

*Welcome to St. Mary's Church, Clayton
& the Catholic Community of Alexandria, Alexandria Bay*



Christmas and The Feast of the Holy Family

Deacon Neil Fuller
Pastoral Life Coordinator

Phone: 315-405-6910

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Rev. Arthur J. LaBaff
Sacramental Minister
St. Mary's Rectory: 315-686-3398

Rev. Douglas G. Comstock
Pastor Emeritus
St. Cyril's Rectory: 315-482-2670

Deacon Assistants
Bruce Daugherty Bernie Slate
Gary Frank Joel Walentuk

Parish Office

Maribeth McFadden, Secretary

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Mailing Address: 521 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm

Religious Education

St. Mary's: Jennifer Barton 315-686-2638

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St. Cyril's: Trina Henry 315-482-2252

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Buildings/Grounds & Cemeteries, Jason Montondo
Call the Parish Office 315-686-3398

Websites:

www.stmarysclayton.org

www.stcyrils.org

MASS SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY, December 24, Christmas Eve

5:00 (SC) Members of Our Parish Family

5:00 (SM) All Souls

SATURDAY, December 25, Christmas

10:00 (SM) Faithful Departed

10:00 (SC) People of the Parishes

SUNDAY, December 26, Holy Family

9:00 (SM) People of the Parishes

10:30 (SC) Pamela Shepherd by John & Toni Howard

MONDAY, December 27

8:00 (SC) No Liturgy

9:00 (SM) Communion Service

TUESDAY, December 28

8:00 (SC) Henry Kahrs by Dc. Bernie Slate

9:00 (SM) Communion Service

WEDNESDAY, December 29

8:00 (SC) Donald Watson by Estate of Emma George

9:00 (SM) Elmer Greey by Dc. Neil & Dee Fuller

THURSDAY, December 30

8:00 (SC) Faithful Departed

9:00 (SM) Hedy McClosky by Herb & Elaine Listerman

FRIDAY, December 31

4:00 (SM) Chester Burns by Cab, Jan, & family

5:00 (SC) Intentions of the Celebrant

SATURDAY, January 1

10:00 (SC) All of Our Parishioners

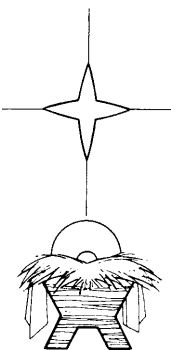
4:00 (SM) People of the Parishes

SUNDAY, January 2, Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 (SM) Rick Gifford by the People of St. John's

10:30 (SC) John Durand by John & Patty Kendall & family

St. Mary's Booster Club: Winners of the first weekly drawing on December 10 are Diane Lamon, Shirley McGrath, and Gloria Musser. Tickets are still available for this Booster Club. Ticket cost is \$15 which enters you in weekly drawings and the dinner on February 12. The Booster Club is a fun, social event that supports St. Mary's parish. To join, volunteer, or for questions, contact Donna (778-8672), Tim (778-2484), or the parish office (686-3398).



December 26, Holy Family

The Lord Calls: "He gave power to become children of God." If you think you may be called to share the Father's love as a priest, deacon, sister, or brother, talk to Fr. Art LaBaff, Fr. Chris Carrara at ccararra@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, or Sister Mary Eamon Lyng at elyng@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, ext. 1345.

St. Mary's Christmas Community Table:

Thank you to everyone who helped with this event. Whether you provided a dish or worked at the event, or made phone calls, your help made the event a great success! Raffle winners are JoeyLynn Ramsier, Linda Daly, Norma Zimmer, Lucy LaPierre, Elizabeth Docteur, Yvonne Pike, Nat Natali, Hannah Woodley, Myrna Carter, and David Morse.

2021 Donations: Tax rules require that donations to your parish for 2021 be received by December 31. Donations received January 1 or after will be applied to the 2022 tax year. Letters acknowledging your 2021 donations will be mailed by January 31 by bulk mail. *Bulk mail is not forwarded to your winter address.*

Weekly Giving

Thank you for your continued support.

