

LENT - March 13 & 14, 2021



“Each year we are gifted with this joyful season that we might be better prepared to celebrate the Easter mystery of your love with heart and mind renewed.”

BISHOP OF ALBANY DIOCESE:
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BISHOP EMERITUS: Howard Hubbard
PASTOR: Fr. Tom Zelker
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OFFICE MANAGER: Sue Hyde

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30PM
WEBSITE: www.icchoosickfalls.com
Facebook page: Immaculate Conception Hoosick Falls

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE:
CELEBRATED IN IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
HALL
SATURDAY, 4 PM & SUNDAY, 9 AM
TRUSTEES: Christina Angell & Ellen Scott
FINANCE COUNCIL:
Krissy Fauler, Dave Stagnitti, & Linda Billert
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Virginia Cuddihy, Mike Brewster
Jerry D’Acchille, Rick Ferrannini, Karen Kaufman,
and the two Trustees
MUSIC MINISTRY: Richard Cherry
WORSHIP AND ENVIRONMENT: Lynne Mango

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Liturgy Schedule:

**Saturday, March 13,
4PM Mass
For all the people**

**Sunday, March 14,
9AM Mass
Margaret & Edward Saboski
(Requested by Arlene Wysocki)**

**Monday, March 15,
6PM
Reconciliation Service**

**Friday, March 19,
3PM
Stations of the Cross**

**Saturday, March 20,
4PM Mass
William Harnett
& Parents
(Requested by Carolin Goss)**

**Sunday, March 21,
9AM Mass
Jack Wysocki
(Requested by Arlene Wysocki)
Delores Slomczewski
(Requested by Mary Kowalski)**

**Friday, March 26,
3PM
Stations of the Cross**



Crafted from the foundation beams of our Church, we continue to build up the reign of God with living stones. Jesus Christ is our true cornerstone.

Do You Want To Fast this Lent?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.

Scripture Insights

Three things are presented in the First Reading. The conclusion of the Second Book of Chronicles contains a condensed account of the fall of Jerusalem, Israel's exile in Babylon, and the possibility of Israel's return to Judah. The Persian defeat of the Babylonians under King Cyrus brought an end to the exile and ushered in the period often referred to as "the restoration."

Psalm 137 provides insight into the exilic experience that was glossed over in the First Reading. As the psalmist tells us, the Judeans were taunted by the Babylonians, who asked the exiles to sing songs from their homeland. The exiles refused to sing for their captors and instead held fast to their fond memories of Jerusalem as expressed in today's refrain: "Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!" This Psalm is a lament, a song of longing for the world that the exiles had known prior to their defeat by the Babylonians.

Today's New Testament readings broaden our understanding of what it means to believe in Jesus, the Christ. Ephesians reminds us that God's mercy and grace are freely given to all who believe in Jesus and that our faith is a gift of God. While we know from the very first chapter of Genesis that we are made in the the image and likeness of God, in Ephesians we hear that, in addition to being God's "handiwork," we are created "in Christ Jesus" for good works.

The Word states that we are God's "handiwork." Ask God to help you know that you are a masterpiece of God. Jesus, the word made flesh, reveals God's boundless love for all people in the whole world. As Church, let us live out this love right now.

The Prayer of St. Patrick

I rise today
Through the strength of heaven;
Light of the sun,
Splendor of fire,
Speed of Lightning,
Swiftness of the wind,
Depth of the sea,
Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock.



I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me
Afar and anear,
Alone or in a multitude.
Christ shield me today
Against wounding
Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ is on my right, Christ is on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone who speaks of me.
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me,
I arise today
Through the mighty strength
Of the Lord of creation.

- Anonymous



**HATE HAS NO
HOME HERE**

The Old Buzzards Are Back!

The Turkey Vultures returned home to Hoosick Sunday, March 7. Right after Mass, a group of parishioners saw the feathered carrion eaters circling over Main Street looking for some food to scavenge. The grand prize winner is Judy Flynn. Honorable mention goes to Tony Hayes and Mike Bromm.



"When I was in prison you visited me" Parish Prison Ministry

Simply write a general letter of encouragement and compassion to a person incarcerated on plain loose leaf or typing paper and drop it off at church or our office. Do not include specific family information but a letter of wisdom and hope. Use regular pens; no crayons. Letters will be mailed in official Church envelopes. Thank you for remembering.

Comfort & Hope Group

Monday, April 5 at 6:30 pm in the Church Hall kitchen area. A faith-filled support group for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one. We are not alone in our grief, our shared stories bless us with Christ among us. Masks are required.

