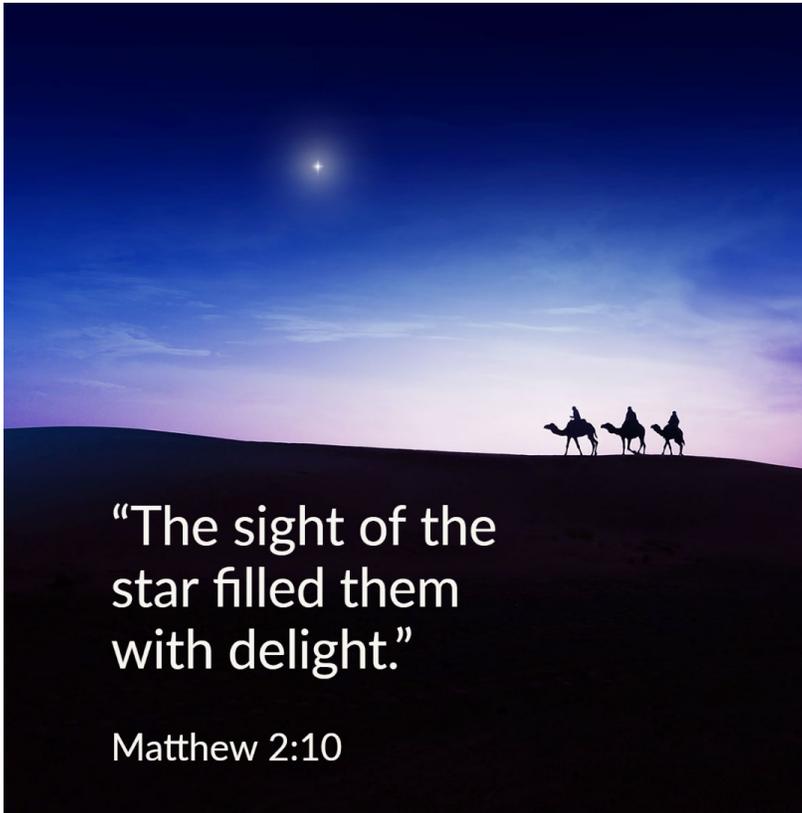


Immaculate Conception Church - January 7 & 8, 2023



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE:

**CELEBRATED IN IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION CHURCH HALL
Saturday, 4 PM & Sunday, 10 AM
Monday, 9 AM**

**Thursdays, 10AM - pray the Rosary for
"World Peace and Unity"
Fridays, 3 PM - The Divine Mercy Prayers will be
celebrated in the St. Joseph Room.**

**Reconciliation available 3:00-3:45 PM Saturdays
Eucharistic Adoration immediately after Mass
on the first Monday of the month**

**Bishop of Albany Diocese:
Edward B. Scharfenberger**

Pastor: Very Rev. Joseph Busch

+OUR PARISH OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS

**67 Main Street
Hoosick Falls, NY 12090
Phone: 518-686-5064
E-MAIL: immconcept@roadrunner.com
*New OFFICE Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday -
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**



**Sign up for Flocknote, our parish notification system,
to receive the bulletins and other news by email:
<https://battenkillcluster.flocknote.com/ImmaculateConcep>**

Contacting Fr. Peter

**Please call the office at Immaculate Conception,
518-686-5064. If it is outside of office hours, please leave a
message including your name and telephone number.**

*Though no longer required, mask use is request-
ed indoors in the spirit of love and care for the
vulnerable in our community.*

**Parish Life Coordinator: Mary Rosmus
maryrosmus@battenkillcatholic.org**

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Peter Tkocz

Pastoral Associate: Beth Ferrannini

Office Manager: Sue Hyde

TRUSTEES: Christina Angell & Ellen Scott

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Krissy Fauler, Dave Stagnitti, & Linda Billert

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Virginia Cuddihy, Mike Brewster
Jerry D'Acchille, Rick Ferrannini,
Karen Kaufman, and the two Trustees**

Liturgy Schedule:

