

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.

Dear friends,

Homo sum, humani nihil a me alienum puto. A former Roman slave who became a playwright wrote these words which have been echoed by many including Montaigne and Maya Angelou. A rough translation is, “I am human therefore nothing human is alien to me.” In the midst of a resurgence of white supremacy, anticatholicism in our own communities, the debate over building our uniquely American version of the Berlin Wall, children being allowed to die at our borders, the lack of the recognition of our own faith leadership’s need for penance over their failures to protect us from predators, I keep coming back to this idea. Someone who was not a Christian, a Roman, recognized that our common humanness obliges to accept our differences. Gay, straight, transgender, immigrant, refugee, male, female, we all share humanness.

A colleague of mine, an Orthodox priest came to America to minister to a small church, he brought his wife, they have two small children, his congregation loves him and he is one of the sweetest most pastoral people I know. He will soon be required to return to his original home in an area of Ukraine which is in the center of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. He has two infant children, born here, and therefore citizens, our government has delayed processing his visa and so he will have to leave his congregation and it is likely his family will also be forced to return to a place of conflict. He has missed no deadline, is not one of the supposed criminals from Mexico, his crime is where he was born.

A member of our congregations has objected to priests who have celebrated mass for us because of their origins. I have had to emphasize their qualifications, explain away the cultural differences, quell comments like, if he comes back I’m leaving.

During my time in Haiti, I frequently was the “only white guy in the room” and had to overcome the disquiet I felt, the subservience some felt I was owed because of my race and focus on the humanness of all those present.

I write this very personal reflection because I am tired. Tired of the pettiness, distrust, backbiting, and smugness around us. Because I am human, nothing human is alien to me. Because I am a follower of Christ, I am in love with everyone. Straight, bi, trans, gay, mentally ill, refugee, immigrant, male, female, believer, atheist, critics, supporters and any other category that other might be.

I implore you (a polite word for beg) to join me in loving all. Tell the world. Don’t tolerate intolerance anywhere. Let’s stand

up for the weak. Let’s return to the roots of who we are, followers of Christ with open arms for all.

In the spirit of openness and tolerance, I invite you to attend a special gathering – Welcoming the Stranger – on February 10 at 2:00 PM at the Shushan Presbyterian Church. This program is in response to the shootings at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pennsylvania.

In Christ,
Jeff Peck

2018 Tax Statements are available at the rear of the church for one more week. Any statement not picked up this weekend will be mailed next week

If you are a Lector and haven’t picked up your Lector Workbook, please see Jeff as soon as possible.

Walking the Way of Hope: A Retreat for Women’s Christmas will be repeated January 27, 2019, 1-4 pm, at the First Presbyterian Church of Glens Falls; 8 W. Notre Dame St. The retreat will be led by Mary Rosmus. This is an invitation to celebrate with friends and to spend time in reflection as the new year begins. Free will offering. Please bring a snack to share. Register by January 24 by sending your name, phone number and email address to youthministry@fpcgf.

Adult Faith Website: Our new Winter theme explores five key characteristics that form our **Catholic Identity:** a sense of sacramentality, a commitment to community, a respect for the dignity of human life and commitment to justice, a reverence for Scripture and Tradition, and a disposition to faith and hope rather than despair.

College Planning Strategies Workshop - Jan 24th, 6:30-8:00 PM, Coila Church - with financial representative Bill Bufkins from Thrivent Financial titled “College Planning Strategies - Three things you never knew about college... and how it may save many families thousands!”

You will learn: the importance of incorporating a threefold approach to college planning: integrating academic, admissions, and financial strategies, how your child can stand out from the crowd when applying to college, the “magic of six” concept that makes it a financial necessity to apply to at least six different colleges, why ACT/SAT preparation courses can be more beneficial than applying for scholarships

The workshop is designed for all high school families with a special emphasis on those with sophomores and juniors. Students are welcomed, but not required, to attend along with their family.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun, Feb 10 – Coffee Hour
Tues, Feb 12 – 11:00 – Altar Rosary meeting
Thurs, Feb 14 – 7:00 – Pastoral Council meeting

Announcements to be included in the bulletin should be sent to parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org by 9:00 AM on Wednesday to be included in Sunday’s bulletin.

Prayer List:



Please remember those who are unable to join us on Sunday: Jane Thomas, 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, Larry McCauley, Lorraine and Mike Denick, Baby Owen, R. Wescott, Christine Tomlinson, Todd McLenithan. 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.

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.



Inclement Weather: If school in Salem is delayed or closed, all parish activities are cancelled for the day and evening. If you are ill, please respect the other members of our community and stay home from mass and parish activities.

Lay Liturgical Ministers

		Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
1/20/19	8:30 AM	S. Wilk	S. Wilk L. Rasmussen C. Farringer
1/27/19	8:30 AM	M. Raffel	L. Rasmussen R. Sheffield S. Wilk

Altar Rosary Cleaning: January 20 – Joann, Carolyn
January 27 – Rosemary, Lonnie

Mass Intentions

1/20/19	8:30 AM	For John Fortier Req. by the family
1/27/19	8:30 AM	Marie and Michael Elich Req. by Bill and Sandy Behan

Stewardship of Treasure – January 13

Offertory - \$721.00
Repair and Improvements - \$373.00
Votives - \$13.00
Miscellaneous - \$45.00

Thank you for your generosity!

The Second Collection today is for Insurance
The second collection next week is for Religious Education

Salem Food Pantry is in need of the following items. Soups, canned tuna and chicken, canned pasta like ravioli, and cereal and Mac “N Cheese. Personal care items are also always a welcome item. Thanks for your continued support of your Salem Food Pantry!

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

Altar Rosary Society
meets 2nd Tuesday of each month
Church Hall - 11AM
Come join us - Pat @ 854-7247