

## Navigating the Desert

**L**ike Noah being prepared to navigate the Flood, so the Spirit sent Jesus into the desert. Why was he sent there? Did he need to learn something he didn't know? Did he lack something he needed? Jesus as God didn't lack anything, of course, but he needed time to pray, reflect, and prepare for his mission. He also wanted to set an example to follow. Another Scripture says he went into the desert to be tempted by the devil. That time of spiritual combat was helpful for him.

We also need to go through trials and crises to grow both in our spiritual lives and human maturity. We each have had our desert where we are challenged to our core and stretched beyond our limits. Perhaps it was a crisis such as a health, employment, or relational issue. But it doesn't always have to be such a dramatic event. It can be as simple and constant as the

prolonged embracing of daily challenges in a manner that leads to life. We probably look back and see these as some of our best times—if we truly encountered ourselves and our Lord.

The key is in peaceful acceptance, looking for what good can be learned from these inconveniences. In every cross there is a resurrection; in every storm a rainbow assures us of God's presence and victory. It tells us that clouds and storms will not lead to total death, but rather to a purified rebirth, growth, and newfound life and strength. He has promised us this.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*What important lessons have I learned from a challenge in my life? Maybe I can share that lesson with a friend or family member.*



Piece: *Noah and the Flood*, 1508

Artist: Michelangelo

Location: Sistine Chapel

*[God said,] "I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."*

*(Genesis 9:13)*

**Parish of the Visitation  
and St. Raymond  
St. Andrew's Church**

Fr. Garry Giroux, Pastor Office: 315-384-4242  
315-389-5401

Rev. Andrew J. Amyot, Pastor Emeritus at PVSR 315-384-2064  
Dcn. Lawrence Connelly, Retired 315-384-4879  
Dcn. John Levison at SA, PVSR 518-594-7610  
Dcn. Phil Regan at SA, PVSR 315-353-9917

**Masses:** Saturday: St. Andrew's~ 4:00pm  
Sunday: Church of the Visitation~ 10:30am  
**Confessions:** Saturday: St. Andrew's Church from 3:15pm to 3:45pm

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

Sat Feb. 20 – **Sacrament of Penance** 11:30am – 12:00pm **ST. PATRICK'S**  
3:15pm – 3:45pm **ST. ANDREW'S**  
4:00pm **ST. ANDREW'S** – Dale Wells by Paula & family

Sun Feb. 21 – 8:30am **ST. PATRICK'S** – Vince Penderghest by the ladies from water aerobics  
10:30am **CHURCH OF THE VISITATION** – Intentions of the People of the Parishes

Mon Feb. 22 – 7:45am **ST. ANDREW'S** – Father John Wiley by the Parish  
John Plonka by the Demo family

Tues Feb. 23 – 8:30am **ST. PATRICK'S** – Demilt Aitken by Hector & Joanne Foisy  
8:30am **CHURCH OF THE VISITATION** – Rosemarie Bombard by Francis Sharlow

Wed Feb. 24 – 9:30am **CHURCH OF VISITATION** – Jacob Ladouceur by Ted & Kathie Ashley  
All Souls by the Parishioners

Thurs Feb. 25 – 7:45am **ST. PATRICK'S** – Deceased Members of the Mary & Gilbert Plourde Family by the Estate  
8:30am **CHURCH OF THE VISITATION** – Living & Deceased Members of the PVSR ARS by the Society

Fri. Feb. 26 – 8:30am **CHURCH OF THE VISITATION** – Kenneth Aldrich (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.) by his Children  
5:00pm **ST. ANDREW'S** – Gertie LaBaff by Ernie LaBaff

Sat Feb. 27 – **Sacrament of Penance** 11:30am – 12:00pm **ST. PATRICK'S**  
3:15pm – 3:45pm **ST. ANDREW'S**  
4:00pm **ST. ANDREW'S** – Margaret & Ernest Besaw by Jim & Nancy Besaw

Sun Feb. 28 – 8:30am **ST. PATRICK'S** – Intentions of the People of the Parishes  
10:30am **CHURCH OF THE VISITATION** – Kim Grady (8<sup>th</sup> Anniv.) by Jean & Family



"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart ... I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You."

