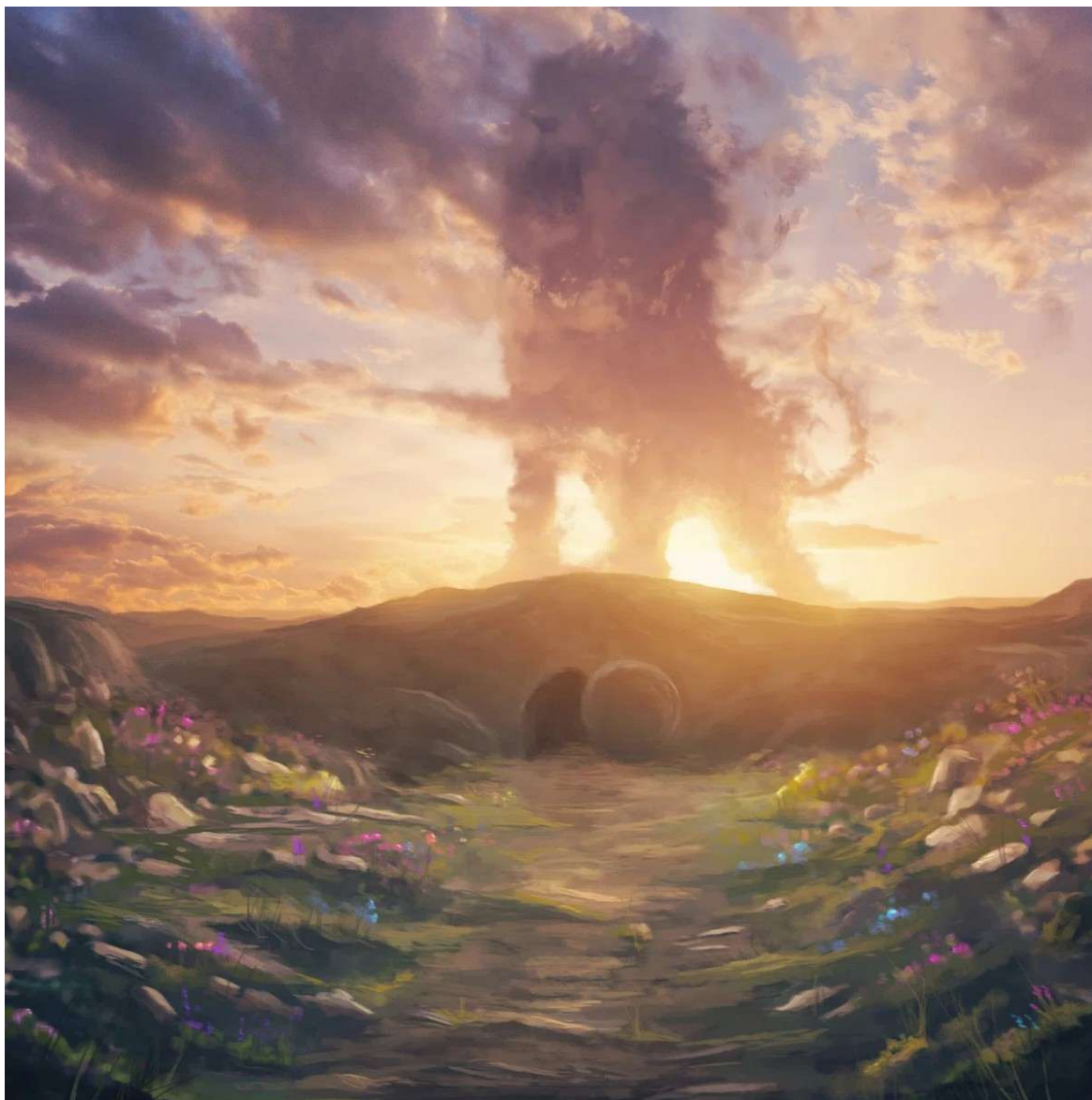


# *Easter Sunday*



**April 5, 2026**

St. Mary's Church Est. 1852  
26 Church St.  
Nassau, NY 12123

## WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S

We are happy that you decided to worship with us. If you are visiting just for today, we pray that God will be with you on your journey. If you are seeking a church to call home, we would be honored to welcome you into our parish community. If you are interested in joining our parish family, please call the parish office at 518-766-2701.

