

St. Jude the Apostle Parish

42 Dana Ave ♦ Wynantskill, New York 12198 ♦ 518-283-1162 ♦ <https://parishes.rcda.org/stjude>



Sanctuary Votive Light:
James Kern,
Mother, Father & Brother

Saturday, April 6th, 2024– Mass 4:00pm

Jame Schaeffer, *Wife and Daughters*
John Hardie, *Anne & David Cannon*
Rosane Farcher, *Husband*
Midge Van Buren, *Ada Rubino*
Terry Ryan, *Jack & Maureen Rogers*
Jennifer Schroeder, *Samantha Schroeder*

Sunday, April 7th, 2024-Mass 10:00 am

John Perkinson, *Wife, Fran*
Joseph Frost, *Mom, Dad, Matthew & Taye*
Ronnie Benson, *Wife*

Wednesday, April 10th, 2024—Mass 8:00am
For the deceased members of St. Jude the Apostle,
Staff of St. Jude the Apostle Church

Friday, April 12th, 2024 - Mass 8:00am
Jeffrey Signorelli, *Parents*
Nobu Kowaski, *Mary Helen & Steve Culver*

Saturday, April 13th, 2024– Mass 4:00pm
Mary Heckelman, *Don & Nicole Heckelman*
Dave & Dorthea Castle, *Castle Children*
Rosane Farcher, *Husband*
Daniel McKean (62nd Birthday), *Family*
Harold Jacobs, *Mary McDade*
Frank Giuliano, *Jack & Maureen Rogers*

Sunday, April 14th, 2024-Mass 10:00 am
John T. Perkinson, *Wife*
Edward Carey III, *Nancy Spain*
Dominick A. Testo Jr., *Family*
Joseph Frost, *Al & Patti Mugrace*

Save to Date!!!



The St. Jude the Apostle School Drama Club is presenting *Into the Woods Jr.* on Thursday, April 25th and Friday, April 26th at 6:30pm in the school gymnasium. Students in grades 2-5 have been preparing for this performance for months and are excited to display their talents for our school and parish community. Join us for a night of suspense, music and fun!! Tickets will be on sale at the door both evenings. The snack bar will be open and autographed cast photos for sale. We hope to see you there!!

WHAT IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

As the faithful prepare to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, it is important to review the meaning and historical significance of the day. On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the Canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter be called "Divine Mercy Sunday."

St. Faustina was a Polish nun who received visions from Jesus, including one of Jesus wearing a white garment with beams of red and white coming from His heart, which came to be known as the image of Divine Mercy. She wrote in her diary that He said:

I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it...My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.

According to the vision, those who receive communion and attend confession on the Feast of Mercy receive total forgiveness of sins.

From that Heart [of Christ], Sr. Faustina Kowalska, the blessed whom from now on we will call a saint, will see two rays of light shining from that heart and illuminating the world. "The two rays", Jesus Himself explained to her one day, "represent blood and water" (Diary, entry 299).

Blood and water! We immediately think of the testimony given by the Evangelist John, who, when a soldier on Calvary pierced Christ's side with his spear, sees blood and water flowing from it (see Jn 19:34). Moreover, if the blood recalls the sacrifice of the Cross and the gift of the Eucharist, the water, in Johannine symbolism, represents not only Baptism but also the gift of the Holy Spirit (see Jn 3:5; 4:14; 7:37-39).

Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified."





GOSPEL REFLECTION

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Saint Faustina writes in her *Diary*:

“My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the First Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy” (*Diary* #699).

What will it be like to contemplate the love and mercy of God for all eternity?

To some, this might not at first seem that appealing. Won't it become boring if all we do for all eternity is contemplate God's mercy? If that is a question that resonates with you, then the reason this idea initially lacks appeal is because you cannot fathom how fulfilling and glorious this will be. Jesus said, “My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity.”

God willed that this Sunday, the eighth day of the Octave of Easter, be celebrated as the Feast of Mercy. By placing this Feast on the last day of the Octave of Easter, God is telling us that the message of this Feast reveals the ultimate purpose of our lives. Easter is the culmination of the perfect plan of redemption. And Divine Mercy Sunday is the culmination of that perfect plan. Therefore, nothing is more important than trying to understand the message this Feast presents.

By analogy, if you were given a new car but never drove it, the car would be of no use. Or if you won the lottery and the money simply sat in your account unused, what's the benefit? Or if you were gravely ill and were given a medicine that would cure that illness but you never took it, then you would remain ill. So also, if we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus, but never allow the Mercy that is given by that act to transform us, then we have missed the point. The Divine Mercy is the point of life. It's the only thing worth seeking. It's the only source of satisfaction and fulfillment. It's the only cure for our ills. It's the only source of true riches. In three short words: It Is Everything!



When Jesus says that our eternity will be spent contemplating His Mercy, He doesn't only mean that this is something we will do after we die. True, the fullness of the revelation of His Mercy will be set before us when we enter into the Beatific Vision and contemplate God forever. But “eternity” includes today. It includes the here and now. Therefore, our contemplation of The Divine Mercy must be the single most important goal in our life today. When it is, everything else in life will fall into place in support of this goal.

