



Mass Intentions for the Week

- 3-11 Mon 9:00 AM Mary Alice Bagley
By Ann Zieno
- 3-12 Tues 9:00 AM David Parsons
By Paula Ciborowski
- 3-13 Wed 9:00 AM Mary Alice Bagley
By Pastoral Council
- 3-14 Thurs 9:00 AM James Householder
By Mom
- 3-15 Fri 9:00 AM Communion Service
- 3-16 Sat 4:00 PM Martha Smith
By Gary Smith
- 3-17 Sun 10:30 AM Michael Blincoe
By the Suriano family



Please note the additional Lenten services being offered. You are encouraged to attend these extra services once a week or more.

Weekday Mass Schedule- Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM
Eucharistic Adoration-

Every Tuesday during Lent immediately following 9:00 AM Mass in the Chapel and followed by Benediction at noon. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule.

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 5:30 PM followed by Benediction



50/50 Raffle

The drawing will take place on Sunday, March 17th after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Center. Raffle tickets have

been sent to parishioners or you can purchase them at Sacred Heart Church Parish Office. Come enjoy fellowship and snacks with your Sacred Heart family. Maybe you will be the lucky winner of the Pot of Gold! Good luck and thank you for supporting Sacred Heart Church.



Daylight Savings Time

Daylight savings time begins today, did you remember to set your clocks ahead one hour?

Fourth Sunday of Lent-Laetare Sunday

We are now at the midpoint of our Lenten journey. Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent also known as "Laetare" or Rejoice Sunday. The church bids us to rejoice because we are approaching the feast of our salvation. At Easter, we will celebrate the great paschal mystery of the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The readings for today's liturgy emphasize the power of God's boundless love over our human weaknesses and failings. The readings indicate that God still extends his love and mercy to us even when we wander away from him.

In the first reading, the book of second Chronicles talks about how the people of Judah turned their back on God by worshipping false gods. The people betrayed their faith by defiling God's temple. They ridiculed God's prophets and ignored all the warnings and denunciations of their infidelity and unfaithfulness to the Lord.

The sins of the people of Judah led to their exile and suffering in Babylon. Around the year 586 BC, the Babylonian forces invaded Jerusalem and destroyed God's temple and carried the inhabitants off into exile for many years.

But God did not turn his back on his people. He worked through King Cyrus of Persia to free his people from the hands of the Babylonians and return them home to Jerusalem.

We too are in exile confronted with the darkness of sin and death. We all stand in need of liberation, restoration, and renewal. In this holy season, we are called to surrender ourselves to God's loving embrace. We are invited to approach the Lord in the sacrament of penance to receive the gift of God's mercy, forgiveness, and peace.

Saint Paul tells us in the second reading that the light of God's enduring love is constantly at work in our lives. He reminds us that we were once dead in our transgressions but through Christ we have been brought to new life.

In the gospel, we hear about the beautiful encounter between Jesus and Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a wealthy Pharisee and a member of the Jewish ruling council called the Sanhedrin. He came by night to visit Jesus. He came under the cover of darkness to see the Lord because he feared public ridicule and humiliation. No doubt that Nicodemus became a disciple of Jesus but only in secret.

Jesus saw the burning desire of this person to learn from his wisdom and to walk in the light of his truth. He brought him to know God's unconditional love for the world. Jesus made a powerful statement that has become one of the most quoted verses in the New Testament Bible. He said that "God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whoever believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (John 3:16).

What is the kind of world that God loves? Is it the world where the darkness of sin and evil is absent? Is it the kind where everyone strives to live in love, peace, and harmony?

God calls each of us to bear witness to the depth and strength of his love in the world.

Let us open our hearts to the Lord and pray for the grace and the will to reflect the beauty of his goodness in our thoughts, words, and actions.

God bless,
Rev. Dr. Ben

Weekend of March 16th & 17th, 2024

First Reading-Jeremiah 31:31-34

Saturday 4:00 PM

- Celebrant:** Fr. Ben
- Lector:** Carole Ostrander
- Eucharistic Ministers:** Gene Walsh
- Altar Servers** Ayla & Quinn Gronwall
Maddison Curtin & Gabriel Harris

Second Reading-Hebrews 5:7-9

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gospel- John 12:20-33

Sunday 10:30AM

- Fr. Ben
- Nancy Kahane
- Pat Smith
- Jack, Henry, & Ella Grigoli

Offerings on March 2nd & 3rd, 2024 Regular, \$2,706.00; Fuel, \$360.00; Evangelist, \$18.00; Black, Native & Latin American Missions, \$15.00



FAITH FORMATION A JOURNEY FOR LIFE

March 10th - 9:00-10:15 AM PreK-10th grade classes
March 17th - 9:00-10:15 AM PreK-10th grade classes

As of the end of February 2024 the regular collection and Holy Days was \$88,118.00. The budget for these collections is \$89,095.54. To date we are \$977.54 below budget. This report is done monthly now to better reflect the financial standing of our collections.



