ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, BALLSTON SPA, & ST. MARY'S MISSION, GALWAY

~ Fr. Francis R. Vivacqua, *Pastor* ~ Deacon Ronald Hogan

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stmarygal@nycap.rr.com

St. Mary's Church website: https://stmarysballstonspa.org/
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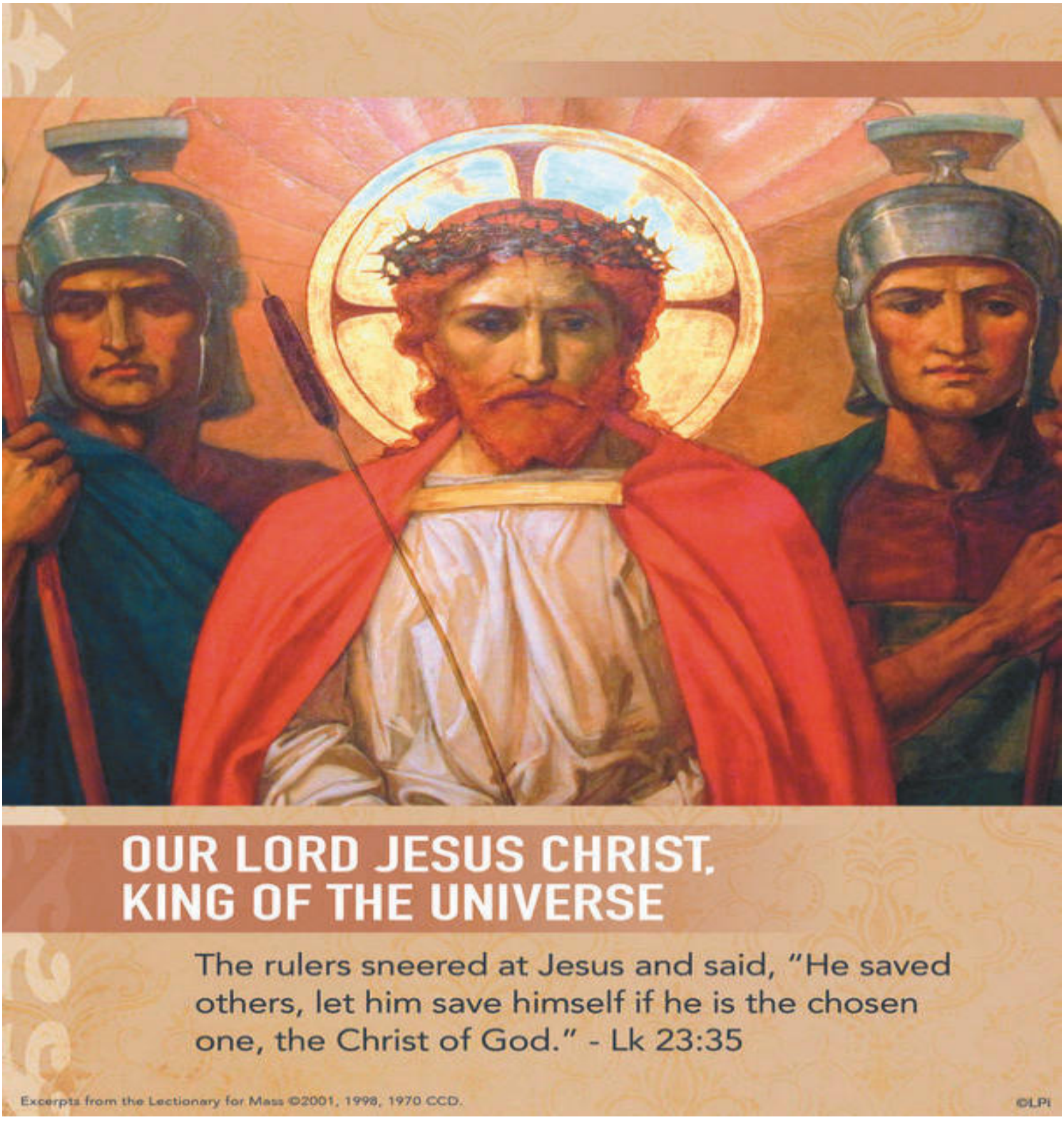


MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY – November 25, (Weekday)
7:45 AM + BJ Jacobs *req. by* Durfee Family
+ Marta Gonzalez
req. by Maria Casale, Alison Gorton & Family

TUESDAY – November 26, (Weekday)
5:30 PM + Vocations to the Priesthood
req. by Our Lady of Peace Prayer Group
+ Philip Knapp *req. by* Knapp Family

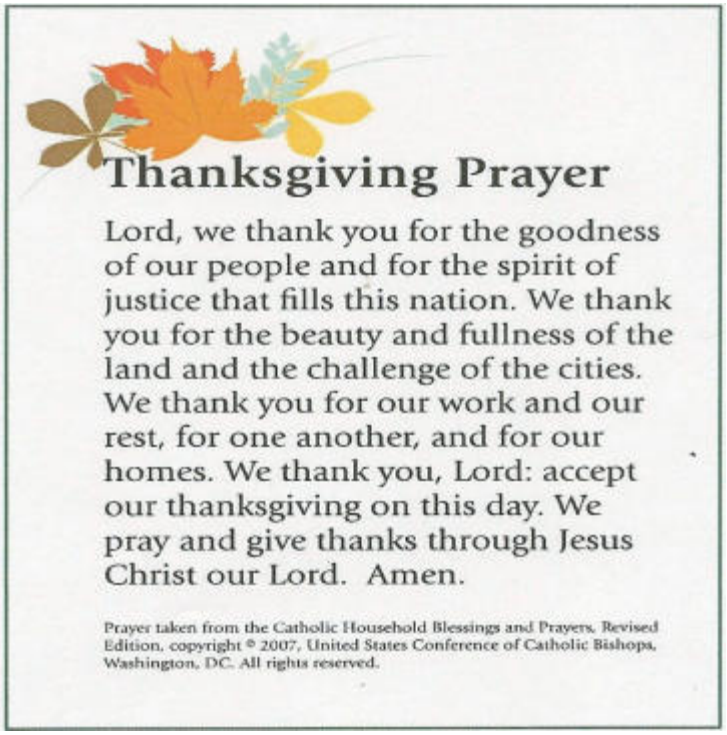
WEDNESDAY– November 27, (Weekday)
7:45 AM + Salvatore Ruzzo *req. by* Noreen & Bob McClements
+ Thomas L. O'Brien *req. by* Family

THURSDAY – November 28, (Weekday)
7:45 AM + Mass of Thanksgiving for God's Blessings to the People of St. Mary's

FRIDAY – November 29, (Weekday)
NO DAILY MASS

SATURDAY – November 30, (First Sunday of Advent)
4:00 PM + Robert Webber *req. by* Wife, Ann
+ Angela Cavotta *req. by* Tom & Shirley Klotz
+ Robert McClements Jr. *req. by* Family

SUNDAY – December 1, (First Sunday of Advent)
8:30 AM + Pro Populo
+ Ann & Jim Marzano *req. by* Tina Marzano
10:30 AM + Sheila Arpei *req. by* St. Mary's Choir
+ Deceased members of the DiDonna family
req. by Amy & Joe
12:00 PM + Bob Clancy *req. by* Ann & Bill Ryan
+ Gaylord Kaatz *req. by* Kaatz Family



MONTHLY INTENTION of the HOLY FATHER

That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

From the Pastor's Desk

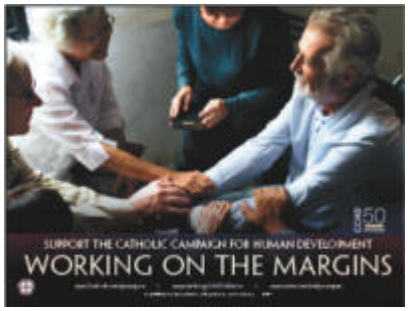
We may not often think how significant our Baptism is truly a way of life. The precious symbolisms of our Baptism (water, candle, white garment, and sacred oil), remind us of the hopes and promises to come. It is through Baptism we become the adopted sons and daughters of God our Father. Each of us becomes coheirs with *Christ, King of the Universe*.

