

ST. MARIANNE COPE PARISH

Roman Catholic Churches of St. Thomas of Canterbury and St. Joseph



**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 8, 2023**

Pastor: Fr. Rees W. Doughty
pastor@stmariannecope.com

Weekend Assistant: Fr. Robert Phelps

Deacons: Leonard Farmer, Anthony Ferraiuolo, Joseph Lieby, John Pelella

Faith Formation Director: Mary Ellen Tiernan
metiernan@stmariannecope.com

St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

340 Hudson Street
Cornwall on Hudson, NY 12520

St. Joseph Church

4 Saint Joseph's Place
New Windsor, NY 12553

stmariannecope.com

Parish Office

845.534.2547 · FAX 845.534.1357
office@stmariannecope.com

Mass Schedule

at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, noon

Daily Mass:
Monday-Saturday, 8:30 am

Confession

Saturday: 9-9:45 am or by appointment

St. Marianne Cope Outreach Ministry

outreach@stmariannecope.com

Prayer Chain: 845.746.8829
prayerchain@stmariannecope.com

Offertory: Thank you for your generosity and continued support of the parish!

December 24/25: \$8,145.00
Christmas: \$18,200.00

In addition to cash/checks, envelopes, or automatic bill payment for your donations, **Online Giving**, through debiting your credit card or bank account, is available. Visit the "Donate" tab on the website.

Follow us on Facebook!

Christmas Collection: Each year, our parish relies on the generosity of our parishioners and visitors in the annual Christmas Collection to meet our budgeted expenses for the upcoming year. If you have not yet sent in your contribution, please do so by mailing it to the office, placing it in the Sunday Offertory, or through online giving. We are grateful to everyone for their generous donations which will help us not only meet our ongoing expenses but also build up and expand the programs and activities of our parish moving forward. Thank you!

On Tuesday, January 10th at 7 pm, the Lifelong Learning Ministry will begin a program to examine the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary in both Scripture and the Church's Tradition. **Journeying with the Blessed Mother** will meet for six weeks on Tuesdays, 7-8:30 pm, in the St. Thomas old school building. If you are interested in participating, email Mary at aff@stmariannecope.com.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will not meet in January or February. The next meeting will be the first Monday in March.

Bereavement Support: A new bereavement support program of six sessions will begin again in Lent. Contact Sr. Mary Byrnes at 845.527.2935 or byrnes.srmary77@yahoo.com for information.

Thank you to everyone who supports the parish when shopping at Amazon! **AmazonSmile** made a charitable donation to the parish of \$61.70 as a result of qualifying purchases made by customers between July 1 and September 30, 2022. Start your shopping at smile.amazon.com/ch/81-2487384. Amazon donates .5% of eligible purchases to the parish at no extra cost to you.

Due to **early submission of the bulletins** (to avoid shipping delays), offertory amounts will be reported a week later through mid-January.

The **National March for Life** will take place in Washington, D.C. on Friday, January 20th. To join the St. Patrick-St. Mary Our Lady of the Lake/Sacred Heart/St. Francis bus leaving at 4:30 am from Our Lady of the Lake chapel, contact Deacon Tom Neppi at 845.541.0421, tneppi@verizon.net. Suggested donation is \$40/seat. Make checks payable to St. Patrick-St. Mary Church and mail to: 55 Grand Street, Newburgh, NY 12550.

Presentation Sister Yliana Hernandez, former principal at Nora Cronin Presentation Academy in Newburgh, recently returned to the area after being a part of the first official cohort for the Catholic Sisters Walking with Migrants program at the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico. She will share about this experience on Saturday, January 21st, 9:30-11:30 am at the Presentation Sisters Administrative Center in New Windsor. RSVP to 845.564.0513 ext. 101 kellyr@sistersofthepresentation.org. Admission is free. In case of inclement weather, the snow date is January 28.

