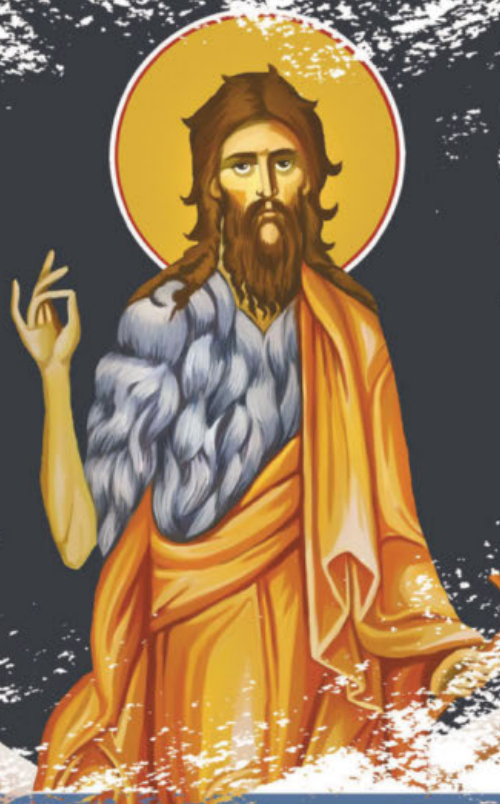


DECEMBER 17, 2023

SAINT CECILIA CHURCH, FONDA NY  
SACRED HEART CHURCH, TRIBES HILL NY

*Deacon Joseph Cechnicki, Parish Life Coordinator*  
*Father Juanito Asprec, Parochial Vicar*  
*Father Nathaniel Resila, Parochial Vicar*



A MAN NAMED JOHN  
WAS SENT FROM  
GOD. HE CAME FOR  
TESTIMONY, TO  
TESTIFY TO THE  
LIGHT, SO THAT ALL  
MIGHT BELIEVE  
THROUGH HIM.  
— JN 1:6-7

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

~Weddings-Baptisms-Funerals~

~Please contact the parish office~

~ To access our bulletin online go to: [www. parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com) ~

~ Find both parishes on Facebook:

~

StCecilia Church

~

Sacred Heart Church

~

### SAINT CECILIA CHURCH

26 Broadway

P.O. Box 837

Fonda, NY 12068-0837

518-853-4195

E-mail: [SCFonda@rcda.org](mailto:SCFonda@rcda.org)

Sandi McCaslin, Administrative Assistant

Office hours:

Tuesday & Thursday, 9am to 2pm

### SACRED HEART CHURCH

111 Third Avenue

P.O. Box 264

Tribes Hill, NY 12177-0264

518-829-7301

E-mail: [usacredh@nycap.rr.com](mailto:usacredh@nycap.rr.com)

Sandi McCaslin, Administrative Assistant

Office hours:

Monday & Wednesday, 9am to 2pm

**COLLECTIONS & ATTENDANCE**  
**DEC 9 & 10, 2023—WEEKEND TOTALS:**

COLLECTIONS:	SH	SC
WEEKLY COLLECTION	787.00	886.00
IMMAC CONC	213.00	243.00
FUNDRAISING	231.40	100.00
OTHER	560.00	505.00
<hr/>		
PARISH TOTAL	1791.40	1734.00

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Sat. Dec 16, 4:00 pm (SH) - 1.)** †In memory of Mary Winney, requested by Janice DeJulius.  
**2.)** Blessings for Kimberly & family, requested by her mom Barbara.  
**3.)** In memory of the David Grandy Family, requested by the Gerald Grandy Family.

**Sun. Dec 17, 8:30 am (SC) - 1.)** † In memory of Alex & Betty Adesse, requested by their daughters.  
**2.)** † In loving memory of Karen Ford, requested by Joey and her family.  
**3.)** Healing intentions for Richard Dorsigno Jr, requested by Chris Furnare.

