



*Fourth Sunday of
Advent
December 20, 2020*

MASSES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00AM (St. Mary's) NO MASS
4:00PM + (St. Mary's) Janet Carey by Claude & Joan Boucher
4:00PM + (St. Patrick's) Kristin Patterson by Bernard Duffy Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00AM + (St. Mary's) Richard "DJ" Eddy by Mark
10:00AM + (St. Patrick's) 7th Anniversary of Gerald Dupree by Arsene, Rose & Rachel Letourneau & Dupree Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00AM + (St. Patrick's) John Rowe by Bernie & Bob Halstead

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:00AM (St. Patrick's) Fosher Family by Bob & Maria Fosher

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

9:00AM + (St. Patrick's) Donald LaBombard by Claude & Sue Dessureault

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 (Anticipated) Nativity of the Lord

3:00PM (St. Mary's) Parishioners of St. Mary's
3:00PM (St. Patrick's) Parishioners of St. Patrick's
5:00PM (St. Mary's) Parishioners of St. Mary's
5:00PM (St. Patrick's) Parishioners of St. Patrick's

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 Nativity of the Lord

10:00AM (St. Mary's) Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM (St. Patrick's) Parishioners of St. Patrick's

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9:00AM (St. Mary's) NO MASS
4:00PM + (St. Mary's) Lawrence & Florence Baker, Doris, Ruth, Rita, & William Baker by Robert, Mary & Darlene Baker
4:00PM + (St. Patrick's) Ila Comeau by Mark & Kay Papin

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00AM + (St. Mary's) TinaMarie Lapan by Gene & Pat Gladd
10:00AM + (St. Patrick's) Muriel & Harold Thompson by Gail & Richard Weierstall

PRAYER REQUESTS: John See, Fr. Clyde Lewis, Nora Mercaldi, Joseph Louis Bedard, Carmie Babbie, Donnie Hicks, Gerald Arno, Pauline Scriver, Mary Baker, Morris (Buster) Roberts.

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

December 19 - 26

For a very Special Intention by a Parishioner

STEWARDSHIP December 13: (Envelopes): \$1,969 Plate:\$23, Retirement for Religious \$400. Thank you to all who are so generous to our parish and to all who make up their envelopes, even though they are unable to attend mass.

RETIREMENT FOR THE RELIGIOUS...We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement for Religious each year," Thank you for donating to last week's second collection.

OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 24th & Friday, December 25th.

The December 16, 2020 issue of the North Country Catholic is available to view. Please click on the link below to read this week's paper.

<http://www.northcountrycatholic.org>

THERE IS STILL SEATING AVAILABLE AT OUR CHRISTMAS MASSES!

HOWEVER, RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO ENSURE EVERYONE'S SAFETY!

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE 518-298-8244 OR EMAIL: CHURCHOFSTMARY@YAHOO.COM

Those who do not make a reservation will be asked to wait until everyone with reservations is seated and will be permitted only if there is still space available. It is never our intent to turn people away from Mass, so we ask that everyone take the time to make their reservations this week to ensure they have a place.

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS... As we celebrate Jesus' birth, God wants all people to join in the praise. Invite someone to come to Church with you this Christmas!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING...we will be decorating after the 8:00am Sunday. We could use a couple of extra hands. Please stop by if interested.

CHRISTMAS 2020

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing..."(Isaiah 9:1-2)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

"Abundant joy and great rejoicing" -- Isaiah's prayer is most welcome! We have been dwelling in the land of gloom for months. We are restless and ready to hear the Advent message of hope. We yearn to embrace once again the Christmas story of light, peace, and joy.

The Feast of Christmas is the time when it is the easiest to fight against discouragement and darkness. As we gaze upon the Infant Babe in the manger, God makes Himself so close that our hearts cannot remain fearful, anxious or troubled. As Pope Francis preached on the First Sunday of Advent, "Advent is the season for remembering the closeness of God who came down to dwell in our midst." The Christmas hymns and the customs that surround this Feast are imbued with the profound joy of being saved—such Good News! Knowing that we are so loved and saved by God, we shiver with hope and joy before the nativity scene.

The birth of Jesus comes about because of the extraordinary faith of His mother Mary. Several months ago, the Diocese of Ogdensburg was consecrated to St. Joseph, her husband. He accepted the fact that Jesus is indeed the promised and long-awaited Savior. We desire the trust and deep faith that Mary and Joseph lived.

In the quiet and calm of sleep, Joseph's life was open to God's regenerative and sustaining love. The decisiveness with which Joseph acts upon his dreams reveals a man who already walks with God. Joseph will believe the angel's words, and this belief will sustain him in the face of challenging demands and arduous conditions.

In the unique demands made upon us in this pandemic, we, too, are determined to be open to God's regenerative and sustaining love. We, like Joseph, want to walk with the One Who bids us, "Follow Me." May the Christ Child bring you and your loved ones the Gift of Love, the Blessing of Hope and the Promise of Peace. A blessed Christmas and joy-filled New Year!

Faithfully yours in Christ, Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

2020 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

St. Mary's, 3:00pm & 5:00pm
St. Patrick's, 3:00pm & 5:00pm

Christmas Day

St. Mary's, 10:00am
St. Patrick's, 10:00am

New Year's Eve,

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
St. Mary's, 4:00pm

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
St. Patrick's, 9:00am

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Diocese of Ogdensburg's Retirement Plan for Priests has long been supported by a percentage of parish contributions from its annual Christmas collection. This Christmas, to help parishes with financial stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the diocese is reducing the contribution from 75% to 50% of the Christmas collection, with the parish keeping the balance. Currently 40 retired priests, and 11 active priests age 70 and older, are expected to receive pension benefits of \$970,000 in 2020-21. Also 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests, estimated at \$220,000 this fiscal year, is paid by the Plan. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will also help provide for the retirement needs of priests who will retire in the future. Say thank you to your pastor and all priests of the diocese through a generous contribution to our Christmas Collection

FR. LEWIS' RECOVERY...Fr. Lewis is still recovering from his ankle surgery in Meadowbrook, Room #17. We ask that you continue to keep him in your prayers.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS...It is not too late to submit Christmas Flower donations or memorials. Please use your flower envelope that was included in your Christmas mailing or you may use a plain envelope.



We wish each and everyone of you a very Blessed and Merry Christmas!