St. Mary's	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 1,804.00	\$ 3,558.08
Plate	\$ 3,618.00	\$ 1,025.00
Fuel	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 46.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 1,047.11	

Alexandria	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 924.00	
Plate	275.00	
Electronic	0.00	
Total	\$ 1,199.00	\$ 3,367.00
Fuel	\$ 66.00	Fuel Goal
Fuel to Date	\$ 16,371.65	\$19,357.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 249.00	
Christmas	450.00	
Religious Retirement	580.00	

Please consider electronic giving...a safe and consistent way to support your parish.

From the Parish Life Coordinator:

At this special and sacred time of the year, I wish to extend to you and your loved ones Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year. While we might recall difficult times and frustrations in 2021, we continue with faith, love, joy, and hope in 2022.

The generosity of your gifts given to the Lord are modeled upon what the Three Wise Men presented to the newborn King. The times spent on First Fridays in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Morning Prayer, and the many gatherings of prayer, and praises to the Lord spent by you are very moving and a blessing.

The talent you share from ministering at Mass to making others feel Christ's compassion and love by visiting the home-bound, bringing a meal, or just a smile to many is impressive. All you offer in support and sustenance of our Church, as well as shaping its future, is indeed a blessing to all.

At "this most wonderful time of the year" may you and your loved ones find joy and fulfillment as surely did Joseph and Mary.

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of goodwill.

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. 75% of this year's Christmas collection will support the Plan, with our parishes keeping 25%. Currently 40 retired priests, and 12 active priests age 70 and older are expected to receive pension benefits of \$1,020,000 in 2021-22. Also 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests, estimated at \$250,000 this fiscal year is paid by the Plan. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will 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.

2022 Calendars are available at the entrances of St. Cyril's Church, thoughtfully provided to you by Costello Funeral Service. Calendars are at St. Mary's entrances, thoughtfully provided by Cummings Funeral Services.

St. Mary's Christmas Flower Memorials

M/M Lawrence Balcom	Bill Carpenter
M/M Harrison Balcom	Ronny Woodley
M/M Joseph Hunt	Mary Woodley
Elizabeth Balcom Ridell	Martha Strouse
Daniel Nicholas, Jr.	Fred Keil
Jamie Nicholas	Bruce Umstead
M/M Victor Natali, Sr.	Gerge Leavery
M/M Ray Leavery	Victor Natali, Jr.
Arlene & Gerald Orvis, Sr.	Robert Pacific
Harlo & Lila Phelps	Waylon Phelps
Grant & Teresa Roden	Thomas Corroon
Doc, Betsy, & Peter Eppolito	John Ablan
Frank & Bertha Bond	Pa Larkin
Michael Geiss	Dan Hudson
Curtis & Florence Bristol	Gerald Bristol
Fred & Rena Ely	George Ferjet
Bob & Gladys Hunter	Agnes Heckmann
Mary Lou Handy	Sally Walton
Bill & Frances Wallace	Joe & Ruth Kelly
Charles & Bettie Cipullo	Michele Wild
Leonard O'Brien	Pat Bentley
Charles & Beatrice Arnold	Ron Houppert
Gil & Nancy Houppert	Robert Serafin
Charles & Aneita Heath	Miriam Bowes
George & Beatrice Bowes	Paul Clobridge
Phillip & Lydia Zang	Mary Bastian
Carl & Albertine Woodard	Maureen Littlefield
George & Evelyn Drake	Timothy Bristol
Emma & Sye Lingenfelter	Richard LoMonaco
Bill & Loretta Aubertine	Teresa Mitchell
Larry & Anne Aubertine	Patrick Moore
Bill & Chris Ierlan	Thomas Lawrence
Mary & Pat Cantwell	Dominic Lynch
Bruce & Frances Ierlan	Frances Lynch
Tom, Pete, & Ruthie Ierlan	Patricia Link
Martha & James Riches	Sally Baker
Clay & Mari Jo Riches	Diane Riches
Ernest & Ernie Amyot	Joseph Amyot
Elizabeth & Augustus Tabolt	Joann Collins
Claire & Gerald Tabolt	Polly Jobson
Russell & Mary Tabolt	Grandpa Barton
Raymond John Heady, Sr.	Grandpa Hesler
Deceased Arnold, Forget, Houppert, Hopper, & Willis family	
Deceased Bond & Larkin family	
Deceased Sourwine & White family	
Deceased Lucia, Talbot, Buckley, Sisson, & Gaetano family	
Deceased LaClair, Bragger, Carlin, Blank, & Heulbert family	
Deceased Wilder, Bloodough, Casselman, LaClair, House, LaLonde, Brabant, Walker, Margrey, Richardson, Gregor, and Aubertine family	

