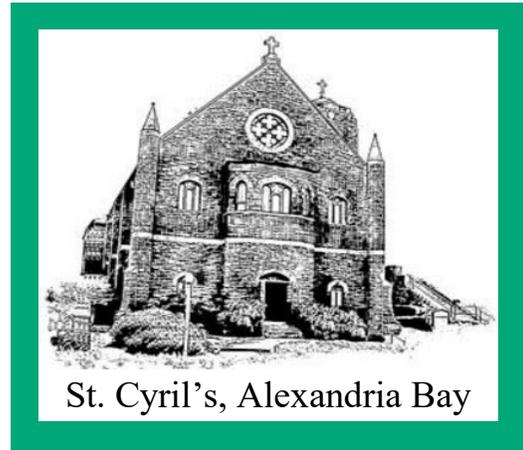
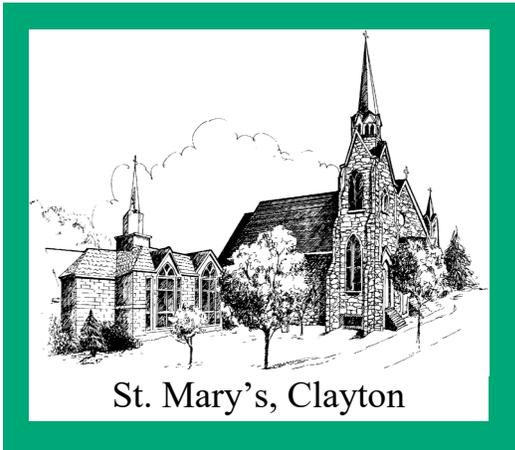


Welcome to St. Mary's Church, Clayton & the Catholic Community of Alexandria, Alexandria Bay



Deacon Neil Fuller **Pastoral Life Coordinator**

Phone: 315-405-6910

email: pastoralassociate@stmarysclayton.org

Rev. Arthur J. LaBaff **Sacramental Minister**

Rev. Douglas G. Comstock **Pastor Emeritus**

Deacon Assistants

Bruce Daugherty
Gary Frank

Bernie Slate
Joel Walentuk

Websites:

www.stmarysclayton.org www.stcyrils.org

Parish Office

Phone: 315-686-3398

Maribeth McFadden, Secretary

email: reception@stmarysclayton.org

Mailing Address: 521 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm

Religious Education

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

email: religioused@stmarysclayton.org

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

email: thenry2252@gmail.com

Buildings/Grounds & Cemeteries, Jason Montondo

Call the Parish Office 315-686-3398

July 24, 2022

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Just as the term 'Church' refers to the living temple, God's People, the term 'church' also has been used to describe the building in which the Christian community gathers to hear the word of God, to pray together, to receive the sacraments, and celebrate the Eucharist.

The church building is both the house of God on earth (*domus Dei*) and a house fit for the prayers of the saints (*domus ecclesiae*). Such a house of prayer must be expressive of the presence of God and suited for the celebration of the sacrifice of Christ, as well as reflective of the community that celebrates there.

Churches are never simply gathering spaces but signify and make visible the Church living in a particular place, the dwelling of God among us, now reconciled and united in Christ. As such, the building itself becomes a sign of the pilgrim Church on earth and reflects the Church dwelling in heaven.

Every church building is a gathering place for the assembly, a resting place, a place of encounter with God, as well as a point of departure on the Church's unfinished journey toward the reign of God.

"For you have made the whole world a temple of your glory, that your name might everywhere be extolled, yet you allow us to consecrate to you apt places for the divine mysteries. And so, we dedicate joyfully to your majesty this house of prayer, built by human labor. Here is foreshadowed the mystery of the true Temple, here is prefigured the heavenly Jerusalem." -Preface, Mass for the Dedication of a Church

MASS SCHEDULE



SATURDAY, July 23, Anticipated Vigil

4:00 (SM) Mariam Bowes by Jack & Lora Stopper
5:30 (SC) James Picard by his wife Ann Marie

SUNDAY, July 24, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 (SFX) Intentions of Martha-Marie Kleinhans by Gene & Mary Kleinhans
8:00 (TIP) Al Lyle by Leo & Marie McAllister
9:30 (SC) Clarence Fowler by Kathy & Dave Perry
10:00 (SM) People of the Parishes

MONDAY, July 25

8:00 (SC) Liturgy of the Word with Communion
9:00 (SM) Liturgy of the Word with Communion

TUESDAY, July 26

8:00 (SC) Liturgy of the Word with Communion
9:00 (SM) Liturgy of the Word with Communion

WEDNESDAY, July 27

8:00 (SC) Liturgy of the Word with Communion
9:00 (SM) Liturgy of the Word with Communion

THURSDAY, July 28

8:00 (SC) Liturgy of the Word with Communion
9:00 (SM) Liturgy of the Word with Communion