"The just give generously." Please consider a donation of **new socks** for children, men and women. Donations may be placed in the blue receptacle in the vestibule.

FORMED

There is a FORMED Lent calendar on the table in the vestibule. It is a schedule of their offerings for the week of March 10-16, 2024. We will have more in the coming weeks.

2024 Women's Retreat



This year's retreat will be held on April 19th -21st at the Dominican Retreat House in Niskayuna. See Paula Ciborowski or Ellen Reuter for information on how to register.

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to **reveal Christ's love** to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection makes grants to six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support for struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters, both here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic~relief

Easter Flowers

In your packet of envelopes there is one for Easter flowers. There are also Easter flower envelopes in the vestibule for those who do not use envelopes. If you wish to contribute in memory/honor of a loved one please print their name on the envelope and place it in the collection. Your loved ones will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin. Thank you!

March Bulletin Quotes

"We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life'. We find ourselves not only 'faced with' but necessarily 'in the midst of' this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life".
(The Gospel of Life 28)

New Synod Sessions

Dioceses all across the U.S. are being asked to hold a new round of synod listening sessions, focusing on church structure, organization, leadership, and church life. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany has scheduled four sessions in the month of March. Three are in person, one is virtual. Register at www.rcda.org/synod and make your voice heard.

Save the Date

Step Up Men's Conference August, 10, 2024
Unleashing Love Women's Conference October 19, 2024
Unleashing Love Women's Conference: Third Saturday in October – **October 19, 2024** at St. Edward the Confessor in Clifton Park
More information will be available at a later date.

Generations of Faith Sponsored Breakfast

You are invited to join for food, fellowship, and fun between young adults (age 18-39) and the older generation (age 65+) to discuss the topic of "Who Is My Neighbor?"

When: Saturday, April 13 from 8:30 AM -10:30 AM
What: Breakfast gathering
Where: Knights of Columbus

50 Pine Road, Saratoga Springs, NY

There is no cost for the breakfast but a "free will offering" will be available.

All attendees **MUST** register. Space is limited.

Registration: <https://forms.gle/FZKKJhyZxEoyFgF97>

For more information contact: Trip Gagnon at trip611@aol.com

Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers: Gussie Shifflett, Steve Pickwick, Joe LaFave, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, Bettye Pete, George Mertz, Kimberlee Roe, Grady Charles Weigand, Kevin, Michael Bell, Barbara Bennett, Daniel Rickard, Andre' Lundstrom, Mark & Andrea, Kim Sumski, Dorothy Kashuda, Alyson Sabillon, Linda Falk, Debra Barnard, Diane, Bonnie La Voie, Doug Williams, Faith Williams, Don Butler, Debra Patterson, Ed Nicol, Dawn Maruszewski, Carey, Madlyn Sumski, Alex Roberts, Paul J. Hamilton, Sr., Ray & Mary Munetz, Jazmers Moore, Bruce Allen, Kimberly Bosket, David Rivera, Jackie Bargher, Matthew Baxter, Darline Smith, Joseph Dermody, Alice Anderson, Sandy Kemp, George Walters, Lorraine Keckeisen, Maria LaBar, Kathryn Wickham, Patrick, John McCann, Natalie Stone, Marian Heeps, Mary Kolermous, Clare Sterchak, Terri Cristofaro, Liliana, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Morotwe, Sharon Guenther, Kira Cronk, Terry Yackel, Jack Yackel, Jim Mylotte, Alice Walters, Mariah Pierce, Rev. Steve Deckard, Terry Nicolini, Tammy Byrnes, Nick Gibson, Andy Woods, Bob Jenks, Jane, Dolores Storzinger, Alexis Spencer, Susan Chidester, Ines Warlock, Alyce Hopkins, Bob Oliver, Rose LoCasci, Eugene & Yvonne Cutler, Timothy Bell, Barb Doyle, Ruth Glaum, Tom DeMulder, Holly North, Dixy Pflug, Tony & Lila Donnolo, Stefanie Smith, Celeste Hartman, Aidan Burns, Bill, Alicen Knapp Feroletto, Assunta Siniscalchi, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlena Keath, Marian Agyemang, Frank Holley, Nicholas Gaedeke, Pat Hamilton, Gary Maraia, Rachel Feyh, Marge LaFave, Denise Dinato, Joe Maggio, Olivia Ross & family, Eric Roll, Barbara Haynes, Jess Johansen, Renee Joseph, Susan Pondolino, Charlie Washburn, Sean Granan, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Father Peter, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Marlena, Pat Elbrecht, Bonnie De Salvo, Lori White, James Rattrie, Danielle Guglielmo, Ellen Reuter, Francis & Alfredine Duguay, Chelsi Byrne, Jaxson Beadle, Joan Rice, Joe Santorelli, Joan Barber, Stephanie Soldingier, Eileen Donohue, Rowan DeCocker, Bonnie Tabone, Austin Kilmer, Nancy Herron, Mike Wombacker, Daniel, John

Please Note: All names will remain on our list and will be prayed for unless our office is notified to remove an individual.

