



Church of St. Mary in Clinton Heights
163 Columbia Turnpike
Rensselaer, NY 12144



The Parish of St. John/St. Joseph
53 Herrick St.
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Church of St. Mary at Clinton Heights
163 Columbia Turnpike
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Phone: 518-449-2232
Fax: 518-449-2234
Email: office@stmaryny.org
Webpage: www.stmaryny.org
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The Parish of St. John the Evangelist/St. Joseph
53 Herrick Street (PO Box 256)
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Phone: 518-465-0482
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PARISH STAFF

Reverend Thomas F. Holmes, Pastor		518-449-2232	frtomholmes@stmaryny.org
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Maureen Billa	Pastoral Associate for Evangelization, Catechesis, and Administration	518-449-2232, Ext. 12	maureenbilla@stmaryny.org
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Gina Gentile	Administrative Assistant - SJESJ	518-465-0482, Ext. 210	sjesjrecpt@aol.com

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday - 4:00pm @ SJESJ
Sunday - 8:00am @ CSM
Sunday - 9:30am @ SJESJ
Sunday - 11:00am @ CSM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:30pm - 3:45pm @ SJESJ
Thursday - 5:00pm - 6:00pm @ CSM

Sacrament of Baptism

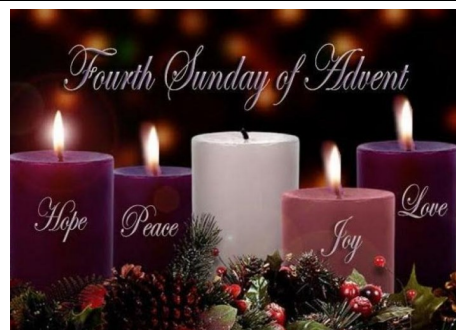
Call the Parish Office of the Church you wish to have your child baptized or visit their website for some additional information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Call the Parish Office of the Church you wish to be married one year before the wedding date or visit their website for some additional information.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Upon request and communally two (2) times per year.



PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Parishioners of St. John's/St. Joseph's and St. Mary's,

The fourth and final Sunday of Advent in 2023 will be on Sunday, December 24th. Advent is the season in which believers eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth. Prayers are ways we can cultivate a sense of holy anticipation this Advent. The fourth Sunday of Advent we meditate on the **peace** that Jesus brings our hearts and our world. Scripture is the place we can find the promises of God. Let us meditate on these truths and allow them to comfort our hearts this Advent season!



A Prayer for Peace for Our World

As you light the fourth candle on the Advent wreath say the following prayer:

[Psalm 29:11](#) says, "The LORD gives strength to His people; the LORD blesses His people with peace."

Lord, would you bring your strength and peace to your people! Would your presence be felt by all who seek you in a powerful way in this Advent season? Turn the hearts of mankind towards you. We pray that the lost turn and come to you and find an unshakable peace that nothing else in this world can offer. Amen.



May the Christ child, Jesus be born into all the parishioners in St. Mary's and St. John's/St. Joseph's and may this Christmas bring peace into all your lives.

May God Bless you all this Christmas!,
Fr. Tom and the Staff

WE PRAY TO THE LORD

The Parish of The Church of St. Mary at Clinton Heights and The Parish of St. John the Evangelist/St. Joseph
extend sincere condolences to the families of those who have died, especially

Ashley N. Bagley & Joseph Buscini

*"Grant them, O Lord, we pray, and all who sleep in Christ,
a place of refreshment, light and peace."*

