

Winter Ordinary Time - January 16 & 17, 2021



**“for the beauty of the Earth ..
Lord of all to you we raise our song of grateful praise”**

BISHOP OF ALBANY DIOCESE:

Edward B. Scharfenberger

BISHOP EMERITUS: Howard Hubbard

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30PM

WEBSITE: www.icchoosickfalls.com

Facebook page: Immaculate Conception Hoosick Falls

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE:

CELEBRATED IN IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
HALL

SATURDAY, 4 PM & SUNDAY, 9 AM

TRUSTEES: Christina Angell & Ellen Scott

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Krissy Fauler, Dave Stagnitti, Mike Sanders & Linda
Billert

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Virginia Cuddihy, Mike Brewster

Jerry D'Acchille, Rick Ferrannini, Karen Kaufman,
and the two Trustees

MUSIC MINISTRY: Richard Cherry

WORSHIP AND ENVIRONMENT: Lynne Mango

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Liturgy Schedule:

Saturday, January 16, 4PM Mass
Sandy McCart

(Requested by Mary Negvesky)

Evylene Cutler

(Requested by Art Hyde & family)

Sunday, January 17, 9AM Mass
Patti Turi

(Requested by Turi family)

Saturday, January 23, 4PM Mass
Sandy McCart

(Requested by Linda Hutchins)

Anthony Mango

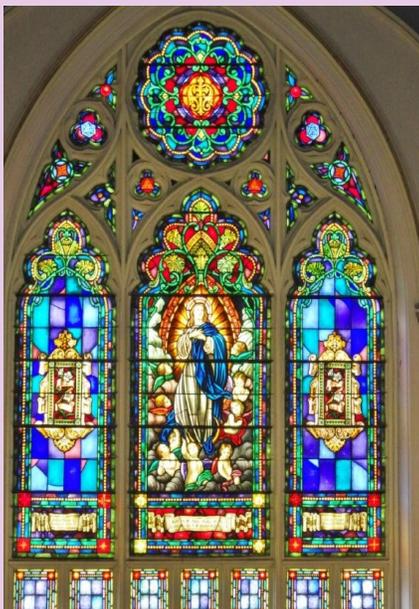
(Requested by Brian & Mariea)

Sunday, January 24, 9AM Mass
Ann & Elmer Jandrow

(Requested by family)

Pat Herrington

(Requested by family)



Brothers and Sister from the Same Womb

When I was a young lad growing up and studying classical languages, I learned that, in Greek, the words for brother and sister meant, etymologically “from the same womb (*a-delphos/a-delphē*).” This expression has stayed with me and helped me understand several puzzling situations in life.

For, if brothers and sisters are united by the fact of their origin from the same womb, then they are united in dignity, united in honor, united in rights, while maintaining differences in attitudes and habits; and the rest of humanity is so constituted - *products of wombs, brothers and sisters* all of us!

We are all, biblically at least, considered to be from the same origin, from the same father, but I am from Africa, and many are from Europe and many are from China, and you can see our differences.

If we are so different, can we still talk about being one? Yes, we can. The womb which makes us all one can be the womb of our parents, but it is also the womb of mother earth, the planet which feeds us.

We are one because we share a common womb of world culture, which determines what we study and what we pay attention to and how our lives are guided. We share a common womb of history, with all the world wars and everything that has happened that has brought us to this point. And, lately, these days, we share the common womb of a common healthcare threat and crisis: the covid-19 pandemic.

We are all, in so many ways, from the same womb. This, then, should lead to a common sense of our human dignity that does not leave anybody behind.

But in the reality of life, some are left behind along the roadside, left behind in culture, left behind in development, left behind in incomes, left behind in education.

All kinds of experiences separate us and make us unequal and uneven, incurring various types of “*human dignity deficits*.”

So, let us consider this pandemic a wake-up call. Let us go looking for our brothers and sisters whose humanity and dignity are dimmed and reduced to a flicker by modern day slavery and human trafficking. Let us go looking for our brothers who are discarded and left behind. Let us go and look for our sisters who have been abandoned or left along the roadside. Let us go looking for the men and women whose absence make us feel less whole and less wholesome, and bring them all together, and make real the unity and the wholesomeness of the human family of God’s creation

Cardinal Peter K A Turkson, from Ghana
Catholic Church Council for Peace and Justice

“For when I was hungry, you...”

Catholic Charities, the Regional Food Bank, and local folks shared food at HFCS on Wednesday January 6 with over 1,600 people from 450 households in our area. Our parishioners helped deliver food to 45 families. Here Sam, Thomas, and Steve carry potatoes, sausage, and chicken through the snow to villagers.



The Snows of Kilimanjaro

Garrett Wright, an old Hoosick farm boy, climbs Mt Wilson in California in preparation for an expedition up Africa’s Mt Kilimanjaro this summer. Garrett is seeking to raise money and awareness for our local food pantry. Donations supporting this effort can be made to the Hoosick Area Church Association (HACA) Pantry.



