



May eternal life be granted to those members of our parish family who have passed from this life to the next ...

Saturday, December 14

- †For Sr. Mary Kenan RSM from Jeff Peck
- †For Frank and Inez Scaglione from Jim and Joe Scaglione

Sunday, December 15

- †For Sr. Mary Xavier RSM from Jeff Peck
- †For Carol Walter from Jim and Joe Scaglione

Saturday, December 21

- †For Frances Scaglione from daughter, Luanne
- †For Michael Vogel from wife, Gail

Sunday, December 22

- †For Jim and Gerry Dupuis from the Dupuis family
- †For John and Mary Austin from the family

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for Mary Cobb from her sisters

If you or someone you know are in need of prayer support or you are interested in being added to the list of those who pray, please call Peg Hopkins at 677-3907.

We ask for your prayers for the following: Bernie Bourgeois, Phil Sica, Olga Rogers, Doris Rogan, Barbara Rogan Badger, Leo DiPalma, Michael Duclos, Emily Strobel, Lorraine Denick, Lois Scheider, Renee Vandenbogaard, Selma Eckert, Melissa Gregory, Todd McLenithan, Kelly Matson, Helen Peters, Cody Pulver, Kim C. Passalug, Betsy Fleming, Phil Drago, George Richard, Wile, Laurie Pawlik, Kathleen Goldblum. For the repose of the soul of Henry Oswald and the consolation of his family. Call the Parish Office to place someone on our list.

Prayer List: Ways to remember those in need of prayer are the Book of Intentions at the rear of the church, call Peg Hopkins (518-677-3907) to be added to our prayer chain or if you wish to place someone on bulletin prayer list, please call the parish office (518-677-2757) or email parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org

Please visit the 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.

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.

Third Sunday of Advent - Lasting Joy

Loving God,
all that was broken, you bind up,
all that was lost, you restore.
We rejoice that you have come to save us,
but sometimes we weaken and lose heart.
When we grow tired, give us your strength.
When we grow fearful and uncertain, give us your resolve.
When we forget you in times of pain and sorrow,
inspire us anew with your love and consolation.
Heal all that ails our hearts
so that we may walk with unwavering faith
into the everlasting joy of your kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

If anyone would like to donate a red or white poinsettia or altar decoration, please call Janis Podolec (518-677-3989).

Christmas Food Baskets – St. Patrick's will be providing Christmas food baskets again this year. Please leave your donations this weekend.

Poems, Parables and Prayers: Story telling is an ancient art used before the written word to communicate ideas, feelings and truth. To celebrate Advent and ultimately Christmas, this evening will be filled with stories, poetry and prayer about the themes and feelings of the season. Please join us for a relaxing evening of poems, stories and a bit of prayer. It will be an evening of funny, moving, and calming moments as we share this great season of anticipation. Please join us on Sunday, December 15 at 4:00 PM in the Parish House.

By Way of the Heart, a Retreat for Women's Christmas, will be offered on January 5, 2020 from 2-6 PM at St. Patrick's parish house. Retreat Leader: Mary Rosmus. The cost is \$10.00 and a dish to share. To register, please send your name, phone number and email address, along with \$10.00 (checks payable to St. Patrick's Church by December 15 to: Mary Rosmus at St. Patrick's Church. A flyer is posted at the doors of the church and is available on the Programs Tab of the Adult Faith Website

UPDATED Advent Schedule – 2019

- Sun, Dec 15- 4:00 PM– Poems, Prayers & Parables, St. Patrick's
- Mon, Dec 16 – 8:30 AM – Advent Monday Morning Prayer
- 6:00 PM – Reconciliation, St. Patrick's
- Tues, Dec 17- 12:00 PM – Advent Luncheon, Presbyterian Church
- Sun, Dec 22 3:00 PM – Poems, Prayers & Parables, Holy Cross
- Mon, Dec 23 – 8:30 AM – Advent Monday Morning Prayer
- Christmas Eve Mass – 5:00 PM – St. Patrick's
- 6:30 PM – Holy Cross
- Christmas Day Mass – 10:00 AM – St. Patrick's
- No Mass at Holy Cross
- Tues, Jan 31 – Solemnity of Mary – 6:00 PM – St. Patrick's

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

- Mon, Dec 16 – 6:00 – Reconciliation
- Wed, Dec 25 and Fri, Dec 27 – Parish Office closed

The Advent Tea was a great event. Thank you to all who helped.

