

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 • office@cantoncatholics.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.



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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

Miss Sarah V. McIntosh, Administrative Assistant

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

Parish Nurses • (315) 322-1836

Surviving Spouses Group • (315) 379-1650

Ms. Terrianne Yanulavich, Child Safety & Victims' Assistance Coordinator

(Offsite): (518) 651-2267 terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 12, 2021

Pastor's Corner

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again, rejoice! St. Paul's words to the Philipians set the tone for this joyful Sunday when we enjoy a foretaste of the celebrations of Christmas.



We lighten up on the violet and bring out the rose. May this week be a joyful one for you all.

There are still many preparations to come before the celebration of the birth of the Lord. One of the best we can do is "clean house" for the coming of a great guest. This Monday the sacrament of **Penance** will be offered from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM in the chapel to offer us a chance to do just that – clean out our spiritual house.

Thank you to so many of you who submitted donations for **Christmas flowers** last week. I dropped the ball, and didn't announce the envelope. Good news, if you wanted to memorialize a donation, we can still take them this week.

You probably noticed that the statue of **St. Joseph** that has been next to the ambo all year is gone. As we completed the Year of St. Joseph on Wednesday, he returned to his place in the chapel, but he now has a beautiful bank of candles in front of him thanks to the generosity of a parishioner.

Next week we'll be blessed to host a **Confirmation**. Saverio Sergi will be Confirmed at the 9:00 AM Mass. He asked to postpone his confirmation so that family from Canada could be physically with him. Bishop LaValley would have liked to have been here, but has delegated me to celebrate this sacrament. Come, Holy Spirit!

It's time to sign up for **Christmas meals** and Christmas ministers. Please see sheets at the main door of the church.

Finally, you might have noticed that there is one less **tree** in front of the church/rectory. There was a lot of rot in it, and happily we got it down before it caused any damage.

I hope you all have a blessed week.

-Father Bryan Stitt



Day of Mercy

This Monday, December 13th, St. Mary's in Canton will host a Day of Mercy. Confessions will be heard all day long from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM in the chapel. There will be several priests throughout the day. See the insert for the hours for specific priests.

Christmas Mass Schedule

- **5:00 PM** – Our fullest Mass at our normal evening Mass time
- **8:00 PM** – Before a long winter's nap
- **Midnight** – O Holy Night! Mass isn't supposed to be convenient. This time is a challenge for us.
- **9:00 AM** – Shepherds' Mass
- **11:00 AM** – Perfect for the family after an early morning



NB: Even though Christmas is on Saturday, there will be no 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday evening.

Thank you!

Thank you for your contributions towards the Christmas gift baskets for U.S. Military Veterans! The students at St. Catherine of Siena helped to assemble the baskets earlier this month.



Just a reminder...besides the Masses being shown live at 9:00 AM on Facebook live and broadcast at FM 93.5, you can listen to the homilies on Apple Podcasts or on our website. Go to: cantoncatholics.com → **Liturgy** → **Homilies/Talks**

2021 Christmas Candles

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



In Memory of/ In Honor of :

Requested by:

Please return this form and a \$25 offering to the Rectory or place in the collection basket by Sunday, December 19

Feast of the Holy Innocents Mass

DECEMBER 28,
5:15 PM
ST. MARY'S CHURCH
CANTON



Mass will be offered for all deceased children of any age. Names will be read and candles lit. If you'd like a name added to the list, please call the parish at 315-386-2543 or e-mail cantoncatholics@gmail.com so we may honor their earthly lives and hope for their immortality!

Mass Attendance
December 4th- 5th

	2019	2020	2021
5:00 PM Saturday	101	36	66
9:00 AM Sunday	181	62	114
5:00 PM Sunday	86	19	41
Total	368	117	221



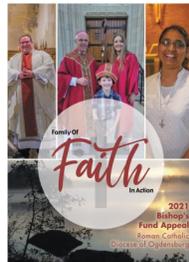
Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help with a multitude of ministries this Christmas. We are in need of lectors and greeters for Masses on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day as well as individuals to help cook, prepare, and deliver Christmas dinners. Sign up sheets can be found in the back of the church. Thank you in advance for your help!

Bishop's Fund Appeal

The Bishop's Fund supports major initiatives across the Diocese. We are grateful to the 117 families that have made a sacrificial gift to this year's Appeal. Our parish has raised \$26,664.00 toward the effort.

Thank you once again for your generosity and support. To everyone who has made a gift or pledge, on behalf of Bishop LaValley, thank you for making a difference in the lives of thousands of people across our Diocese.



Winter Clothes Needed

The St. Mary's Thrift Shop (7 Main Street, in Canton) is open to customers **10 am to 4 pm on Monday through Thursday and 10 am to 1 pm on Friday.**

St. Mary's Thrift Shop is in need of donations of fall and winter clothing, especially for men and children. Please bring your clothing or fabric donations into the shop on Main Street. Household goods can't be accepted at this time. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

Masks are required for all customers and staff.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Pope Francis often highlights the role older adults play in conveying faith from one generation to the next. Recently, he noted that "there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel." As we approach the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection, an appeal that benefits some 26,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests, I am reminded that senior women and men religious never retire from their vows.

