

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,

"A parish is a definite community of the Christian faithful established on a stable basis within a particular Church; the pastoral care of the parish is entrusted to a pastor or a lay ecclesial minister under the direction of a pastor as its own shepherd under the authority of the diocesan bishop" (No. 515). We build a sense of community within the parish, particularly through the celebration of the Mass. For this reason, under normal circumstances, adults are to be baptized in their parish church and infants in the parish church of their parents; couples are to be married in the parish where either the bride or groom lives.

Through the spirit and practice of the laity and clergy working together to foster this community, the relationship of the parish to the bishop is strengthened ("Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy," No. 42).

A parish is technically a piece of land. It's a section of a diocese that has the right number of churchgoers to have its own church. But when you refer to a parish, you're usually talking about more than the space itself. You're describing the people who attend the church, as well as the church property. The parish is the community of God's faithful that's been called together. Members of a family are bound together by shared origins – siblings have the same parents, and all other relationships within the family derive in some way from the shared source of life. Members of a community are bound together by a common purpose – people join a community to engage in a work together, achieving a shared mission or goal.

The Church can be described as both a family and a community. We live with the life of Jesus Christ, claiming the One God as our Father. Sharing Jesus' life, we also share His mission. We are created and redeemed not for our own benefit alone, but to continue his active presence in our world, keeping alive the hope of eternal life in a world that would rather not acknowledge its need for God.

A family needs a home; a community needs a place to gather. The Church needs a structure. When I say structure, I don't just mean wood and plaster, steel and concrete. The structure of a community or a family is how relationships are organized to make the life of the people happen.

This weekend we celebrate our community. Many times when a parish history is written, it is told by describing the milestones of when what was built and by whom and the usual laundry list of founding pastors, presiding bishops, and serving priests. In teaching history, we have also taken that approach. A popular

critic, when reading Teddy Roosevelt's account of his service fighting in Cuba wrote that Roosevelt got the title of the book wrong, he should have called it "Alone in Cuba" because it was all about him. When we focus on the buildings, when we recall the names of the many priests who served here as pastors, we are failing to recognize that the community is not about the leaders, not about the buildings but about all of us. It is about the people who wash the linens, the people who show up to shovel snow, who fix things, who paint, who visit the sick, who gather during the week and on weekends to pray, just as American History should not be about rich white guys, our celebration while recognizing the leaders of the past and the legacy they left us, is really about celebrating every one of us, every member of this family who makes this parish a community which shares the discipleship of Jesus with each other and courageously with a world that does not like us very well. Happy feast day to us. In Christ,
Jeff Peck

This weekend, we celebrate our Parish Feast Day. To celebrate our parish feast day, the prayers and readings for the feast day will be substituted for the usual readings. As part of our celebration, we will gather after the Saturday evening mass for wine and cheese. Please join us in celebrating next weekend.

FAITH FORMATION

Sun, Sept. 15 - registration will take place downstairs following Mass.

Sun, Sept. 22 – classes begin following Mass.

The 2019 Bishop's Appeal – Thank you for your generosity. We have met the assessment for the Bishop's Appeal. Please complete any pledges you may have made prior to the end of the appeal in March.

Please check in the chapel to see the beautiful centennial wall hanging he ladies of Holy Cross made for our church's 100th anniversary in 1988. Do you remember anyone who contributed their sewing/quilting skills to create this beautiful piece? We know a couple of ladies who did but need your help to identify others and the piece they contributed. There will be a paper on the piano to help find this out. Thank you for your help. The wall hanging will be on display for a long time.

The Home Visitation Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is available for anyone interested in taking her home. Please contact Reta Pemrick (518-677-3500) or Mamie Dearstyne (518-677-7272) if you are interested

MEETING SCHEDULE

Sat, Sept 14 – Parish Feast Day

Mon, Sept 16-6:30-8:00 – Bible Study, St. Patrick's

Wed, Sept 18 – 10:00-11:30-Bible Study, Holy Cross

Mon, Sept 23-6:30-8:00 – Bible Study, St. Patrick's

Wed, Sept 25-10:00-11:30 – Bible Study, Holy Cross



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, Cody Pulver, Bernie Bourgeois, Larry McCauley, Lorraine Denick, R. Wescott, Christine Tomlinson, Todd McLenithan, Kelly Matson, Pam Markowsky, Jason Clapper, Wiley

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.

A Coffee Hour is held on the first Sunday of the month.

Please share the bounty of your flower gardens to beautify our sanctuary

Adult Faith Website: *The Breath of God*. From September 1 to October 4, Christians around the world celebrate the Season of Creation. Some of us pray, some of us do hands-on projects, some of us advocate. Watch Pope Francis' statement and learn more on our Season tab.

The Salem Food Pantry is looking for cereals, snack bars, mac n cheese, canned meats, and toothpaste, toothbrushes and shampoo. Thank you for your support of your local Food Pantry

The Wild Goose Session 13: The Spirit Gives Witness

"The Holy Spirit is the evangelizer." [Pope Paul VI] He moves us from our limited intellectual perception of Christ to a life-changing understanding of Him and inspires us to give witness to Christ by our words and actions. Join us Thursday, September 19, St. John the Baptist, Castleton, 6:30 pm. For more information: <https://thewildgooseisloose.com/>

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.

Lay Liturgical Ministers

		Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
9/14/19	4:30 PM	J. Peck	R. Boyd A. Mungas
9/15/19	8:30 AM	M. Raffel	D. Farringer C. Farringer L. Rasmussen
9/21/19	4:30 PM	R. Boyd	M. Dearstyne R. Pemrick
9/22/19	8:30 AM	D. Farringer	L. Rasmussen R. Sheffield S. Wilk

Altar Rosary Cleaning: Sept 15 -Marion, Sandy
Sept 22 - Cynthia, Kay, Margaret D.

Mass Intentions

9/14/19	4:30 PM	In thanksgiving for our parish community
9/15/19	8:30 AM	For Doug Carrolan Req. by Kay and Larry McCauley
9/21/19	4:30 PM	For deceased members of the Hamilton Family Req. by Gerry and Betty Hamilton-Scanlon
9/22/19	8:30 AM	For the people of the parish

Stewardship of Treasure – September 8

Offerory - \$1007.00
Votives – \$39.00
Repairs and Improvements - \$904.00
Miscellaneous - \$25.00

The Second Collection this week is for
Vacation Catch-Up
The Second Collection next week is for
The Catholic University of America

We are running a deficit this year.
Adding just \$1.00 a week to your offering
would make a great difference.

Thank you for your generosity!

An **MS Support Group** meets at Proudfit Hall in Salem on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Please call James Harmon if you have questions (518-791-4505).

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.

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