the Young Church, discusses the all-important topic of God's existence. Armed with his usual repertoire of lively humor and sound philosophy, Fr. Mike reveals the incredible implications of the question which Christ asks all of us: "Who do YOU say that I Am?"



Epiphany Open House

Come to the rectory for an open house to celebrate Epiphany Sunday, January 6th. We'll start right after the 9:00 Mass with a reception brunch! We'll keep the doors open through the mid-day.

Since there's also a Family Gathering at the gym at the same time, we're planning two shifts for the party. (No need to bring any gold, frankincense, or myrrh.)

Family Gathering This Week

Families, please join us after the 9:00 AM Mass this week, for Epiphany fun. Afterwards, you'll be welcome to make a visit to the rectory for treats.

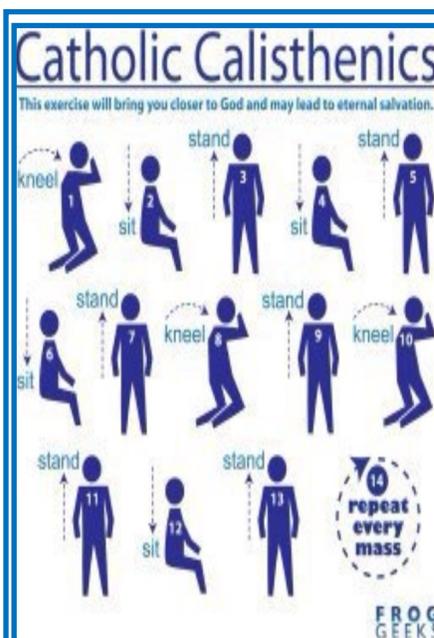
Did you notice something new in your mailbox?



We are now send offering envelopes directly to your home from the printers! This will allow us to keep our data base more current. If you did not receive your envelopes or would like to begin receiving envelopes, call Terry (315)386-2543.

Thank you for your generous gift in our Christmas collection.

Like every North Country parish, we forward 75% of the collection to the diocese to fund pensions for retired priests. Pension needs for the future as well as obligations for the next year are being met thanks to your generous donation. St. Mary's will be forwarding **\$3,647.85** to the Diocese to assist our retired priests, including Frs. Elliott, Kramberg, Poissant, Downs & Canaan.



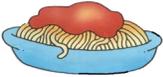
All kidding aside: If that last stand-up/sit down at the end of Mass is a strain, please feel free to remain seated during the Prayer after Communion. Most Sundays Father will have announcements that you'll want to be seated for. We all love worshipping with Body and Soul—but we don't want to overdo it.

Campus Corner

Wishing you a very Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

Spaghetti Dinner
St. James School, Gouverneur

Thursday January 10, 4:30—6:15pm
Adults \$10
Children 12 and under \$5
Children under 5 FREE
Chefs: Joe and Carolyn Pistolesi



ASK FATHER STITT—A Review from last year

Thanks for your homily a few weeks ago about the origin of the words “holiday” and “Christmas”. I found the insights helpful. But what about people “Xing” out the Christ in Christmas? Why do people use “Xmas”? It seems very anti-Christian.

Thanks for asking. First of all, a little Greek lesson (the language that the New Testament was written in). The first two letters of the word “Christ” in Greek are Chi Rho (letters that look to us like an X and a P respectively). These letters were used in the early church to create the chi-rho monogram that we are all familiar with and that you can see in the corner of this blurb. It simply means “Christ.”

According to Dennis Bratcher: “by the fifteenth century Xmas emerged as a widely used symbol for Christmas. In 1436 Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press with moveable type. In the early days of printing typesetting was done by hand and was very tedious and expensive. As a result, abbreviations were common. In religious publications, the church began to use the abbreviation X, for the word ‘Christ’ to cut down on the cost of the books and pamphlets. From there, the abbreviation moved into general use in newspapers and other publications, and “Xmas,” along with the abbreviations Xian and Xianity, became an accepted way of printing ‘Christmas.’ Even Webster’s dictionary acknowledges that the abbreviation Xmas was in common use by the middle of the sixteenth century.

All that’s well and good. What should we do in real life? Well if you look at the boxes in which I store my Christmas decorations, or if you look at one of my many notes that I scribbled while get-ting ready for all the festivities, I often use the abbreviation for Christ.

But, lest it be misunderstood, I also put the Rho in on top of the Chi. So my shorthand looks more like



Maybe you’ll want to try it yourself. Merry Christmas!

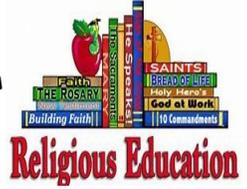


Principal's Corner

Jan. 17—Family Fun Night—6:30 pm

No School—Jan. 21—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Epiphany Family Gathering at 10 am
Confirmation I & II Class 6-7pm



Not Feeling 100%?