Bulletin Cover Image: "Adoration of the Magi", Jan de Bray.
Source: wga.hu.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

POPE BENEDICT TO THE YOUTH OF ITALY

DEAR YOUNG PEOPLE who are the hope of the Church in Italy! I am happy to meet you in this remarkable place, on this special evening, rich in prayer, song, periods of silence, full of hope and profound emotion.

I listened with attention to those who have spoken on behalf of you all. You have come to this peaceful, authentic and joyful place of encounter for thousands of different reasons: some of you because you belong to a group or were invited by some friend, some by deep conviction, some with several doubts in your heart and some merely out of curiosity... Whatever the reason that drew you here, I can tell you, although it requires courage to say it, that it was the Holy Spirit who has brought us together. Yes, that is exactly the case; the Spirit has led you here; you have come here with your doubts and certainties, with your joys and your anxieties. It is now up to all of us, to all of you, to open your hearts and offer everything to Jesus.

Say to him: here I am; of course, I am not yet as you would like me to be, I cannot even manage to understand myself fully but with your help I am ready to follow you. Lord Jesus, this evening I would like to speak to you, making my own the inner attitude and trusting abandonment of that young woman who, 2,000 years ago, said her "yes" to the Father who chose her to be your Mother. The Father chose her because she was docile and obedient to his will. Like her, like little Mary, each one of you, dear young friends, should say to God with faith: "Here I am; let it be done to me according to your word".

What an amazing spectacle of young and stirring faith we are experiencing this evening! And this evening, thanks to you, Loreto has become the spiritual capital of youth; the centre towards which multitudes of the young people who populate the five Continents converge in spirit.

At this moment, we feel as though we were surrounded by the expectations and hopes of millions of young people across the world: at this very minute there are some who are watching, others who are asleep, yet others who are studying or working; some are hoping and some despairing, some believe and others are not able to believe, some love life and others, instead, are throwing it away.

I would like my words to reach them all: the Pope is close to you, he shares your joys and your pain, and he especially shares in the most intimate hopes that are in your soul. For each one of you he asks the Lord for the gift of a full and happy life, a life filled with meaning, a true life. Today, unfortunately, all too often a full and happy existence is seen by many young people as a difficult dream -- we heard so many testimonies -- sometimes almost impossible to accomplish. So many of your peers are looking to the future with apprehension and ask many questions. Worried, they ask: How is it possible to be integrated in a society marked by a multitude of grave injustices and suffering? How should I react to the selfishness and violence that sometimes seem to prevail? How can I give life full meaning? With love and conviction, I repeat to you young people present here, and through you to your peers throughout the world: Do not be afraid, Christ can fill your heart's deepest aspirations! Are there dreams that cannot come true when it is God's Spirit who inspires and nourishes them in your heart? Can anything block our enthusiasm when we are united with Christ? Nothing and no one, the Apostle Paul would say, will ever separate us from God's love, in Christ Jesus Our Lord (cf. Rom 8:35-39).

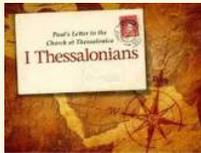
Look at the young Mary; the Angel proposed something truly inconceivable to her: participation, in the most involving way possible, in the greatest of God's plans, the salvation of humanity. Facing this proposal, Mary, as we heard in the Gospel, was distressed for she realized the smallness of her being before the omnipotence of God; and she asked herself: "How is it possible? Why should it be me?". Yet, ready to do the divine will, she promptly said her "yes" which changed her life and the history of all humanity. It is also thanks to her "yes" that we are meeting here this evening.

I ask myself and I ask you: can God's requests to us, however demanding they may seem, ever compare with what God asked the young Mary? Dear young men and women, since Mary truly knows what it means to respond generously to the Lord's requests, let us learn from her to say our own "yes".

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May he rest in peace. Amen.
May almighty God bless us with his peace and strength, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

Pope Benedict XVI (Latin: Benedictus XVI; born Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger; 16 April 1927 – 31 December 2022)

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE



I Thessalonians brings us to the 59th book in our Bible. Though it is almost midway amongst the 27 books of the New Testament, it is actually the earliest of those books to be written.

