

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

68 Court Street, Canton, New York 13617

PHONE: (315) 386-2543

OFFICE HOURS Monday thru Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

www.cantoncatholics.com • cantoncatholics@gmail.com



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

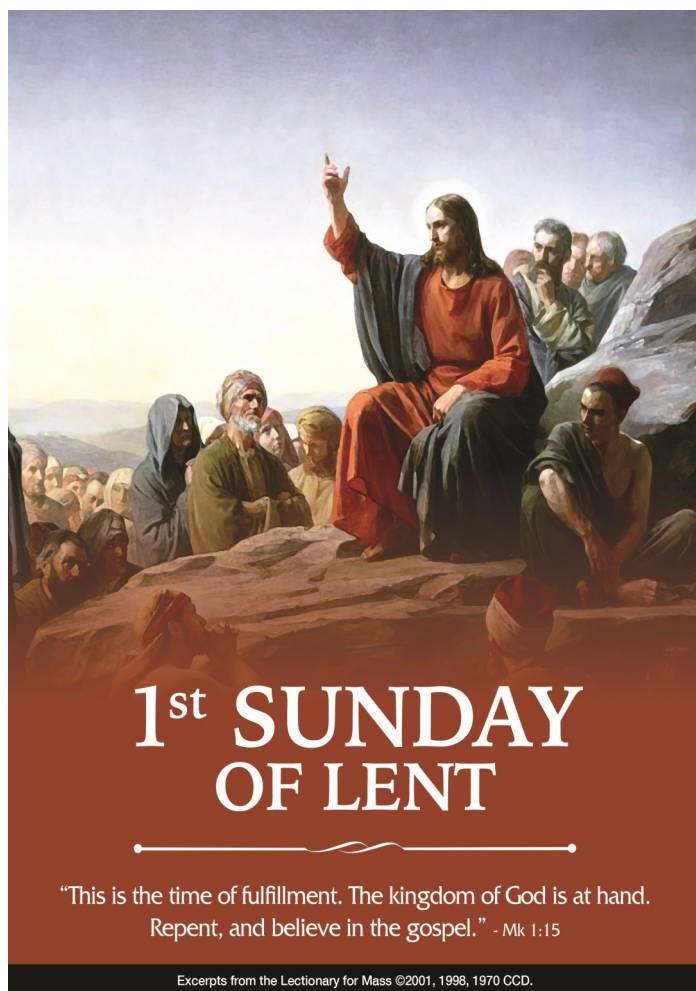
Sacrament of Penance – Confessions: Tuesdays 5:45pm–6:15pm, Saturdays 3:45pm–4:45pm, or by appointment.

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 during normal office hours.



Our Vision and Mission

We the members of
St. Mary's Catholic Church,
in order to become the saints
God calls us to be:

- ◇ Welcome the wanderer to the Way
- ◇ Educate the seeker with the Truth
- ◇ Worship the beauty of Christ's Life

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Bryan D. Stitt, Pastor

Mr. James M. Snell, Deacon (315) 262-0491

Mr. Paul J. Schrems, Pastoral Associate for Administration

Mr. Peter J. Mueller, Campus Minister and Assistant for Administration

Mrs. Amanda J. Conklin, Director of the New Evangelization

Parish Nurses • (315) 322-1836 Surviving Spouses Group • (315) 379-1650

Ms. Terrienne Yanulavich, Child Safety & Victims' Assistance Coordinator (Offsite):

(518) 651-2267 terriannyanulavich@yahoo.com

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Pastor's Corner



The purple is up, the hard chairs are in and the ashes have been sprinkled. Yup, it's officially Lent. I hope your season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving is off to a good start.

Thanks to those of you who joined us for "Invisible Ashes, Visible Graces" on Wednesday. It was an honor to host Michele Lallier for our discussion about living and spreading the faith. Michele is a great example of a person who knows that they don't know it all, but also loves too much to keep it to themselves.