**Mon. Dec. 18 thru Mon. Dec. 25, 2023**

**Mon. Dec 18 - No Mass**

**Tue. Dec 19, 8:00 am (SH) - For the people of the parish.**

**Wed. Dec 20, 8:00 am (SC) - † In memory of Virginia Szykowski, requested by Michele Furnare.**

**Thurs. Dec 21, 8:00 am (SH) - No intention.requested.**

**Fri. Dec 22, 8:00 am (SC) - For the people of the parish.**

**Sat. Dec 23, 4:00 pm (SH) - 1.)** †For the repose of the soul of John "Jack" Boggie, requested by Robert & Helen Streeter  
**2.)** †For the repose of the soul of Joseph Pepe, requested by Cathy & Ron Parry.

**Sun. Dec 24, 8:30 am (SC) - 1.)** † In memory of Winfield Wray, requested by Jim Wray.

**Sun. Dec 24, 4:00 pm (SH) - Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Jesus.**

**Sun. Dec 24, 6:00 pm (SC) - Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Jesus.**

**Mon. Dec 25, 8:30am (SC) - Nativity of the Lord Jesus.**

**Mon. Dec 25, 10:00 am (SH) - Nativity of the Lord Jesus.**



**Lector/Eucharistic Ministers**

<b>Dec 16 (SH)</b>	Kathy Avery Cathy Parry	<b>Dec 23 (SH)</b>	Theresa Kovian Katherine Downing
<b>Dec 17 (SC)</b>	James Wray Michele Furnare	<b>Dec 24 (SC)</b>	Kathy Marcais Bill Quinn

**Counters Schedule**

<b>Dec 18 (SH)</b>	Kathy Avery Barb Bilins	<b>Dec 26 (SH)</b>	Deb Swarczewski Katherine Downing
<b>Dec 18 (SC)</b>	Bette Papa Sandy Hayes	<b>Dec 26 (SC)</b>	Lorna Quinn Flo Stanton

**Food Pantry**

	<b>Dec 27 (SC)</b>	Dianne Kierpiec Kathleen Harris Ann Mahon	
	<b>Jan 3 (SH)</b>	Jamie Lemiszki John Nigro	

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**December 17, 2023 –3rd Sunday of Advent**

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: "There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him." The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a pattern at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist's spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.

~Father John Muir

©LPi

**Weekly Mass:** We record the 4 pm Saturday Mass at Sacred Heart. Please join us virtually for weekly Mass on Sacred Heart's YouTube channel  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs-FDzyfvHZZ9y8UIC4gAw?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs-FDzyfvHZZ9y8UIC4gAw?view_as=subscriber)



## *Holy Innocents - December 28 - Patron Saints of Babies*

Herod "the Great," king of Judea, was unpopular with his people because of his connections with the Romans and his religious indifference. Hence he was insecure and fearful of any threat to his throne. He was a master politician and a tyrant capable of extreme brutality. He killed his wife, his brother, and his sister's two husbands, to name only a few.

Matthew 2:1-18 tells this story: Herod was "greatly troubled" when astrologers from the east came asking the whereabouts of "the newborn king of the Jews," whose star they had seen. They were told that the Jewish Scriptures named Bethlehem as the place where the Messiah would be born. Herod cunningly told them to report back to him so that he could also "do him homage." They found Jesus, offered him their gifts, and warned by an angel, avoided Herod on their way home. Jesus escaped to Egypt.

Herod became furious and "ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under." The horror of the massacre and the devastation of the mothers and fathers led Matthew to quote Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children..." (Matthew 2:18). Rachel was the wife of Jacob (Israel). She is pictured as weeping at the place where the Israelites were herded together by the conquering Assyrians for their march into captivity.



*The Holy Innocents are few in comparison to the genocide and abortion of our day. But even if there had been only one, we recognize the greatest treasure God put on the earth—a human person, destined for eternity, and graced by Jesus' death and resurrection.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sacred Heart - Meet, Greet & Eat:** Please join us after Mass today, Saturday December 16 for the opportunity to officially meet Father Nathaniel Resila (Fr. Nate).

**Memorial Contributions:** Along with the Sanctuary Lamp and flowers for the altar you can now sponsor the altar wine and hosts in memory of a loved one. Wine and hosts will be \$20 each per month. You can stop by your parish office or even put the information in the collection basket for your chosen sponsorship.

