

Immaculate Conception Parish



WE PRAY CHRISTMAS

Our worship space is decorated with flowers, candles, trees, colorful banners, and a beautiful Nativity scene. The Lord's Table becomes today's manger where God's people are fed with Bread and Wine of Heaven. As we gather for Mass, we sing "Glory to God's peace to all people," echoing the song of Bethlehem's angels. Our response to the Hebrew Scriptures is Psalm 96 and the canticle "Today our Savior is born, this is the Day, Christ our Savior is born." We live in the eternal today of God! The Gospel acclamation shouts, "Good Christian friends rejoice, Alleluia!" When we gather around the Table of the Lord, we proclaim with new born faith "you have set us free by Jesus' Cross and Resurrection." We are sent forth, caught up in the love of God, unseen and beyond us, yet now born as one in us. May Christmas' song resound in us every day.

January



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 7

4:00 PM Mass
Thomas Hyland

Sunday, January 8

9:00 AM Mass
Ski Bromirski
Joan Rogers
Jim Rogers
Ruby Grobuski

Monday, January 9

12 Noon Mass
John & Jennie Zelker

Wednesday, January 11

8:30 AM Mass
St. Patrick's Church

Friday, January 13

12 Noon Mass
Manuel Custodio
"Remembering the Blessings
of Winter"

Saturday, January 14

4:00 PM Mass
Marie Nugent
Vern Weeden

Sunday, January 15

9:00 AM Mass
Damir Wade
Joan & Fran Henke
Tom Doyle
Donald Sutton
Fred English

SANCTUARY LAMP

1/8/17 - 1/14/17
In honor of the Risen Christ
we remember:

Peggy Pine
&
Marge Patire



Please bring any type of the following items:
canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly or oatmeal
to our donation box in church.

There is always a need for old bags to be reused.

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS ...

We are looking for volunteers at the Food Pantry to help.
If you are interested, please call Dianne Hosterman at 686-5310.



CLASS TODAY January 8, 2017

Next Class January 22, 2017

All Classes Grades K - 9th meet at St. Mary's Academy on Sunday mornings from 10:15 - 11:30 AM. Grades 10 and up meet in the St. Joseph's Room downstairs in the church from 10:15 - 11:25 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Kapron Grades K-6 @205-5014 or Deb Mahar Grades 7-12 @ 686-1692.

**The Battenkill Chorale presents
ON HALLOWED GROUND - A PLEA FOR PEACE**

Come hear the 90 - voice Battenkill Chorale as they present

Ralph Vaughan Williams' impassioned

Dona Nobis Pacem

Soloists Sylvia Stoner and Keith Kibler

47-piece orchestra

And

Samuel Barber

Adagio for Strings

Sunday, January 22nd at 3pm

Zankel Music Center's Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

\$15 general admission.

To reserve tickets, call (518) 692-7458 or email: jen.braucher@gmail.com

OPEN DOORS

Our church is open 24 hours a day for prayer, meditation, adoration, and walking. For countless generations here in Hoosick Falls, our doors are holy because you come through the portals to worship: farmers and factory workers; school children and teachers; newlyweds and nuns; moms and dads; soldiers and travelers. We go forth renewed as disciples of Jesus, with hearts open in love for the world.

STONE SOUP

With cold winter weather, we have begun our ministry of Stone Soup. Anyone can make a pot of soup (we supply the containers), and deliver them (we can help, too) to the Food Pantry and Wood Bridges/Wood Park Apts. Call our office for information and to help. 686-5064

WE PRAY TO THE LORD

A new prayer intention book is now in Our Lady's Chapel (on the north side of our church entrance). As St. Paul reminds us, "never stop praying for each other," uplifting all in God's Spirit of Love.

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

Our Diocesan Offices of finance, pastoral planning, and building/construction have asked for a meeting on January 25, 2017 with our trustees and steering committee representatives regarding our church difficulties and plans for our future. Our diocesan offices want to better understand the scope of our building projects and how we can all work together. Please remember the power of prayer in all that we do.

