




*Mass Intentions for the Week*


- 4-8 Mon 9:00 AM Isaac Nieves on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death
- 4-9 Tues 9:00 AM Adam Stephen Bagley  
By Marge Suriano
- 4-10 Wed 9:00 AM Fred Schuck  
By the family
- 4-11 Thurs 9:00 AM Theresa Pickens  
By the family  
Anthony Capoccia  
By Ann Zieno
- 4-12 Fri 9:00 AM Communion Service
- 4-13 Sat 4:00 PM Laurel Alksnis  
By Ray & Mary Munetz
- 4-14 Sun 10:30 AM Fred Schuck  
By the family

**2024 Women's Retreat**



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

**9 Month Novena**



Join Catholics around the world to pray a 9 Month Novena for the protection and love of our Lady of Guadalupe over the next nine months. The novena will culminate in a consecration on her feast day on December. To learn more about the 9 Month Novena search novena.cardinalburke.com on your computer.

**Gratitude**

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you who sent me nice Easter cards and generous gifts. As always, I appreciate thoughtfulness. May God richly bless you for all your love, generosity, and kindness toward me!

Fr. Ben

Thank you to all who helped with the reception for our newest member, Dara Mary Smith and communicant, Miguel Dumay.

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

Easter is a feast that is celebrated not in a single day but for a period of fifty days. During this season we contemplate the mystery of the death and resurrection of the Lord. We reflect on the virtues of faith and hope over the darkness of doubts and despair.

On this Second Sunday of Easter also known as Divine Mercy Sunday, we hear of how Jesus appeared to his disillusioned and frightened disciples and dispelled their fears, despair, and confusion. The gospel text for our liturgy takes us back to the Easter day when the disciples met in the upper room behind closed doors for fear of the Jewish leaders. Here, Jesus came suddenly and stood in their midst and greeted them with the gift of his peace. He provided them with tangible evidence of his resurrection by showing them his hands and his side. Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit on his disciples and commissioned them to be instruments of his mercy and forgiveness in the world.

Thomas missed out on Jesus' first appearance to the disciples. When he later joined his companions, they told him of this great news but he rejected their testimony. He wanted to see the Lord himself and touch him before believing everything.

Thomas got what he wanted when Jesus appeared again and asked him to touch and put his finger into his wounds. He was challenged to doubt no longer but believe. Thomas submitted to the mystery of the resurrection. He made his greatest confession of faith: "My Lord and my God".

We all have something of Thomas within us. We too wrestle with faith and doubt, skepticism and belief. There are times when we have an amazing sense of awe and wonder of God's presence, and moments when we waver in faith and question God's existence and his divine power over creation. Jesus tells us that blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.

The second reading exhorts us to live as true sons and daughters of God by keeping to the Lord's commandments.

In the first reading, the book of the Acts of the Apostles describes how the early Christians lived as a believing community. The whole group of believers was united in mind and heart. They devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles, to communal fellowship, and the breaking of bread and prayers. They expressed the sense of oneness by sharing possessions and material resources in common. We are told that there was not a needy person among them. Wealthy members paid attention to the needs of the poor in their midst.

The legacy of the early Christian community challenges all of us to open our hearts to the needs of those around us. As believers, let us reflect the spirit of charity in our actions and support others in their need. Let us ask God to strengthen our faith and help us to be instruments of his love, mercy and compassion in the world.

God bless  
Rev. Dr. Ben

**Weekend of April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

First Reading- Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19

**Saturday 4:00 PM**

**Celebrant:**

Fr. Ben

**Lector:**

Sheri Youngs

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Bill Babbage

**Altar Servers**

Ayla & Quinn Granwall

Second Reading- 1 John 2:1-5

**Third Sunday of Easter**

Gospel- Luke 24:35-48

**Sunday 10:30AM**

Fr. Ben

Judy Roldan

Terry Maggio

Jack, Henry & Ella Grigoli

Offerings on March 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024- Holy Thursday, \$157.00; Holy Land, \$428.00; Easter, \$5,080.00; Fuel, \$50.00; Repairs, \$120.00; Religious Education, \$179.00; Evangelist, \$20.00; Easter Flowers, \$20.00; Rice Bowl, \$613.00



## FAITH FORMATION A JOURNEY FOR LIFE

April 7<sup>th</sup>- 9:00-10:15 AM Pre-K-10<sup>th</sup> grade classes  
 April 14<sup>th</sup>- 9:00-10:15 AM Pre-K-10<sup>th</sup> grade classes  
 April 21<sup>st</sup>- **No Classes**

As of the end of March 2024 the amount collected in the regular collection and Holy Days was \$103,066.00.00. The budget for these collections is \$104,974.36. To date we are \$1,908.36 below budget. This report is done monthly now as it better reflects the financial standing of our collections.

On Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> the air conditioning unit outside church by the Parish Center parking lot was vandalized and aluminum and copper were stolen from the unit. The person responsible was caught and the materials have been returned to Sacred Heart. Our maintenance committee is working on replacing the unit with the help of our insurance company, Catholic Mutual.

### Red Cross Blood Drive

When- Tuesday April 23, 2024 1:00 PM-6:00 PM  
 Where- Sidney Elks Lodge, 104 River Street  
 The American Red Cross is experiencing an emergency blood shortage as the nation faces the lowest number of people giving blood in 20 years! 40% of our local donors have been lost. Please consider making a donation of the gift of life to ensure lifesaving medical procedures are not put on hold!

### Pasta with a Purpose

On Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:30 PM there will be a spaghetti dinner fundraiser in the Sacred Heart Parish Center. The proceeds are to fund Nathan Artis' Eagle Project. See the flyers on the bulletin boards for more information.

### National Child Abuse Prevention Month

National Child Abuse Prevention Month, also known as Child Abuse Prevention Month in America, is an annual observance in the United States. The first National Child Abuse Awareness Month was declared by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. Next week the Faith Formation program will be placing blue pinwheels near the Blessed Mother statue and in front of the church to help raise awareness for the prevention of child abuse.

### April Bulletin Quotes

If you or someone you know has had an abortion, be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Additionally, other confidential, compassionate help is available. Select "Find Help" from the menu on [www.hopeafterabortion.org](http://www.hopeafterabortion.org) to find the diocesan Project Rachel Ministry near you. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Bridges of Mercy for Healing after Abortion" [www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy](http://www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy)

### Celebrate Easter's 50 days

Easter is the most important feast of the Christian year- so important that the Church sets aside a seven-week season to rejoice in Christ's victory over sin and death. Each week of the Easter season we will provide a few ideas to help celebrate the fifty days.  
 1-make a poster of a life-giving cross, add paper flowers throughout Easter  
 2-keep fresh flowers around  
 3-visit a lonely neighbor  
 4-tell stories of family member's baptisms.

### Easter Mystagogy Series

The National Eucharistic Congress is offering a You Tube presentation during the seven weeks of Easter on Thursday nights at 8:00 PM from April 4-May 16. Many topics will be discussed that will help us go deeper into the mysteries of our salvation. If you do not have YouTube available at your home please see Paula Ciborowski to make alternate viewing arrangements.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

1 John 5:1-6: "In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith." Let us all have **faith** in God and faith in one another. Jesus tells us to **love** one another and to obey his commandments. Take a leap of faith, and trust God to nourish your relationship. Sign up for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience and you will learn the tools to transform your marriage. You can find one by looking up [WWME.org](http://WWME.org). Some of the dates to sign up are:  
 April 11-May 23, 2024 (virtual 3RE)  
 June 7-June 9, 2024 in Upton, MA

**Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers:** Gussie Shifflett, Steve Pickwick, Joe LaFave, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, George Mertz, Kimberlee Roe,

Grady Charles Weigand, Kevin, Michael Bell, Barbara Bennett, Daniel Rickard, 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, [Rev. Steve Deckard](#), Terry Nicolini, 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, Tom DeMulder, Ruth Glaum, Holly North, Dixy Pflug, Tony & Lila Donnolo, Stefanie Smith, Celeste Hartman, Aidan Burns, Bill, Alicen Knapp Feroletto, Assunta Siniscalchi, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlana 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 Pondolfino, Charlie Washburn, Sean Granan, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Father Peter, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Marlana, Pat Elbrecht, Bonnie De Salvo, Lori White, James Rattrie, Danielle Guglielmo, Ellen Reuter, Francis & Alfredine Duguay, Jaxson Beadle, Joan Rice, Joan Barber, Stephanie Soldingier, Rowan DeCocker, Bonnie Tabone, Austin Kilmer, Nancy Herron, Mike Wombacker, Daniel, John Gilmore, Will Sterchak, Donna Khan

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

