



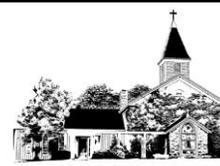
St. Cyril of Alexandria
28 Walton St.
Alexandria Bay, NY

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

The Catholic Community of Alexandria
17 Rock St.
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607
315-482-2670

pastor@stcyriils.org www.stcyriils.org

Rev. Douglas G. Comstock, Pastor
Bernard Slate, Deacon
Joel Walentuk, Deacon



St. Francis Xavier
43596 State Route 37
Redwood, NY

Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Liturgy Schedule for Week of December 29, 2019

Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019 The Holy Family

5:00 p.m. Kevin Tift by Tammy & John Quinn

Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019

8:30 a.m. (SFX) The Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

10:00 a.m. Nancy Wallo by the Wallo and Rose Families

Monday, Dec. 30, 2019

8:00 a.m. Our Parishioners

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019

New Year's Eve Mary the Mother of God

5:00 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. John George by the Estate of Emma George (SFX)

Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020

New Year's Day

10:00 a.m. Joe Cullen by Molly Briere (SC)

Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020

8:00 a.m. Sharon Senecal by Jeanne Snow & Family

Friday, Jan. 3, 2020

8:00 a.m. George and Frank Bolus by their Family

Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020

The Epiphany of the Lord

5:00 p.m. Bob Shepherd by Deverde O'Connor & Family

Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020

8:30 a.m. (SFX) The Family of Emma George by her Estate

10:00 a.m. Dominic Giordano by Tim & Diane Kring

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:45 – 4:30 p.m. at St. Cyril of Alexandria Church
Sunday 8:00 – 8:15 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church

Our Stewardship

December 21 - 22, 2019

Envelopes	\$1,657.00	Priests' Retirement	\$625.00
Plate	\$266.00	Christmas Flowers	\$20.00
Youth		Religious Retirement	\$20.00
Electronic Giving	\$167.72	Fuel Collection	\$90.00
Total	\$2,092.72	Total Fuel Contrib.to Date	\$17,942.00
Last Year	\$2,352.72	Total Fuel Goal in '19-'20	\$20,298.00

Collection to support the Retirement Plan for Priests.

Thank you for your generous gift in our Christmas collection. To date we have received \$2,595.00. Like every North Country parish we forward 75% of the collection to the diocese to fund pensions for retired priests. Pension needs for the future as well as obligations for the next year are being met thanks to your generous donation.

On December 21st, during his address to the Roman Curia on the occasion of the presentation of Christmas greetings, Pope Francis affirmed, “A bit of good humor is very good for us! It will do us much good to pray St. Thomas More’s prayer frequently: I pray it every day, and it helps me.” Here is the text of the prayer:

Prayer for Good Humor

by St. Thomas More

Grant me, O Lord, good digestion, and also something to digest.
Grant me a healthy body, and the necessary good humor to maintain it.
Grant me a simple soul that knows to treasure all that is good
and that doesn’t frighten easily at the sight of evil,
but rather finds the means to put things back in their place.
Give me a soul that knows not boredom, grumblings, sighs and laments,
nor excess of stress, because of that obstructing thing called “I.”
Grant me, O Lord, a sense of good humor.
Allow me the grace to be able to take a joke to discover in life a bit of joy,
and to be able to share it with others.

“Silent Night”

There are many fanciful stories purporting to tell the history of “Silent Night” but the real story is quite beautiful in its simplistic self.

The following are excerpts are from “Powerful Message of Heavenly Peace” by Bill Egan, Christmas Historian and considered **foremost Silent Night scholar in the U.S.**

“The first performance of *Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!* in St. Nicholas Church, Oberndorf, Austria, at Christmas Midnight Mass in 1818 was the result of a broken organ. The culprit was the nearby Salzach River which flooded the area then, even as it does today. The dampness caused by periodic flooding caused rust and mildew in various workings of the organ, rendering it inoperable.

Fr. Mohr, the curate at St. Nicholas, wanted music for the Christmas service. He walked to nearby Arnsdorf, where his friend Franz Xaver Gruber was schoolteacher and church organist, and asked for his help in creating a new song for Christmas. He gave Gruber a poem he had written two years earlier, and suggested that it could be set to music for a guitar accompaniment with two solo voices and chorus. At that time, it was decided that the two men would sing the song with Mohr playing guitar and singing the melody and Gruber singing the bass part.

Fr. Mohr was greeted by Gruber several hours later with the completed song. It would be an easy rehearsal for the choir, since they would merely repeat (in four-part harmony) the last two phrases of each of the six verses.

As the two men, backed by the choir, stood in front of the main altar in St. Nicholas Church and sang *Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!* for the first time, they could hardly imagine the impact their composition would have on the world. They were just trying to get through a difficult situation by providing music for Midnight Mass.

During his lifetime, Franz Xaver Gruber produced a number of orchestral arrangements of his composition. The original guitar arrangement is missing, but five other Gruber manuscripts exist. The manuscript by Joseph Mohr (ca.1820) is for guitar accompaniment and is probably the closest to the arrangement and melody sung at Midnight Mass in 1818.

Fr. Joseph Mohr's final resting place is a tiny Alpine ski resort, Wagrain. He was born into poverty in Salzburg in 1792 and died penniless in Wagrain in 1848, as he donated all his earnings to be used for eldercare and the education of children in the area. His memorial from the townspeople is the Joseph Mohr School located a dozen yards from his grave.

The popularity of Silent Night could almost be termed a miracle considering that the words were written by a modest curate. The music was composed by a musician who was not known outside his village. There was no celebrity to sing at its world premiere. Yet its powerful message of heavenly peace has crossed all borders and language barriers, conquering the hearts of people everywhere.”

Judy Pearson