Through Baptism we are all called to share in Christ's priesthood, known as the common priesthood of all the faithful, and sealed by the Spirit. That is to say, by Baptism every member of the Church participates in Christ's role as priest, prophet, and king (PPK). The laity are to carry these duties out in the context of their lives within families, parish communities, civic communities, and the workplace. The everyday gift of themselves in love and care for others, often done at great personal cost, is a priestly offering that is joined to the sacrifice of Christ in the Eucharist. We are reminded that God calls lay people to witness and share their faith in the midst of the world. We are thus called to holiness, to a prophetic witness in the world, and to a kingly resolve to sanctify the world by our words and deeds.

Christ, King of the Universe, invites us to work on building his kingdom here on earth just as it is in heaven. When we take on our individual roles of priest, prophet, and king we are doing his work. As priests we foster holiness, as prophets we do not speak our own words but the word of God, and as king or queen we arrange the daily order of our lives and the lives of the community toward God.

This week, may we all be filled with the Spirit so that we can live out our Baptismal promises. As we strive for holiness may we recognize the gifts God has given us. Our thankfulness to God should overshadow all our desires. As we celebrate this great feast of Christ, the King of the Universe, we are reminded that our King of the Universe feeds us-not with turkey, stuffing, and cranberry. Our King of the Universe feeds us with his body, blood, soul, and divinity. This Thanksgiving, I thank God that I was chosen to serve you as Pastor. I thank God for each of you; your kindness, friendship and support. Most importantly, I thank God for your willingness to foster a closer relationship with Him and his Son.

Yours in Christ,
Father Francis Vivacqua



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Please be generous in this weekend's second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in seven people live in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition 25% of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

SISTERS SING

A Concert of Gratitude

Be Our Guest

Sunday, November 24, 2019
2:00 p.m.

St. Joseph's Provincial House Chapel
385 Watervliet Shaker Rd.
Latham, New York

The 26th Annual Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner

Come & join your community, family & friends at the 26th Annual Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner on **Thursday, Nov. 28, at the Union Fire Company**, 319 Milton Ave., Ballston Spa. Dinner is served from 12pm-3pm (take outs are available). Sponsored by the community for the community. There is no cost & are welcome!

ENRICH OUR FAITH

Novena to Miraculous Medal,
Tuesdays at 5:30 pm,
followed by Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration & Evening Prayer

"The Holy Hour is not a devotion; it is a sharing in the work of the ***redemption."***
~Archbishop *Fulton Sheen*

You're invited to spend a little extra time with Jesus by joining us for Eucharistic Adoration & evening prayer from 5-6 pm on Monday, **November 25 & December 2.**

There will be no Adoration on Mon., December 9.

Our Lady of Peace Prayer Group
will meet on Tues., 12/3, at St. Mary's Church, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm.
All are welcome!

Join us for ... A Time of Reflection in Advent ...

Open your heart to ...

"PREPARE HIM ROOM"

on Wednesday December 4th, at 1 PM

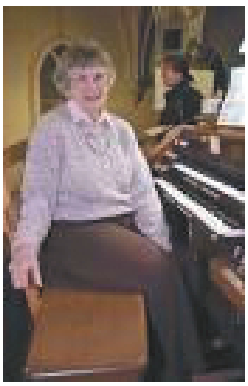
in St. Stephen's Church Hall, Hagaman.

The spiritual program will include prayer, scripture, prayerful reflection, and faith sharing.

Light refreshments will be provided. There is no cost.

However, registration is appreciated. Everyone is welcome! Invite a friend!

For information/registration, please call Josie Sperduto: 518-843-2907 or Jeanne Pitkin: 518-842-0972.



SAVE the DATE

Join us as we celebrate **45 years** of **Ann Van Derwerker** as Parish Organist at St. Mary's!

Following the **10:30 AM Mass** on Sunday, **December 15th**, there will be a reception in the School Cafeteria in Ann's honor. Please join us as we celebrate Ann's many dedicated years as organist and choir director at St. Mary's.

If you have a favorite story about Ann, please send it to Ann McCauley at ann.mccauley@rcda.org or call her at 518-885-7411.

