

Immaculate Conception Parish

Our Church, our Faith Community is not a museum of ancient artifacts or something simply to gaze at from afar.

We are the living garden of God to be tended to, cared for, and to bear fruit ... a harvest rich in justice, peace, and compassion.



Abby with her pigs

GARDEN SONG

Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow. All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground. Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow. Someone warm them from below till the rain comes tumblin' down.

Pullin' weed, pickin' stones, We are made of dreams and bones. Feel the need to grow my own cause the time is close at hand. Grain for grain, sun and rain find my way in nature's chain tune my body and my brain to the music from the land.

Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow. All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground. Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow. Someone warm them from below till the rain comes tumblin' down.

Plant your rows straight and long. Temper them with prayer and song. Mother Earth will make you strong if you give her love and care. An old crow watching hungrily from his perch in yonder tree, in my garden I'm as free as that feathered thief up there.

Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow. All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground. Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow. Someone warm them from below till the rain comes tumblin' down.



Jake plowing the Community Garden



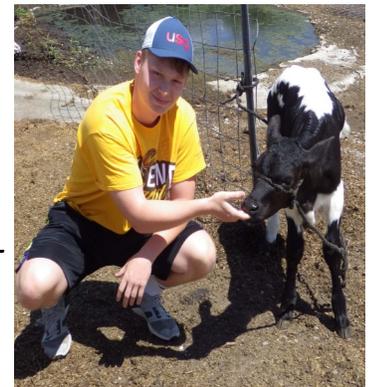
Malcom plowing the old-fashioned way



Rosemarie and Aleah picking vegetables from our growing garden



Kellan on the Farm



Garrett & a young Dairy Cow

WE PRAY

Our liturgies of Spring and early Summer are simpler than those of Easter. Yet even in our simplicity, we celebrate the profound mystery of Christ among us. Our response to the Hebrew Scriptures is Psalm 113: "Praised be the name of the Lord." We celebrate our God who transcends all time and space but who is deeply in love with each person. Our Gospel acclamation is the joyful Celtic Alleluia. Coming to the Lord's table we remember "when we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your Death until you come again." God's love for us is so deep that Jesus could give his life for all people. Our lives are transformed to be that same Christ for each other!



Please bring any type of the following items: tuna fish, canned fruit, canned goods, cookie/cake mixes or toiletry items 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.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Masses are celebrated at First United Church due to ceiling problems at ICC

Saturday, June 16

4:00 PM Mass

“For all of our Fathers”

Sunday, June 17

9:00 AM Mass

“For all of our Fathers”

Monday, June 18

No Mass

Fr. Tom Zelker has to be at the Presbyterial Council Meeting in Albany

Friday, June 22

12:00 PM Mass

John Burdick

Saturday, June 23

4:00 PM Mass

William “Chub” Sargood

Sunday, June 24

9:00 AM Mass

Ron Dooley

Patricia Cherry

William & Henry Benkoski



As part of our parish and school wide efforts to become ever more a people and place of peace, we are asking all parishioners - adults and children, to sign “The No Place for Hate Promise.” This is a resolution to live respectfully; treating all people fairly, with kindness and tolerance. In the midst of a world embroiled in violence and fear, we need to be a church of welcome peace, and joy. Our sign up sheet is on the hospitality table. So far 200 parishioners have signed this “Declaration of Independence” from hate. Let this freedom ring throughout our land.

Scripture Insights

Today’s Word reminds us that the Lord is at work in the world, in us, and in spreading God’s Kingdom. The prophet Ezekiel addresses the people of Israel encouraging him never to lose hope. As God’s people, they are assured that their fortunes will be reversed. The prophet offers a beautiful image: God takes a shoot from a cedar tree and plants it in the ground, where it grows into a majestic tree. In like manner, this loving God, whose power makes mighty trees grow, will restore the people of Israel.

“We walk by faith, and not by sight” is a call Paul addresses to his friends in Corinth: Remember that life is a journey to the Lord. No matter what happens Christ journeys with us. Our faith in Christ offers the confidence that we can face every challenge. Consequently, we are called to act in a way that pleases the Lord.

The Gospel presents two parables that focus on God’s work within us and in the spread of God’s Kingdom. In the first parable, Jesus compares the growth of God’s Kingdom on earth to God’s creative power working mysteriously in the world of nature. In the second parable, Jesus compares the growth of the Kingdom to a small mustard seed planted in the ground that becomes the largest of plants.