**SANCTUARY LAMP**

The Sanctuary Lamp burned this week at  
The Church of the Visitation for  
Leo Bond and family  
By the Domino Girls.

You can memorialize the sanctuary candle  
for an offering of \$10.00.  
Please contact the parish office.

**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING – TITHING**

*How much time have you spent this week in prayer  
for others and for the work of the Church?*

**Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond**

**February 13-14, 2021 – \$1,796.00**

Adult Env. \$1,255.00/Plate \$95.00

Maintenance \$165.00, Respect Life \$30.00

Solemnity of Mary \$20.00, NCC Subscription \$181.00

Eastern Europe \$50.00

**St. Andrew's Church**

**February 13-14, 2021 – \$972.00**

Adult Env. \$792.00/Plate \$50.00

Solemnity of Mary \$20.00, Respect Life \$20.00

Maintenance \$50.00/Plate \$20.00

Eastern Europe \$10.00, Fuel \$50.00

**SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTIONS**

Diocese: <https://www.rcdonny.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/norfolkwoodraymondville/>

Website: <https://norfolkwoodraymondville.org>

Email: [visitationchurch@centralny.twcbc.com](mailto:visitationchurch@centralny.twcbc.com)

**Office for the Parishes:** 3 Morris St., Norfolk, NY 13667, 315-384-4242

All mail to Visitation Rectory, PO Box 637, Norfolk, NY 13667

**Email:** [visitationchurch@centralny.twcbc.com](mailto:visitationchurch@centralny.twcbc.com) **Website:** [norfolkwoodraymondville.org](http://norfolkwoodraymondville.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8:30am-1:30pm, **Parish Secretary:** Tammy LaBarge

**Religious Education:** Director of Faith Formation - Carol O'Brien Gonthier



## **PVSR PRAYER LINE – LET US PRAY**

Please remember in your prayers all of our parish family and friends who suffer emotionally, spiritually, or physically especially for Mandy Boyd, *Donald LaBarge*, Linda O'Brien and ALL who have been affected by Covid-19. If you wish to have someone listed for one month, please contact the Parish office at 315-384-4242.

Anyone from **Our Catholic Parishes** may request to have a person included in the bulletin for prayers. We will adhere to the practice of including a name for one month before removing it. Prayer can always be requested again at any time.

## **ST. ANDREW'S PRAYER LINE**

Members of our Parish who would like a member of their family or a close friend put on our Prayer Line are asked to call either Doreen Valade @ 315-212-5729 or Ann Miller @ 315-353-2950. Please be sure the person we will be praying for agrees to this before you call. Everything you share with us is kept confidential.

## **FAITH FORMATION CLASSES 2020 – 2021**

### **Lent Info**

Thank you to all who came to the parish center to pick up your Lenten packets. Please remember to share your finished activities with your catechists and or Mrs. G. Mrs. G. would like to make a Google presentation of your pieces to share with our parishes.

We have our Parish Google Classrooms up and working. If you are still not set-up for our Google classrooms, please contact Mrs. G. so she can guide and or help you to do so. Each student has been assigned a dedicated parish email necessary to participate in their classroom.

Catechists will be in touch with each of you to help and guide you as well as answer any questions you may have. Questions or concerns, please contact Carol Gonthier, Director of Faith Formation, [cgonthier@twcnj.rr.com](mailto:cgonthier@twcnj.rr.com). Thank you!

## **FACE MASK THROUGHOUT MASS**

Due to the increasing numbers of COVID-19 infections, the Diocese of Ogdensburg ask that members of the congregation age 2 and older, wear masks or cloth face coverings during indoor Masses (except when receiving Holy Communion) to decrease the spread of airborne droplets and the subsequent risk of transmission.

