

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

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The Parish of St. John the Evangelist/St. Joseph 53 Herrick Street (PO Box 256) Rensselaer, NY 12144

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PARISH STAFF

Reverend Thoma	s F. Holmes, Pastor	518-449-2232	frtomholmes@stmaryny.org	
Alfred Censullo	Deacon	518-449-2232, Ext. 20	deaconal@stmaryny.org	
Maureen Billa	Pastoral Associate for Evangelization, Catechesis, and Administration	518-449-2232, Ext. 12	maureenbilla@stmaryny.org	
Gina Gentile	Administrative Assistant to the Pastoral Associate for Evangelization, Catechesis, and Administration	518-449-2232, Ext. 16	gina@stmaryny.org	
Ben Patten	Pastoral Associate - Operations	518-449-2232, Ext. 13 518-465-0482, Ext. 219	<u>ben@stmaryny.org</u> sjesjparish@aol.com	
Glenn Osborne	Director of Music	518-449-2232, Ext. 15	glenno@stmaryny.org	
Terry Kois	Administrative Assistant - CSM	518-449-2232, Ext. 10	terry@stmaryny.org	
Gina Gentile	Administrative Assistant - SJESJ	518-465-0482, Ext. 210	sjesjrecpt@aol.com	
Greg Danz	Maintenance Technician	518-465-0482, Ext. 14		

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,

From God's Little Instruction Book, I, II, and III.

"Sometimes we are so busy adding up our troubles that we forget to count our blessings."

I will remember the works of the Lord: surely, I will remember thy wonders of old. I will meditate also on all thy work and talk of thy doings. Psalm 77:11,12.

Since I have been diagnosed with the ALS, I have been focusing on all the problems I will have now (my speech) and ending up in a wheelchair someday and having someone take care of me. But I have forgotten the blessings I have received from friends, you my parishioners from both parishes. I am grateful for all that I have received from you all. I feel like I made a difference. I can't forget the blessings I have received. Thank you all.

> God Bless you all, Fr. Tom

NATIONAL SHRINE OF DIVINE MERCY



The Church of St. Mary and the Parish of St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph is sponsoring a bus trip to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, on Sunday, April 7th, which is Divine Mercy Sunday. Yankee Trails will pick you up in the back parking lot of the Church of St. Mary at 8:00am and you'll return back home before 6:00pm. Bring a bagged lunch and a snack or two for the trip, beverages will be provided. There is no cost for a seat on the bus, but you must pre-register. There are 56 seats on the bus and it is first come first served. Please contact Ben at either Parish Office at CSM 518-449-2232, ext. 13 or SJESJ 518-465-0482, ext. 219.

FIRE OF FAITH



The Diocese is collaborating with Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Amsterdam to put on a Fire of Faith Event. This event will be Tuesday, March 19th at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 39 St. John Street, Amsterdam. Staring at 6:30pm there will be visit with St. Paul: a performance by Glenn Smith, and from 7:30pm - 9:00pm there will be Adoration and Benediction, Faith Sharing with a reflection by Deacon Tom Fallati followed by light refreshments.

SISTERS OF LIFE

You may remember, the Sisters of Life came for a visit this fall and spoke to us at mass about their vocation and love of faith. They are always looking for volunteers to help them with several projects at their priory, located at 24 Harrison St, Catskill, NY 12414



A list of their upcoming dates:

- Saturday March 16, 2024
- Saturday April 13, 2024
- Saturday May 4, 2024
- Saturday June 8, 2024
- Saturday July 13, 2024
- Saturday August 10, 2024

The days begin at 10:00am and end at 4:00pm with a break for Mass and lunch (provided) at 12:00noon. You are welcome to come for the whole day, or just part of it.

This is a wonderful volunteer opportunity for any individual, family, or group that is looking to volunteer. Young and old are welcome, no registration needed, simply mail Sr. Bethlehem at <u>stanthonys@sistersoflife.org</u> to let her know you plan on helping, so they can plan for your arrival.