Thanks also to all of you who remembered to bring your **purple slips** back on Ash Wednesday. They will stay at the foot of the cross through the season of Lent.

A few weeks ago, when we had technical difficulties showing the 9:00 AM Mass on Facebook, I was talking to a local couple later that day. Knowing that they are faithful to worshiping from a distance due to serious health concerns, I apologized for the tech problems. "No problem, Father," was their response, "We just listened to it on the radio!" That's impressive pivoting. Well done. Remember, the **broadcast on FM 93.5** has a range that should work anywhere in the village.

Finally, we're re-posting the Lenten Disciplines from last week; please note **two corrections**. Firstly, we misinformed you about who must practice abstinence. While those younger than 18 or older than 59 are not required to fast, all Catholics over the age of 14 are obliged to abstain from meat on the appropriate days. Unlike fasting, one does not age out of that obligation. Secondly, we forgot to inform you about one exception this year. The only time Catholics aren't obligated to abstain from meat on Fridays of Lent is when there is a Solemnity—one of those rare feast days of the Church year that is celebrated with such fanfare that it makes no sense for us to also be penitential. This year the Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19) falls on a Friday. Honor St. Joseph by having a steak!

I hope you all have a blessed week..

—Fr. Bryan Stitt

Will Ashes Be Sprinkled From Now On?

On Ash Wednesday this year, due to the pandemic, we sprinkled the ashes upon people's heads rather than using them to mark a cross on the forehead. As detailed in previous bulletins, this practice has biblical roots and is traditional in many parts of the Catholic world. Some have wondered if this will be a permanent change for us here in the United States. It will not.

There is a good reason behind the practice of being marked with a visible cross. As followers of Christ, we have the responsibility to be witnesses of the faith. The visible mark is one small way of being a witness, especially in a culture that is growing more and more hostile to people openly practicing their faith. The cross of ashes declares to all who see it: "The ashes mean I'm a sinner, but the cross means I have a Savior."



"The Search" This Week

What does this have to do with me? It's one thing to see something beautiful; another thing to figure out what it means; and another thing altogether to allow yourself to be changed by it. If you're willing to become better, watch "The Search", the challenging new series from Augustine Institute that brings things to a point. This week is **Episode 6: Am I Saved?**

Due to parish sponsorship, the complete series is **available for free on formed.org**, a streaming service which can also be connected to your Roku; if you haven't signed up yet, it's simple. Go to formed.org and click "Sign-up". If prompted, choose to register as a "parishioner". Type in the Canton zip code (13617) to search for our parish, select it, and click "Next". Enter your name and email address, click "Sign Up", and you're in!



Lenten Disciplines

During the Season of Lent, Catholics take on acts of prayer and penance to help us reorient our lives towards God. We commit to renewed and deepened practices of **prayer**; we commit to renewed and deepened service of others (**almsgiving**); and we give up good things in our lives as a reminder that God is more important (**fasting**). Each of us is free to choose the specifics of how we do each of these, but there are also certain penitential disciplines that are required of all Catholics during Lent, most notably the disciplines of fasting and abstinence.

Fasting

This is defined as eating only one full meal in a day, although one can also have small amounts of food (less than a full meal) at the other two mealtimes of the day. All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required to fast in this way on **Ash Wednesday** (February 17) and **Good Friday** (April 2).

Abstinence

This is defined as abstaining from eating the flesh meat of land animals and birds. All those who have reached their 14th birthday are required to abstain in this way on **Ash Wednesday**, **Good Friday**, and **all the other Fridays of Lent**. Note: this year, the Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19) falls on a Friday of Lent. Abstinence from meat is not required on solemnities (CCL 1251).

Easter Duty

All Catholics who have reached the age of reason must confess their serious sins in the **Sacrament of Penance** at least once a year. They must also receive **Holy Communion** at least once a year, between the First Sunday of Lent (February 21) and Trinity Sunday (May 30).