Rev. John Cronin – Pastor

Rev. John Close – Sacramental Minister

Dee McCumber – Parish Secretary

Email – [stmarysnassau1@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysnassau1@gmail.com)

Phone – 518-766-2701

Barbara Wurzburg – Associate for Faith Formation

Email – [stmarysnassaufaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysnassaufaithformation@gmail.com)

Phone – 518-801-7605

Linda Ridzi – Associate for Faith Formation

Email – [ridzilinda@gmail.com](mailto:ridzilinda@gmail.com)

Joanna Towse – Music Minister

Phone – 518-436-7857



Parish Office Hours: Tuesday- Thursday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

## ST. MARY'S MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic Community of St. Mary's, Nassau, vow to foster the spirit of St. Francis by becoming instruments of God's peace to help each other grow spiritually. We choose to respond to our baptismal call to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through our commitments of time, talent, and treasure in the love and service of all people. Adopted by St. Mary's Pastoral Council, September 16, 2001.

### Parish Happenings:

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Sunday    | Divine Mercy Mass 10:00 am<br>Followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet – All are welcome to stay                         |
| Monday    | Learn About Your Faith 6:30 – 7:30 pm at the Rectory   |
| *Tuesday  | Morning Mass 9:30 am<br>St. Anthony Novena and Adoration until 10:30 am<br>Bible Study 6:30 – 7:30 pm at the Rectory |
| Wednesday | Parking Lot Rosary 6:00 pm (Dress for the weather)   |
| *Thursday | Morning Mass 9:30 am<br>Recitation of Rosary after Mass  |
| Friday    | Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00 pm   |
| Saturday  | Vigil Mass 5:30 pm<br>Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday, Rosary at 5:00 pm before Mass                                  |

\*During the winter months, weekday morning Masses will be in the rectory at 9:30 am

St. Mary's Website: <http://parishes.rcda.org/St.MarysNassau>

**Mass Intentions  
Easter Sunday**

**April 4 & 5, 2026**

Saturday, April 4, 2026 @ 5:30 pm  
For the People of St. Mary's

Sunday, April 5, 2026 @ 10:00 am  
For the People of St. Mary's

Tuesday, April 7, 2026 @ @ 9:30 am  
Linda Ridzi – for Healing – Theresa Harty

Thursday, April 9, 2026 @ 9:30 am  
Ginny Doherty – for Healing – Theresa Harty

**April 11 & April 12, 2026**

Saturday, April 11, 2026 @ 5:30 pm  
Frank and Rita Dreher – Larry and Kye Sun  
Barbara and Tom Yovine – for Healing – Frank and Linda Ridzi

Sunday, April 12, 2026 @ 10:00 am  
Linda Ridzi – for Healing – Theresa Harty  
Paul Tomchik – Mary Tomchik  
Anita Zucconi – The Zucconi-Dellea Family

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 @ @ 9:30 am  
MaryEllen Lito – for Healing - Theresa Harty

Thursday, April 16, 2026 @ 9:30 am  
For the People of St. Mary's

**Please pray for our sick**



Chamylla Stephanie De Frees  
Philip Sullivan  
Dom Devaney  
Michelle Dymond  
Marion Rysedorph

Michael Stephen Allen  
Christine Anderson  
Bill Ayers  
Joan Campbell  
Chad Cardoza  
Maureen Cellery  
Madison Chesterman  
Barry and Jeanne Litt  
Gina Lo Presti  
Ann Devaney  
Joseph Messineo  
Mamie Mazzatti  
Thomas O'Grady

Stacy Hyson  
Kate Hockford  
Elizabeth Hrifko  
Bethany Jenest  
Seth Kaminski  
Sara Messineo Kent  
Cathy Lavoie  
Masresha Schaefer  
Colin Sullivan  
Avin Meyette  
Linda Walsh  
Anna May Gregg  
Charleen Papa

Nancy Quinn  
Peter Quinn  
Cory Roberts  
Jake Rysedorph  
John DeLap  
Tom Rysedorph  
Linda Schaefer  
Cathy Schaefer  
Alice Loughlin  
Michele Sweet  
Rita Labrum  
Amy Gumlaw  
Ginny Doherty

## Collections

FOR US TO COVER PARISH EXPENSES, OUR WEEKLY COLLECTION MUST MEET \$2,500

Although some of the weekly collections do meet this amount, our collections are not consistent. Therefore, we are not meeting our necessary expenses. Additionally, as noted above, some of our expenses are unforeseen or fluctuate (fuel, maintenance, snow removal).