Saturday, January 7

4:00 pm Mass
Neil Waytkus
(Requested by David & Joyce Lukas)
John McAuliffe
(Requested by Bob & Elise Melesky)

Sunday, January 8

10:00 am Mass
Veronica Hoag, Hoag, Bradley &
Brandalik families
(Requested by Jim Hoag)
Richard Cuddihy
(Requested by Cuddihy family)

Monday, January 9

No 9:00 am Mass
Immaculate Conception

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 am Mass
Holy Cross, Salem

Wednesday, January 11

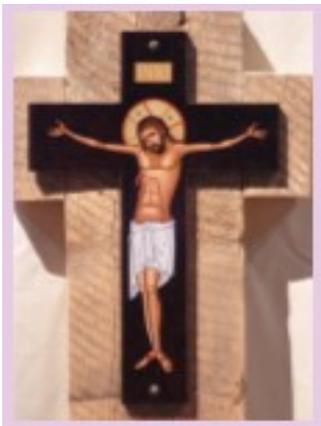
9:00 am Mass
St. Patrick's, Cambridge

Saturday, January 14

4:00 pm Mass
John McAuliffe
(Requested by Tom & Ellen Scott)
Neil Waytkus
(Requested by Louise Ciuk)

Sunday, January 15

10:00 am Mass



January 8, 2023 - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Star-Crossed

God our Creator
you guided the Magi to the infant
through the brightness of a star.
Gold, frankincense, and myrrh,
the Magi presented.
May the light of Scripture
guide our journey as we offer
to you our worship and discipleship.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Sunday, January 8, 2023 Illumination and Glory

Today's readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12. The radiance of God's glory is clear as we celebrate Isaiah's prophecy fulfilled in the visit of the Magi. In the first reading, Isaiah addresses Jerusalem, saying, "Your light has come." Continuing, Isaiah tells of people from afar bringing gifts: "All from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord."

The Magi proclaim the Lord's birth, when they arrive in Jerusalem, inquiring, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?" Alarmed at this query, the jealous King Herod begins a search for the one he considers a rival to his power. But this newborn is not destined to compete with the king. Isaiah had foretold that the newborn would "shepherd my people Israel." This is not the language of an earthly ruler. Jesus continues to be manifest in us in the readings and the Eucharist. On this Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, we thank God for the gift of the Eucharist, a gift that we can continue to receive throughout our lives.

Matthew's Gospel is a particular type of Jewish story that intends to make a theological point and is heavily influenced by biblical tradition and diverse sources. These visitors to the holy family were clearly good-hearted, kindly and motivated by faith in prophecy and astrology. Honor their generosity by extending good will and kindness to family, friends and coworkers.

Crafted from the foundation beams of our Church, we continue to build up the reign of God with living stones. Jesus Christ is our true cornerstone.

Winter Weather Policy

If school in Hoosick Falls is cancelled or delayed, the parish office will be closed and all in-person activities for the day and evening will be cancelled.

Bless your home this Epiphany: In commemoration of the visit of the Magi to the home of the holy family, there is a custom of blessing the home during the week of Epiphany. The blessing includes marking the first initial of the legendary names of the Magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) at the top of the main door frame, along with the year, plus crosses in between the numbers and the letters. This year it would look like this:

$$20 + C + M + B + 23$$

The home of a Christian is a holy place where Christian symbols exist and where prayers are said. The church encourages the practice of people praying blessings – blessing food, children, and their home. The Bishops of the US have published a book of Catholic Household Blessings noting that if the Sunday assembly is to be a praying community, prayer has to happen at home. So, on this Feast of the Epiphany, whether you live alone or with others, pray a blessing on the place you call home.

Here is an example: *Be my shelter, Lord, when I am at home; my companion when I am away and welcome guest when I return. And at last, receive me into the dwelling place you have prepared for me in heaven, where you live forever and ever. Amen*

Parish Ministry Opportunities

We are renewing and expanding our Bereavement Ministry, and all of our ministries welcome new members. If you are interested in serving as a greeter, reader, Eucharistic minister, altar server, counter, bulletin editor or would like to help with fundraising or hospitality, please contact the office. We welcome your ideas and participation!

