



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

Sunday, September 15

†For Elaine Peters from The Dupuis Family

Sunday, September 22

†For Frances Scaglione from daughter, Luanne

†For Mary Austin from the family

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, John Svitak, Renee Vandenbogaard, Selma Eckert, Melissa Gregory, Todd McLenithan, Kelly Matson, Helen Peters, Cody Pulver, Kim C. Passalug, Betsy Fleming, Phil Drago, George Richard, Wiley. 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](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.

**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).

Dear Friends,

A bishop in a rural diocese was explaining to the confirmation class how he was the shepherd of the flock. Given that many of the children came from large sheep farms he decided to draw on today's Gospel as an analogy for his pastoral leadership. "I care for all of you like the Good Shepherd," he said. The students seemed consoled. Warming up, the bishop continued, "For instance, what would your fathers do if he lost one of his sheep?" The class was silent. The bishop asked again. The students were confused. The bishop got personal, "Michael what would your Dad do?" "Seeing we've 42,000 of them, bishop, he'd let the stupid animal go!

"We have all lost something. Big or small, serious or trivial, these losses are all part of what it means to be human. I have lost family members, friends, and car keys. In a few cases I have gotten them back. In today's Gospel, Jesus recounts parables in which a sheep, a coin, and a son are lost. At first glance, the responses of those who have suffered the loss are acting a bit excessive. Leaving a flock, unguarded to search for one sheep, staying up all night to find one coin, and throwing a party for a son who has squandered his inheritance are not really about the finding of something lost. When I lose something, like a set of keys, my distress is often over the nature of the loss, the sense of incompleteness I experience rather than the actual value of the keys. The pain of separation when a loved one dies is also an experience of incompleteness. The place in my life that was filled by that person is empty. I have a sense of being incomplete, a feeling of emptiness.

For me, the rejoicing described in the parables is an expression of being made whole again not the finding of the lost object itself. God rejoices over our turning to God because it creates wholeness. Jesus is telling us that the finding of the lost and reuniting with God is an accomplishment of what is meant to be, the syncing of earth and heaven. When this reuniting occurs, the community and the heaven rejoice.

In Christ,  
Jeff Peck

**Pastoral Council News:** Pastoral Council had its first meeting of the year on Wednesday night. The new Council has 23 members. There are five committees- Buildings and Grounds, Gwen Hall, Chair; Faith Formation – Mary Rosmus, Chair; Hospitality – Dawn MacDougall, Chair; Prayer and Worship – Jeff Peck, Chair; Finance – Fred Muhlig, Chair. Each of the committees will meet between now and the next meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to attend committee meetings and the Council meeting. Please contact committee chairs for the meeting date and time. At its next meeting, Council will consider committee recommendations and select a facilitator and note taker in addition to reviewing parish finances.

**Beginning on Monday, access to the parish house must be through the new doors facing the church. The "old front door" is no longer an entrance and the space will be utilized for small group meetings. Please turn in all keys for that door as soon as possible. Thank you.**

## ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

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

**The 2019 Bishop's Appeal** - To date, the parish has raised in pledges and donations \$12,090.00 of our \$14,881.00 assessment. Thanks to all who have been so generous thus far. If you have not made your pledge or donation, there are envelopes available in the church or you may make your donation online at [www.thebishopsappeal.org](http://www.thebishopsappeal.org).

Liturgical Roles
<b>September 15, 2019 – 11:00 AM</b>
<b>Lector:</b> G. Preece
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> F. Muhlig, S. Stiner, D. Darcy
<b>Greeters:</b> L. Cuddihy, B. Bromirski
<b>September 22, 2019 – 11:00 AM</b>
<b>Lector:</b> S. Sawyer
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> J. Dupuis, D. MacDougall, F. Muhlig
<b>Greeters:</b> J. Podolec, N. Dupuis
<b>Counters:</b> Monday, September 16 – Reta and Sandy Monday, September 23 – John and Roger

Announcements to be included in the bulletin should be sent to [parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org](mailto:parishoffice@battenkillcatholic.org) by 9:00 AM on Wednesday to be included in Sunday's bulletin.

**The Wild Goose Session 12: The Spirit's Freedom** "When the Son sets you free you are free indeed" - John 8:36 So often Christians find themselves slaves to anger, envy, jealousy, comparisons, and addictions. You do not have to live life like that. The Holy Spirit brings freedom from fear, anger, and the past. Join us Thursday, September 12, St. John the Baptist, Castleton, 6:30 pm for **The Wild Goose Session 12: The Spirit's Freedom** For more information: <https://thewildgooseisloose.com/>

## FAITH FORMATION

Sept 15 – 9:30 – 10:45 – Faith Formation/Youth Ministry  
Sept 22 – 9:30 – 10:45 – Faith Formation/Youth Ministry  
Confirmation Preparation  
Sept 29 – 9:30 – 10:45 – Faith Formation/Youth Ministry

**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.

**Catechetical Sunday, September 15.** Faith Formation and Sacrament Prep classes meet at 9:30. Parents are invited to attend. Catechists and parents will be blessed at the 11 am mass

## YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERING – September 8

Offertory – \$1247.00  
Candles - \$6.00  
Church Heating - \$35.00  
Cemetery - \$615.00

**Thank you for your continued generosity**  
**The second collection next weekend is for**  
**The Catholic University of America**

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

**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.

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

Knights of Columbus  
Tuesday, September 24 – Social Meeting