

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2020

Jesus assured the disciples that he would not leave them orphaned but would ask the Father to send "another advocate" to be with them always. Jesus said that he would still reveal himself to those who love him.

ALL PUBLIC MASSES IN THE
DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG
ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

PRAYER REQUESTS: Donnie Hicks, Gerald Arno, Tina Marie Lapan, Pauline Scriver, Mary Baker, Morris (Buster) Roberts.

We keep the names on the sick list for a couple of months and then remove them, unless we hear otherwise.

Nursing Homes: Lucien Rodier, Rose Moore, Doris Deso, Gerry Hayes.
Please pray for all of our Military including: Maritza St. John-Lester, Avery Trombley, Shawn LaFontaine.

SANCTUARY CANDLE MAY 16 -23

In Memory of All Deceased Parishioners

**WHEN VISITING OUR CHURCH Please use
Sanitizer Upon Entrance & Exit!**

FYI....Please note that the Parish Office is only open on a limited basis during the Covid-19 Pandemic: Monday through Friday 8:30 - 12:45pm. If you must make a visit in person, it would be best to call first. You may also take advantage of the drop box located on the rectory porch. It is checked multiple times on a daily basis.

REMEMBER: the Church is available for prayer Monday through Friday 9 -3.

STEWARDSHIP May 3: Envelopes: \$2,860.

Thank you for your continued support to St. Mary's during this extremely difficult time for everyone.

ST. MARY'S BAZAAR UPDATE

At this time, we have made the difficult decision to postpone the 2020 St. Mary's Bazaar. This was not an easy decision, but we believe it is the right one to keep everyone safe so that we can celebrate at a later date.

We have "tentatively" scheduled a St. Mary's Church Appreciation Day for August 30th. On this date, we will continue to hold the Tractor Pull with limited festivities and food on the bazaar grounds. The car show and parade have been canceled for this year. This event will be subject to social distancing guidelines and policies of the State of New York at the time.

We also plan to hold our annual raffle to be drawn on August 30th. We will include a virtual payment option for those wishing to participate. Please stay tuned for more information to come as we finalize prizes for the raffle.

We hope you will join us when the time is right. Until then, we hope you and your families stay safe and healthy!

FINAL 20-WEEK CLUB WINNERS
\$500 Laureen & David Sterling
\$500: Francis Seymour

The following is a recap of the winners for past 20 weeks: *Janie Letourneau, Mary Zurlo, Dick Cooke, Daniel Tetreault, Linda Favro, Hector Bedard, Vincent Bodah, Claude Boucher, Caleb Castine, Lonnie/Helen Bechard, Darlene Baker, Nancy Lefave, Kim Bulson, Kim/Tom Trombley, Kathleen Sample, Katie Matott, John Zurlo, Helen Bechard, Fr. Clyde Lewis, Laureen/David Sterling, Francis Seymour.*

Congratulations to all of our winners and thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

**WORKING TOWARD RE-OPENING OUR CHURCHES
OUR CHURCHES AND PUBLIC WORSHIP.**

Bishop LaValley opened a dialogue with his priests about the steps we must take to re-open our churches for public worship. Bishop LaValley has been meeting with public health officials, medical professionals and others to formulate a plan to safely reopen our churches. Bishop LaValley wants us to become aware of the changes we will have to make to once public worship is allowed. These changes will require the understanding and cooperation of us all. These changes include:

- + Our churches will have to undergo intensive cleaning and sanitizing to reduce the spread of the virus.
- + At the outset, only a certain number of people will be able to physically go to Mass. This is largely determined by the size of the church and the requirements of social distancing.
- + All parishioners will wear face coverings while in church to protect themselves and others.
- + There will be no holy water in fonts to reduce the risk of infection.
- + No offertory processions.
- + No passing of the collection basket. The basket will be placed in a fixed location and parishioners will be asked to drop their contributions into the basket as they enter or leave the church.
- + The distribution of Communion will be different.
- + No worship aids will be available for use, such as missalettes and hymns. This will reduce the risk of spreading the virus.
- + There will be no choirs in the early phases of our return to public worship.
- + There will be no congregating in the church, on the steps or at the doors of the church so we can maintain social distancing.
- + Bishop LaValley will extend the dispensation for Sunday Mass until further notice.

Bishop LaValley has asked his priests to seek ways to implement these changes and to take all necessary steps to assure that we proceed in a way that prevents a resurgence of the virus. Each parish will prepare a specific plan that will incorporate these new features of our Mass experience. These changes are temporary, and the guidelines will change as we make progress against the Coronavirus. Let us pray to St. Joseph for guidance and strength so that when we are allowed to resume public worship we will be prepared. For more information, including a message from Bishop LaValley about these planning efforts, visit www.rcdony.org/covid-19

**ANNUAL COLLECTION: Annual Mother's Day
Appeal moved to Father's Day Weekend!**

CEMETERY NEWS....With Memorial Weekend just around the corner, we are asking plot owners to please help do your part in keeping our cemeteries looking beautiful. Thank you for your cooperation! Please see the rules below:

Rules

1. Artificial flowers or arrangements are NOT PERMITTED and will be disposed of when found. This is due to safety reasons when mowing.
2. Small flags are permitted on the graves, but they must be maintained and removed when they become damaged.
3. The plot owner is responsible for the upkeep of flowers such as weeding and watering.
4. All cemetery work is done by cemetery employees or approved persons.

Blessed Easter/Holy Water is available at the church in the steel container near the baptismal font.