**Silent Holy Night:** You are cordially invited to attend "Silent Holy Night" a Program of Music & Readings for the Christmas Season presented by singers from the parishes of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Mary's & St. Stanislaus under the direction of Rachelle Cotugno *this weekend, Sunday - December 17, 2023* at 3:00PM at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 39 St. John Street, Amsterdam.

**Memorial of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs:** Holy Mass at Sacred Heart Church on Dec. 28 - 8:00am. Special prayers for all victims of Abortion, Starvation and Wars.

**Wintery Gathering:** With the Ice Cream Social being quite successful, Sacred Heart is thinking a social during the winter months might be in order. A toasty gathering in February may take a bit of the chill off.

**Blue Envelopes for Saint Mary's Institute:** Please consider a contribution to continue to provide academic excellence with an emphasis on Catholic values. St. Mary's is the only Catholic school in Fulton & Montgomery Counties. St Mary's Blue Envelopes are located in the vestibule.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** To acknowledge the need for the future as a network of parishes in the Amsterdam area, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated each Saturday at St. Mary's Church in Amsterdam with Fr. Juanito, Fr. Nate and Fr. Bob available to hear confessions. Confessions will be heard from 3:00pm to 3:30pm each Saturday and all the parishioners are welcome to take advantage of this opportunity. The network includes St. Cecilia's from Fonda, Sacred Heart from Tribes Hill, St. Stephen's from Haganan and St. Mary's, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and St. Stanislaus' from Amsterdam.

**Please Support Our Advertisers:** Take a look at the back of your bulletin. The businesses on the back commit to a yearly ad. These ads PAY for the printing and distribution of our bulletin.

**Upcoming Second Collections:**  
**Dec 17 - St C Cemetery Support**  
**Dec 25 - Christmas**  
**Jan 6/7 - Fuel/Heat**



# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

## ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

833-287-3502

## Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase an ad with

### AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator



Off: 518.853.3230  
Cell: 516.774.9131  
518.774.9337

5 Midway Alley  
P.O. Box 672  
Fonda, NY

Fuel Oil • Kerosene • Diesel • K30  
24 Hour Emergency Deliveries  
Oil & Gas Service and Installation

serviceinfo@mancinioil.com  
www.mancinioil.com

## Loogie's Irish Pub

Open Everyday at 11:30 am

GUINNESS ON TAP + 9 SPECIALTY DRAFTS  
BY AN EXTENSIVE SELECTION OF FINE WINES.

Catering Available • Inside Party Room  
(Pub Menu and daily specials)

Outside Pavilion Rental \$225

Mary Lou Crane, Proprietor

AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM WEDDING CEREMONIES



410 Mohawk Dr., Tribes Hill • 518-829-8000



A Sweet Start to Your Day  
Cakes & Baked Goods for all Occasions  
Cheesecakes, Brownies, Blondies, Bagels,  
Cupcakes, Donuts, Pies, Muffins & other Pastries  
21 Main St Fultonville, NY - 518-853-2079

## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Gary Zakrzewski

gzakrzewski@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6413

## Michael's Diner

The Best Hometown Cooking

26 Main Street  
Fultonville, NY  
518-853-3549



For over a century, St. Mary's Healthcare has been providing the highest quality care for our community. Offering advanced Robotic Surgery, Cancer Medicine, Podiatry, and Primary and Urgent Care services across three counties to name a few. For a complete service list, visit: [www.smha.org](http://www.smha.org)



## DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.



Scan to contact us!

Visit [lpicommunities.com](http://lpicommunities.com)



518.829.5123

Pizza, Wings,  
Subs & More!

338 Mohawk Drive  
Tribes Hill, NY 12117

Mon & Tues 7am-6pm

Weds - Sat 7am-8pm • Sun - Closed

## Residential Roofing

WHERE QUALITY STILL COUNTS



PORCELAIN SLATE • STANDING SEAM • METAL SHINGLES • EVERLAST SIDING • VINYL SIDING  
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED • FULLY INSURED  
CALL US TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE  
(518)921-2554 • [qualityroofing@emypeople.net](mailto:qualityroofing@emypeople.net)  
OUR MISSION - MAKE AMERICA BEAUTIFUL, ONE PROJECT AT A TIME