In order to make the contemplation of The Divine Mercy the most important goal of your life, you must begin to understand it. That's why we were given this special day, this most solemn Feast of Mercy. Therefore, use this day as an opportunity to deepen your contemplation of this Gift. Begin by reading about God's Mercy as it was revealed to us through Saint Faustina. Try to spend time reading Jesus' words, His explanations, descriptions and revelations about His Mercy. As you do, if you find that it remains incomprehensible, don't worry. It is incomprehensible! However, since Jesus promised us that our eternity would be spent in contemplation of His Mercy, then we must believe that the more deeply we enter into that contemplation now, the more glorious our lives will become. If we can truly taste of this Mercy, gain a small glimpse of its grandeur, and comprehend even a small aspect of its meaning, then we will truly find much satisfaction in this endeavor.

Reflect, today, upon The Divine Mercy. As you do, humble yourself through prayer by admitting to God and to yourself that His Mercy is beyond what you will ever comprehend. Do this in prayer. Reading about God's Mercy is important, but it will only be through prayer that we begin our contemplation. And it will only be through this contemplation that we will begin to live the central purpose of our lives.

Glorious Divine Mercy, pour down upon me; open my mind to Your depth and breadth. Help me to begin to contemplate You in Your fullness so that I can begin my eternity with You now. My loving Savior, You have revealed so much about Your Mercy. May I not only learn about this Gift but also receive it into my life. Jesus, I trust in You.



FAITH FORMATION & MORE

Confirmation date is set for **May 6, 2024** @St Michael the Archangel Church, Troy at 630pm. See Candidates names below!

Teen Pathways is a Youth Ministry program grades 7-10th for St. Jude the Apostle Parish. Teens wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation must be involved in the program for a minimum of 2 years in Grades 9th & 10th

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aiossa Emily | Kaczala Emma |
| Albarelli III John | LaBarge Sophia |
| Anslow Colin | Mancino Natalia |
| Backaus Cadence | Mazzariello Joseph |
| Borowsky Rowan | McDade Madelynn |
| Bott Cheyenne | Miller Hailey |
| Bradley Connor | Moore Charles |
| Burch Zachary | Murray Jackson |
| Casale Logan | Parker Dianna |
| Decker Anthony | Reo Alivia |
| Denio Alexandra | Reo Ava |
| Denio Andrew | Short Sophia |
| Fiorino Isabella | Wells Jacob |
| Harriman Abigail | Wojton Charles |
| Hein Amelia | Zakarka Susan |



Faith Formation students and St. Jude the Apostle School students, enjoyed a morning with Peter Cottontail.

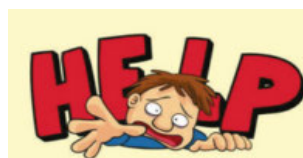
Thank you to everyone who donated goodies for this wonderful event.

Thank you to the Youth Ministry students and Confirmation Students who volunteered their time.

CHURCH BOOKKEEPER OPENING

Immediate opening for a bookkeeper at St. Michael the Archangel Church. Need to fill the position immediately! If interested, please stop by the office, or call 518-283-6110 ext: 201. Also, you can Email: MKunkel8@aol.com or FrPat.aspspp@gmail.com.

Thank you!





OUR CHURCH

Event for the Knights of Columbus:

- Apr 13 - Spaghetti Dinner 4:30-7pm in Gym



Spring is here so that means more drivers on the road! Did you know that there is a new NYS Law stating we are required to move to the left for ANY vehicle that is off to the side of the road, i.e., disabled cars, etc.-NOT just emergency vehicles?

PLEASE put your headlights on when your wipers are on-this helps the drivers coming toward you and IT IS THE LAW! Obey the speed limits-there is a reason for those limits! Isn't it strange we have to pass laws to enforce common sense? Be careful out there.

St Jude's Collection Reminder

Year to date, collections are under budget about \$10,000. With 3 months to go before year end, we need an additional \$800 per week to catch up. This is possible if every family could give a few more dollars each week. Inflation is hitting everyone hard and our parish too. Catching up will keep our office and programs open and running.

Spaghetti Dinner

St Judes Knights of Columbus will be hosting a spaghetti and meatball dinner on Saturday April 13 from 4:30 to 7pm in the gym. We are partnering with St Henry's KOC who will be sharing their secret recipe for sauce and meatballs. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$25 for a family and includes salad, bread, a drink (coffee/juice/water), desert, and of course spaghetti and meatballs. Eat in or take out. There will be a children's activity table. Tickets will be available after mass the weekend of April 6/7, at the door, or by calling Joe at 286-1132. We are only selling 60 tickets and expect to sell out so please get your tickets early!

Red Cross

Blood Drive-Once again, The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive at St. Michael's on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please sign up by calling 1-800 RED CROSS or 1-800-733-27677, visiting redcrossblood.org or using the Free Blood Donor App. Use Sponsor Code: stmichaeltroy. You can also use one of the scan codes from the signs around church. We are looking for volunteers to do intakes and watch the refreshment tables through the drive. If you can spare an hour on that day, your help is appreciated. Signup sheets will be on the table in the Gathering Area. Thank You!



MEGA RAFFLE

St. Michael's is holding our fourth annual Mega Raffle with twelve prizes including a grand prize of \$10,000. The sale of tickets began on April 6, 2024 with our drawing on May 19, 2024 after the 8:30 Mass. The tickets are \$100 each and are available after Mass or in the Church Office. Thank you for your support of this, our largest fundraiser of the year.





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