Hoosick Helpers

Hoosick Helpers is a ministry of care to the Community members. We all need help in our lives for a variety of reasons. This group functions in the belief that every person deserves affordable or free services to help with daily life. Services offered are in the areas of companionship, transportation, small household repairs and socialization.

Examples of what may be needed and can be offered are:

- * transportation to appointments/church
- * time with someone over a cup of tea or coffee
- * play cards (games)
- * changing a light bulb or some other small household chore
- * snow removal
- * leaf removal
- * pick up groceries
- * making phone calls periodically

This is a brief list of examples. The plan is to match up needs with volunteers or services.

Do you want help with daily chores, transportation, etc.?

Can you help community members as part of Hoosick Helpers?

Whichever applies to you (or maybe both) please call the Parish Office at 518-686-5064, and we will be in touch.

Thank You!

December 24th began our celebration of the Christmas Season with a beautifully decorated church and wonderful music. Thank you to the Angell family for donating those magnificent trees! Thank you to the anonymous donor who sent several Poinsettia plants, and the numerous monetary donations received for Christmas flowers. Thank you to the group of decorators who made it happen: Art Hyde, Bob Benkoski, Helen Kennedy, Jerry McAuliffe, Louise Ciuk, MaryEllen Sanders and Peg Bakaitis. Thank you to our wonderful musicians, Andrea Davenport, Carlita D'Achille, Dave Sutton, Judy Flynn, Trish Smith, Richard Cherry and Lucas on Clarinet. As always, thank you Fr. Peter Tkocz and Mary Rosmus for everything you do!

GIFT: Growing in Faith Together Faith Formation for all ages!



Our Faith Formation Initiative: **Growing in Faith Together (G.I.F.T.)** reminds us that faith is a gift in which we must always continue to grow, and that we do this together as a household and as a community.

2022-2023 Seasonal Themes:

Fall: Building our Faith Together
Advent: Preparing our Hearts for the Gift of Jesus
Lent: Water, Light, and Life
Easter: From Mass to Mission

We invite you to take information home or look through the parish website, select the options that work best for your household, and register to take part.

Battenkill Catholic Lifelong Faith Website: *Emmanuel, God with Us.* As the end of the liturgical season of Christmas approaches, we continue to celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him. On our website you will find links to many traditions - from King's cake to chalking your door - for celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany with your family!

Women's Christmas, celebrated on Epiphany in Ireland and elsewhere, offers an opportunity at the end of the holiday season to pause, to rest, to reflect. Jan Richardson's 2023 Women's Christmas retreat, *In the Light of a New Constellation* includes readings, art, questions and blessings. You can do it alone or share it with friends. (And it's not for women only!) You will find the link to the free download on our website.



Adult Bible Study Resumes in January. We will continue our study of The Gospel of Matthew. New members are welcome to the study. Information and registration can be found on the website.

New 2023 Lector Guides are available for pickup at church.

Faith Formation News

As part of our Family based focus these are this week's and next week's readings so you and your family can think about those lessons.

Readings for Sunday, January 8

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Readings for Sunday, January 15

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
2nd Reading: Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel: John 1:29-34

Here is this week's YouTube video that you can share and discuss with your family.

Go to YouTube and search for the following: **Why Did God Take On Our Humanity?**

For additional resources, go to <https://stpatriicklifelongfaith.weebly.com/faith-at-home-resources.html>

BUILDING UPDATE

RESTORE, RE-IGNITE, REMAIN

This holiday season we have reasons to be hopeful. Two of the four phases of the building restoration have been completed.

Phase 1. Shingle replacement, steeple repair, soffit, and fascia repair are complete. Gutters and downspouts have been installed. Adjustments need to be made on some of the gutters and downspouts. The contractor continues to work with us in an effort to resolve, and have the gutters and down spouts work properly.

#Phase 2. The ceiling repair is complete. An engineering study was conducted on the ceiling and it was determined that dry wall could be applied over the plaster. That work and painting is complete. The gold “bosses” have been reinforced and painted. Walls that had received water damage have been repaired and painted. If you recall there was a crew here for much of the summer working on this. LED lights were installed in the existing fixtures, thanks to Bradley Electric.