Come join us! Mass and lunch included

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS					
DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	INTENTION	
Sat	03/02	4:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	+JEAN O'DONNELL, by Victor and Ronnie Barresi +SHARON POOLE-SAUER, by the Danz Fanily +SUSAN MAYNARD, by Mollie Shook FOR THE LIVING INTENTION OF FATHER TOM HOLMES, by Sheila Millea LIVING INTENTION FOR A SPECIAL REQUEST, by Sheila Millea	
Sun 03/03 8		8:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+FATHER DAVID R. LEFORT, by Stephanie Petrone	
		9:30 ^{AM}	SJESJ	+JOHN BADI, by Wayne and Dale Felt	
		11:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+JOAN DWYER, 6 th Anniv., by her Family +ELWOOD FILMER, by Jerrie Rock +VINCENT SANTILLI, by Frances Girzone +BILL O'CONNOR, by the Family	
Mon	03/04			No Mass	
Tue	03/05	12:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	+REVEREND THOMAS M. POWERS	
Wed	03/06	8:30 ^{AM}	CSM	+REVEREND JAMES L. LEFEBVRE	
Thu	03/07			No Mass	
Fri	03/08			No Mass	
Sat	03/09	4:00 ^{PM}	SJESJ	+HELEN GERALDINE WAGNER, 1 st Anniv., by the Gentile/Smith Family +SHARON POOLE-SAUER, by Sandy Raus +ROMANA SALVAGNI, by Cheryl Kawola FOR THE LIVING INTENTION OF FATHER TOM HOLMES, by Mollie Shook	
Sun 03/10		8:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+BINK & PAUL COLLINS, by their Children +ROSEMARY VOGT, by Stephanie Petrone +BEVERLY GRAHM, by Linda and Ernie Tubbs +JOHN J. MALONE, by the Family	
		9:30 ^{AM}	SJESJ	+COLLEEN DAVITT MALLORY, by Carol Davitt +HELEN & JOHN JANENKA, by Frederick and Joanne Zalucki	
		11:00 ^{AM}	CSM	+RALPH PINTO, Birthday Remembrance, by Judy Pinto +VINCENT SANTILLI, by Reverend Thomas F. Holmes	

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT FOR: THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT				
FEBRUARY 24TH & FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024 COLLECTIONS	SJESJ	CSM		
Offertory received from Regular Collection	\$2,317.50	\$3,851.00	Thanks to all who demonstrate such	
Offertory received from E-Giving	\$470.06	\$2,360.00	generous care for our	
Total Offertory received from last week	\$2,787.56	\$6,211.00	parishes! Please remember our	
Budgeted Weekly Need from Offertory	\$5,245.00	\$6,635.00	parishes in your willwe are:	
Last Week's Difference ("-" is shortfall; "+" is overage)	-\$2,457.44	-\$424.00	"St. Mary's Church, Clinton Heights, NY"	
Year to Date Actual Offertory	\$133,937.47	\$242,319.00	or "The Parish of St,	
Year to Date Budgeted Offertory	\$178,330.00	\$242,225.00	John the Evangelist/ St. Joseph"	
Year to Date Difference ("-" is shortfall; "+" is overage)	-\$44,392.53	+\$94.00		

EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS

2023/2024 Formation Year

Elementary Program (Grades - K-5)

- 18th Session, Sunday, 03/10/24; 9:30am 10:45am
- 19th Session, Sunday, 03/17/24; 9:30am 10:45am

Middle School Program (Grades - 6-8)

- 9th Session, Monday, 03/11/24; 7:00pm 8:30pm
- 10th Session, Monday, 03/25/24; 7:00pm 8:30pm

High School Program (Grades - 9-10)

- 9th Session, Monday, 03/04/24; 7:00pm 8:30pm
- 10th Session, Monday, 03/18/24 ; 7:00pm 8:30pm

1st Eucharist Family Prep

- 18th Session, Sunday, 3/10/24; 9:30am 10:45am
- 19th Session, Sunday, 3/17/24; 9:30am 10:45am

If you have not signed up for the prep classes, please call Maureen Billa at 518-449-2232, Ext. 12 to schedule a time

A REMINDER FROM THE OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

When school is delayed or closed due to weather conditions, it DOES NOT mean faith formation and youth ministry sessions and activities are cancelled. Sessions cancelled due to inclement weather will be posted on Facebook, Twitter, Church of St. Mary's web page (<u>www.stmaryny.org - check the calendar under upcoming events</u>) and through the School Closing Network, as Church of St. Mary NOT<u>St.</u> <u>Mary's</u> (channels 6, 9, 10 & 13).

