

06/18/2023 The Pope's intention for June: We pray for the abolition of Torture.

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Our Mission Statement at Holy Cross:
To care for the poor, abandoned and the marginalized.

Today, at the 8:30 Mass, we will celebrate and recognize the Seniors from our parish.

We will also ask blessings on Fr. Jim as he celebrates his 1st Anniversary of his priesthood; his birthday, and transfer to his new parish. Go in faith, hope and love Fr. Jim. We wish you well.

Trustees: Michael Stensland: 783-2764
Council Chair: Kerry Mess: 607-386-1951
Pastoral Leader: Matthew Tabone: 360-559-4098
Rectory Phone: 263-5143

For the deceased members of our parish and their families and friends.

Pray for the sick and their caregivers and all that have asked for our prayers, especially Diane Neczesny, Lynn Joy, Lorraine Tyson, Joe and Carol Tyson, Michelle Lee, Maria Papendrea and her sister Camella, Valarie Manchester, Sr. Theresa Ahern, MSBT, Teresa Meyers, Amy O'Brien, John O'Brien, Clara Murphy, John Zaleski

Pray for all the men and women of our parish family serving in the military and all First Responders and emergency personnel. **Ryan Barry, Jim Barry, Meghan Barringer**

From Fr. Chris: Fr. Francis Muriuhi a bona fide Catholic priest originally from the Diocese of Kigoma in western Tanzania. He was ordained a priest in 1996. Currently, he is a missionary in a neighboring country of Kenya and works both as a parish priest and a chaplain to the co-ed parish Catholic school. In his spare time, Fr. Francis loves the outdoor activities. On father's day weekend, Fr. Francis looks forward to sharing stories of faith from the people of the Diocese of Kigoma in Tansaniz with our parish. Please be welcoming to his word. See below some for information about these people.

Save the DATE: October 20-22, 2023 at Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville, NY. Catholics from across New York State will be coming together to celebrate the REAL PRESENCE of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. See the poster in the back of the church.

To register: (<https://nyseucharisticcongress.org>)

We will celebrate today with Fr. Jim

June 18th at 8:30am
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Exodus: 19:2-6 (Requirements of the Covenant at Sinai)

The Israelites arrived at the Wilderness of Sinai, and set up camp. Israel camped him from the mountain, “Speak to the House of Jacob, tell the People of Israel: ‘You have seen what I did to Egypt and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Me. If you will listen obediently to what I say and keep my covenant, out of all peoples you will be My special treasure. The whole Earth is Mine to choose from, but you are special: a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.’”

The Word of the Lord

Psalm 100:1-5 **On your feet now – applaud God! Bring a gift of laughter, sing ourselves into His presence. Know this: God is God. He made us; we did not make Him. We are His people, His well – tended sheep. For God is sheer beauty, all-generous in LOVE, loyal always and forever.**

Second Reading: Romans 5:6-11 (Sinners Saved by Christ)

Christ arrives right on time to make this happen. He did not, and does not, wait for us to get ready. He presented Himself for this sacrificial death when we were far too weak and rebellious to do anything to get ourselves ready. And even if we had not been so weak, we would not have known what to do anyway. We can understand someone dying for a person worth dying for, and we can understand how someone good and noble could inspire us to selfless sacrifice. But God put His LOVE on the line for us by offering His Son in sacrificial death while we were of no use whatever to Him. Now that we are set right with God by means of this sacrificial death, the consummate blood sacrifice, there is no longer a question of being at odds with God in any way. If, when we were at our worst, we were put on friendly terms with God by the sacrificial death of His Son, now that we are at our best, just think of how our lives will expand and deepen by means of His Resurrection Life! Now that we have actually received this amazing friendship with God, we are no longer content to simply say it in plodding prose. We sing and shout our praises to God through Jesus, the Messiah!!