2020 Offering Envelopes will be available next weekend.

Advent luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 17th in the Fellowship Hall at the Presbyterian Church at 12:00 PM

Come What May

Today's Readings: Isaiah 35:1–6a, 10; Psalm 146:6–7, 8–9, 9–10; James 5:7–10; Matthew 11:2–11. On this Gaudete Sunday, we rejoice that we will soon celebrate the Incarnation. Our excitement increases as schools let out, Christmas parties begin, and stores ramp up their bargains. With so much going on, the joy of Christmas might feel effortless, but our readings remind us that true joy comes from commitment and perseverance. St. James urges us to be patient and steadfast in our faith despite whatever unkindness or injustice assails us. It is easy to be joyful when things are going well; it shows true faith to remain uplifted when life gets hard. The prophet Isaiah knows this, too. He prophesied that God would bring back those who were forced to leave their homes because of war. Any who wish to share in this glorious future, however, must remain strong and steadfast for the long journey home.

For John the Baptist and others, remaining steadfast in joyful hope meant accepting that God's plan of salvation was unfolding differently than they thought it would. Although Jesus revealed God's compassion, in other ways he was not the messiah they wanted. Some people were even offended by Jesus. It took effort for people to set aside their expectations and receive Jesus with joy.

This Sunday we ask ourselves what could steal our joy away, and we recommit ourselves to being strong, patient, and steadfast in faith, come what may.

Liturgical Roles

December 14, 2019 – 4:00 PM

Lector: M. Dearstyne
Eucharistic Ministers: B. Shay, M. Rubino, R. Pemrick

December 15, 2019 – 11:00 AM

Lector: R. MacDougall
Eucharistic Ministers: M. Rosmus, S. Sawyer, S. Stiner
Greeters: M. Winchester, M. Starr

December 21, 2019 – 4:00 PM

Lector: B. Shay
Eucharistic Ministers: A. Dunigan, P. Dunigan, M. Dearstyne

December 22, 2019 – 11:00 AM

Lector: F. Muhlig
Eucharistic Ministers: D. Darcy, J. Dupuis, D. MacDougall
Greeters: R. Goff, A. Goff

Counters: Monday, December 16 – John and Rich
Monday, December 23 – Rich and Gerry

FAITH FORMATION

Sun, Dec 15 – 9:30 – 10:45 – Faith Formation/Youth Ministry
Sun, Dec 22 and Dec 29 – no classes

Adult Faith Website, *The Heavens Proclaim the Glory of God*. Find prayers and activities for Advent on our Season and Prayer tabs and explore our new winter theme!

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERING – December 8

- Offertory – \$1214.00
- Candles - \$24.25
- Living Faith - \$10.00
- Christmas Flowers - \$10.00
- Diocesan School Assessment - \$25.00
- Immaculate Conception - \$226.75

Thank you for your continued generosity
The Second Collection today is for Christmas Flowers

The Thankfulness Journal: in addition to the book for prayer intentions, there is a new book to write down those things we wish to thank God for.

Daily Mass on Wednesdays will be held in the Parish House through the winter months.

Inclement Weather: If school in Cambridge 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.

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

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.

The 2019 Bishop's Appeal - The parish raised in pledges and donations \$14,915.00 of our \$14,881.00 assessment. Thanks to all who have been so generous.

Knights of Columbus

- Tuesday, January 14 – Business meeting
- Tuesday, January 28 – Social meeting