All these readings challenge us to remember that the work we do is ultimately not ours, but the Lord’s. God works in mysterious ways within our lives and within the world in the growth of God’s Kingdom. The future that lies ahead is mysterious, but it is rooted in God’s love for his people, beginning with our ancient Creation. Today is sacred and our tomorrows are holy. Revel in each breath, each person, our soil, air, and water, every plant and animal. Live in this sacred gift always.



SPREADING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL:

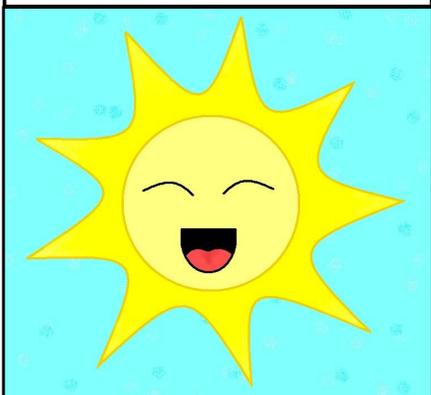
IT STARTS WITH YOU!

OUR 2018 BISHOP’S APPEAL

The 2018 Bishop’s Appeal continues. This is our opportunity to unite together as one Catholic family to answer the challenge given to us by Jesus Christ to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the afflicted, and to promote justice for every person. In these next weeks, please take the time to prayerfully reflect on the gifts that you have been given by God and respond to the Bishop’s Appeal as generously as you possibly can.

Your participation is essential to the success of the Bishop’s Appeal. Please join other Catholics from throughout the fourteen counties of the diocese in supporting this very important collection.

Envelopes may be dropped off at our parish office or donations may be made online at www.thebishopsappeal.org. Our parish assessment this year is \$22,726. We currently collected **\$23,188**. Wow!



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
4 PARSONS AVENUE, HOOSICK FALLS, NY
PHONE: (518) 686-4314, FAX: (518) 686-5957

Principal, Mrs. Amanda Goyer
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,

This past Friday, we graduated our last 8th grade class here at SMA. It is always a bittersweet moment when our students graduate and move on to their high school career. We wish our graduates Layne, Colton, Abigail, Stella, Ethan, and Andrew all the best as they transition to HFCS, Hoosac, and Emma Willard.

On Monday 6/18, our PreK students will celebrate their end of school. On Tuesday 6/19, our Kindergartens will say goodbye for the summer. On Wednesday 6/20, the rest of our students will leave to enjoy their summer vacation. Students will be dismissed at 11:00am each day this week.

SMA will be open Monday-Thursday from 8am-12pm beginning July 9th. These hours will be in effect until Labor Day.

Save the Date: SMA Alumni Weekend August 3rd and 4th Friday, August 3rd Golf at Hoosick Falls Country Club and Saturday, August 4th SMA Alumni Banquet at SMA.

As always, I encourage you to stop by and visit your parish school.

With many blessings,

-Mrs. Amanda Goyer-



Keep in our prayer our eighth grade graduates from SMA: Stella, Abby, Layne, Andrew, Ethan, and Colton.

Blessing Prayer for Father's Day

Blessed are You, Lord and Father of All Life,
who has given to us
the gift of our Father.

Today, we honor him,
and we thank You for the numerous good things
that are ours because of him.

His love for us
has been a sign of Your Divine Affection
and a sharing in Your Holy Love.

His continuous concern for our needs and welfare
is a mirror of Your Holy Providence.

And so, as we honor him,
we praise You, the Father of All Peoples.

Bless him this day
with Your Strength and Holy Power
that he may continue to be a Sign of You, our God,
and a Priestly Parent to our family.

May we do have the honor of bearing his family name
do so with great pride.

May we, the members of this family,
assist him in his holy duties as a parent
with our obedience,
our respect,
and our deep affection.

Bless him, Lord,
with happiness and good health,
with peace and with good fortune,
so that he who shared of his very life
that we might live,
may live forever with You,
His God and Heavenly Father.

Dad,
may bless you on this Father's Day,
be blessed by God
and by our love for you.

Amen.



D.A.R.E. Program Graduates!

Upcoming Events:

⇒ College Reunion Flotilla - Tuesday, June 19 leaving the rectory at 1PM - Our college students reunite for fun, friendship, and some gentle competition on the Battenkill. After canoeing, we will eat at the Burger Den in Jackson, NY.

⇒ Baccalaureate - Wednesday, June 20th at 7PM - Hoosick Falls Baptist Church. Our community gathers in prayer with our High School graduates.

