

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Please introduce yourself to the greeters or to Jeff Peck after Mass.

We want all to feel welcome in this house.

Pastoral Care – Please contact the parish office if you know of anyone who is hospitalized, homebound, or in need of assistance. We are anxious to help.

Prayer for Union with God

O God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
 your love for us is so immense
 that you gave us your Son
 to live and dine with us,
 indeed, to be one with us.
 Through your Son, we have come to know you,
 and to be united with you.
 As we continue to share in the Eucharist at the liturgy,
 bring us into union with you.
 Help us to be open to your Word in the Scriptures
 and to allow it to guide our lives
 as we seek to be perfected in Christ.
 We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Pastoral Council News: At its last meeting, the Council discussed safety issues and recommended the installation of an alarm system in the church. It also recommended a monthly safety pulpit announcement. The council approved new signage for the church and the posting of cemetery regulations. Additional discussion was held concerning driving in the cemetery during the winter. Some damage was done when a driver drove off the snow-covered road. Other topics of discussion included The Bishop's Eucharistic Congress in the fall, The Capital Campaign Reigniting the Faith and the arrangements for Holy Week.

The Vigil returns to Holy Cross on Saturday, May 5th at 4:30 PM.

Presence of Christ

If you have ever committed a wrong for which you were terribly ashamed, today's First Reading may provide comfort. Peter seems to be chastising those who have gathered around him. And indeed, a large group has gathered in amazement, since Peter had just healed a lame man. After asking why the people stare in wonder, Peter confronts them about their role in Jesus' death. But he is not sending a guilt-ridden message; he wants the people to know of God's mercy. Even though they turned their backs on Jesus, God will forgive. God's mercy is open to us, no matter the wrong we have done.

Peter knows well how Christ not only awaits us to come into union with him but is searching us out. It is reasonable to surmise that Peter would have been among the disciples to whom Jesus appeared, saying, "Peace be with you." Two disciples had just announced how they had recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Still, the disciples were startled to see Jesus. Without prompting, Jesus explains that he is the fulfillment of what has been written in the Scriptures.

Those in the room comprise the witnesses, but we are also witnesses. In the document "Disciples Called to Witness," the bishops of the United States state that "it is through common human experiences that the Word of God is revealed to us." Are you open to seeing God in the actions of the Holy Spirit in your life?

Spring Enrichment 2018, *Companions along the Journey*, will be held at the College of Saint Rose from Wednesday, May 16 – Friday, May 18. The program's overall schedule appeared in the March 8 issue of The Evangelist and is also available at <https://www.rcda.org/offices/catechistformation/spring-enrichment-2018>. Register online by April 20 for the best prices.

THANK YOU. We changed lives this Lent, thanks to YOU! Don't forget to turn in your **CRS Rice Bowl** in the baskets at the doors of the church. It would be extremely helpful if you could please count the money and replace any change with cash or a check made out to Holy Cross Church.

WINGS OF CARE of St. Patrick's and Holy Cross is a ministry of care for the elderly and homebound and is in great need of volunteers. Some of the needs involve socialization or companionship, light housekeeping (vacuuming, dusting, laundry) and transportation. If you have an hour to give, please contact Sister Augusta Ann Burgess, CSJ at 677-2757 or at pastoralcare@battenkillcatholic.org.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Tues, April 17 – 6:30 PM – Adult Bible Study
 Wed, April 18 – 9:30 AM – Book Discussion, St. Patrick's
 Tues, April 24 – 6:30 PM – Adult Bible Study

Prayer List:
 Please remember those who are unable to join us on Sunday: Jane Thomas, Fran Button, Betty Donovan, Betty Mason

Please pray for the continued recovery of Theresa Abel, Harriet Wescott, Fr. William Cahill, Tena Rioux, Paul, Olga Rogers, Victor Urbielewicz, Cody Pulver, Bernie Bourgeois, Jean Fleming. Several members of our community and extended families are suffering from dementia and mental illness. Please keep them in your prayers in a special way.

Please call the rectory if you would like to include someone on the prayer list.

Salem Food Pantry News-- Food Pantry is in need toothpaste, toothbrushes, soup, canned meat, shampoo, cereal, mac & cheese and other canned goods.

There will be a **coffee hour** on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Faith Formation
 April 15 – class, First Eucharist prep
 April 22 – class, First Eucharist prep
 April 29 - First Eucharist

Book Discussion: Our next selection is "When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi. At the age of 36, on the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. One day he was a doctor treating the dying, and the next he was a patient struggling to live. "When Breath Becomes Air" is an unforgettable, life-affirming reflection on the challenge of facing death and on the relationship between doctor and patient, from a brilliant writer who became both. Our first meeting will be April 18 at 9:30 a.m. in St. Patrick's Parish House. Please read the Foreword and Prologue. Any questions please contact Mary Rosmus at MaryRosmus@battenkillcatholic.org.

Adult Faith Website: Earth Day, April 22, celebrates the natural beauty of our planet and reminds us of what we can do to keep it healthy. Care for God's Creation is not just a catchy slogan. It is one of the major themes of Catholic Social teaching. Learn more on our "Justice" tab.

Lay Liturgical Ministers			
		Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
4/15/18	8:30 AM	R. Boyd	R. Harrington R. Sheffield E. Harrington
4/22/18	8:30 AM	D. Farringer	S. Wilk J. Leonard P. Leonard
Altar Rosary Cleaning:		April 8 – April 15 -	

Mass Intentions		
4/15/18	8:30 AM	For deceased members of our parish family Req. by Donna and Chuck Farringer
4/22/18	8:30 AM	For the people of the parish

Stewardship of Treasure
Collection - \$759.00 2 nd collection - \$292.00 Miscellaneous - \$200.00 Votive - \$10.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Men's Group News
 Interested in joining – call Peter Dunigan at 854-9217

Altar Rosary Society
 meets 2nd Tuesday of each month
 Church Hall - 11AM
 Come join us - Pat @ 854-724

Please visit our parish website: www.battenkillcatholic.org
 You can sign up for Flocknote notifications, prepare for Sunday liturgy, access our great Adult Faith Formation materials and more from there. Don't forget to like BattenkillCatholic on Facebook

Al-Anon
 provides support for the families and friends of alcoholics. A local meeting is available:
 * Centenary United Methodist Church, Gray Avenue, Greenwich
 * Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm, side door.