Wearing face coverings is a risk-reduction measure that permits as many people as possible to attend Mass in person. In particular, this helps guard against transmitting the virus to the elderly and immune compromised members of the congregation and to those who assist in their care.

We appreciate your cooperation with this request. (The priests and other ministers do not need to wear masks during the liturgy, except for during the distribution of Holy Communion, given their sacred roles and given that they will be a sufficient distance from the congregation for most of the Mass.

## **LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH**

Lord, have mercy.	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>
Christ, have mercy.	<i>Christ, have mercy.</i>
Lord, have mercy.	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>
Christ, hear us.	<i>Christ, graciously hear us.</i>
God, the Father of Heaven,	<i>have mercy on us.</i>
God the Son, Redeemer of the world,	<i>have mercy on us.</i>

God the Holy Spirit,	<i>have mercy on us.</i>
Holy Trinity, One God,	<i>have mercy on us.</i>

Holy Mary,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Joseph,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Noble Offspring of David,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Light of Patriarchs,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Spouse of the Mother of God,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Chaste Guardian of the Virgin,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Foster Father of the Son of God,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Zealous Defender of Christ,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Head of the Holy Family,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Joseph Most Just,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Joseph Most Chaste,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Joseph Most Prudent,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Joseph Most Courageous,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Joseph Most Obedient,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Joseph Most Faithful,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Mirror of Patience,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Lover of Poverty,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Model of Workmen,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Glory of Domestic Life,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Guardian of Virgins,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Pillar of Families,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Comfort of the Afflicted,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Hope of the Sick,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Patron of the Dying,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Terror of Demons,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Protector of the Holy Church,	<i>pray for us.</i>

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*Spare us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*Graciously hear us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*Have mercy on us.*

V. He has made him lord of his household,  
R. *And prince over all his possessions.*

Let us pray. O God, who, in your loving providence, chose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most Holy Mother, grant us the favor of having him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our protector. You, who live and reign forever and ever.

*Amen.*



## **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

LENT means SPRINGTIME. What needs to grow in the 'ground' of my soul this Season? Jesus gave us the tools of prayer, fasting and giving for working up the 'ground' to help bring about a rich harvest not only for me but for the world around me. Lent provides us with an opportunity to begin building those eco-friendly habits we've been meaning to get a jump on. Deciding what specific changes to make is up to you. Consider your lifestyle, how you can make the most impact and what is feasible for you and your family. Spending time with the Lord is a good place to begin.

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## **WHAT IS GOD ASKING OF YOU RIGHT NOW?**

### **Have You Considered Commissioned Lay Ministry?**

How can you become a lay minister to further God's kingdom? You could become a Commissioned Lay Minister in your parish. A new Formation for Ministry class will be starting in the Fall. Pray and ask God if this would be right for you! For more information about the <https://www.rcdony.org/formation/candidate.html>. Stay tuned for more information. Contact: Cathy Russell [crussell@rcdony.org](mailto:crussell@rcdony.org), Director.

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## **SAFE ENVIRONMENT CORNER**

Did You Know... **Justice** is the virtue by which we give others that which belongs to them. Justice safeguards the rights of others, which are based upon the reality that each human person is made in the image of God. Our dignity is derived from our nature. Justice assures harmony in our relationships: family, society, work, church, and others. Justice is necessary to respect the order and dignity of societal and personal relationships.

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## **FREE NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE!**

Join thousands of Catholic Men from across the nation as we gather to explore the question: What does it mean to live out the Catholic Faith in everyday life? Whether you're a single man, a father, a husband, or grandfather, God has something to give to you at this event, and it just might change your life.

- Learn how to approach the challenges of our day with courage
- Gain a clearer vision of God's plan for your life
- Learn practical and immediately applicable steps to growing as a Catholic man
- Learn how to be the spiritual leader in your Home

The conference goes Friday-Sunday on February 19-21, 2021. Hear from more than 30 national presenters like: Chris Stefanick, Matt Fradd, Fr. Larry Richards, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, MLB star Mark Teixeira, and more.