High School Canoe Trip - Friday, June 29th leaving the rectory at 1PM - We paddle down (sometimes up) the Battenkill. All graduates from our parish are invited. After canoeing, we will eat at the Burger Den in Jackson, NY. **Congratulations to our Class of 2018 High School Graduates:** Emily Philpott, Bridget Redick, Andrew Stevens, Danielle St. Hilaire, Eliza Whitman, John Loughlin, Madison Lee Bellemare, Dylan Delgado, Nicholas Giordano, Angela Gonzalez, Victoria Elizabeth Gorman, Drew Michael Hoag, William Kennedy, Luke Wayne Kinney, Nora Jean Kipp, Nicholas Paul Legg, Aubrey L. Mahar, Taylor Mann, Noreen McAuliffe, Evan McCart, Stephanie Ann Merwin, Daisy Perez, and Allison Perry.

⇒ Parish Picnic at St. Mary's - Saturday, June 30th - right after the 4 PM Mass. We will come together for a great picnic of hot dogs, burgers, soda, kids' games, and hoop. Phone call invitations are going out - let's share summer!

⇒ Up the Hoosick Without a Paddle Canoe and Kayak Race - Saturday, July 7th at 11AM. We paddle down the mighty Hoosick through rapids, meanders, and rocky shoals. Beginning at the Rock Cut and finishing at Wysocki's Farm. A wild race testing strength, skill, stamina, and know how. All kayakers and canoeists are welcome!



SKOTT & ZELK...the champs in 2017 (and also the previous 3 years!!!)



Hoosick paddlers in 2011...go Jake & Tom



WE NEED YOU!

Wouldn't it be wonderful if everybody here was a Minister of Communion?!! Yes, you can...and yes you are needed to help share our Eucharist at Mass. Please see Mary Waytkus or Fr. Tom Zelker soon.

PRISION MINISTRY

Can you write a letter of hope and encouragement to a person incarcerated? Tell them to have a good day, write out your favorite quote so they can remember people outside prison, love them and care that they exist. Loneliness abounds in the isolation in prison and we would like to do a little something to share God's love. In fact, Our Holy Father challenges us to think about the least of our sisters and brothers. If you are interested in such a small but significant gesture, then please contact Patty Austin at 518/428-8686 and leave your name and number. We will start meeting once a month to write the letters, make it fun, and a time for fellowship as well.



Jake and Garrett happily paddling along the Battenkill River. Enjoy these wonderful days ahead of us.

The Ritual of the Summer Solstice

Holy is this fire of midsummer's eve,
and holy are you, O God,
who from your burning heart
drew forth a fiery ball
and flung it into space.

Your laughter shook the empty cosmos
and echoed again and again
until the darkness of space resounded
with your love and with fire.

You reached in again and drew forth fire
and seeded it like yeast
in each atom, plant and animal,
each bird, fish, man, and woman.

And you gave us a special star, our sun,
afame with a life-evoking energy
to make our planet green and fertile,
sun-soaked in your love.

As we celebrate this summer feast,
open our eyes to the countless wonders
and to the sparks of fire-life
that you have planted in each of us.

May this holy and beautiful night
be aglow with star-fire and God-light
as we once again begin
the sacred season of summer.

Amen.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
JUNE 16 & 17, 2018

This Week: June 16 & 17, 2018

Lay Ministers: Team XP35-786W

Counters: Linda Bennett & Bob Medvetz

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

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS June 9 & 10:

Offertory.....\$3,720.00



ATTENDANCE July 9 & 10:

4 PM.....148 9 AM.....136 Total: 284

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Mary McCaffery, Chick Thurber, Marrie Godfrey, Mary Carter, Corinne Philpott, David Martin, Rosemary O'Malley, Cheryl Kresky, Jim Baker, Judy Quackenbush, Beverly James, Winnie Restino, Frank Marmillo, Mark Rice, Anne Eberle, Mary Austin, Jane Davis, Julianna Suarez, Dave Lukas, and Jerry McAuliffe. 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.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Our automatic withdrawal system is working well. This may be an easy way for you to support our parish. Please contact our office for more information.

Holy Communion...Please be sure to let one of the greeters know if you are unable to approach the altar. The usher will then make arrangements for Communion to be brought to your pew.



- ◆ Wednesday mornings at 10 AM: Bulletin proofreaders.
Call the office.
- ◆ Sunday morning: Collection counters. **Call the office.**
- ◆ Lectors (readers) at Mass: **See Mary Merriam, Gloria Shufon, or call the office. 686-5064**

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