Faith FORMATION

Please pray for St. Mary's second graders
as they prepare for the sacrament of
First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

First Reconciliation is scheduled for Saturday, December 14, at St. Mary's Church at 9:00 am., and First Communion is scheduled for Sunday, December 15, at St Mary's Church at 2:00 pm.

St. Mary's Poland Pilgrimage
Celebrating the 100th Birthday of St. John Paul II
In the Footsteps of
St. John Paul II & St. Faustina
October 19 - 27, 2020

For more information: www.pilgrimages.com/frvivacqua/
Contact Maureen Pelletier at 518-313-0784
*$100 off all bookings received by November 30th! *Limited seating

As you make your way to Poland, Land of Kings, Saints, and Divine Mercy! Walk in the footsteps of Saint John Paul II - from where he was born, baptized, where he became a Priest - Bishop - Cardinal, and where he spent his time visiting as Pope. Take in the Shrine of Divine Mercy (in Lagiewniki) and be drawn closer to the life of St. Faustina and her Divine Mercy message. One of the most obvious works of mercy, and perhaps the most difficult to put into practice, is to forgive others. This pilgrimage will teach you, and allow you, to be able to forgive.

LADIES OF CHARITY AIC USA

Ladies of Charity
Christmas Giving 2019

Ladies of Charity of Saratoga Vicariate will again be adopting families for Christmas. Members will shop for each family member for things that they wish for and need. Families are referred through Saratoga Mentoring, a program of Catholic Charities. We also make sure that families have a special meal to share with each other at Christmas. Financial donations will help us be Christ to others in our community. Please make checks payable to: Ladies of Charity, Saratoga Vicariate and mail to 3 Fountain Lane, Apt. 206 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.
Information: www.ladiesofcharitysaratoga.com
Questions: Please leave message for Leigh 518-788-5106, leighland12@gmail.com

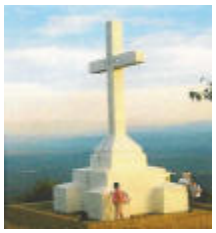
Donations are still being accepted for the orphans in Haiti!

The total on the collection to support the orphans in Haiti so far is $3480. If you missed the collection and would still like to donate you can. Please put your donation in an envelope marked "Orphans" and drop it in the collection basket, or you can mail donations to: St. Mary's Church, 167 Milton Ave, Ballston Spa, NY 12020 c/o Jake Stomieroski. Checks can be made to St. Mary's church and please put "Orphans" in the memo.

Thank you for your generous support.
You are all truly role models for our high school youth that see what giving is all about.

Medjugorje May 11-22, 2020

Are you being called to experience the most beautiful features of Medjugorje? Simplicity and peace are the treasures of this popular pilgrimage. An opportunity to grow in faith as you experience Apparition Hill, where the visionaries first encountered Our Lady, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. James Church, hear firsthand accounts from the visionaries, and pray at the hill of Blue Cross, where it is said Our Lady appeared to the children while they hid from the communist police in the early days. Join Father Vivacqua on this spiritual journey and receive the graces Mother Mary offers. For more information go to www.pilgrimages.com/stanton



RESIDENTS ENCOUNTER CHRIST

Volunteering for the REC Prison Ministry program.

There are several levels of participation:
1. As a member of the "Team" of a specified prison, which includes regular visits and a once or twice a year 3-day REC program in the prison.
2. Participating in a Hoot (hootenany) which is a four hour portion of the REC annual or semi-annual weekend that includes presentations by the residents, music and sing-along, and a dinner with the Team & residents.
3. Write letters or notes, to give the prisoners encouragement, called "Palanca" - which would later be presented by the Team to the prisoners.
4. Send a monetary contribution to the REC program.

Currently, we have programs with the following prisons, for your information: Coxsackie, Greene, Great Meadow, Washington, Hale Creek.
For info, visit: http://www.recrcda.org

For questions, contact:
Jim Hoon, REC Prison Outreach Coordinator,
at recrcda@gmail.com

SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL, BALLSTON SPA

"Though your beginning was small, your future will flourish indeed." Job 8:7

Have you discerned offering your child a Catholic Education? Pray about it! For more information contact: Principal Mrs. Lynn Fitzgerald at 518-885-7300 or visit www.smsbspa.org

Call or stop by for more information
***Tuition assistance and Guardian Angel Scholarships** are available for those who qualify.*
Educating Preschool—Grade 5
Call Lynn Fitzgerald at 518-885-7300

P is for Pre-Kindergarten, pajamas, parade, pictures, principal, priest, and P.E. teacher!