Our Collections for March 28 & March 29, 2026 \$2482

### *Important Notes Regarding the Diocesan Appeal Collections*

St. Mary's Diocesan Appeal assessment for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026: \$30,576

Our Collections to Date: \$13,206

To meet this year's assessment, we need **\$17,370** by June 30, 2026.

If we do not satisfy our assessment for the year, it becomes a debt that is carried over to the next year. We then are obligated to pay that debt as well as the new assessment.

Please make sure that **your name** and **St. Mary's 09-08** appear on the check. This is an **important** edit that needs to be done so your donation is reported correctly by the Diocese. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your contribution, please call the office (518-766-2701) and let Dee know.

## *We Need Volunteers....*

There are several activities that are being contemplated for this year. Would you consider joining our volunteer group? It does not consume a lot of your time and you would not have to volunteer for all the activities. It would **greatly** help St. Mary's. **We would love to be more active as a parish and in our community.** Please call the Rectory 518-766-2701 and speak with Dee or leave a message.

*Thank you for helping with the responsibilities and the day-to-day needs of St. Mary's that keep us going and looking good!*

## St. Mary's Lenten Adoration Retreat



April 2

Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 pm

2nd Nocturnal Adoration following Holy Thursday Mass

April 3

Closing of Adoration

Stations of the Cross 3:00 pm

Please keep in our prayers our two parishioners, Suzy Redhead and Kim Krahforst-Lang, who will be making their confirmation this Easter Sunday

| Holy Week Schedule                 |                           |                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Holy Thursday<br>The Lord's Supper | April 2, 2026<br>7:00 PM  | St. Mary's            |
| Good Friday                        | April 3, 2026<br>7:00 PM  | Immaculate Conception |
| Easter Vigil                       | April 4, 2026<br>7:00 PM  | St. Joseph's          |
| Easter                             | April 5, 2026<br>10:00 AM | St. Mary'             |
| Easter                             | April 6, 2026<br>11:30 AM | Immaculate Conception |

### Thoughts for Our Daily Lives

During the Lenten journey, we have given up many things. Perhaps instead of giving up these things only during Lent, we can, as Pope Francis advised several years ago, dedicate ourselves to making this world a better place.

Thank you to all who signed up for the Nocturnal Adoration.  
We hope that it was a very rewarding and humbling experience for you.



## EVENTS

### Our Coffee Hour

A big *Thank you* to all the parishioners who contributed to our coffee hour whether it was baked goods or wonderful conversation Thank you! We plan on continuing our coffee and treats after Easter.... dates to be determined. Keep an eye open for our announcement.

A Blessed Easter to all!

### Our Video Hour

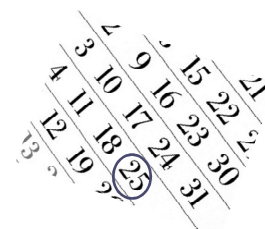
Our video hour after Sunday Mass will return after Easter. Everyone who attended enjoyed themselves. It was an opportunity to meet with others for coffee and open discussion.... that led to more coffee and more discussion ...

Keep an eye open for an announcement as the details become finalized.

### Annual Sweets Auction

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

DOORS OPEN AT 10:00 AM AUCTION STARTS AT 12:30 PM



Donations of **New Items** and....**Volunteers** are needed!

Mostly needed for Friday April 24 and the day of the auction. All that day we will be setting up in the hall. Anytime you can offer will be greatly appreciated. Call Jen Clement 518-203-9130 or Theresa Harty 518-466-7001 to let them know. There are sign-up sheets available in the seats.

### April is Cemetery Spring Clean-Up Month



Believe it or not April is here! April is cemetery clean-up month. The leftover of winter debris from Mother Nature – and this year she gave us a lot – is about to be picked up and discarded. Remember, if you have any decorations, please remove them so they are not taken away during the clean-up

## Fr. Cronin

Fr. Cronin continues to celebrate Tuesday morning Mass. The next Tuesday will be April 21. If all goes well with Mother Nature, Mass will be in the Church.



## Eucharist Ministers and Lectors

If you are unable to perform your duties on your scheduled me, please call another Eucharist Minister or Lector to replace you. Please call Michele Sweet (518-336-4422) if you have any questions.

## Learn About Your Faith

### Our Journey of Faith

Our **Faith Formation** and **Learning About Our Faith** 2026 schedules are posted on the bulletin boards.

