

**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 Unity**

Dear God,  
through your Son, the Good Shepherd,  
we have been comforted when weary  
guided when we have lost our way,  
and protected from those who seek to scatter the flock.  
We are grateful that the Shepherd's love is such  
that he laid down his life for us.

United now in Baptism,  
Help us to be one flock, one Body in Christ.  
May we always heed the Word of the Shepherd,  
listening to his voice when others seek to lead us astray.  
Grant that we may continue to follow his path,  
so that we may know you more deeply.  
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.

**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](mailto:pastoralcare@battenkillcatholic.org).

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

**An Intimate Relationship**

What could be more comforting than the images in today's Second Reading and Gospel? From the First Letter of John, we hear that we are children of God. We are not just disciples or followers, but children. We have an intimate relationship with our Creator. God provides only good things for his children and included in those good things is transformation. We are told at the end of this reading that we will be like God. We will be holy. We will be saints, and as saints we will see God. What could be better but to live with and see God?

The image from the Gospel resonates with us, even if we have never met a shepherd and know little about sheep. We know from this reading that the Good Shepherd would give up his life for the sheep, and that an intimacy born from love exists between the two. We might consider here that the work is not only the shepherd's. Knowing someone requires spending time. Have you left your relationship with God up to the Good Shepherd, or are you doing your part by spending time alone in quiet with God, perhaps for a few minutes after Mass? Or do you spend time alone with the Word of God to know Christ? How have you taken the time so that you can know Christ just as the Father knows him? Do you know the sound of the Good Shepherd's voice?

**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.

**Me2 – Music for Mental Health** – The world's only classical music organization created for individuals with mental illness and the people who support them. The concert will be held on Saturday, May 5 at 7:00 PM at the Southern Vermont Arts Center in Manchester, Vermont. Tickets for students/veterans will be \$15.00 and under 10 is free. Call for group discounts. Tickets are available at [www.ucsvt.org](http://www.ucsvt.org) or by calling (802) 442-5491 extension 313.

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

Tues, April 24 – 6:30 PM – Adult Bible Study



Prayer List:  
Please remember those who are unable to join us  
on Sunday: Jane Thomas, 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.

For the repose of the souls of Fran Button and Toni Snell and the consolation of their families.

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 22 – class, First Eucharist prep  
April 29 - First Eucharist

**Rachel's Vineyard Retreat** - Hurting from an abortion? Experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat, May 4-6, 2018 at the Dominican Retreat & Conference Center in Niskayuna. The weekend will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion. The cost is \$195. Some financial assistance is available. For more information or to register contact: Pat Mousaw, 518-222-1160, Kathy Kelly, 802-282-2028 or Denise Freeman, 607-353-0039 or e-mail: [rachelvineyardalbany@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelvineyardalbany@yahoo.com).

For a complete listing of retreat dates and locations contact: 1-877-HOPE-4 ME or visit the Rachel's Vineyard website: [www.rachelvineyard.org](http://www.rachelvineyard.org).

**Lay Liturgical Ministers**

		Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
4/22/18	8:30 AM	D. Farringer	S.Wilk J. Leonard P. Leonard
4/29/18	8:30 AM	J. Solan	L. Rasmussen D. Farringer C. Farringer
Altar Rosary Cleaning:		April 22 – Rosemary and Lonnie April 29 – Marion, Paulette, Sandy	

**Mass Intentions**

4/22/18	8:30 AM	For the people of the parish
4/29/18	8:30 AM	For the people of the parish

**Stewardship of Treasure**

Offertory - \$784.00  
Parish mission - \$212.00  
Repairs - \$10.00  
Votive - \$8.00

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](http://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.