From the Bishop:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At our Christmas Vigil Mass, we will hear St. Luke tell us that God was born in a manger because there was no room for Him in the inn. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior this year, it is fitting that we ask ourselves: Is there room for God in my heart?

Today, there is so little room in our hearts for many—the unborn, the poor, those suffering from mental illness, the migrant, the victim of unjust discrimination, the elderly, the addict, the lonely, the imprisoned, indigenous peoples, the abused, the terror-stricken refugee. So many women, men, and children are hurting. They are members of our families. They are us!

We enter this Advent Season, preparing for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, grateful for blessings received, but also keenly aware of our Christian duty to be the hands and tender heart of Christ to those who currently warrant scarce attention from us. This Christmas, let us resolve, inspired by our own time spent with Jesus, to see His Face in our sisters and brothers who we too often neglect. We yearn to make room in our hearts and in our lives for the hurting. Their human dignity demands it. Our Christian dignity impels us.

We pray that the beautiful acts of generosity that characterize the Christmas Season, will be transformed from seasonal gestures of charity to lifelong acts of justice and mercy. Such personal transformation will give tangible evidence that we are *Christ-led, Christ-fed, and Hope-filled*. We can do great things in Christ Jesus, the Savior whose birth we celebrate with such joy and gratitude. Our God's unconditional love and boundless mercy became flesh and bones in the Person of Jesus Christ so that we might extend God's compassion and love.

May the Christ Child bring you and your loved ones the Gift of Love, the Blessing of Hope and the Promise of Peace. A blessed Christmas and joy-filled New Year!

Faithfully yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

Religious Ed News

St. Mary's: Classes will resume on January 9.

St. Cyril's: Meeting after Mass on Sunday, January 9 to review and hand out next lessons.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24

5pm at St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay

5pm at St. Mary's, Clayton

Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25

10am at St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay

10am at St. Mary's, Clayton

December 26 Weekend Masses

St. Cyril's

No Anticipated Mass

10:30am Sunday, Dec 26

St. Mary's

No Anticipated Mass

9am Sunday, Dec. 26

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

St. Cyril's

5pm Friday, Dec 31

10am Saturday, Jan 1

St. Mary's

4pm Friday, Dec 31

January 2 Weekend Masses

St. Cyril's

No Anticipated Mass

10:30am Sunday, Jan 2

St. Mary's

4pm Saturday, Jan 1

9am Sunday, Jan 2

Music Ministry Notes:

St. Mary's, Clayton

The words "great anxiety" stood out to me from today's Gospel reading, and I feel it more or less summarized a feeling with which parents constantly battle. I once read: "Motherhood is really about accepting the fact that you will be permanently worried for the rest of your life". I tend to agree, and can empathize with Mary's fear in the Gospel reading. One of the things that I think best combats anxiety is faith, and the lyrics from our offertory hymn help to reinforce that concept: *"Like a child rests in its mothers arms, so will I rest in you"*.

If you are interested in joining the choir, contact Corrine Willis at corrinewillis@gmail.com or 315-221-3689.

St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay

The St. Cyril's Choir gathers at 9:45 for practice before 10:30 Mass. We love new members. For questions, contact Becky Rose at becky.a.rose@gmail.com or 315-778-8419.