



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

Sunday, October 24

†For Frances Scaglione from daughter, Luanne

†For Clare Preece from the Preece family

Sunday, October 31

†For the people of the parish

**We ask for your prayers for the following:**

Bernie Bourgeois, Doris Rogan, Barbara Rogan Badger, Emily Strobel, Selma Eckert, Todd McLenithan, Kelly Matson, Cody Pulver, Kim C. Passalug, Betsy Fleming, Phil Drago, George Richard, Wiley Dearstyne, Laurie Pawlik, Dan Walsh, Michael Carney, Dorothy Sokol, Fran Carlson, A. Russell, Bernadette, Kate, Amy and Rick, Don Cummings, Fr. Lucian Beltzner, Veronica Piekarz, John Schauer, Peg Hopkins, Mike Russert, Margaret Eddy. Call the 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 or, if you wish to place someone on bulletin prayer list, please call the parish office (518-677-2757) or email [parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org](mailto:parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org)

Please visit the 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.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available after 11:30 AM mass or by appointment. Please call St. Patrick's parish office at 518-677-2757 for an appointment**

Daily mass will be cancelled if there is a funeral scheduled for that day.

**Battenkill Cluster of Parishes Mass schedule**

Holy Cross, Salem: Sunday - 8:15 AM  
 Tuesday - 9:00 AM  
 Immaculate Conception, Hoosick Falls: Sat. 4:00 PM, Sun. 10:00 AM  
 Mon - 9:00 AM  
 St. Patrick's, Cambridge: Sun - 11:30 AM  
 Wed - 9:00 AM  
 St. Joseph's, Greenwich: Sunday 10:00 AM  
 Notre Dame-Visitation, Schuylerville: Sat. 4:00 PM, Sun. 8:30 AM

St. Joseph's in Greenwich-Mass will be available at 10 AM on YouTube on Sunday morning and later. It can be accessed at YouTube channel named "St. Joseph's Church in Greenwich, NY" the link is [www.tinyurl.com/SJG-liturgies](http://www.tinyurl.com/SJG-liturgies)

Dear friends,

Three priests, a Franciscan, a Dominican, and a Jesuit were having a hard time on the golf course. The golfers in front of the priests were the slowest and worst they had ever seen. Golf balls were going everywhere. Against golfing etiquette, the group never asked the priests to "play through." By the 18th hole, the priests were furious. At the clubhouse, just as they were going over to blast the group, they were told that the men were blind.

The Franciscan moved with remorse at how they had spoken about the group, said to the Dominican and the Jesuit, "I am going to say Mass every day that God may grant them a miracle and restore their sight." The Dominican, equally filled with regret, told the Jesuit and the Franciscan that he was going to get the blind men an appointment with the best eye surgeon in town. The Jesuit, however, looked at the Franciscan and the Dominican and declared, "I can't see why they don't play at night!"

To have any type of disability in first-century Palestine not only meant financial hardship but social segregation. Because Jesus' contemporaries did not understand the causes of illness, they assumed it was, to some degree, a curse sent by God in punishment for sins. They also thought the curse could be caught. So, the blind, the lame, the crippled, the leper, and the bleeder were desperately poor and socially outcast. Even today some Christians have made similar statements about God cursing gay people with AIDS. Given the way Jesus acts toward those he encounters with illness, we know that God never sends disease as a curse for sin. Bartimeus is a desperate man, and he acts desperately, calling out until he is heard. And in one of the strangest questions in the Gospel, Jesus asks a blind man what it is he wants. Maybe Jesus wants Bartimeus to name his deepest desire. Maybe Jesus knows that it is the unseen hurt that is the most diseased and needs healing first. Whatever of his motives, Jesus' question gives the man dignity.

In a play written about this encounter with Jesus, Bartimeus considers his options. He hears the voices of those he might have to look at if he regains his sight. The poor remind him that, "once before you could see and what you saw disgusted you." The hungry ask, "do you have the courage to experience and share my hunger?" The elderly inquires whether he wants to see those "put away because we remind you of the frailty of life." The captives challenge him to see those "unjustly bound and oppressed." And finally, the Self wants to know, "Are you willing to look inside yourself to see your beauty and ugliness, darkness and light?" It's a gripping scene.