It probably would be best not to shake hands at the sign of peace. Feel free to smile and wave.

Feeling okay, but concerned about the sick around you?

Feel free to do the same!

Surviving Divorce: 12-week program

The Surviving Divorce Program offers support and healing for people who are separated or divorced. The groups meet once a week for 12 weeks. New groups are starting in Massena and Watertown in late January.

For more information, contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920.



Amateur Greeters? We’ve got some well trained Greeters here at St. Mary’s who are good welcoming people by holding doors, passing out bulletins, and sometimes doing both at the same

time! But don’t feel you have to be a “professional” to do so. If it feels like you’ve got an extra 5 minutes and you’re willing/able to help us out, please feel free to step in—we won’t force you to give up your amateur status and go pro if you don’t want to !

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.

Nolan Joe Redmond
Sam Bisonette
Annette Hurley
Leward & Betty Lucia
Judy Ruddy
Linda Evans
Anne Meadows
Sue Dean
Doni Peters
Shirley Lamendola

Joel Rivera
Trina Anderson
David Datush
Arlene Maroney
Debbie Gainey
Katie Coakley Ba
Phyllis Cunningham
Val Bernier
Lucas Duvall

Camille Brown

Abuse Victims and their families



Schedule

©LPI

January 5 & 6, 2019

Sat. 5:00 pm

Lectors: Edd White & Brenda Sandrson
Eucharist: Cathleen O'Horo, Lisa Guccione, Nancy Layhee, Joan Pope
Altar Servers: Eleanor Bailey
Greeters: Mary & Phil Shatraw

Sun. 9:00 am

Lectors: Frank Palumbo & Virginia Burwell
Eucharist: Jen Palumbo, Cheryl Curry, Marion Larson, Joe Tebo
Altar Servers: Alexa Romano, Nate Romano Nicole White
Greeter: Barbara Lee

January 12 & 13, 2019

Sat. 5:00 pm

Lectors: Brad Mintener, Carolyn Shelmidine
Eucharist: Bernie Proulx, Freda Michaud, Michael Christy, Sandra Bartlett
Altar Servers: Eleanor Bailey
Greeters: Mary Evans

Sun. 9:00 am

Lectors: Russ Backus, Keith Zimmerman
Eucharist: Joan Hyde, Barb teRiele, Allie Withee, Norma Jean Lapoint
Altar Servers: Gavin Thompson, Nicole White
Greeter: Brian Lee

Parish Support

<u>Week of December 23</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Envelopes	\$5,401.00	\$5,405.00
Plate	\$506.00	\$751.20
Children's Envelope	75¢	\$2.00
Church & Community Program		\$10.00
Adopt-a-Student		\$200.00
Christmas Candle		\$50.00
Christmas	\$8,662.50	\$7,394.80
Total	\$14,570.25	\$13,813.00

*Thank you for your support and generosity
each and every week!*

*Please continue to remember how important your weekly offering
is to the life of our parish!*

Readings for Sunday, January 6:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 /Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Readings for Sunday, January 13:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



MASS & PARISH SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 6: **The Epiphany of the Lord**
9:00 am Mass Nick Spadaccini by Dan & Margaret Sweeney
5:00 pm Mass Don Wilson by Trudy & George Bishop

Monday, January 7: **Christmas Weekday/St. Raymond of Peñafort, Priest**
8:15 pm Mass Ken Smith by His Daughters

Tuesday, January 8: **Christmas Weekday**
4:00 pm Holy Hour for Vocations
5:10 pm Mass Kathy Priddis by Mickey, Wayne, Aaron, and Ryan Thompson

Wednesday, January 9: **Christmas Weekday**
10:30 am Mass (Highrise) Margaret Brown by Estate

Thursday, January 10: **Christmas Weekday**
4:45 pm Rosary for Life
5:10 pm Mass Donald Shoulette by a Friend

Friday, January 11: **Christmas Weekday**
8:15 am Mass All Souls by the Parishioners

Saturday, January 12: **Christmas Weekday**
No Morning Mass
Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord
3:45-4:45 pm Confession
5:00 pm Mass Don Wilson by Sandy & Bob Santamoor

Sunday, January 13: **The Baptism of the Lord**
9:00 am Mass Brian Casey by Anna McKenna & Family
5:00 pm Mass Helen Wilson by Judy Wilson & Family



Please pick up a **weekly children's bulletin** for your child.
Help them learn about the weekly gospel from a child's perspective.
They are located in the bulletin holders.

BINGO is held every Monday night, at 7pm
30 Miner Street
Bring a Friend!
All New Bonus Ball!



The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of
Mike, Eileen & Joachim
by
Lita Maroney
If you desire to have the Vigil Lamp lit for a loved one or for your intention, please contact the Rectory.