Please Note: Weather conditions in the Capital District can vary substantially from one neighborhood to the next. Even though the building may be open or an event has not been cancelled, only you can

decide whether conditions in your area will allow for safe travel. Please use your own best judgment regarding travel conditions in your area.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS



All Middle School and High School youth that would like to be any part of the Stations, including music, song, enactors or behind the scenes, we could really use your help.

If you are interested, please contact Maureen Billa via email at <u>maureenbilla@stmaryny.org</u>. We will rehearse following the 11:00am masses on March 10th, 17th, and 24th. A lunch is provided for all the youth involved on those days. We pray the Stations on Good Friday, March 29th at 12:05PM.

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

It is that time of the year again! If you would like a tax contribution statement for last year's donations, please contact Ben at the Parish Offices by phone 518-465-0482 (St. John's/St. Joseph) or 518-449-2232, ext. 13 (CSM). You can also e-mail Ben at <u>ben@stmaryny.org</u> (CSM).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will be offering Stations of the Cross.

Below are the dates, times, and locations:

- Friday, March 8, 2024 3:00pm SJESJ
- Friday, March 15, 2024 3:00pm CSM
- Friday, March 22, 2024 3:00pm SJESJ



FAITH FORMATION



Honored for the Month of March

Bread and Wine: For the Living Intention of Father Tom Holmes Sanctuary Light: For the Living Intention of Father Tom Holmes

Prayer Services - Queen of Peace Prayer Group

The Queen of Peace Prayer Group will be meeting on: Monday, March 11th and Monday, March 25th. 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.

CSM NEWS

Eucharistic Adoration

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

- March 4th Chapel
- March 11th Chapel

Grief Support

The next meeting of the Grief Support Group will be **Tuesday, March 5th, at 1:00pm**, at CSM in the Raphael Room. Meetings are scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of each month.

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

Join them at Holy Spirit School for an enriching journey through Pre-K to 5th Grade! Experience the transformative power of a faithbased education by scheduling a tour or Shadow Day today. Discover firsthand the difference that our nurturing environment, dedicated educators, and values-driven curriculum can make in your child's life. Full and Part-time Pre-k options, spaces available K-5. Call 518-477-5739 or email <u>KLeverone@hsseg.com</u>

CONSERNS-U

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT TO CONSERNS-U. Their pantry needs this week are: canned spinach, mayonnaise, oatmeal, and canned fruit (all kinds). 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**.



ALBANY NY CHAPTER OF MAGNIFICAT

Albany NY Chapter of Magnificat (a Ministry to Catholic Women) is hosting a Women's Breakfast on <u>Saturday, March 16</u> from 9:00am – 12:00pm at the Wolferts Roost Country Club, 120 Van Rensselaer Blvd., Albany, NY. Tickets: \$30.00; PayPal - \$32; Clergy & Religious – Comp. Our Witness Speaker is <u>Fran Karpiej, OSF</u>, from Fairfield, CT, and professed in the Secular Franciscan Order. For over 40 yrs., she has been involved in Healing Prayer Ministry and a leader in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. She is the founding Coordinator of the THMI Magnificat Chapter in the Bridgeport Diocese. With her vibrant faith and sense of humor, Fran shares a message of peace, hope, healing & conversion believing Jesus Christ is Lord of all.

Register by Wednesday., March 6th - send a check for <u>\$30</u> payable to <u>Albany NY Chapter of Magnificat</u>, c/o Bonnie Hause, 74 Meadow Rue Place, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Please include your name, address, phone #, and email address. <u>Online registration: https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/ny-albany/</u> Questions, call Kathleen @ 518-930-8380. ALL LADIES AGE 15 AND OLDER ARE INVITED!

40 DAYS FOR LIFE



Is there any value in praying outside of Planned Parenthood if they are closed? Yes, by praying outside of PP even when they are closed, we are still giving witness to all passersby (on foot and in cars) that abortion is evil, that we care about all women and families, that there are other ways to deal with a problem pregnancy, and that we can help. We rely on the Holy Spirit to do God's work through us.