It reminds us all that sight, and the insight that can come from what we see bestows on us the dignity of having options and the responsibility to do something about what we behold. We are in the position of making choices about what we look at. Not everything in the world needs to be seen. There is enough violence and abuse of human dignity in real life to discourage us from seeking it out. We cannot, however, let ourselves off the hook in seeing the world as it is and doing something about creating a better vision of humanity for everyone, everywhere.

The play finishes, like the Gospel story, with Bartimeus requesting from Jesus the gift of sight. But in the play, in a powerful

twist, as Bartimeus follows Jesus on the path, he stops, turns, and sees the human faces behind the challenging voices. He goes back, embraces them, and together they walk the Christian path. Let us pray for the strength to do the same."

In Christ,  
 Jeff Peck

**Masks are required while inside the church or in the parish office building**

**The Diocesan Appeal** year has begun & a mailing will arrive in-home in October. As you contemplate your investment, please consider the role of the Catholic Church in your life and that of your family. Your support of both your parish offertory and the Diocesan Appeal are the most fundamental ways to ensure the health and vitality of our entire Catholic community of 126 parishes in 14 counties, serving you in the day-to-day and milestone moments of your life. If you are eager to get started, you can make a gift or pledge online at [www.thediocesanappeal.org](http://www.thediocesanappeal.org) or set-up bill pay through your bank for recurring gifts (easier on your budget), asking the bank to make checks payable to Diocesan Appeal, 40 N. Main Ave., Albany, NY 12203. Be sure to include your name and the name & location of our parish. Thank you!

**As the weather gets colder, we ask that you dress warmly to come to church. One of the ways to prevent the spread of the Covid virus is through ventilation. Although the building will be heated, the windows and doors will be open to insure the circulation of air.**

**Upcoming Mass Schedule**

**All Saint's Day – November 1<sup>st</sup>**

No mass at St. Patrick's or Holy Cross

9:00 AM – Immaculate Conception

**The Immaculate Conception – December 8<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM – St. Patrick's, Cambridge

12:00 PM – Holy Cross, Salem

6:00 PM – Immaculate Conception, Hoosick Falls

Due to expected demand, we likely will be asking for reservations for Christmas Eve Mass.

**Liturgical Roles**

Sunday, October 24 – 11:30 AM

Lector: Mamie Dearstyne

Eucharistic Minister: Dawn MacDougall

Sunday, October 31 – 11:30 AM

Lector: Rich MacDougall

Eucharistic Minister: Reta Pemrick

Counters: NO COUNTERS AT THIS TIME

**FAITH FORMATION**

Oct 24 – 10:00 – 11:15 - Faith Formation/Youth Ministry  
 Oct 31 – 10:00 – 11:15 – Faith Formation/Youth Ministry

Information and an online registration form may be found at our parish website, [www.battenkillcatholic.org](http://www.battenkillcatholic.org).

**Masks are required.**

Please pray for our **Confirmation** candidates - Audrey Beirne, Mason MacDougall, Kobe McManus, and Alexis Olszewski - as they approach the celebration of Confirmation which will be held Saturday, October 30, 10am, at St. Joseph's Church in Fort Edward.

**The Invitations of Autumn: Reflections and Spiritual Practices for the Season.** A retreat refreshes, revitalizes, and rekindles one's relationship with God. Find prayers and reflections on the season to help you plan a contemplative experience, whether it's several days away or a few hours at home at <https://stpatrickslifelongfaith.weebly.com/spirituality.html>.

**Adult Scripture Study: Angels in the Bible**

Mondays, 6:30 - 8 pm, St. Patrick's

Tuesdays, 10 - 11:30 am, Holy Cross

Lesson Three October 25/26

Lesson Four November 1/2

Lesson Five November 8/9

Lesson Six November 15/16

**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERING – October 17**

Offertory – \$436.00

Second Collections - \$6.00

**Thank you for your continued generosity**

Please continue to make regular donations. If you use envelopes, please drop it in the collection basket or leave a donation at the parish house. Electronic giving is available at [www.battenkillcatholic.org/donations](http://www.battenkillcatholic.org/donations)

**Contacting Fr. Peter** - Please call the office at Immaculate Conception. 518 686 5064. If it is outside of office hours, please leave a message including your name and telephone number. If the need is urgent, please call or text Jeff Peck, 518 683 6461 or email, [jeffreypeck@battenkillcatholic.org](mailto:jeffreypeck@battenkillcatholic.org). Jeff's telephone and email are also monitored outside of business hours.

**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 St. Patrick's Church at 677-2757.