#Phase 3. Window Replacement. The two large windows to the right and left of the altar need to be replaced. The windows will be removed, new frames installed and the opening will be boarded over until the new glass is ready to be installed. The windows were scheduled to be out by now, but due to supply shortages for the new frames, this has been delayed. The plan is to save as much glass as possible from the old windows, perhaps to use for other purposes in the church.

#Phase 4. Design and Create the Worship Space. In August a group of volunteers donated a Saturday and removed most of the carpeting and organized the pews and kneelers. In January the Design and Create Worship Space committee will resume meeting. A “Town Hall” type meeting is being discussed, hopefully this will happen in January or February. (The Town Hall was scheduled, and then Covid struck)

Faith, Hope, Patience and Perseverance have kept this project moving. In this season of Hope, we will remain hopeful.

**“Let us not weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will harvest if we do not give up.”
Galatians 6:9.**

January 7 & 8, 2023

Lectors:

This Week: Team #1 - Sat. Ellen Scott/Beth Keegan

Team #2 - Sun. Gloria Shufon/Bob Shay

Next Week: Team #2 - Sat. Mary Suite/Pat Kjelgaard

Team #3 - Sun. Don Bradley/Christian Bradley/ Keelyn Bradley

Eucharist Ministers:

This Week: Sat - Helen Kennedy, Sun - Rita Bulson

Next Week: Sat - Sr. Pat Cassidy, Sun - Ginny Blinstrub

Counters:

This Week: Carol Ryan & Eileen Bakaitis

Next Week: Linda Bennett & Anita Perry

SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

December 24 & 25

Regular Offertory	\$2,135.00
Christmas Offertory.....	\$3,932.00
Christmas Flower Offering.....	\$1,016.00
Immaculate Conception.....	\$10.00
Candles	\$14.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$10.00
Total	\$7,117.00

Attendance:

Saturday, December 24 (2:00 pm).....	140
Saturday, December 24 (4:00 pm).....	170
Total	310

SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

December 31 & January 1

Regular Offertory	\$1,933.00
Christmas Offertory.....	\$361.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$171.00
Feast of the Immaculate Conception.....	\$10.00
Faith Formation.....	\$76.00
Total.....	\$2,551.00

Attendance:

Saturday, December 31 (2:00 pm).....	60
Sunday, January 1 (4:00 pm).....	49
Total	109



WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Ayla Fauler, Billy Desmarais, Crystal Waytkus, Donny Hayden, Dr. Marcus Martinez, Ed & Margaret LaFortune, Edna Aulisio, Hope Kjelgaard, Jeff Babson, Mike Allard, Nicole Herrador, Robert Downing, Sally Williams, Sara Senecal, Sarah Bienkowski, Stan Urbon, Sue Ouellette, 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 518-686-7835.

HACA Food Pantry is open regular hours, Mondays and Fridays 10 AM to noon, and Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM. Families may select the items they need or they can take a prepackaged order. Frozen meat, dairy products, produce and bread will be added at the time of pickup.

Anyone who is unable to get to the pantry or needs assistance can email at hacaine12090@gmail.com or call 518-686-5163 and leave a message.

Additional Items Needed: Ramen noodles, oatmeal, canned dinners (spaghetti, chili, stew), pancake mix, pancake syrup, bread, rice/pasta, boxed mixes (Rice-A-Roni), shampoo, toothpaste and brushes, feminine hygiene items and paper towels.

Food Pantry Volunteers... We are looking for volunteers to help. For information and training, contact Dianne Hosterman at 518-686-5310.



Volunteer!

- Wednesday mornings at 10 AM: Bulletin proofreaders. **Call the office.**

- Sunday morning: Collection Counters. **Call the office.**

For questions regarding scheduling Lectors, see **Gloria Shufon**, or call the office

For questions regarding scheduling Eucharist Ministers, call **Teresa Driscoll** at

(518) 686-5251 or call the office.