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	INTENTION
Sat	12/23	4:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN/ST. JOSEPH - LIVING AND DECEASED
Sun	12/24	8:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+FRANK MOORE, by Ann Marie and Ron Pepin +DONALD RASMUSSEN, 24 th Anniv., by his wife, Marlene
		9:30 ^{AM}	SJESJ	+No Mass
		11:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+No Mass
CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES				
Sun	12/24	4:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN/ST. JOSEPH - LIVING AND DECEASED
Sun	12/24	4:00 ^{PM}	CSM	+ROSE ROURKE, Birthday Remembrance, by Diane Cleveland +DONALD YETMAN, by Ann Yetman
Sun	12/24	8:00 ^{PM}	CSM	+FRANCES & ROBERT SHAW, by Geraldine Rock +BILL FITZGERALD, 3 rd Anniv., by Donna Fitzgerald
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS				
Mon	12/25	10:00 ^{AM}	SJESJ	FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN/ST. JOSEPH - LIVING AND DECEASED
NO WEEKDAY MASSES				
Tue	12/26			No Mass
Wed	12/27			No Mass
Thu	12/28			No Mass
Fri	12/29			No Mass
DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	INTENTION
Sat	12/30	4:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN/ST. JOSEPH - LIVING AND DECEASED
Sun	12/31	8:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+MERRILL MCCOLL, by the Billa Family +MARY RICHARDS, 8 th Anniv., by her Family
Sun	12/31	9:30 ^{AM}	SJESJ	FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN/ST. JOSEPH - LIVING AND DECEASED
Sun	12/31	11:00 ^{AM}	CSM	POPE BENEDICT XVI
THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY				
Mon	01/01	10:00 ^{AM}	CSM	SOLEMNITY OF MARY
Tue	01/02	12:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	No Mass
Wed	01/03	8:30 ^{AM}	CSM	No Mass
Thu	01/04			No Mass
Fri	01/05			No Mass
Sat	01/06	4:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	+JEAN O'DONNELL, by Jack, Brian, and Sheila Millea +MIKE REMINGTON, by the Remington Family +REVEREND PETER G. YOUNG, by the Remington Family
Sun	01/07	8:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+ALICE & LARRY FARRELL, by Larry and Carole Farrell +CATHERINE BERGMANN, by Mark and Maureen Billa +ELIZABETH ANN WOODARD, by Alma Prebble
		9:30 ^{AM}	SJESJ	+JEAN O'DONNELL, by Connie Welton +EDWARD KAPPES, 6 th Anniv., by the Kappes Family
		11:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+WILLIAM J. THOMPSON, by Frances Girzone +ASHLEY BAGLEY, by Julie Teal

EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS

2023/2024 Formation Year

THERE WILL BE NO SESSIONS THE WEEKS DECEMBER 24th & 31st

Elementary Program (Grades - K-5)

- 12th Session, Sunday, 01/07/24; 9:30am - 10:45am
- 13th Session, Sunday, 01/21/24; 9:30am - 10:45am

Middle School Program (Grades - 6-8)

- 6th Session, Monday, 01/22/24; 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 7th Session, Monday, 02/05/24; 7:00pm - 8:30pm

High School Program (Grades - 9-10)

- 6th Session, Monday, 01/08/24 ; 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 7th Session, Monday, 01/29/24; 7:00pm - 8:30pm



FAITH FORMATION

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD IN COLLEGE?

Help them stay in touch with the parish. The parish would like to send a care package for finals week. The care package is full of well wishes, goodies and treats, in addition to updates on parish activities and a schedule of the upcoming liturgical celebration. If you would like your child to receive a goodie package, please simply email their college mailing address to Maureen Billa at maureenbilla@stmaryny.org



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of ALBANY

Office for Discipleship Formation

invites you to join us for a presentation by

Fr. Richard Fragomeni

- a virtual reflection on

the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul:

Christ's Call to Paul and Us.

registration via QR

or call 518-453-6670

January 25, 2024

[3 - 4:30 pm via zoom webinar]



CONSERNS-U

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT TO CoNSERNS-U. Their pantry needs this week are: canned beans, cereal, peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, and canned fruit. Thank you so much for your continuous support.