FRIDAY, July 29

8:00 (SC) Liturgy of the Word with Communion
9:00 (SM) John & Polly Dalton by Sr. Sharon Dalton

SATURDAY, July 30, Anticipated Vigil

4:00 (SM) Art Sboro by Cindy Beattie & family
5:30 (SC) Dolores Belack by Teddy & Patty Kielecki

SUNDAY, July 31, 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 (SFX) Deceased members of the Marko family by Larry & Jean Messick
8:00 (TIP) Katherine & Alden Rapin by their family
9:30 (SC) Verna Aiken by John & Toni Howard
10:00 (SM) Deceased Slattery family by John & Mary Ellen

Knights of Columbus will be selling Charitable & Benevolent Raffle tickets at St. Francis Xavier on Sunday, July 31 before and after Mass. \$4 each/\$10 book. Support your local council and have a chance to win a great prize!

Reconciliation

3:00–3:30pm Saturdays at St. Mary's,
Saturdays 4:45-5:15 at St. Cyril's
and by appointment at either parish

July 24, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
“Give us this day our daily bread.” Are you being called to help feed the people of God as a priest, deacon, or in the consecrated life? Contact Fr. Art LaBaff, Fr. Chris Carrara at ccarrara@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, or Sister Mary Eamon Lyng at elyng@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, ext. 1345.

After Mass Social Time

St. Cyril's encourages everyone to join fellow worshipers for a few moments of socialization and light refreshments in the parish hall after the Sunday 9:30am Mass.

St. Mary's offers a bit of wine and cheese after the 4pm Saturday Mass or pastry and coffee after the Sunday morning Mass every weekend through Labor Day/September 4th.



Religious Ed News—St. Mary's

Jenny Barton 315-686-2638
e-mail: religioused@stmarysclayton.org

Vacation Bible School

River Community Church, Clayton - August 8-11
9am-noon for kids entering K-6th grades
More information at St. Mary's Church entrances.

Agape House, LaFargeville - August 15-19

Weekly Giving

Because of an early bulletin deadline, giving amounts will appear in the next bulletin. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary's Church and the Catholic Community of Alexandria.

Consider electronic giving—no more forgetting your envelopes or searching for a donation for the basket. For more information, contact the parish office. To sign up to give to St. Mary's, visit www.stmarysclayton.org, go to the Worship tab and click on “Please donate online here”. To sign up to give to the Catholic Community of Alexandria, go to www.stcyrils.org and click on the blue Donate box. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to our bulletin sponsors found on the back of this bulletin. Shop with them first!

From the Parish Life Coordinator:**St. Mary's Church Roof**

As I am writing this column, I am watching 20 men installing a new roof on St. Mary's Church. They are doing a fantastic job and I marvel at their ability to work on such a steep roof. They will be completing the roof today. The total cost of roof replacement on the church and garage is \$111,400.

To help offset this major expenditure we have reached out to all our parishioners and to date we have raised \$18,095. We are very thankful for your generosity. For those who have not yet contributed we would certainly appreciate your support.

For our summer visitors, we have placed special envelopes in the pews if they would like to make a contribution as well.

We are very appreciative for all your support and may God Bless You Always....

From the Bishop:

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

During **National Family Planning Awareness Week (July 24-30)**, the Church calls our attention to married love and to the blessings of children. The Church invites us to deepen our understanding of God's plan for marriage and sexuality. Within that understanding, we come to appreciate the great gift offered to married couples through NFP.

In *Marriage, Love and Life in the Divine Plan*, the United States bishops remind us that "the divine plan, like the gift of marriage itself, is something we receive, not something we construct or change to fit our purposes. It is a firm foundation, a truthful guide, a trustworthy light for the way." Tragically, God's teaching on marital love and the family is ignored or discarded by many. But, as this year's theme indicates, God's ways lead to the *Joy of Love*. Darkness will not overcome the Light, where true happiness is found.

As we pray and study the Scriptures, we learn that God looks at the world and human life differently from human beings with our limited vision. His view encompasses the whole of the human family and all the ages for all eternity. Today, for many, **God's plan** gives way to **my plan**. Contraception and sterilization—technological means of preventing conception—are tragic examples.

The Church teaches that marriage is a lifelong partnership of the whole of life, of mutual and exclusive fidelity, between a man and a woman, and ordered towards the good of spouses and the procreation and education of children. God is the author of marriage. God has endowed marriage with certain essential attributes, without which marriage cannot exist as God intends.

The Church speaks of an inseparable connection between the two purposes of marriage: the good of the spouses themselves as well as the procreation of children. In their marriage vows, the spouses pledge love and fidelity for as long as they live. The transmission of life is a concrete realization of this radical self-gift between a man and a woman. Using contraceptive practices to close off an act of intercourse to the possibility of procreation makes the act signify something less than the unreserved self-gift intended in the marriage promises.

