

Sixth Sunday of Easter - May 8 & 9, 2021



Easter - Our Resurrection in Christ

BISHOP OF ALBANY DIOCESE:

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30PM

WEBSITE: www.icchoosickfalls.com

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, May 8
4:00 pm Mass

For all of our Moms

Sunday, May 9
9:00 am Mass

For all of our Moms

Thursday, May 13

The Ascension of the Lord
8:30 am Mass - Cambridge

6:00pm Mass - Immaculate Conception

Saturday, May 15
4:00 pm Mass

Peg Rice

(Requested by Comfort & Hope Group)

Sunday, May 16
9:00 am Mass

Adam Sargood

(Requested by Florence Belnap)

Henry & James Marcoux

(Requested by Nick & Judy Flynn)

Kelly Shea

(Requested by Pat & Tony Hayes)



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.

This weekend the parish has purchased flowers from Birthright. Please take one home to celebrate Mother's Day.



Dear Friends,

Rosa and Antonio came to the U.S. from Oaxaca, Mexico to earn enough money to support their elderly parents. They were fortunate to find work on a dairy farm in Washington County which included decent housing as part of their pay. When they had their children, Rosa stopped working to care for Jesus and Perlita. Antonio milked cows 6 and ½ days a week with Sunday mornings off for church. Each week, Rosa got a ride into Greenwich to buy food and to wire money home to their families. They did not own a car and were dependent on the kindness of others to get to church on Sunday. They were the happiest family I have ever met. They were faith-filled and the smallest events were occasions for an infectious joy. I was humbled to have been asked to be the godfather for both Jesus and Perlita. Rosa was the most extraordinary mother. The children were cared for lovingly, clean, and even encouraged to interact with me. Rosa was always busy. She gently raised the infant and toddler, cooked, cleaned, made sure Antonio had his lunch, and carefully accounted for the family's meager finances. Whenever I stopped in there was always food for me to take home. I was saddened when they returned home to care for family members who were ill.

On Mother's Day, I always call to mind this pilgrim family, the hardships they face, their faith, and the joy they find in life's small pleasures. Rosa, as the core of that family, its stability, its strength is the epitome of nurturing. I also call to mind the other women who have nurtured me, my mother, my aunts, my wife, and the Sisters of Mercy, even Sister Mary Xavier who while scaring the dickens out of me in eighth grade also taught me the craft of writing.

Happy Mother's Day to all the women who have nurtured us.

In Christ,

Jeff Peck

Jeffrey C. Peck
Parish Life Director
Holy Cross Parish, Salem NY
St. Patrick's Parish, Cambridge, NY

Comfort & Hope Group

Monday, June 7 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.

Peace to All! "Peace...Shalom...Salaam"

Our Peace Pole was placed next to our Easter Fire Pit during the Triduum. May the holy love of Christ ignite our hearts on fire to seek justice and peace among all nations. Benches are placed there for your rest.

Immaculate Conception Earth Garden



Plowed plots are available for your own personal vegetable garden. The western acreage is our parish garden to grow fruits and vegetables for our Food Pantry. To help or reserve a plot, please call our office.

If you reserve a plot for your own use, please remember you are responsible for maintaining (weeding and harvesting) your own area on a regular basis.

"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.

Unity House

In collaboration with the
Hoosick Falls Police Department
2nd Floor - Armory, 80 Church Street,
Hoosick Falls
(518) 272-5917

Services offered (all services are voluntary, free and confidential):

- ◆ Case management
- ◆ Counseling
- ◆ Advocacy with DSS, CPS, Police, Court, Housing & more
- ◆ Legal Representation & Consultation
- ◆ Education & Employment Assistance
- ◆ Sexual Assault Services
- ◆ Youth Services
- ◆ Referrals and Connections to other Programs/Services
- ◆ Emergency Shelter