Cans and bottles redeemable in New York can be donated at St. Mary's. Please rinse all containers. Leave caps on to prevent crushed bottles. (Open containers are still accepted.) Keep them in tied bags; nothing loose and place in the **green dumpster** by the **Church garage**. **Thank you for supporting CoNSERNS-U.**



SJESJ NEWS

Honored for the Month of December

Bread and Wine: Carmen & Lois Gentile, Sr.
Sanctuary Light: Carmen & Lois Gentile, Sr.

Prayer Services - Queen of Peace Prayer Group

The Queen of Peace Prayer Group will not be meeting again in December. The next meetings are: **Monday, January 8th** and **Monday, January 22nd**. Group meets at 1:00pm in the Parish Office.

Cans & Bottles Still Wanted at SJESJ

SJESJ is still collecting cans and bottles for donation. They may be left on the left side of the carport, in the landing area, near the back door of the Parish Offices. If you can help, please consider dropping them off. If you have any questions please contact the parish office at 518-465-0482.

CoNSERNS-U

In this time of need, please remember those who don't have enough to eat and drop off food for CoNSERNS-U in the back of Church. Also, personal care items are always in demand.

First Friday Adoration

Adoration will not take place until the First Friday in January (**January 5, 2024**). It will be at 3:00pm in the Church of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS FOR 2023

December - For Persons with Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



CSM NEWS

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration will be on the Mondays listed below at **6:00pm**.

- December 25th - Church
- January 1st - Chapel
- January 8th - Chapel



Grief Support

The next meeting of the Grief Support Group will be **Tuesday, January 2nd**, at **1:00pm**, at CSM in the Raphael Room. Meetings are scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of each month.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT FOR: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 16TH AND DECEMBER 17TH, 2023 COLLECTIONS	SJESJ	CSM	<i>Thanks to all who demonstrate such generous care for our parishes! Please remember our parishes in your will...we are:</i> <i>"St. Mary's Church, Clinton Heights, NY"</i> <i>or "The Parish of St. John the Evangelist/ St. Joseph"</i>
Offertory received from Regular Collection	\$2,467.00	\$8,051.00	
Offertory received from E-Giving	\$1,644.04	\$2,260.00	
Total Offertory received from last week	\$4,111.04	\$10,311.00	
Budgeted Weekly Need from Offertory	\$5,245.00	\$6,635.00	
Last Week's Difference ("-" is shortfall; "+" is overage)	-\$1,133.96	+\$3,676.00	
Year to Date Actual Offertory	\$88,409.74	\$172,589.00	
Year to Date Budgeted Offertory	\$131,125.00	\$175,875.00	
Year to Date Difference ("-" is shortfall; "+" is overage)	-\$42,715.26	-\$3,286.00	

ADVENT EVENT

Today - The Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 23rd & 24th - We are again grateful this year for the generosity of our friends at **Wm. J. Rockefeller Funeral Home, Inc.** and **W.J. Lyons, Jr. Funeral Home, Inc.** for giving us the gift of our yearly parish calendars. Please be sure to express your gratitude if you see them. Calendars will be at the entrance of the Church.

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas

Sunday, December 24, 2023	4:00PM	SJESJ
Sunday, December 24, 2023	4:00PM	CSM
Sunday, December 24, 2023	8:00PM	CSM
Monday, December 25, 2023	10:00AM	SJESJ

Saturday, December 30 & Sunday, December 31, 2023 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 30, 2023	4:00PM	SJESJ
Sunday, December 31, 2023	8:00AM	CSM
Sunday, December 31, 2023	9:30AM	SJESJ
Sunday, December 31, 2023	11:00AM	CSM

The Solemnity of Mary

Monday, January 1, 2024	10:00AM	CSM
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There will be no vigil Mass on Sunday, December 31st for the Solemnity of Mary as stated in the Christmas mailing.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We are pleased to welcome a new member to our parish family.

Francesca America Libardi

Will receive the Sacrament of Baptism next weekend.
May the Lord be gracious to her and her family and bless them always.