It's no secret. A couple's responsibility to serve life by being open to children is being rejected so frequently today. There is a loss of belief in the value of these purposes when couples treat, as separate choices, the decision to get married and then the decision to have children. This indicates a mentality in which children are seen not as integral to a marriage but as optional.

Viable scientific methods of Natural Family Planning are available to support responsible parenthood. They represent authentic family planning. This practice fosters an attitude of respect for human life, which is always sacred. It also fosters profound respect for one's spouse.

I am grateful to Suzanne and Angelo Pietropaoli, Diocesan Directors of the NFP Office. Through their ministry as directors and educators, we offer assistance to families throughout our diocese. Should you like more information about Natural Family Planning, please contact our office. Let us all renew our commitment to respect human life and follow the divine plan for marriage and family life. Children—treasured gifts for a lifetime into eternity!

To give praise and glory to the Lord for the
**150th Anniversary of the
Founding of the Diocese of Ogdensburg**

His Excellency

The Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
cordially invites all the faithful to a special

**Eucharistic Celebration of Thanksgiving
at 1:00pm on Wednesday, August 10
The Feast of Saint Lawrence at**

St. Mary's Cathedral
415 Hamilton Street
Ogdensburg, New York 13669

A picnic will immediately follow
on the Cathedral Lawn.

For those unable to attend, the Mass will be
livestreamed at www.rcdony.org/livemass.

The program will be available at the same
link shortly before the Mass

St. Mary's Booster Club: Tickets for the next Booster Club, with dinner on Saturday, September 17 are available now. Winners of the first weekly drawing of July 15 are Millie Savarese, Jim Schnauber, and Gerry Carpenter. To join, volunteer, or for questions, contact Donna (778-8672), Tim (778-2484), or the parish office (686-3398).

Mission Co-op Collection

The Mission Co-op Appeal will be the weekend of July 23/24 in our parishes.

At St. Mary's and TI Park, the collection will support the Diocese of Latakia in Syria that faces daunting challenges every day, including feeding and providing medical care for refugees displaced by the civil war. Their country is suffering devastating inflation, shortages of food and clothing, and widespread sickness and poverty.

In the Catholic Community of Alexandria, Fr. Tojo Chacko of the Heralds of the Good News will speak on the good works and mission of their society. The specific aim of the Society is the promotion of vocations to the priesthood, the training of seminarians, and the supply of zealous and hardworking missionaries to the dioceses in India and abroad that experience a shortage of priests due to the lack of local vocations. Currently, the Mother Theresa Province is blessed with 70 priests and 40 seminarians studying at various levels of formation.

Please be as generous as your means allow to support these causes.

St. Mary's Raffle & Gala: Only a limited number of tickets are left! Get yours today! Letters have been mailed with RSVP postcards to return to St. Mary's parish office. You must RSVP. Don't miss your opportunity to attend one of the best social events of the summer with opportunity to win some great prizes!

Music Ministry Notes:

St. Mary's, Clayton

Today's Gospel not only delivers one of the most well known prayers in Christianity, but also outlines the lyrics to Sunday's offertory hymn, Seek Ye First: *"Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek, and you shall find. Knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Hallelu, Hallelujah!"* Both segments of the reading deliver strong messages of selflessness, especially in times where it can be inconvenient to do so.

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

St. Cyril's, Alexandria Bay

The St. Cyril's Choir gathers at 8:45 for practice before 9:30 Mass. For questions, contact Becky Rose at 315-778-8419 or becky.a.rose@gmail.com.

St. Mary's Church, Clayton
An Evening of Sacred Music
Monday, August 8, 6 p.m.

St. Mary's Choir
Turning Point Men's A Cappella Chorus
Collin Vodicka, Oboe & Flute

More than 100 years ago, the people of St. Mary's presented annual concerts of sacred music as their gift to the community. We are blessed to continue this tradition by welcoming you to our beautiful church in hopes that, through music, you will experience the healing and comfort that our world so desperately needs.

There is no admission charge, but guests will have the opportunity to contribute to the St. Mary's Music Ministry Fund.

A reception will follow in the Parish Center.

St. Mary's Annual
Summer Gala and Raffle

1st Prize: **\$10,000**
2nd Prize: **\$500**
3rd Prize: **\$500**
4th Prize: **\$500**
5th Prize: **\$500**
Early Bird: **\$100**



When: Tuesday, August 9, 5:30—10:00pm
Where: Cerow Arena at Clayton Recreation Park

Tickets: Ticket price is **\$100 US**. Ticket includes dinner for 2 and 2 drinks.

Tickets available at the parish office and at St. Mary's Masses.

Fill out the form below and return to parish office with \$100 for your ticket!

Make checks payable and send to:
St. Mary's Church
521 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Must be 18 to purchase.