Subscriptions to North Country Catholic

The annual *North Country Catholic* subscription campaign begins next weekend. Our diocesan newspaper provides authoritative information about what the church teaches and inspiring stories about people living out their faith. Please place your subscription envelope in the collection basket or mail a check for \$27 to the *North Country Catholic*, PO Box 106, Canajoharie, NY, 13317. ANOTHER OPTION—"go green" and receive your NCC through email every Monday. If interested, write your email address on the envelope.

Campus Corner

Until further notice, we'll have the following schedule for Newman Club meetings:

Virtual Meetings—Wednesdays at 7pm

(via GoogleMeet: link will be emailed out in advance, if you're not on the email list, contact Peter)

In-Person Meetings—Thursdays at 3pm

(In the library of the parish center, the old school building next to the church)

For further information about Catholic Campus Ministry in Canton, contact Peter Mueller at 315-386-2543 or cantoncatholics@gmail.com



Youth Basketball Schedule

Monday and Wednesday

4:30-5:30 pm—Boys Grades 7-8

Kelly O'Neill • kellyponeill@verizon.net • 315-854-0707

6:00-7:00 pm—Mixed Grades 4-6

Matt Metcalf • metcalfm@canton.edu • 315-854-5681

7:30-8:30 pm—Girls Grades 9-12

Shelly Roiger • sroiger@stlawu.edu • 315-600-6216

Tuesday and Thursday

4:30-5:30 pm—Girls Grades 7-8

Eli White • eliwhite02@yahoo.com • 315-854-0773

6:00-7:00 pm—Mixed Grades 1-3

Paul Redfern • coachfern@gmail.com • 717-891-4991

7:30-8:30 pm—Boys Grades 9-12

Paula Jones • pjones@ccsdc12.org • 315-267-6200

For further information and a copy of the permission slip, please see the parish website. Please contact Paula Jones at pjones@ccsdc12.org or (315) 267-6200 with any questions.

Just a reminder...besides the Masses being broadcast at FM 93.5, you can listen to Fr. Stitt on Apple Podcasts or on our website. Go to:

cantoncatholics.com -> Liturgy -> Homilies/Talks



PROMISE TO PROTECT



PLEDGE TO HEAL

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees, or volunteers:

Contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC: 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terianneyanulavich@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 bishops, contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at 800-276-1562 or ReportBishopAbuse.org.

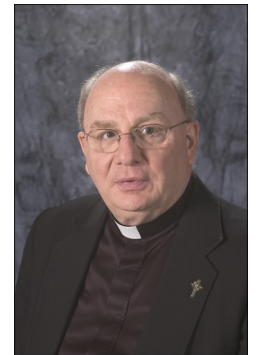
Lenten Mission Podcast

St. Mary's Church of Ticonderoga is offering a special Lenten Parish Mission podcast, available to all, hosted by Father J. Roger McGuinness.

Fr. McGuinness has been a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg for over 50 years. He has been a pastor, seminary and university professor, retreat master, college chaplain and vocation director. Now retired from active ministry, he continues to write and give spiritual direction.

Fr. Roger will be leading a Lenten mission featuring weekly reflections on the Sunday gospel readings. He will also offer a special reflection on the life of St. Joseph on March 19th, the Feast of St. Joseph. The podcast can be found at the website: <https://www.route74.catholics.org/fatherroger>

It can also be found at Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts and Spotify. Episodes began being available on February 16th.



Mass Attendance

February 13-14

5:00 PM Saturday	38
9:00 AM Sunday	50
5:00 PM Sunday	16



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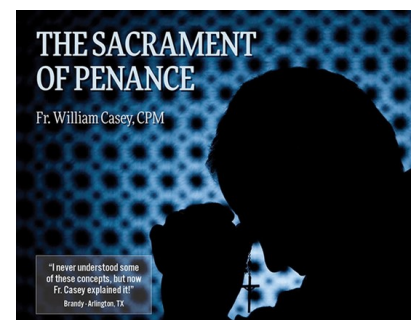
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

www.cantoncatholics.formed.org

Watch: *THE SEARCH* (see page 2)

Watch: *Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession*, a three-part series.