PARISH OFFICES



Our parish offices will be closed starting **Monday, December 25th** and will reopen on **Tuesday, January 2nd at 8:30am**. There will be no weekday masses or reconciliation at either Parishes. If this is an emergency, please call Terry Kois at 518-588-0103.

There will be no bulletin next weekend due to the offices being closed.

Father Tom will be away the week of January 1st. There will be no weekday masses on January 2nd or January 3rd, 2024. There will also be no reconciliation on Thursday, January 4, 2024

INCLEMENT WEATHER



Remember that if East Greenbush Central Schools or Rensselaer Schools are delayed or cancelled on a given day, the Wednesday, 8:30am Mass at CSM and/or the 12:00 Noon Mass at SJESJ will be cancelled.

WE PRAY TO THE LORD

For Our Sick

Eric Allen	Rosemarie Cipperley	Jack Farrell	Robert Jenkins	Tina Milone	Chip Rausch	Mark Welcome
John Amedio	John Conte	Cheryl Fisher	Erica Kirsch	Michael Mann	Hank Rivet	Margaret Waterbury
Joseph Bradley	Nicholas Conte	Scarlett McLeod Friot	Donald Kolb	Madison Chester Mann	Joan Roher	Mabel Whitcomb
Tom Brownell	Jeremiah Coonley	Tiffany Gamache	Linda Kolb	Roxanne Nicolla	Bev Ryan	Kathleen White
Patricia Bruso	Mary Corvino	Sharon Griffith	Christine Krenzer	Richelle Olm	Mallorey Schaller	Kathy Winner
Denise Buono	Tasha D'Alessandro	Randy Grodner	Kassidy Krenzer	Ralph Orciuoli	Gene Schultz	Harold Wright
Lynn Burdick	Judy Davis	Buddy Gutkaiss	Carol Laderas	Devon Paigo	Marge Secor	Joanne Zalucki
William Burt	Bernadette Dawson	Robert Guynup	Edgar MacGregor	Inga Pepoy	Myranda Stevens	Michael Zenzen
Rosa Camaj	Barbara Farrell	Ray Hannan	Helen Mertz	Peggy Petitmermet	Brady Sullivan	
Mary Beth Centrella	Carole Farrell	Carol Hinkelman	Don Miller	Tommy Raus	Michael Swahlan	

For Our Soldiers

Salvatore Abbamonte	Ryan Johnson	Garrett McDonald	Derek Terry
Mason Albert	Noah Keneston-Colby	Brian Murphy	Arthur Thornton
Andrew Barresi	Keenan Krenzer	Corey Russo	Zaish Sadiq
Connor Danz	Sean Markham		

Please let us know if, or when, we can remove someone's name, or if someone should be added to this list. Call the Parish Office at CSM - (518) 449-2232 or at SJESJ - (518) 465-0482.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Please register as a parishioner! We will automatically get you subscribed to **The Evangelist**, the diocesan newspaper. We will send you offertory envelopes or get you signed-up for e-giving so that you can track your contributions to the parish. You will be on our parish rolls to make things go smoothly when it is time for a wedding, baptism, funeral, or other needs. **You can call either Parish Office to register.**

The Parish of St. John the Evangelist/St. Joseph
518-465-0482

The Church of St. Mary at Clinton Heights
518-449-2232

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<p>At the request of the Parish and with approval of the Chancery, Albany Diocesan Cemeteries assumed responsibility for Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Rensselaer on 8/2/21.</p> <p>Visit www.CapitalDistrictCemeteries.org for cemetery rules and regulations.</p> <p>(518) 463-0134 info@ADCemeteries.org</p>	<p>Wm. J. Rockefeller Funeral Home</p> <p>165 Columbia Turnpike Rensselaer, NY 12144 (518) 449-7047</p> <p>Our Family Serving Your Family In Your Hour Of Need</p> <p>Marshall G. Wagner <i>Director</i></p> <p>George W. Wagner <i>Owner-Director</i></p> <p>Michael J. Wagner <i>Director</i></p>		