PENANCE SERVICES

Church of the Holy Spirit will be offering a Communal Reconciliation Service on Monday, March 11th at 6:00pm.

At the Church of the St. Mary, Reconciliation will be offered on the below Thursdays from 5:00pm - 6:30pm. Father Tom Holmes and Father Ken Gregory will be available.

- March 7th
- March 14th *
- March 21st

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Next weekend our parishes will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need.

Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

REVERENCE OF LIFE MINISTRY



Easter Baskets for Cate's Kids

We will be collecting Easter baskets next Sunday, March 10th and again on March 17th to help assist Circles of Mercy in sponsoring Easter Baskets for needy children between the ages 1 to 12 years living in Rensselaer. Circles of Mercy is an out-reach center for poor and low-income families which is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community. More than twenty-years ago in 2002, Mercy Associates started for Circles what has become a yearly tradition, of providing Easter Baskets to children of our client families. This holiday program is known as "Easter

Baskets for Cate's Kids".

We are asking that the clear cellophane wrapped Easter baskets include the following items: coloring books, crayons, color pencils, facial tissues, toothpaste and toothbrushes, dental floss, hair combs and brushes, age appropriate (1 to 12 years old) small stuffed animals, toys, small games, reading books, and of course different types of traditional candy.

Bless you for your generosity!

NEW LENTEN WEBSITE

New Lenten Website https://www.rcda.org/lent Lent begins on Valentine's Day this year. So, do we have to fast? Fr. Anthony Barratt shares a beautiful response. The theme on the page this year is Make It Personal, sharing thoughts on how to build your personal relationship with God. You can also find a calendar of Lenten events around the Diocese and Meatless Meal recipes, even a few cooking videos featuring some of our clergy.

CALLED TO SERVE PODCAST

Called to Serve Podcast: WOPG Radio, a Catholic radio station in our diocese, offered the Diocesan Communications Office the opportunity to air content in the Fr. Mike Schmitz "Bible in a Year" and "Catechism in a Year" podcasts. So, we created a mini podcast, featuring people in our diocese who are answering God's call to serve. You can hear their stories on WOPG radio (89.9 FM / 1460 AM) at 3:30am and 10:30am and we are posting them all on a new webpage that we created on the diocesan website https:// www.rcda.org/calledtoservepodcast (incl. link to WOPG livestream).

WE PRAY TO THE LORD

For Our Sick

Eric Allen John Amedio Joseph Bradley Tom Brownell Patricia Bruso Denise Buono Lynn Burdick William Burt Rosa Camaj Mary Beth Centrella Rosemarie Cipperley Jack Farrell John Conte Cheryl Fisher Nicholas Conte Jeremiah Coonley Mary Corvino Sharon Griffith Randy Grodner Tasha D'Alessandro Judy Davis **Buddy Gutkaiss** Bernadette Dawson Robert Guynup Barbara Farrell Ray Hannan Carole Farrell

Robert Jenkins Erica Kirsch Scarlett McLeod Friot Donald Kolb Tiffany Gamache Linda Kolb Christine Krenzer Kassidy Krenzer Carol Laderas Edgar MacGregor Helen Mertz Carol Hinkelman Don Miller

Tina Milone Michael Mann Madison Chester Mann Roxanne Nicolla **Richelle Olm** Ralph Orciuoli Devon Paigo Inga Pepoy Peggy Petitmermet Tommv Raus

Chip Rausch Joan Roher Bev Ryan Mallorey Schaller Gene Schultz Marge Secor Myranda Stevens Brady Sullivan Michael Swahlan

Mark Welcome Margaret Waterbury Mabel Whitcomb Kathleen White Kathy Winner Harold Wright Joanne Zalucki Michael Zenzen

For Our Soldiers

Mason Albert Andrew Barresi Connor Danz

Salvatore Abbamonte Ryan Johnson Noah Keneston-Colby Keenan Krenzer Sean Markham

Garrett McDonald Derek Terry Brian Murphy Arthur Thornton Corey Russo Zaish Sadiq

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.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS FOR 2024

March - For The New Martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm ..

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.

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