### Religious Education Schedules

#### Faith Formation

Faith Formation classes are from 8:45 am to 9:45 am for all grades, K through 10<sup>th</sup>, with Mass at 10 am. Below is the remainder of 2026 class schedule.

| APRIL        | MAY                         |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 4/5 – Class  | 5/3 – Last Class            |
| 4/12 – Class | 5/10 – First Holy Communion |
| 4/19 – Class |                             |
| 4/26 – Class |                             |

#### Learning About Our Faith Schedule

Learning About Our Faith sessions meet Monday evenings in the Rectory at 6:30 pm.

| Our Journey of Faith<br>Learning About Your Faith |        |      |  |
|---|--------|------|--|
| Session   |        | Date | Topic  |
| 20  | Monday | TBD  | Catholic Beliefs - Morality                        |
| 21  | Monday | TBD  | Prayer Life, Discernment, Holiness, Evangelization |
| 22  | Monday | TBD  | Mary   |
| 23  | Monday | TBD  | Purgatory  |
| 24  | Monday | TBD  | Conversion, The Laity, Your Special Gifts          |
| 25  | Monday | TBD  | The Saints   |





### One Minute Meditations

#### St. Anselm of Canterbury

Born in Aosta, Italy, he attended a Benedictine school as a youth. After traveling around France and Italy for his studies, St. Anselm entered the Benedictine Order. When the current Archbishop of Canterbury died, Anselm, who by then was a Benedictine abbot, was promoted as Canterbury's new Archbishop. St. Anselm navigated church reforms, theological study, and political tensions. He was exiled for resisting the king's interference in Church matters but was allowed to return in peace.

#### Glorious wounds

Every Easter, we celebrate that Jesus definitively conquered sin, evil and death. God, not evil, has "the last laugh." Yet, He still has His wounds. The Resurrection transformed what were wounds of rejection into glorious trophies - proof of His love, power, and trustworthiness as our Savior. When we encounter difficulty, even great suffering, we can look to the glorious wounds of our Savior with hope. If we stay close to Him, we'll be victorious too.

"It comes down to this: If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, then Christianity is a fraud and a sham. If He did rise from the dead, then He is who He said He is, and our lives must change accordingly. There is no middle ground."

Bishop Robert Barron

## Don't Just Celebrate Easter. Step Into It.

At the heart of Christianity is not just an idea or a rule of life, but an encounter with the Risen Christ and the new life of grace He offers. Easter invites us to step into that life more deliberately. Here are four simple ways to begin:

**Encounter the Risen Christ.** Mary Magdalene stood before Jesus and didn't recognize Him until He spoke her name (John 20:16), and her grief became joy. That encounter is possible for us. Come to Mass with intention. Don't just attend—arrive expecting to meet Him. Listen closely, pray honestly, and remember that in the Eucharist, Christ is truly present.

*Practical step: Before Mass, pray, "Jesus, help me recognize You today."*

**Take an "Emmaus walk."** Two disciples left Jerusalem discouraged, and Jesus met them on the road. He helped them to see God's faithfulness in their lives. He can do the same for you. Take time this Easter season for a quiet walk with Him. Speak openly about what's

on your heart, and listen for His voice.

*Practical step: Ask, "Lord, where have You been at work in my life that I haven't seen?"*

**Choose mercy.** Jesus gave His Apostles the power to forgive sins (John 20:21-23), ensuring His mercy would always be available. We're called to receive it—

*"Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ." John Paul II*

and extend it. Forgive, hold back harsh words, and choose patience.

*Practical step: Identify one situation where you can offer a concrete act of mercy this week.*

**Be open to mission.** The Resurrection sends us out. God still calls ordinary people for His work. Your mission may be simple: show patience, reach out, or step up where needed.

*Practical step: Ask, "Where am I being nudged to act?" Then take one small step.*

Easter isn't just celebrated—it's lived, one step at a time.

### Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics believe in the Resurrection?

The Resurrection is not only a matter of faith; it has also been examined through historical and forensic inquiry. The New Testament accounts draw on early eyewitness testimony, preserved with notable consistency compared to other ancient sources. The Shroud of Turin has likewise been widely studied, with some researchers noting

features consistent with a first-century Roman crucifixion, while the image's formation remains unexplained. Finally, despite intense early persecution, Christianity spread rapidly, reflecting the deep conviction of its first followers. Together, these considerations suggest the Resurrection is rooted in both faith and historical reflection.