Pastor: Fr. Tom Zelker (tomzelker@gmail.com)

Office Secretary: Tina Becker

Our Parish Office & Mailing Address

67 Main Street

Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

Phone: 518-686-5064

E-Mail: immconcept@roadrunner.com

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 10 AM to 4 PM

Website: www.icchoosickfalls.com

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

4 PARSONS AVENUE, HOOSICK FALLS, NY
PHONE: (518) 686-4314, FAX: (518) 686-5957

**Mr. Michael Piatek, Principal, Mrs. Amanda Goyer, Assistant Principal,
Mrs. Mary Beth Smith, Secretary**

St. Mary's Academy is the parish school of the Immaculate Conception Faith Community. Founded in 1891, St. Mary's Academy provides education for students beginning in Pre-Kindergarten and continuing through Grade 8.



Dear Friends of SMA,

On behalf of everyone at St. Mary's Academy, we would like to wish you and yours a New Year filled with good health and happiness.

We are pleased to welcome back Mrs. Shambo to her first grade class after her leave. Her daughter Isabella already misses her.

Last school year the students at SMA raised more money for the Ronald McDonald House in Albany than any other school and earned a visit from Ronald. Ronald will be at SMA Friday January 20, at 1:00 PM. All are invited to see Ronald.

Catholic Schools Week starts on Saturday, January 28 with Mass at ICC followed by a Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show in the gym at SMA. Details of Catholic Schools week activities will be forthcoming.

Our annual Learning Fair will be held on Tuesday, January 31, starting at 6:00 PM in the gym. All classes will be presenting. Also, we are using our Learning Fair as a back drop to our first Open House. If you or anyone you know is interested in having your children attend SMA in the fall, please plan to attend this informative evening.

We continue to be thankful for your support and help. You are always welcome at SMA.

Blessed Mother Pray for Us,

Mrs. Goyer
Mr. Piatek



EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION

We would like to congratulate Jake E. Kinney of Troop 6065, Hoosick Falls, NY on earning the noble Eagle Scout rank. Jake's Eagle Scout Service Project, completed on May 7, 2016, consisted of cleaning up debris on the HooRA Greenway River Trail, conducting a Bird Count along the walkway, and placing trail benches adjacent to the Rt. 22 Hoosic river Bridge entrance. Jake, brother of Luke and Quinn, the son of Brian and Maggie, is now a freshman at Siena College. Great job Jake!

NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Anyone in 3rd grade or older is invited to help out at Mass as an altar server. Please let Fr. Tom Zelker know at church.



Thank you so much for your Christmas food, cards, well wishes, and gifts (even the tree stump pillow). Your life giving presence is inspirational. Next Thursday, January 12th, my sister Barbara is having her second operation - procedure on her vocal chords. We'll be in Albany Med that day; please uplift her in your prayer. Thanks always.

Fr. Tom Zelker



I would like to thank everyone that gave myself and my family gifts during the Christmas Season. The kids especially liked the maple cotton candy. Thank you very much. Tina Becker & Family

Thank You

SO MUCH:

- * Teresa & George Driscoll for donating our church Christmas trees;
- * All the folks who helped decorate and clean;
- * Our musicians and street carolers;
- * The Village of Hoosick Falls Mayor and Police Department for their security presence on Christmas Eve;
- * Pat Hayes, Patrice Zedalis, and Heather Wsocki for coordinating food and gift baskets; as well as all who donated and volunteered;
- * The chefs who have made soup for our Stone Soup Group;
- * All of our wonderful parishioners who celebrated this season together and shared \$19,000.00—Astounding! For our parish's ministry.
- * **(Monday concludes the Season of Christmas; at the 12 noon Mass we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. After that Mass, please take home any flowers).**

A CHRISTMAS CARD PSALM

O you who showered sacred stars
on the tiny town of Bethlehem,
I thank you for guiding artists' brushes
to create cards of beauty,
bursting with blessings
and filled with love and greetings from friends.

I lift up my heart in gratitude
for these beautiful yearly bridges
that bind us together in love,
we who are often too busy
for keeping up with friendship's needs.

My cards of Christmas past are now precious relics,
and like the bones of saints
they hold great power,
and so I hate to bury them
or see them burn.

Opened Christmas cards
hum to me the hymn of love
and teach me the sacrament of correspondence.

Tie about the finger of my mind, Beloved One,
a reminder that without reminders
friendship fades from the failure
to express words of love and appreciation
to one another.

May these days of Christmas
inspire me to celebrate
the un-holidays of the year,
the feasts of no-occasions,
with love notes to friends who are far away.