• Render Unto Caesar •
If you need tax contribution information please call our office.

If you would like to receive ICC emails, please call the parish office at 518-686-5064 or email to: immconcept@roadrunner.com



Winter Ordinary Time

The Old Testament readings for these first weeks of Ordinary Time present us with several challenges that face those who would live with and for God. The first is that God often calls us without our realizing or understanding it. We have to learn, sometimes from others, to recognize the voice of the Lord in our lives. He also learns that when we are slow to hear, God patiently continues to call until finally we are able to respond (1 Samuel). Moses points out the danger of presuming that we ourselves speak for God (Deuteronomy), while Jonah learns that the mercy and forgiveness that God offers us is also available for those we ourselves may consider beyond the reach of divine care, including those who have hurt us the most (Jonah 3:1-10). Poor Job reminds us that in time of suffering even those closest to us can fail to understand what we are enduring, increasing our sense of isolation, loneliness, and the meaninglessness of life (Job). The book of Job, as a whole, urges us to stay faithful to God.

The second readings continue Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians. We are reminded by the Apostle that being incorporated into the Body of Christ means we must radically examine and reorient our lives. In fact, now that Christ has come, the entire world is turned upside down and the old things, including the old ways, are passing away. Those who have been baptized are different people now, they are joined to the Lord as members of Christ. This has several consequences. First, their physical bodies are no longer their own and they may not treat them any way they want. Second, even the most fundamental aspects of life, such as marriage, must be reconsidered in light of Christ. Marriage itself is good, Paul says, but what is best of all is making oneself as available as possible to proclaim the gospel. Third, as members of a Body, Christians are not isolated individuals who may live their lives according to their own lights, even when those lives are in accordance with God’s will. Being a Christian means being concerned for how our own actions, even the most benign, might adversely affect others.

The Gospel readings highlight the energy and zeal that evangelization can unleash among disciples and those whom God touches through them. This energy and zeal begin with Jesus himself, who begins his public ministry by gathering disciples so that the message of God’s salvation can be broadcast as widely and quickly as possible (John; Mark). The urgency that Jesus proclaims is captured in Mark’s frequent use of the word “immediately.” Jesus moves quickly, healing, casting out demons, and teaching with astonishing power and authority (Mark). Even though he cautions those he heals to keep it quiet, the joys of God’s salvation that Jesus brings is too much to keep still about (Mark). Whether one is a disciple called to preach or the beneficiary of God’s care, the result is the same: an irrepresible urge to let everyone know what God has done in Christ.

Faith Formation News

As part of our Family based focus these are **This weeks and Next weeks** readings so you and your family can think about those lessons.

Readings for Sunday January 17

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10,19
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
Gospel: John 1:35-42

Readings for Sunday January 24

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Here is this weeks YouTube video that you can share and discuss with your family. Go to YouTube and search for the following:

If You Think This Year Was Supposed to Be Different

**Excerpts from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Delivering His Iconic Speech on the Steps of the Lincoln Memorial
August 28th, 1963**

...Let us not wallow in the valley of despair, I say to you today, my friends.

So even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, one day right down in Alabama little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning: My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true. And so let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania. Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado. Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California. But not only that, let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia. Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee. Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, and when we allow freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: Free at last. Free at last. Thank God almighty, we are free at last.

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YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS

For January 9 & 10

Regular Offertory.....\$3,956.00
Additional Christmas Offering\$1,145.00
Solemnity of Mary E-Collection.....\$45.00

Total\$5146.00

Attendance

Saturday, January 9.....39
Sunday, January 1039

Total78

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Cheryl McLaughlin, Dave Hanselman, Dawn Myers, Dorothy Roy, Dr. Marcus Martinez, Felicia Martelle, Fr. Joe Manerowski, Gary Grogan, Jeff Babson, Jesse Stevens, Judy Brownell, Judy Quackenbush, Keith Buck, Marie Slattery, Matt Waytkus, Melissa Cleary, Nancy Hathaway Mahoney, Neil Waytkus, Paulette Sukuskas, Ronda Sharpe, Sally Williams, Stacy Rogers, and all those who are ill or hurting. Those who have been on the prayer 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 else, please call Margaret O'Malley at 686-7835.



HACA Food Pantry will be open normal hours, however, they will give out pre-packaged bags at the door to one family at a time. All normal items will be included. Additional Items Needed: **Ramen noodles, oatmeal, canned dinners (spaghetti, chili, stew), pancake mix, rice/pasta boxed mixes (Rice a Roni), shampoo, toothpaste and brushes, and feminine hygiene items.**



Food Pantry Volunteers... We are looking for volunteers to help. For information and training, contact Dianne Hosterman at 686-5310.



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

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.