Listen: *The Sacrament of Penance* with Fr. William Casey, OFM





Ministry Schedule

February 20 and February 21, 2021

Sat. 5:00 pm	Lector	Lisa Guccione
	Greeters	Phil and Mary Shatraw
Sun. 9:00 am	Lector	Maureen Howard
	Greeters	Helen Dominy, Paul Schrems

February 27 and February 28, 2021

Sat. 5:00 pm	Lector	Bernard Proulx
	Greeters	Bill and Carol O'Horo
Sun. 9:00 am	Lector	Russel Backus
	Greeters	Shelly and Zadok Roiger



PRAYER REQUESTS

Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servants 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.

*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 **Amen.***

Katie Coakley Ba	Joe Guarino	Doni Peters
Betty Bessette	Helen Hilts	Joan Pope
Sam Bisonette	Arleen Jordan	Nolan Joe Redmond
Camille Brown	Shirley Lamendola	Judy Ruddy
Peggy Cashman	Carlos Law	Renee Smith
J.J. Crooks	Lori Law	Natalie teRiele
Phyllis Cunningham	Betty Lucia	Rose White
David Datush	Leward Lucia	Abuse Victims & their
Debbie Gainey	Laurence McKenna	Families

Parish Support

<u>Week of February 14</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Envelopes	\$4,420.00	\$3,004.00
On-Line Giving	\$602.00	\$1,183.00
Plate	\$611.00	\$146.00
Children's Envelopes	\$0.76	
North Country Catholic		\$27.00
Respect Life Collection		\$100.00
Easter Flowers		\$100.00
<u>Winter Fuel Collection</u>		<u>\$240.00</u>
Total	\$5,633.76	\$4,800.00

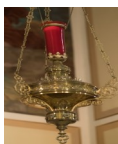
(Recent Candle Donations—\$50.50)

Thank you for your support & generosity each week!

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

MASS & PARISH SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 20:	Saturday After Ash Wednesday
3:45—4:45 pm	Confession
	Vigil, 1st Sunday of Lent
5:00 pm Mass	For All the People of the Parish
Sunday, February 21:	1st Sunday of Lent
9:00 am Mass	Vincent and Fran Ruddy by Judy Ruddy and Family
5:00 pm Mass	Shirley Ann Dunn by Dan Forbes
Monday, February 22:	Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle
7:30 am Mass	Pat & Brian Casey by Diane Drummond and Larry Casey
8:15 am (Facebook)	Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
Tuesday, February 23:	Weekday/Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
8:15 am (Facebook)	Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
4:10-5:10 pm	Eucharistic Adoration - Holy Hour for Vocations
5:15 pm Mass	Jerry Amaral by the Butler Family
5:45—6:15 pm	Confession
Wednesday, February 24:	Weekday
7:30 am Mass	Patrick McFadden by Henry Sieg
8:15 am (Facebook)	Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
Thursday, February 25:	Weekday
8:15 am (Facebook)	Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
In Private	Rosary for Life
5:15 pm Mass	Alice Moore by Daniel Forbes
Friday, February 26:	Weekday (Day of Abstinence)
7:30 am Mass	Helen Fish by a friend
8:15 am (Facebook)	Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
5:15 pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday, February 27:	Weekday/Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
3:45—4:45 pm	Confession
	Vigil, 2nd Sunday of Lent
5:00 pm Mass	Wayne & Susan Barkley by Sean Barkley
Sunday, February 28:	2nd Sunday of Lent
9:00 am Mass	Joan Majer by her family
5:00 pm Mass	For All the People of the Parish



The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for

the Glory of God

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

Readings for Feb 21

Gn 9: 8-15
Ps 25: 4-5,6-7,8-9
1 Pt 3: 18-22
Mark 1: 12-15



Readings for Feb 28

Gn 22: 1-2,9-13,15-18
Ps 116: 10,15-19
Rom 8: 31-34
Mark 9: 2-10