Sacred season of Christmas,
gift me with the magic power to stop the clock,
so as to keep God alive within the world.
For if God is love, then God may be found
in the mystery of love exchanged.
May I be a holy messenger of that mystery.

SCRIPTURE INSIGHTS

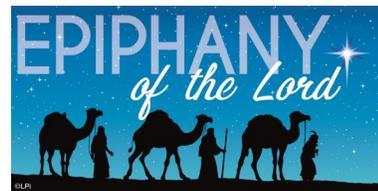
At the end of Advent and Christmas Time, the Scriptures take us from the humble, local event of the Messiah's birth to a celebration of the universal effects of God's breaking through into human history. Pilgrimages, processions, journeys, and exotic visitors all converge in the glorious light of the Lord, who has come to dwell in time for all peoples.

Isaiah summons the city of Jerusalem to rejoice in the glory of the Lord. While other peoples dwell in darkness, the people of God walk in the radiance of the Lord. Furthermore, Jerusalem will be the bearer and sign of God's glory to those nations; caravans will stream toward the light, bearing riches and proclaiming the praises of the Lord—a glorious vision!

Paul's teaching also stresses that God's reign is widespread, even universal. The Gentiles are "coheirs" of the same revelation given to Paul and the Apostles. Indeed, they become "copartners" in the Gospel. The Spirit has made them members of the same body and commissioned them for the same ministry.

The details of the Magi's visit intrigue us. The visitors' names and occupations, the symbolism of the gifts, and the evil intentions of Herod lend drama and mystery to the story. But we need to focus on the Gospel as an epiphany, a manifestation of God's intervention in the world. These foreigners are a sign of the far-reaching effects of the birth of the Son of God. All peoples of good will find their way to the Lord.

- ◆ How do you understand the nature of the journey, your pilgrimage in the readings?



ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS RECEIVED AFTER 12/23/16

In Memory of:

Peer, Waytkus Families

Juanita Passineau

Marcella & John J. Lucey

Joseph Florio

Greenwood & Kjelgaard Families

Herrington & Cassidy Families

Donor:

Marilyn & Charles Leeseman

Nash

J. Lucey

Perez Family

Jean Florio

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Kjelgaard

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Cassidy

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Bea Peterson, Leonard Austin, Ray & Adelia St. Hilaire, Ruby Carver, Patsy Sheffer, Edward Maleady, Neill Waytkus, Cathy Diehl, Jackie Eastwood, Briann Dimaggio, George Kaukus, Frannie Davendonis, Gayle Magisano, Terry Lettre, Jean Waytkus, Jay Accashian, Cheryl Kresky, June Baker, John (J.D.) Ellis. Those who have been on the list for quite some time will still be prayed for, but will not appear in the bulletin. If you are in need of prayer for yourself or someone you know, please call: Margaret O'Malley at 686-7835.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
JANUARY 7 & 8, 2017

This Week: January 7 & 8, 2017

Lay Ministers: Team #1

Counters: Terry Hewson & Heather Hassett

Next Week: January 14 & 15, 2017

Lay Ministers: Team #2

Counters: Gina Harrison & Linda Bennett

(It is your responsibility to find a substitute if you are unable to serve.)

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS December 24 & 25:

Christmas Collection.....\$17,606.00

Christmas Flowers.....\$1,875.00



Candles.....\$64.00

Total: \$19,545.00

ATTENDANCE December 24 & 25:

4 PM.....495 6:30 PM.....240 9 AM.....98

Total: 833

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS December 31 & January 1:

Offertory.....\$2,542.00

SMA\$360.00

Solemnity of Mary.....\$278.00

Monthly E-Cash Collections.....\$1,160.00

Candles.....\$80.00

Total: \$4,420.00

ATTENDANCE December 31 & January 1:

4 PM.....142 9 AM.....120

Total: 262

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK ...

We would like to thank

BARBER & FRICKE

Automotive Inc.

Gordon E. Fricke

Complete Auto Care Center

Sales · Service · Towing

(518) 686-4575 · (518) 686-7745

129 Church St · Hoosick Falls, NY



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEET
EVERY 2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

IN THE ST. JOSEPH'S ROOM
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CHURCH HALL.

ANY MAN IS WELCOME TO JOIN!