Register on your own, or plan a watch party with a small group. This is going to be a powerful gathering. Register for FREE today at <https://go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCMC2021>

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## **FREE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

The National Catholic Women's Conference is a FREE virtual event for Catholic women of all ages. This year, we will be exploring all the ways that we as women can open ourselves to receive Christ's peace. Despite the pressures that we feel in life, peace is possible! Let's explore it together.

The free event goes March 12-14. Register today at [www.go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021](https://www.go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021)

## **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

### **"40 FOR 40"**

Norwood and Norfolk K of C Councils are each holding their annual **"40 for 40"** can and food drives during Lent. Collection baskets are located in each of our churches.

All items will be donated to both the Norwood and Norfolk/Raymondville food pantries respectfully.

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## **JOB POSTING: Diocesan Coordinator**

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg is seeking a **Diocesan Coordinator – Office of Parish Audit & Financial Support Services**.

This position provides support in the financial operation of parishes, schools and related entities in the diocese including technical support in the use of QuickBooks Pro and standard accounting practices.

This position also oversees the process by which reviews of parish fiscal operations are conducted and reviews annual submission of Parish Financial Reports to assure financial statements are in balance and in accordance with diocesan accounting regulations.

A Bachelor's Degree in accounting with two years audit experience is preferred. Knowledge in QuickBooks Pro accounting software is required. Candidates should possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, have the ability to work independently and manage/establish priority for several projects at the same time. Travel throughout the diocese is necessary on occasion.

Submit letter of interest, resume and three professional references to:

Human Resources Office, Diocese of Ogdensburg, P.O. Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or e-mail to: [ksnover@rcdony.org](mailto:ksnover@rcdony.org). Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

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## **A Prayer to St. Joseph**

**Protect**, O Holy Guardian, this our nation.

**Enlighten** those responsible for the common good, so that they might know — like you do — how to care for those entrusted to their responsibility.

**Grant** intelligence of knowledge to those seeking adequate means for the health and physical well-being of their brothers and sisters.

**Sustain** those who are spending themselves for those in need, even at the cost of their own safety: volunteers, nurses, doctors who are on the front lines in curing the sick.

**Bless**, O St Joseph, the Church: beginning with her ministers, make her the sign and instrument of your light and your goodness.

**Accompany**, O St Joseph, our families: with your prayerful silence, create harmony between parents and their children, in a special way with the youngest.

**Preserve** the elderly from loneliness: grant that no one might be left in desperation from abandonment and discouragement.

**Comfort** those who are the most frail, encourage those who falter, intercede for the poor.

With the Virgin Mother, beg the Lord to liberate the world from every form of pandemic.  
Amen.

### **LENTEN PARISH MISSION**

St. Mary's Church of Ticonderoga along with the Norwood, Norfolk-Raymondville parishes are offering a special Lenten Parish Mission podcast hosted by Father J. Roger McGuinness!



Fr. J. Roger McGuinness has been a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg for over 50 years. He has been a pastor, seminary and university professor, retreat master, college chaplain and vocation director. Now retired from active ministry he continues to write and give spiritual direction.

Fr. Roger will be leading us in a Lenten mission featuring weekly reflections on the Sunday gospel readings. He will also offer a special reflection on the life of St. Joseph on March 19th, the Feast of St. Joseph.

The podcast can be found at St. Mary's website <https://www.route74catholics.org/fatherroger> and on our parish website (<https://norfolknorwoodraymondville.org>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/norfolknorwoodraymondville>) It can also be found at Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Spotify. The first episode will be available on February 16th.