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 9:36-10-8 (The Compassion of Jesus: Mission of the Twelve)

When Jesus looked out over the crowds, His heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd. “What a huge harvest!” He said to His disciples. “How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!” The prayer was no sooner prayed than it was answered. Jesus called twelve of His followers and sent them into the ripe fields. He gave them power to kick out the evil spirits and to tenderly care for the bruised and hurt lives. This is the list of the twelve He sent:

Simon (they called him Peter, or “Rock”) Andrew, his brother, James, Zebedee’s son, John, his brother, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, the tax man, James, son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon, the Canaanite, Judas Iscariot (who later turned on Him).

Jesus sent His twelve harvest hands out with this charge:

“Do not begin by traveling to some far-off place to convert unbelievers. And do not try to be dramatic by tackling some public enemy. Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighborhood. Tell them that the kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live and give generously.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Read this passage again before coming to Mass on Sunday.

What responsibility do you have to the less fortunate, and how actively are you meeting it? How can I be more attentive to those on the margins who feel as though no one cares? What gifts has God given to me? How can I express gratitude for these gifts? God’s LOVE makes us free, as free as the disciples who became apostles. Free from the fear of death itself. The twelve named in the Gospel are first called ‘disciples’ or learners. Then they are sent out as ‘apostles,’ those who are sent. And what an amazing group they are – two sets of brothers, some educated and some simple workers with their hands and their nets, a tax collector who has sold out to the Roman Government, and a zealot from Cana, a member of a terrorist group sworn to overthrow the same government by violence. It was a miracle that they could all be together as one community. The same miracle is possible for us today, whether we are men or women, educated or not, Republicans or Democrats, gay or straight, old or young, married or single. The same miracle is possible in our families and in our

parishes, even a time of profound polarization, change and tension. As the first disciples were all loved by Jesus and called to follow Him, so are we.

The Magic Closet hours are: April to December – Wednesday and Saturday 10am to noon. They always need volunteers. The Butternut Valley Food Pantry is located at 166 Marion Ave. Gilbertsville, NY phone number is: 607-783-2267

A note about Mass intentions: We have the beautiful practice of accepting Mass intentions. An individual may request a Mass be offered for a certain intention: for example: in thanksgiving for the intentions of another person (such as a birthday or anniversary), or as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. We must never forget the great spiritual benefit and infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass. It is a wonderful spiritual gift. If you would like to request an intention for a mass, simply call the office to schedule. Rectory phone – 607-263-5143

Collection for June 11, 2023

\$1,676.00

List of needed pantry items for both the food pantry and the pet pantry. Also, the ladies ask to please check the expiration dates of donated foods.

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Canned Dog & Cat food | Assorted soups | | | |
| Cup of Noodles | Top Ramen | Condiments | Syrup | Jam/Jelly |

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|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Personal hygiene | Aluminum foil | Laundry Detergent | Chips |
| Cake Mixes | | | |

“Brothers and sisters, accumulating material goods is not enough to live well, for Jesus says also that life does not consist in one’s possessions (cf. *Lk 12:15*). It depends, instead, on good relationships — with God, with others, and even with those who have less. So, let us ask ourselves: How do I want to get rich? Do I want to get rich according to God or according to my covetousness? What legacy do I want to leave? Money in the bank, material things, or happy people around me, good works that are not forgotten, people that I have helped to grow and mature? *Pope Francis*

The Diocese of Kigoma makes mission appeal this year to support:

1. Ministry to Orphans: this ministry comprises 1000 orphan children. The

diocese is trying to provide these children with their educational, spiritual, medical and nutritional needs.

2. Ministry to the Refugees: comprises 300,000 refugees in 3 refugee camps located in the Diocese. The population arrive in the camps wounded in so many ways.

3. Ministry to the Seminarian Formation: 95 college level seminarians who study in the diocese. Covering educational expense for them is a challenge. Most of them come from very challenging circumstances.

“By accepting the sufferings ‘offered’ by life and allowed by God for our progress and purification, we spare ourselves much harder ones. We need to develop this kind of realism and, once and for all, stop dreaming of a life without suffering or conflict. That is the life of heaven, not earth. We must take up our cross and follow Christ courageously every day; the bitterness of that cross will sooner or later be transformed into sweetness.”

—Fr. Jacques Philippe, p. 49