## After Lent, the work begins

Pope Leo XIV described Lent as a time to “place the mystery of God back in the center of our lives.” Yet the growth in holiness and renewal of faith that begins in Lent is meant to continue well beyond the season.

**Keep custody of the heart.** To guard the heart is to protect it from whatever disrupts our relationship with God. It means “allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit.” The habits formed during Lent can help sustain this: a daily Morning Offering, reading the Gospel, or setting aside time to visit the Blessed Sacrament. A healthy spiritual life depends on staying connected to the God who loves us most.

**Keep custody of the tongue.** This is a form of fasting that

lasts all year. Pope Leo urges us to “disarm our language,” avoiding harsh words and rash judgment. Refusing gossip and slander is an act of self-denial. Instead, we are called to measure our words and practice kindness and respect. This simple discipline can bring new life not only to our own hearts, but to those around us.

**Keep custody of your time.** What we give our time to shapes who we become. It’s easy to let our days fill with noise, distraction, and busyness that leave little room for God. Be intentional about how you spend your time. Protect moments for prayer, rest, and what truly matters—your family, your vocation, your relationship with the Lord. Even small choices, repeated daily, create space for grace to grow.

### from **S**cripture

#### John 10:1-10, The Good Shepherd seeks us

In this passage, Jesus uses the image of a shepherd to reveal who He is, how He cares for us, and how He invites us to respond. But why a shepherd?

In Jesus’ time, shepherding was a demanding and often dangerous way of life. A good shepherd knew each sheep personally and remained constantly with the flock. Many sheepfolds had no gates; at night, the shepherd would lie across the entrance, becoming the barrier that protected the sheep from danger. If a sheep was lost, injured, or attacked, the shepherd would go after it, tending to its wounds and, if

necessary, risking his own life.

The meaning is clear. Without the steady care, guidance, and protection of the shepherd, the sheep would not survive. In the same way, we depend on God. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows each of us by name. He does not abandon us. He seeks us out when we are lost, heals us when we are wounded, provides for our needs, and protects us—even to the point of laying down His life.

In response, He asks for our trust, so that He may lead us safely home.

### Q & A

#### Why Do Catholics eat bacon on St. Mark’s feast day?

The Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist (April 25) has become, for many Catholics, a fitting day to enjoy bacon. The Church has a long tradition of honoring saints through liturgical celebrations, local customs, and even particular foods—practices that help preserve our shared spiritual heritage and remember their heroic witness.

In 828, Venetian merchants transferred the relics of St. Mark from Alexandria, Egypt, to Venice, Italy. To pass safely through Muslim-controlled ports, they hid the relics beneath layers of pork,

a meat considered unclean under Islamic law. According to tradition, port officials, repelled by the cargo, chose not to inspect it closely, allowing the relics to reach Venice safely, where they remain today. In remembrance of this event, some Catholics mark his feast day—or the anniversary of the relics’ arrival on January 31—by eating pork.

Honoring a saint’s relics is a tangible expression of reverence, much like placing flowers on the graves of fallen soldiers. It reflects respect for their lives, their witness, and their service to God. Ultimately, in honoring the saints, we honor the God who formed them.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**April 2 – Holy Thursday.** Today, we celebrate Jesus’ institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood to perpetuate it. Today, we celebrate He who remains really present to us in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for priests.

**April 12 – Divine Mercy Sunday.** In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the “Feast of Mercy.” Jesus promised special graces to those who honor Him as the King of Mercy and pray The Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

**April 17 – St. Stephen Harding (1134).** St. Stephen and two companions founded the Cistercian religious order in Citeaux. As abbot, he guided the community through many hardships. St. Bernard of Clairvaux and

several companions joined him and revived the order. St. Stephen founded twelve more religious communities throughout France.

**April 20 – St. Agnes of Montepulciano (1317).** At a young age, she begged her parents to let her enter the Franciscans. When she was thirteen, the pope asked her to found a monastery at Proceno. Inspired by a vision, she founded a Dominican order at Montepulciano.

**April 30 – Pope St. Pius V (1572).** Born to a poor family in Italy, Antonio Ghislieri became a Dominican, taught theology, and became Pope Pius V. As Pope, he established seminaries and hospitals, and published the Roman Catechism, Roman Breviary, and the Missal. He promoted the praying of the Rosary for the victory of Christian forces at the Battle of Lepanto (1571). He is also known for efforts to implement the Council of Trent.

#### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
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<http://www.infaithpublishing.com>

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

IMMIGRATION - REFUGEE REPORT  
APRIL 4-5, 2026

One primary focus now will be on the three Bills proposed here in NYS that will benefit Refugees and Immigrants. Ken has summarized them from our past bulletins and you can also find them on the web as mentioned before. The complete list of our legislators, Federal and State is on the last page.

New York For All. (S2235/A3506.). Primarily would prevent state and local law enforcement from participating in civil immigration enforcement. Also protects their personal data.

The BUILD Act. (S4538/A2689). Provides grants for workforce development and capacity to eligible organizations for representation for individuals facing deportation. Strengthens legal services.

Access to Representation Act. (ARA). (S141/A270). Establishes right to counsel in Immigration Court ensuring those without lawyers will be provided one.

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In the past couple weeks, we have distributed sewing machines, foodstuffs and a bike for a 4-year-old Syrian girl who has been asking for one. One of the sewing machines went to one of our Rohingya moms. You may remember when we supported them with funds for their rental arrangement, as they were new then. One other went to a grandmother who makes clothing for her grandchildren.

YES, it is BIKE season again! Sara told me they are going to start working to track and see how many are needed, as they don't currently have any. This is going to be a stretch as their storage has been reduced! I will be talking to our new contact over at Immaculate Conception (ICC) about that via the repair program for bikes in Lebanon. Sara told me that the boys use their bikes to pick up and deliver food orders in the community to make extra money for their families!!

That's Immigrants for you -- workers!

Lastly, being Easter when you read this, I want to ask for a special prayer for our Bishops at USCCB. While they have been outspoken in their comments, etc. on Immigrants, deportation centers, etc. we are going to need them to literally stand up and REQUEST MEETINGS WITH THIS ADMINISTRATION to make changes to this current policy that is being actively pursued by Stephen Miller, the President's Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Homeland Security advisor. This is the person who is engineering all of these changes for deportation centers, etc. And when these people are IN THE CENTERS, being guarded by the 30,000 plus new Homeland Defenders that were just hired, will we use our tax dollars to support them there, after we have removed them from the economy and while we wait for the flights to fly them out to where?

I wish you all a Blessed Easter, *Ken*

It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it.  
Nelson Mandela

## OUR FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATORS CONTACT INFORMATION

### Federal Representatives

| Legislator  | Area Office   | Phone        |
|---|---|--------------|
| Senator Charles Schumer<br>Website Contact Page     | Albany Office.<br><a href="https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/message-chuck">https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/message-chuck</a> | 518-431-4070 |
| Senator Kirsten Gillibrand<br>Website Contact Page  | Albany Office<br><a href="https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me/">https://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me/</a>    | 518-431-0120 |
| Representative Josh Riley -<br>Website Contact Page | Leeds Office<br><a href="https://riley.house.gov/contact">https://riley.house.gov/contact</a>   | 518-625-2100 |

### State Representatives

| Legislator                                 | Area Office  | Phone               |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Senator Jake Ashby                         | <a href="https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby">https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby</a>  |                     |
| Contact:                                   | 594 Columbia Turnpike<br>East Greenbush, NY 12061<br><a href="https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby/contact">https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/jacob-ashby/contact</a> | Phone: 518-371-2751 |
| Assemblyman Scott Bendett                  | <a href="https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Scott-Bendett">https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Scott-Bendett</a>  |                     |
| Contact:                                   | 1580 Columbia Turnpike<br>Building 4, Suite 1A<br>Castleton on the Hudson, NY 12033<br><a href="mailto:bendetts@nyassembly.gov">bendetts@nyassembly.gov</a>                    | Phone: 518-272-6149 |
| NYS Senate Bill S141                       | <a href="https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S141">https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S141</a>  |                     |
| NYS Assembly Bill A270                     | <a href="https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/A270">https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/A270</a>  |                     |
| NYS Senate / Assembly Bills (S2235/A3506.) | <a href="https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S2235/amendment/A">https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S2235/amendment/A</a>                              |                     |
| NYS Senate / Assembly Bills (S4538/A2689)  | <a href="https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S4538">https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S4538</a>  |                     |

If you would like to be kept up-to-date with any of these bills, there is a box on the right-hand side of the page titled, "Get Status Alerts" here you can enter your email address to receive status updates. Additionally, in a box above, you can cast an AYE or NAY vote in support the bill.