The prayer and ministry of older religious are an ongoing witness to the Gospel. In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and works of mercy. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry. Others are frail and need assistance. Yet all remain wholly committed to their vocations, accepting the limitations of aging and embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Most senior religious worked for little pay, and now their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious offers support that helps religious communities provide loving care for older members while ensuring younger ones can continue the good works of their elders.

Many fine religious women and men have served and continue to serve the people of God here in the North Country as teachers, health care providers, pastoral associates, administrators, pastors, and assistant priests. We are richly blessed to have a community of contemplatives, Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood, supporting us through their ministry of prayer. We are also grateful to those missionaries (Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod, Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, Heralds of the Good News) who have left their home countries to minister here.

I recognize you may be experiencing your own financial difficulties. I ask only that you give what you can. Most importantly, please join me in praying for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

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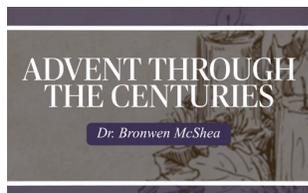
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Gaudete! We rejoice as we enter into this third week of Advent, joyfully anticipating the coming of our Lord. Here are some FORMED resources to help you enter into this time of joyful preparation:

Watch: *Advent Through the Centuries* by Dr. Bronwen McShea

Watch: *3rd Sunday of Advent* with Augustine Institute

Watch: *The Spirituality of Advent* with Dr. Tim Gray



www.cantoncatholics.formed.org



Ministry Schedule

December 11th and December 12th

Sat. 5:00 pm	Lector	Brad Mintener
	Greeters	Lisa Guccione
	Altar Servers	TBD
Sun. 9:00 am	Lector	Michael Sheard
	Greeters	Dan and Sam Roiger
	Altar Servers	TBD

December 18th and December 19th

Sat. 5:00 pm	Lector	Kerisa Burns
	Greeters	Phil & Mary Shatraw
	Altar Servers	TBD
Sun. 9:00 am	Lector	Norma Jean LaPoint
	Greeters	Helen Dominy, Barbara teRiele
	Altar Servers	TBD



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.

Katie Coakley Ba	Debbie Gainey	Corazon Negron
Judy Baderman	Michelle Gillie	Doni Peters
Milton Bessette	Joe Guarino	Nolan Joe Redmond
Sam Bisonette	Helen Hilts	Brent Robert
Barbara Brenhoch	Arleen Jordan	Judy Ruddy
Camille Brown	Carlos Law	Renee Smith
Walter Christy	Lori Law	Natalie teRiele
J.J. Crooks	Robert Lawlor	Rose White
Phyllis Cunningham	Leward Lucia	Abuse Victims
David Datush	Laurence McKenna	& their Families
Linda Fay	Rick Meilleur	Covid 19 Victims

Parish Support

Due to an altered publication schedule, the giving totals for the week of December 4th - 5th are not available at this time. They will be included in next Sunday's bulletin.

Thank you for your support & generosity each week!

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

Many thanks to those who have dropped their envelopes off at the Rectory or have signed up for Online Giving!



MASS & PARISH SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 11: Advent Weekday/St. Damasus I, Pope
3:45-4:45 pm Confession
Vigil, Third Sunday of Advent
5:00 pm Mass Daniel Junker by Audrey Tobin

Sunday, December 12: Third Sunday of Advent
9:00 am Mass John Thompson by Truus and Family
5:00 pm Mass For all the People of the Parish

Monday, December 13: St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
7:30 am Mass Clara Burke by Ellie Beauvais
After Mass Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer

Tuesday, December 14: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
8:00 am Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
4:10-5:10 pm Holy Hour for Vocations with Eucharistic Adoration
5:15 pm Mass June Taillon by Dan and Margaret Sweeney
after Mass Confession

Wednesday, December 15: Advent Weekday
7:30 am Mass Stanley and Jill Wojtarowicz by Henry Sieg
After Mass Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
10:30 am Mass **Maplewood** (not open to the public)
Margaret Brown by her estate

Thursday, December 16: Advent Weekday
8:00 am Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
5:15 pm Mass Otto Czerepak by Mary & Phil Shatraw

Friday, December 17: Late Advent Weekday
8:00 am Liturgy of the Hours Morning Prayer
8:15 am Mass Gary Barcomb by Helen Kenyon

Saturday, December 18: Late Advent Weekday
3:45-4:45 pm Confession
Vigil, Fourth Sunday of Advent
5:00 pm Mass Edd White by Mary Kreneski and Charles LaPree

Sunday, December 19: Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:00 am Mass Gloria Spadaccini by John and Peggy Hayes
5:00 pm Mass For all the People of the Parish



The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week

**In memory of Rick Bartlett
by Sandra Bartlett**

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

Readings for Dec. 12

- Zep 3: 14-18a
- Is 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6
- Phil 4: 4-7
- Lk 3: 10-18



Readings for Dec. 19

- Mi 5: 1-4a
- Ps 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
- Heb 10: 5-10
- Lk 1: 39-45