### **THE FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM**

**Volunteer Opportunity** The Foster Grandparent Program's purpose is to provide opportunities for low income persons aged 55 and older, to provide person-to-person services in health, education, and the welfare of children ages 21 and below. Foster Grandparents are placed in a classroom setting with a child or children who are in need of emotional support, development of basic learning skills, to provide friendship, companionship, encouragement, individual attention, and unhurried help. The Foster Grandparent also receives a small non-taxable stipend bi-weekly that cannot be held against any current benefits you may already have and you also get paid mileage for your travel.

**Location:** Jefferson County, Clinton County, Essex County, St. Lawrence, and Franklin.

Contact for more information:

[MHoward@catholiccharities.org](mailto:MHoward@catholiccharities.org) 518-359-7688

### **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL FOR JOYS/SORROWS OF ST. JOSEPH** **Requested by Bishop LaValley**

Observing the Seven Joys and Sorrows of St. Joseph. When: Sundays from Jan. 31 to March 14

The Devotion to the Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys of St. Joseph is observed on the seven Sundays preceding the March 19 feast of St. Joseph. You can access a prayer booklet at this address - [http://www.rcdony.org/components/com\\_rsform/uploads/5ffd3f4ed111-](http://www.rcdony.org/components/com_rsform/uploads/5ffd3f4ed111-7%20Sorrows%20&%20Joys%20of%20St.%20Joseph.pdf)

[7%20Sorrows%20&%20Joys%20of%20St.%20Joseph.pdf](http://www.rcdony.org/components/com_rsform/uploads/5ffd3f4ed111-7%20Sorrows%20&%20Joys%20of%20St.%20Joseph.pdf)

### **FREE PROPOSAL FOR A CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY**

Did you know that you can make a charitable gift that also benefits you in a practical way? A Charitable Gift Annuity is a donation you can make to (your Parish, Catholic School, the Diocese, an Endowment in the RC Diocese of Ogdensburg Foundation, a ministry or fund that is meaningful to you, St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Bishop's Fund Appeal, Missionary Projects of the Diocese) yet you will receive guaranteed income on it for the rest of your life at a relatively high rate of return (3.9% - 8.6%). Plus you will receive a charitable tax deduction and tax-free income. Ultimately your gift will support your chosen beneficiary, while supporting you during your lifetime. For a free proposal contact the Diocese at 315-393-2920 or email [slalone@rcdony.org](mailto:slalone@rcdony.org) or you can also go to ([Planned Giving \(rcdony.org\)](http://PlannedGiving(rcdony.org))) for more information.

### **LENT HAS BEGUN**

The Church recommends three things: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Perhaps simply add one thing in each category. You can go to the Diocese of Ogdensburg <https://www.rcdony.org> and specifically Evangelization Office <https://www.rcdony.org/evangelization.html> for more details as well as to find plenty of resources.

**Prayer:** It can be as simple as setting aside and scheduling 15 minutes of quiet prayer time or read some scripture and talk to God about it, and then listen. Check with your parish and see what opportunities for prayer are available: whether online or in-person. Perhaps attend a daily Mass, or Adoration, Stations of the Cross, or pray the Liturgy of the Hours.

**Fasting:** This is not about losing weight or getting physically fit. It is about a spiritual discipline and hungering for God. You can fast from a particular food, drink or from other pleasures. Perhaps give up screen time or put away mobile phone or limit social media. Perhaps fast from online shopping for things you want but can do without. What is distracting you from God: Fast from that.

**Almsgiving:** The giving of your time, talents and treasures. There are plenty of ways you can assist in any or all of these categories such as reaching out to shut-ins during these times of uncertainty, assist in your local food pantry or with the sanitizing of your parish after a Mass. If it is giving of your treasures, maybe you can give what you would have spent on things you are now fasting from as there are several worthwhile charities in need and I am sure some very dear to your heart.

### **A PRAYER FOR LENTEN GRACE**

Loving God, During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so I may rediscover the grace of a prayer-full life.

Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and in so doing, rediscover the grace of gratitude and generosity.

Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul, remind me of the grace and simplicity. May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you. Amen