



*Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 19, 2021*

When Mary visited Zechariah's house, Elizabeth greeted her; "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

MASSES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

4:00PM +(St. Mary's) Darrel Demers by Joyce & Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00AM + (St. Patrick's) Deceased Members of the Carey Family by their Family

10:00AM +(St. Patrick's) 8th Anniversary of Gerald Dupree by Arsene, Rose & Rachel Letourneau & Dupree Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:00AM + (St. Patrick's) Eric & Jason Coker & Victims of Terrorism by Barbara Primeau

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:00AM + (St. Patrick's) Joseph Favro Sr. by Ted Favro

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

9:00AM +(St. Mary's) 3rd Anniversary of Donald Tetreault by Suzanne and Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24 (Anticipated) The Nativity of the Lord

4:00PM (St. Mary's) Parishioners of St. Mary's

6:00PM (St. Patrick's) Parishioners of St. Patrick's

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 The Nativity of the Lord

8:00AM (St. Mary's) Parishioners of St. Mary's

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

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

8:00AM + (St. Mary's) Nora Mercaldi by Bill & Roxanne Downs

8:00AM + (St. Patrick's) 1st Anniversary of Ken Ryan by his Family

10:00AM +(St. Mary's) Fr. James Delbel by Jeanette Clark

10:00AM +(St. Patrick's) Jeremy Patrie by Sharon Ramsey

PRAYER REQUESTS: Billy Leduc, Terry Longe, Lee Gadway, Beverly Duprey, Joseph Louis Bedard, Carmie Babbie.

Please pray for our parishioners, who are homebound or in a nursing home: Lucien Rodier, Rose Moore, Doris Deso and Bernice Demers.

Please pray for all of our Military...Logan Chapman.

VIGIL CANDLE- DECEMBER 18 -25

(St. Joseph) In Memory of Darrel Demers by Joyce & Family

CHURCH DECORATING HAS BEEN MOVED TO WEDNESDAY

Anyone interested in decorating the Church for Christmas is welcome to join us on Wednesday, December 22nd.

Holy water fonts have been emptied to prevent the spreading of the coronavirus.

STEWARDSHIP NOVEMBER 21:

	2021(54 env.)	2020
(Envelopes):	\$1,595	\$1,969
Make-ups		
Plate:	140	23
	\$1,735	\$1,992

Thank you to all who are so generous to our parish and to all who continue to make up their envelopes, even when they are unable to attend mass.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

A sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting last week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection. A total of \$669 was collected.

WELCOME...to all parishioners and visitors. If you are visiting St. Mary's or have not been here in a while...Welcome! We are grateful you have joined us today and/or for Christmas as well.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Effective, Monday December 13th, all indoor public places (defined as any indoor space that is not a private residence – so it includes churches) must require all persons over age 2 who are able to medically tolerate a face covering/mask is required to do so regardless of vaccination status. Unvaccinated individuals continue to be responsible for wearing masks under CDC guidelines and socially distancing while attending Mass. We would appreciate your cooperation in implementing this protocol.

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, the diocese requests contribution of 75% of the Christmas collection to support the Plan, with the parish keeping the balance. Currently 40 retired priests, and 12 active priests age 70 and older, are expected to receive pension benefits of \$1,020,000 in 2021-22. Also 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests, estimated at \$250,000 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.

HELP NEEDED AT ST. MARY'S MISSION CENTER...on Wednesday, December 22nd beginning at 8am. They will be loading an 18 wheeler for items going to Atlanta for distribution to emergency centers. If you can spare a few hours, please stop by.

CHRISTMAS 2021 LETTER FROM BISHOP LAVALLEY

"While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, And she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, Because there was no room for them in the inn." (Luke 2:6-7)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

At our Christmas Vigil Mass, we will hear St. Luke tell us that God was born in a manger because there was no room for Him in the inn. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior this year, it is fitting that we ask ourselves: Is there room for God in my heart?

Today, there is so little room in our hearts for many—the unborn, the poor, those suffering from mental illness, the migrant, the victim of unjust discrimination, the elderly, the addict, the lonely, the imprisoned, indigenous peoples, the abused, the terror-stricken refugee. So many women, men and children are hurting. They are members of our families. They are us!

We enter this Advent Season, preparing for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, grateful for blessings received, but also keenly aware of our Christian duty to be the hands and tender heart of Christ to those who currently warrant scarce attention from us. This Christmas, let us resolve, inspired by our own time spent with Jesus, to see His Face in our sisters and brothers who we too often neglect. We yearn to make room in our hearts and in our lives for the hurting. Their human dignity demands it. Our Christian dignity impels us.

We pray that the beautiful acts of generosity that characterize the Christmas Season, will be transformed from seasonal gestures of charity to lifelong acts of justice and mercy. Such personal transformation will give tangible evidence that we are Christ-led, Christ-fed, and Hope-filled. We can do great things in Christ Jesus, the Savior whose birth we celebrate with such joy and gratitude. Our God's unconditional love and boundless mercy became flesh and bones in the Person of Jesus Christ so that we might extend God's compassion and love.

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

ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED AND WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT 4:00PM

If you have little ones or grandchildren who wish to join us, it is not too late. Please call the Parish Office 518-298-8244 or Kathy Ryan 518-593-8540. Every child will have a part.

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

We all know someone who has simply stopped practicing their faith. As we celebrate Jesus' birth, God wants all people to join in the praise. Invite them to come to Church with you this Christmas!

CHRISTMAS MINISTRY SCHEDULE:

	Lector	EM
Fri. Dec. 24 (4pm)	Molly Ryan	Kim/Tom Trombley Jack Dawson
Sat. Dec. 25 (8am)	John Zurlo	-----
Sun. Dec. 26 8:00am	Matt Tetreault	Pat Carey
10:00am	Helen Bechard	Pat Gladd

RELIGIOUS ED...the last Christian Formation class for 2021 is this weekend Dec. 19. The next class will meet on Jan. 9 2022.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

St. Mary's, 4:00 PM

St. Patrick's, 6:00PM (Mero Family Musicians)

Christmas Day

St. Mary's, 8:00 AM

St. Patrick's, 10:00AM

Sunday, December 26

St. Mary's, 8:00AM & 10:00AM

St. Patrick's, 8:00AM & 10:00AM

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Donations for flowers and decorations for Christmas are still being accepted. You may also give in memory or in honor of loved ones. Please print all names clearly. A separate Memorial Bulletin will be printed for Christmas.



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