All three Pre-K classes celebrated the letter "P" last week. The children learned about the sound the letter P makes, they practiced writing the letter and naming words that begin with the letter P. The most exciting thing was wearing pajamas to school and having a special parade in the gymnasium! Our priest, P.E. teacher and principal all joined in the fun!

We think the letter P is just perfect!

St. Mary's School & Parish Food Drive: Our annual Thanksgiving food drive is underway. We are collecting non-perishable food in cans and boxes through November 24th. Please help by donating such things as soup, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, stuffing, pasta, and juice. All donations can be left at the entrances to the Church. St. Mary's 4th grade class will collect, organize and deliver the food to the local food pantry. Thank you!

Liturgical Ministers

SAT., November 30
4:00 PM, Lector: Marilyn Hogan
E.M.: Terri Smith, Marilyn Campbell, Sue Van Patten

SUN., December 1
8:30 AM, L: Jason Buczek
E.M.: Mary Anne Starnes, Joyce Richards, Bruce Richards

10:30 AM, L: Maureen Pelletier
E.M.: Patti Nichols, Gerianne Lehane, Joyce Yates

12:00 PM, L: Chris Bablin
E.M.: Ed Foy, Frank Haskell, Len Smith

Choir: 10:30 AM Sundays
Contemporary Music Group: 12 Noon

ALTAR SERVERS

SAT., November 30
4:00 PM
Eli Sutton

SUN., December 1
8:30 AM
Anthony LaRosa, Emma Price

10:30 AM
Jack Walker, Cole Walker

12 NOON
Anna Fitzpatrick, Livia Fitzpatrick

CHURCH SUPPORT

We thank you for your sacrificial offering of:

	Nov. 17
Envelopes & Loose	$11,417
On-line Giving	575
Total	**$11,992**

To cover our weekly expenses, we need $11,500.

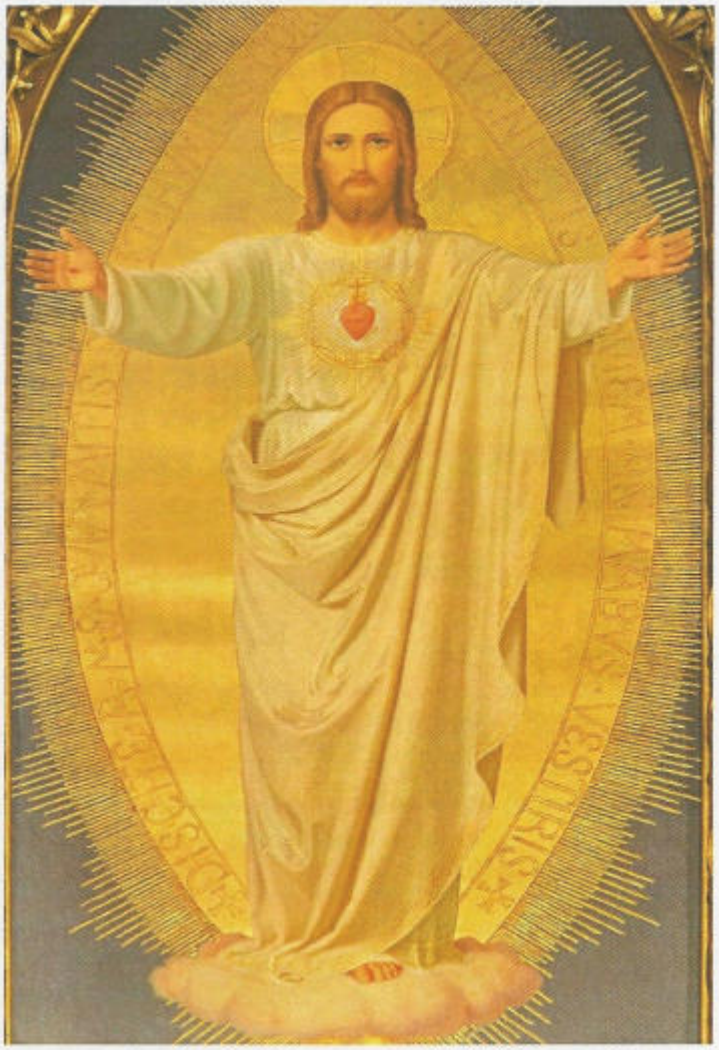
Readings of the Week

Readings for the week of Nov. 24:

Sunday:	2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 1:12-20/ Lk 23:35-43
Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 [59b]/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [59b]/ Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10 or Jn 6:63]/ Mt 4:18-22
Next Sunday:	Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/ Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Christ the King

Celebrated on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Solemnity of Christ the King was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 with his encyclical Quas primas to respond to growing secularism. The Holy Father saw that attempting to "thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law" out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. The Solemnity reminds the faithful that Christ reigns as king of the entire world forever, and it encourages Catholics to respond to this reality.



St. Mary's Mission, Galway, NY

MASS INTENTIONS

November 24, **Christ the King at 9:30 AM**
+ Joe Minarski *req. by* Wife & Children
+ Michael George Rosenzweig Special Intention *req. by* Palmer Family

PLEASE JOIN US AFTER OUR 9:30 AM MASS IN THE SOCIAL HALL or COFFEE, DONUTS, & FELLOWSHIP.

CHURCH SUPPORT

We thank you for your sacrificial offering of $1,132 on Sunday, November 17th. To cover our weekly expenses we need $1,000.

Community Service Group

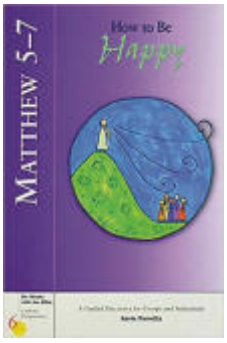
Christmas Toiletries Collection Nov 3-24 We will be collecting toiletry items for this year's Holiday Basket Project for client families of the Galway Food Pantry. Kindly purchase any of the following items for men, women and children and place them in the large box in the Social Hall: shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, and shaving cream. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE!
Galway Christmas Passport
Sunday, Dec. 15th from 1 PM to 4 PM

St. Mary's Galway has been asked to join West Charlton United Presbyterian and Galway United Methodist Church for the first annual "Galway Christmas Passport".

We will travel from church to church as a group, enjoying food, an activity and fellowship at each location. Please join us for this festive celebration of Christmas at these Galway churches! For more information see Ann McCauley or Tom Liuzzo.

Six Weeks with the Bible



For busy adults who want to study the Bible but don't know where to begin, *Six Weeks with the Bible* provides an inviting starting point. We would like to offer a faith sharing group based on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

If you have an interest in sharing your faith through this Bible study, please contact Colleen Radun at cmradun@aol.com or at 513-544-0919. Please let her know what day and time works best for this faith sharing group.

Faith Formation

Lord, grant that I may give You the free and full consent of my will.

From the beginning of the spiritual life the fervent soul should desire to give itself to God without reserve, always saying *yes* to Him.
Divine Intimacy by Father Gabriel of Saint Mary Magdalen, OCD

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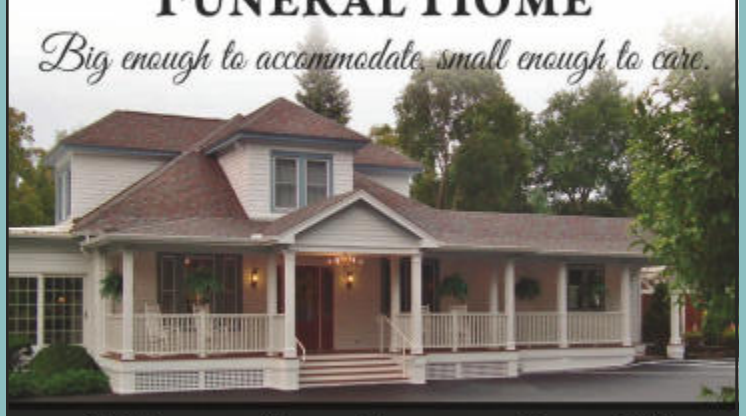

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