



St. Stephen's Parish

<http://www.ststephenscroghan.org/>

9748 Main Street/PO Box 38

Croghan, NY 13327

Email: fststephens@twcny.rr.com

Telephone: 315-346-6958

Fax: 315-346-1200

Rev. Donald J. Manfred (djmanfred4@gmail.com)

Deacon Peter Wooschlager (peterpiano61@gmail.com)

Faith Formation: Deb Hoppel (debbiehoppel@hotmail.com)

Trustees: Susan Gydesen & Lindsay Nortz

Finance Council Chairperson: Robert Buholtz

April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday-The Resurrection of the Lord

Rejoice! This is the day that the Lord has made. God's love and mercy have been poured out for all and to all. By his sacrifice on the cross, Jesus has conquered sin and defeated death. No longer do sin and death have power over us. A new day dawns, for new life has dawned for all of us: a life in God's tender loving care that survives sin and overcomes death.

Jesus has shown us the way to the Father. The crosses we carry-our fears and our struggles-our sorrows and our traumas-are united with the cross of our Lord, which did not end in pain and death but with joy and life. May the promise of the Resurrection fill us with hope, enliven our lives and lead us to eternal life. ALLELUIA!



Saturday, April 8 (8:00 pm)
The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Sunday, April 9 (8:30 am)
The Resurrection of the Lord
The People of the Parish

Monday, April 10 (No Mass)

Tuesday, April 11 (No Mass)

Wednesday, April 12 (No Mass)

Thursday, April 13 (8:15 am)
Gabrielle LaTray Thomas by Bill & Tina Campeau

Friday, April 14 (8:15 am)
Jean Golden by Jim & Arline Bush

Saturday, April 15 (5:00 pm)
Nancy Jackson by Her Family

Sunday, April 16 (8:30 am)
Ed & Juanita Briot by Their Children and Grandchildren

Pray for the Sick

Charlie Brown, Janet Monnat, Alice Moore, John Lashbrooks, and all ill at home, in the hospital, or nursing homes.

Your Support for The Parish

Adult Envelopes:	\$3,867.00
Plate:	\$ 800.00
Fuel:	\$1,718.00

Religious Education/Confirmation

No classes on Easter Sunday. Classes will resume on Sunday, April 16th at their normal times.

Secular Franciscans

The next meeting will be April 14th at 9 am in the chapel.

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary candle will be lit for Carl Schack by Freddie, Lisa, and Family



***Wishing you a blessed
Easter!***

***Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!***

Father Don's Easter Message A Blessed and Holy Easter



As we gather to celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection of the Lord, we are asked to spend extra time as we give thanks to God for the gift of faith God has given us. Our faith is based on our gratitude to God for this precious gift and the life Jesus continues to share with us, especially in the sacramental life of our church.

Weekly Mass and receiving Jesus in Holy Communion is at the heart and center of our Catholic lives. Our belief in the presence of the Risen Lord in Holy Eucharist sustains our faith life as members of the Church. Nourished and fed by Jesus' life in the Eucharist encourages us to reach out in loving service of family, friends, and parishioners.

In my Easter prayer for you, I ask God's blessings upon you and your loved ones.

-----*Father Don Manfred*

Bishop LaValley's Easter Letter

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

“Christ, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed His peaceful light on humanity who lives and reigns forever and ever.”

These concluding words of the Easter Proclamation that we hear at the Easter Vigil have an urgency about them these days because the risen Christ's peaceful light seems to be shed so faintly on an unsettled world that is marked by violence, war, natural disasters, and personal hostilities. Such darkness wears us down. Many find it difficult to be joyful this Easter.

Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. We must prepare the soil of our hearts for this gift. I heard someone offer three suggestions to help us do that. Call it **GPS**—God's Positioning Service—directions to find Easter joy.

G—Gratitude. A grateful heart silences a complaining tongue. If I'm always griping or whining, how will the Holy Spirit fill my heart with joy? So, if we want more joy in our lives, we start by being grateful, being attentive to the blessings we receive. I might write down one thing every day for which I am grateful. It's astounding after a month of doing this prayerful exercise, to see how our days are really saturated with blessings.

P—Prayer. I ask the Holy Spirit for the gift of joy. Joy is the fruit of our relationship with Jesus. Nurturing that relationship through daily prayer is critical. The Holy Spirit is the One Who makes Christ present to us. We might need to get to know the Holy Spirit better.

S—Sharing. If I'm not feeling the Easter joy, I might try to bring joy into someone else's life, and I'll be pleasantly surprised to see what happens in my own heart. Call someone, smile at someone, do something kind and joy will flow from that.

So...GPS—Gratitude, Prayer, Sharing. Christ died for us, He rose for us, and He wants to bring us the joy of His Presence in the Eucharist. Joy is the best response to Jesus. Who could have imagined that death could be conquered? That's what Easter means. Your death and my death are not the end. The world's woes don't have the last say. Just as Jesus rose from the dead, the faithful person will rise from the dead. Body and soul, we will live forever. Suffering does not have the last say. The love of God, given to us in Jesus Christ has the last word. When we embrace the gift of Easter, joy becomes truly the best response. We are so blessed. **HE IS RISEN!** Joyful and Blessed Easter to you and your loved ones.

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