If you would like to receive ICC emails, please call the parish office at 518-686-5064 or email to:

Immconcept@roadrunner.com

Faith Formation News

As part of our Family based focus these are This weeks and Next weeks readings so you and your family can think about those lessons.

Readings for Sunday March 14
1st Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10
Gospel: John 3:14-21

Readings for Sunday March 21
1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34
2nd Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9
Gospel: John 12:20-33

Here is this weeks YouTube video that you can share and discuss with your family. Go to YouTube and search for the following:

How to Live This Lent for Others

▪ Holy Week ▪

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 27 - 4pm Mass

Sunday, March 28 - 9am Mass

Holy Thursday

April 1, 6pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

April 2

12 noon - Quiet walk of the Cross

Beginning with prayer at First United Presbyterian Church, down Main Street, led by the Cross and drums to Wood Park

6pm - Passion of the Lord

Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion

Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 3 - 7:30pm Mass

(No 4pm Mass)

Easter Sunday

April 4, 9am Mass

Please sign up for these times of prayer at our office. Readers are needed; please sign up at our office. Services are in our lower Church.

Palm Sunday and Easter Mass will also be available on the Immaculate Conception Church's Facebook page.

Lent: Service and Prayer

Please consider donating food to our Pantry. People are hungry here in Hoosick Falls. Any food items may be left at Church or the Pantry.

Rice Bowls

The people of our Church help the poor and hungry throughout our world. Please drop off donations or Rice Bowls by Sunday, April 18 at Church or our office.

Stations of the Cross

Fridays of Lent 3pm in Church

Contemporary Meditations on Jesus' Cross and people of faith today.

Reconciliation Service

We come together as a community of mercy.

Monday, March 15, 6pm

Immaculate Conception Lower Church.

Please register in advance so the seating may be arranged properly. These are both the same exact communal reconciliation services; there is no need to come to both.

HACA Ecumenical Lenten Devotion

For inspirational prayer from our local churches, see Hoosick Area Church Association Facebook Page

HACA Ecumenical Annual Meeting

Monday, March 29 at 6pm in the kitchen area of Immaculate Conception Church Hall. You are welcome to hear about our community services.

Virtual Lenten Retreat - "God's Healing in Us"

We are offering a Virtual Retreat for Lent, "God's Healing in Us" by Fr. Richard Fragomeni, a native of Schenectady and beloved priest of our Diocese. If you would like to receive this online retreat, please email the office and we will send it to you. This thought provoking retreat consists of three 30 minute segments.

Lent
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**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS
& ATTENDANCE
For March 6 & 7**

Regular Offertory.....\$2,982.00
Faith Formation.....\$95.00
Monthly E-Transfer.....\$2,511.00

Total\$5,588.00

Attendance:

Saturday, March 6.....57
Sunday, March 7.....54

Total111

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:



Barbara Bouplon, Billy Benkoski, Cheryl McLaughlin, Dave Hanselman, Dawn Myers, Donny Hayden, Dorothy Roy, Dr. Marcus Martinez, Felicia Martelle, Fr. Joe Manerowski, Gary Grogan, Jeff Babson, Jesse Stevens, Judy Brownell, Judy Quackenbush, Linda Kane, Marie Slattery, Matt Waytkus, Melissa Cleary, Nancy Hathaway Mahoney, Neil Waytkus, Paulette Sukuskas, Peter Kane, Sally Williams, Stacy Rogers, and all those who are ill or hurting. Those who have been on the prayer list for quite some time will still be prayed for, but will not appear in the bulletin. If you are in need of prayer for yourself or someone else, please call Margaret O'Malley at 518-686-7835.

HACA Food Pantry will be open normal hours, however, they will give out pre-packaged bags at the door to one family at a time. All normal items will be included. Additional Items Needed: **Ramen noodles, oatmeal, canned dinners (spaghetti, chili, stew), pancake mix, rice/pasta boxed mixes (Rice a Roni), shampoo, toothpaste and brushes, and feminine hygiene items.**



Food Pantry Volunteers...We are looking for volunteers to help. For information and training, contact Dianne Hosterman at 518-686-5310.

- Any food donations may be brought to church, our office, or directly to the Food Pantry.



- ♦ Wednesday mornings at 10 AM: Bulletin proofreaders. **Call the office.**
- ♦ Sunday morning: Collection Counters. **Call the office.**
- ♦ Lectors (readers) at Mass: **See Gloria Shufon, or call the office, 518-686-5064.**

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Our automatic withdrawal system is working well. This may be an easy way for you to support our parish. Please contact our office for more information.