

LENT - March 20 & 21, 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:
Edward B. Scharfenberger
BISHOP EMERITUS: Howard Hubbard
PASTOR: Fr. Tom Zelker
tomzelker@gmail.com
OFFICE MANAGER: Sue Hyde

+OUR PARISH OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS
67 Main Street
Hoosick Falls, NY 12090
PHONE: 518-686-5064
E-MAIL: immconcept@roadrunner.com
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

LENT - March 20 & 21, 2021

Liturgy Schedule:

**Saturday, March 20,
4PM Mass**

William Harnett & Parents
(Requested by Carolin Goss)

Nolan Senecal
(Requested by Linda Hutchins)

Rita Downey
(Requested by Family)

**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

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Saturday, March 27,
4PM Mass**

For all the people

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Sunday, March 28,
9AM Mass**

For all the people



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.

Spring Equinox Morning Prayer (Spring Begins this Saturday, March 20)

As the earth once again turns to face the sun on this first day of the week, I rejoice in this season of spring. I give thanks, O God, that each day grows longer in light and that the earth has been liberated from the grip of winter.

On this day that remembers the resurrection of your son Jesus from the depths of death's decay in the tomb. I lift my heart to you in gratitude. I thank you for the gift of a day of worship and all the graces it holds. I thank you for the healing touch of sleep as I begin this day refreshed and renewed. With a full heart, I enter now into the prayer of silence.

I now unite myself with all the peoples of this earth, my companion pilgrims, as I pray.

As I begin this first day of a new week, I ask for the grace, my God, to live in a new way. Grant me fresh dreams and new visions. May this day come upon me like Spring herself, so that my heart may be filled with hope.

Remind me, as I begin this day, to discipline myself so that it may be a day of rest from my usual labors. May I thus taste more deeply the joys of simply being alive. May I find the countless hidden treasures that you have scattered throughout this day.

On this day of worship and prayer, I pause to pray especially for the intentions of: _____, as well as all those whom I love. May your peace rest upon all the members of the earthen family with whom you have made me one.

I begin this day

in your Holy Name
and in the name of your son Jesus
and in the name of the Holy Spirit,
as I bow before you. Amen.



Scripture Insights

Today's passage from Jeremiah tells of a covenant unlike what Israel has known. Whereas the Sinai covenant identified multiple stipulations that Israel was required to uphold, in this covenant Israel is passive. God would place this new covenant within the heart of the people. Israel would receive this covenant freely. While similar images exist in a variety of texts in the Old Testament (for example, Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:26; and Isaiah 42:9), nowhere else do we hear of a new covenant until we turn to the New Testament.

Psalm 51, often associated with King David, though not necessarily composed by him, is one of the better-known psalms of the psalter and certainly one of the best known of the seven penitential psalms. The refrain "Create a clean heart in me, O God," is a plea for newness. The heart, in Hebrew anthropology, was the most vital of all organs. It also was understood to be that place where discernment took place and where decisions were made.

As the liturgical year draws closer to the celebration of the Triduum, the New Testament readings bring our attention to the death of Jesus. In the Letter to the Hebrews, Jesus' humanity is detailed. He was a being who prayed, cried, learned, and suffered. In the Gospel, Jesus states, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified," indicating that the time of his suffering, death, and Resurrection is at hand.

- ◆ Reread the text from Jeremiah and today's Responsorial Psalm. Ask God to touch your heart as you move closer to the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection.
- ◆ The Gospel presents us with the image of the "grain of wheat," which bears much fruit when it dies. How does Jesus' death do this? What are your daily dyings and risings?



HATE HAS NO HOME HERE

"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

"Better to light one candle than to curse the darkness"

Three day votive candles are in our lower church. The donation is 25cents. Please be considerate of others when lighting a candle.

Pulitzer Prize Winner - Douglas A. Blackmon Author of "Slavery by Another Name" March 25, 2021 - 7 PM



The Justice Center of Rensselaer County presents a digital evening with Douglas A. Blackmon, author of the award-winning book and documentary, "Slavery by Another Name." The event is free and open to the public, but donations are encouraged and much appreciated.

Register at [HTTPS://BIT.LY/JRCRPRESENTS](https://bit.ly/jrcrpresents)

- Faith Formation News -

As part of our Family based focus these are this week's and Next week's readings so you and your family can think about those lessons.

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

Gospel: Mark 11:1-10
Readings for Sunday, March 28
1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7
2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel: Passion of Christ, Mark 14:1-15:47

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

Offering Up Your Inconveniences

▪ 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.

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
March 20 & 21, 2021

**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS
& ATTENDANCE
For March 13 & 14**

Regular Offertory.....\$2,264.00
Catholic Relief Services.....\$125.00
Monthly E-Transfer Fuel.....\$360.00

Total\$2,749.00

Attendance:

Saturday, March 13.....60
Sunday, March 14.....55

Total115

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, Mike Stone, 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

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.