

St. Alphonsus-Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Tupper Lake
St. Henry's Parish, Long Lake
St. Therese' Parish, Newcomb

Fr. James Teti, Pastor: frjim@tupperlakecatholics.org 518-554-0042

Fr. Clement Rimonds, Parochial Vicar: frclement@tupperlakecatholics.org 518-554-0246

Jill Bujold, DRE: Jillb@tupperlakecatholics.org 518-554-0244

Deacon Savage: Gsavage7@roadrunner.com * **Deacon Ellis:** DeaconEllis@tupperlakecatholics.org

St. Alphonsus-Holy Name Secretary/Bookkeeper: Lisa Reed email: office@tupperlakecatholics.org

St. Henry's & St. Therese Secretary/Bookkeeper: Beth Poulin email: stetheresechurch@gmail.com

Pastor's residence: 31 Marion St., Tupper Lake 518-359-5097

St. Alphonsus-Holy Name Parish Offices & Religious Education: 40 Marion St., Tupper Lake

Telephone: 518-359-3405

Website: www.tupperlakecatholics.org

St. Henry's & St. Therese Parish Office:

518-582-3671

St. Alphonsus-Holy Name of Jesus Parish Trustees: Michael Farkas & Robert Guiney * St. Henry's Parish Trustees: Helen Kentile & Jules Comeau

St. Therese Parish Trustees: Nicholas Poulin & Sandra Turcotte

Reconciliation:

St. Alphonsus Saturday: 3:15-3:30pm & Sunday: 8:00-8:10am * St. Henry's: 3:00pm Saturday * St. Therese: 8:30am Sunday

Baptism or Marriage planning, please call the Parish Office

Communion to the homebound please call Parish Office

From the Pastor...

We have likely heard the saying, as it goes, "...close...but no cigar!" With certain things in our lives, perhaps being close to a goal achieved or something realized just isn't enough. In fact, it's no better than being far off from it. Can you think of an example where this applies? Perhaps you can, but there is one aspect of our lives where this isn't the case, and it's our faith. A hopeful message for us always is that God is close at hand. It is his promise to us, and a gift in which we can always trust. In particular, it is part of the joy of this Third Sunday of Advent, often known as "Gaudete Sunday"..."let us rejoice." We are close to the celebration of our Lord's birth. It is near indeed, although still a ways away, and yet that joy continues to build in the hope of his coming, and fills us already with peace, even as the waiting continues. We have been on a journey for these weeks, with a destination in mind...the event of Bethlehem. And the nearness to it is already a blessing, as the journey continues and soon will be complete. Being close to God in our lives of faith implies that the Lord's life and love surround us, at the heart of what we can share and enter into through faith. And yet it also means for us that we can continue to seek his life, finding it ever more deeply in new experiences, events, and all the ways that we live our faith. In a sense, we never really reach our destination in this life, as we trust we will in heaven, but the very realization that God is near gives the sense that something has been fulfilled...we share in the one for whom we have looked and searched. He is close at hand, and we rejoice in that gift. We have been blessed. And still, we move forward, with the firm conviction that our efforts to that goal will bear for us the fruits of that ever so closeness for which we long, and where we find the one who loves us, and calls us by name, in the mystery of faith.

I trust that the journey of Advent has been one of grace for us all. The weeks of this holy season pass quickly, and soon, it will be Christmas. Let's continue this special time of our year with one another, allowing today to be one of joy, even as the expectation, watching, and waiting endure. Being close is a gift indeed in faith. It is not some sort of consolation prize or word of encouragement when we might think we have come up short. To be close in faith is to abide in God's life, to have that contact and attachment to him, even as we truly believe that our life with him can still grow and deepen with the efforts and the longing that compel us to draw further towards him. Advent is a blessed season indeed, as it prepares us for the celebration of the Lord's Nativity, and also shows us much about the dynamics of our lives of faith, helping us to keep discovering the tools, language, and images of our search for God in this world. Our God is close at hand. Rejoice! And let's continue to draw close to him.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Jim Teti

TUPPER LAKE				
Monday	12/12	8:00am	HGC	Judy Churco by Jeannette Keniston
Tuesday	12/13	8:00am	HGC	Raymond Amell (38th Anniversary) by family
Wednesday	12/14	8:00am	HGC	Joan Frechette by Jim & Elaine Ellis
Thursday	12/15	8:30am	HGC	Carl Skip McGillis by Jim & Elaine Ellis
Friday	12/16	8:00am	HGC	COMMUNION SERVICE
Saturday	12/17	4:00pm	SA	Daniel Lefebvre (46th Anniversary) by M/M Dean Lefebvre
Sunday	12/18	8:30am	SA	Lynda Levesque by Maggie Salamy & family
Sunday	12/18	11:00am	SA	John Blanton by Pat & Darlene Donnelly & family

NEWCOMB				
Sunday	12/18	9:00am	ST	People of the Parish

LONG LAKE				
Sunday	12/18	11:00am	SH	Margaret Jonasch by Bob & Helen Kentile

Reminder, every Monday night at 7:00pm there is Rosary with Benedictions at the Holy Ghost Chapel, 40 Marion St

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Diocese of Ogdensburg's Retirement Plan for Priests has long been supported by a percentage of parish contributions from its annual Christmas collection. This Christmas, the diocese requests contribution of 75% of the Christmas collection to support the Plan, with the parish keeping the balance. Currently 40 retired priests, and 11 active priests age 70 and older, are expected to receive pension benefits of one million dollars in 2022-23. Also 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests, estimated at \$270,000 this fiscal year, is paid by the Plan. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will also help provide for the retirement needs of priests who will retire in the future. Say *thank you* to your pastor and all priests of the diocese through a generous contribution to our Christmas Collection. **Please note that Christmas is on a weekend this year so you will see 2 envelopes in your set. 75% of the proceeds from the Christmas envelope will go to the Diocese with 25% staying in the parish and 100% of the proceeds from the December 25th envelope will stay in the parish.**

TITHING REPORT

St. Alphonsus-Holy Name	St. Henry's	St. Therese
Env: \$2,160.00	Env: \$385.00	Env: \$870.00
Plate: \$591.90	Plate: \$302.00	Plate: \$100.00
Fuel: \$275.00	Fuel: \$120.00	Fuel: \$117.00
Total: \$3,026.90	Total: \$807.00	Total: \$1,087.00
Last Year: \$2,514.00	Last Year: \$243.60	Last Year: \$446.00

Notes from Long Lake & Newcomb

Catholic Daughters in Long Lake are again sponsoring a Mitten Tree. Gifts of new hats, mittens, scarves, etc. will benefit St. Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlin, SD.

Please join us for St. Henry's Advent Reflection and soup lunch. December 14th @ 12:30.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Confession times will be available on Monday, December 19th from 7-8pm, with Rosary at 7:45pm and Benediction at 8pm, in the Holy Ghost Chapel.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION

Help aging religious. Senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer, service, and works of mercy. Most ministered for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your gift to today's Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously.

**ST. ALPHONSUS-HOLY NAME
ADVENT GIVING TREE**

As we begin the Advent Season, it is a good time for our families to think about those less fortunate. This year we will be helping out our elderly residents at Mercy Living Center with our giving tree project. The tree is up in the church entrance. Please take a tag, purchase the gift listed, wrap your gift and **put the tag from the tree on the gift**, and place the gifts under the trees. We ask that all gifts be brought to the church **BEFORE THE WEEKEND OF DEC 17/18**, so the gifts may be distributed. If you have any questions, please call Patty Reandeau at 359-9167.