One commentator describes it as being more like one-half of a telephone conversation than like any type of theological book, because it is penned by Paul from Corinth around the year 50 in his care and concern for the people of Thessalonica among whom he had previously spent time preaching the good news. They and Paul are decidedly excited, for at the time they felt that the Second Coming of the Lord would imminently be upon them. Still, Paul himself does not know exactly when this will occur, so he simply advises that they constantly live according to gospel values in order to be in a continuous state of readiness for the Lord's return. The book is written less than 20 years after the Lord's resurrection, and it seems Paul is correcting some who had come along trying to make profit off of the gospel. He also calms those concerned because some of their loved ones had died already before the Lord's return.

In these pages he builds up the Thessalonians as he congratulates them for their faith and example (ch. 1); he reminds them that God gave them courage for times of opposition, and he refers to himself in the role of mother and in the role of father toward them (ch. 2); we hear how Paul had sent Timothy to look in on them and how Paul was grateful for the report he received back from Timothy about them (ch. 3); he tells them that they are doing good, but that there is always room for improvement, and we also find an often used funeral reading here, one which some link with Revelations 20:4 to posit a Rapture beginning a 1000-year Reign of Christ (ch. 4); and Paul closes out this book with a reference to the "Day of the Lord", the admonition to be always ready for the Lord's return even should it come at night, a call to respect their spiritual leaders and always be joyful, and a warning not to stifle the Spirit (ch. 5).

When you finish this book, you will have read 59 (80.8% — over 4/5!) of the 73 books of the Bible, yet 1,261 (94.5%) of the 1,334 chapters of the Bible.

Permission granted by Rev. Robert J. Schrader (based on Timothy Schehr's book, The Bible Made Easy: A Book-by-Book Introduction).

READINGS FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Reading I – Isaiah 60:1-6

This is a song about the glory of the New Zion. God's light will shine anew. All the nations, including those from Arabia, will come together to rebuild Jerusalem.

Reading II – Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

The author assumes that his readers already know about Paul's role in God's plan: to evangelize the Gentile nations.

The Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi, a caste of wise men associated with astrology and magic, represent the coming of the Christ to the Gentile world. Jesus is here designated as royal. King Herod represents political duplicity at its worst.



Scan the QR code to visit the **Worship Aid** page for the readings, antiphons, and music for the Sunday Mass at stmariannecope.com.

To watch a live streamed Mass from St. Patrick Cathedral via the Catholic Faith Network, visit catholicfaithnetwork.org/masses.

Download **Amen** from the Augustine Institute (a free catholic prayer, meditation, and scripture app. For more information, visit amenapp.org).

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, Jan 9: *The Baptism of the Lord*

8:30 Special Intentions by Bill and Pat Grabe

Tues, Jan 10

8:30 +Mary Geiger by Leslie Stong

Wed, Jan 11

8:30 +Bernice Hunter by Kathy Kelly

Thurs, Jan 12: *St. Marguerite Bourgeoys*

8:30 +Lucille Baron by Leonard Winkler

Fri, Jan 13: *St. Hilary*

8:30 Special Intention of Ann Pivinski by Margaret McDaniel

Sat, Jan 14: *BVM*

8:30 +Thomas O'Leary by A. Miller and family

4:30 +Fr. Robert Hilfiker by Kathy Kissel;

+Bill Fulton by Colette Fulton

Sun, Jan 15: *2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 +David Tigner by Hickey family

10:00 +John LaGrutta by family

12:00 The People of the Parish

The Sunday Mass at noon will ALWAYS be offered only for the People of the Parish. Two intentions will be accepted at the Saturday, 4:30 Vigil Mass. The offering for an unannounced Mass is \$10; for an announced Mass—\$15. Contact the parish office.

The parish will offer Mass every first Saturday of the month at 8:30 am for the deceased who will be remembered in our Perpetual Mass Enrollment. These Holy Souls will be included in the prayers of the liturgy for a period of one year. The offering is \$30 and includes a leatherette memorial Mass folder.



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