Hotlines: Call: (518) 272-2370 or Text: (518) 720-6161
Web chat: rc.chat/uhdvs

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 May 9

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35,44-48

2nd Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17

Readings for Sunday May 16

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26

2nd Reading: 1 John 4:11-16

Gospel: John 17:11b-19

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

EASTER: 50 DAYS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In the liturgies of the Triduum and Easter, the Church remembers the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of the Lord. But although these liturgies are full of drama and a powerful sense of history, liturgical remembering is not about the past; it is about the present. When the Church remembers, something happens in the here and now. **“Recalling thus the mysteries of redemption, the Church opens to the faithful the riches of the Lord’s powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age in order that the faithful may lay hold on them and be filled with saving grace.”** The Triduum is, in a word, *sacramental*; for the Resurrection is not just remembered, as great events in history are remembered; the Resurrection *happens*. We celebrate Easter for 50 days this year until May 23...Pentecost...be caught up in the Spirit!

God’s Dream ... Our Work

Each person makes a difference!

Our Eucharist sends us forth to embody Christ’s love, Christ’s Justice, Christ’s Healing, and Christ’s Reign in every aspect of our life and the life of our world community. Never say “you don’t matter” because you do! You make all the difference in the world.

Here are some activities that may interest you in order to help another person, stand up for what is right, or care for our Earth. Remember, our Catholic faith is not self-centered, but selfless...going out of ourselves to witness to God’s sacred presence every day, everywhere.

May the restless Spirit of Resurrection within you never settle for less, the uninspired, the tired, or the untrue...but may you always seek to live the ideal, the truly beautiful, the most unsettling, the deepest life giving love for all people!

The stone has been rolled away ... Let us journey forth ... together!

RESPECT LIFE

- ⇒ Stand up for anyone who is being abused by domestic violence. Call Catholic Charities (free and confidential) at 453-6650. Get help for yourself or someone else who is abused by hitting, humiliation, guilt, bullying, or forced sex.
- ⇒ Contribute to the National Adoption Foundation, 100 Mill Plain Road, Danbury, CT 06811 (National Adoption Foundation.org) helping families adopt children.
- ⇒ Speak out against racism, prejudice, sexual harassment.
- ⇒ Invite a troubled drinker to AA - local meeting are Monday evenings at 8 pm at the Hoosick Baptist Church.
- ⇒ Help Amnesty International USA, 322 8th Ave., New York, NY 10001; www.amnestyuse.org - in demanding that all forms of torture cease, political prisoners receive fair trials, and death squads be eliminated.
- ⇒ The Roarke Center, Troy (518-273-8351) helps women with legal issues and when leaving incarceration.
- ⇒ Learn and do something about the worldwide crime of human trafficking (modern slavery). More than 29 million people are held in bondage for forced labor or sexual exploitation. Contact the “Project to End Human Trafficking.”
- ⇒ Come to our parish Comfort & Hope support group.

RESPECT THE EARTH

- ⇒ Support “Trees for Life” 3006 West St. Louis, Wichita, KS 67203. This group supplies native, fruit and shade trees to devastated areas throughout the world. Help reforest Mount Kilimanjaro with 3 million trees with Interfaith Power & Light on the net (or 415-561-4891).
- ⇒ Buy produce at local farm stands; at the store, make sure produce is grown in America. Support local farmers.
- ⇒ Hike the Taconic Crest Trail.
- ⇒ Contribute to the Nature Conservancy, P. O. Box 65, Keene Valley, NY 12943 in preserving rare mountain habitats.
- ⇒ Recycle everything that you can.
- ⇒ Pick up litter on the Hoosic River Trail.
- ⇒ Plant an extra row of vegetables to share at our Food Pantry.
- ⇒ Use less fertilizer on your lawn and garden. Runoff pollutes our waters.
- ⇒ Learn about Global Warming and what you can do to help future generations.
- ⇒ Plant a tree, feed the birds, put up a bat house.

FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND CHURCH

- ⇒ Be enthusiastic at Mass.
- ⇒ Volunteer to read at Mass, help sanitize after Mass.
- ⇒ Assist with our Food Pantry Garden.
- ⇒ Think about becoming a priest.
- ⇒ Laugh and enjoy life ... smile ... celebrate friendship.
- ⇒ Change a negative in your life and do something positive. Exercise!
- ⇒ Help a neighbor, ride a bike, share some flowers, kayak down a river.

POLITICAL ARENA

- ⇒ Check out “Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility”
- ⇒ See www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship or call 1-800-235-8722 at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.
- ⇒ Vote in all elections.

Cornelius, Catholics and Love

We owe much to a Roman soldier. In fact, it may be said we are “Catholic” because of the encounter between St Peter and Cornelius.

Cornelius was a centurion. As the name implies, a centurion was in charge of 100 soldiers in the Roman army. So he was a junior officer in the Empire’s armed forces and a pagan to boot.

And yet, St Peter found that this man was evidently graced by the Holy Spirit and therefore Peter could not deny him baptism. This incident helped resolve a major controversy in the first decades of the church.

Would a pagan have to become a Jew, one of the Chosen People, before becoming a Christian? Peter concluded, on the basis of a vision and this incident, that God does not have favorites amongst the peoples of this world and that any person of any nationality who is in awe of God and lives justly could be baptized a Christian.

And thus the early church was able to break out of its Jewish confines. We were not to be a Jewish sect which accepted Jesus as the Messiah. We were to be truly universal (“catholic” in the Greek) able to embrace all those who acknowledge our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. So the great missionary endeavor began to every tribe, every ethnic group, speakers of every tongue throughout the earth. And there were two main messages. First that Jesus of Nazareth had had the victory over death, and we are able to share in that victory. That is the faith of Easter which we have just celebrated. The second great message involved understanding what “love” really entails.

The word “love” in English covers such a multitude of experiences as to be devoid of meaning until we know the context. Does it refer to the passionate embrace of two lovers, or a preference for chocolate over nougat? Our Lord gives us the core meaning. “No greater love can a person have than to lay down his life for his friends.”

Of course, for most of us, the closest experience consonant with that gospel is the experience of a parent at the bedside of a chronically ill or badly injured child who is dying. A mother or father would willingly substitute themselves for that child facing death. This is the true core meaning of “love” according to Our Lord. Every other form of love grades away from this most perfect human expression of loving.

Of course Jesus not only preached this message, but lived and died it. He substituted himself for the whole of humanity dying because of a broken relationship with its Creator. He did so on behalf of us whom he calls friends. He laid down his life for those—for us—whom he called “friends”.

Though totally innocent of any crime or sin he took on all the horror of a tortured death as if he were a criminal or sinner, rejected by society, even experiencing estrangement from his Heavenly Father: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

He took this experience on himself, really the experience of humanity, and emerged the Victor, the conqueror of death on Easter Sunday. And he did so on behalf of us whom in today’s gospel He calls his “friends”, those with whom he wishes to share that victory.

“No greater love can a person have than to lay down his life for his friends.” This is the reality, this is the message of the gospel for the peoples of every tribe, every nation, every language. It is a message which has resonated and reverberated down the centuries from Cornelius to those gathered here. It is the message entrusted to us as members of the one holy Catholic and apostolic church. More importantly, it is entrusted to us as friends of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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Counters:

This Week: Heather Hassett & Eileen Bakaitis

Next Week: Linda Bennett & Anita Perry

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE For May 1 & 2

Regular Offertory.....\$2,039.52
Faith Formation.....\$78.00
Total\$2,117.52

Attendance:

Saturday, May 1 60
Sunday, May 260
Total.....120

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, Harley Conte, Jeff Babson, Jesse Stevens, Judy Brownell, Judy Quackenbush, Karen Thomas, 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 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.



- ◆ 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 at 518-686-5064.**

"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.

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

Immconcept@roadrunner.com

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.