

05/21/2023 The Pope's intention for May: For Church movements and groups. That we rediscover our mission of evangelization each day, placing our own charisms at the service of needs in the world.
Next Weekend we celebrate the Great Feast of Pentecost. The birthday of the Church. Be sure to wear red to church.

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

For your information: Next weekend, there will be no priest available at St. Mary's or Holy Cross. Deacon Paul will be doing the Liturgy in the absence of a priest in Oneonta and I will be doing the same here at Holy Cross.

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 John Kristofik, 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 Obrien, John O'Brien, Zaleski, Ann Joy King, Tom Sorenson,

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: On Tuesday, St. Mary's will have Taize prayer at 6:30pm. I hope many of you will join us for this time of prayer and meditation.

Fr. Jim is away the weekend of May 27. There will be a communion service at the masses that weekend. I will be covering the masses in Hancock and Deposit.

On Friday, we honor the Patron Saint of Rome, Philip Neri. He was known for his humor, one reason why I like him so much. In June, Fr. Jim and I will celebrate our ordination anniversaries. Fr. Jim will be ordained a priest one year on June 19, I will celebrate 29 years on June 25. Where does the time go?

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 With Father Chris
May 21st at 8:30am
Seventh Sunday of Easter**

First Reading: Acts:1: 12-14 (Matthias Chosen) So, they left the mountain called Olives and returned to Jerusalem. It was a little over half a mile. They went to the upper room they had been using as a meeting place: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James, son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, Judas, son of James. They agreed they were in this for good, completely together in prayer, the women included. Also Jesus' mother, Mary and the brothers.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm 27:1, 4, 7-8 Light, space, zest---that is God! So, with Him in our side I am fearless, afraid of no one and no thing. I am asking God for one thing, only one thing: to live with Him in His house my whole life long. I will contemplate His beauty; I will study at His feet. Listen, God, I am calling at the top of my lungs: "Be good to me! Answer me!" When my heart whispered, "Seek God," my whole being replied, "I am seeking Him!" Do not hide from me now!

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16 (Love for One Another) Be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner. If you are abused because of Christ, count yourself fortunate. It is the Spirit of God and His glory in you that brought you to the notice of others. If they are on you because you broke the law or disturbed the peace, that is a different matter. But, if it is because you are a Christian, do not give it a second thought. Be proud of the distinguished status reflected in that name!

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 17:1-11 (Jesus' Prayer for the Disciples) Jesus said these things. Then, raising His eyes in prayer, He said, Father, it is time. Display the bright splendor of Your Son so the Son in turn may show Your bright splendor. You put Him in charge of everything

human so He might give real and eternal life to all in His charge. And this is the real and eternal life: that they know YOU, the one and only true GOD and JESUS CHRIST, whom You sent. I glorified You on earth by completing down to the last detail what You assigned Me to do. And now, Father, glorify Me with Your very own splendor, the very splendor I had in Your presence before there was a world. I spelled out Your character in detail to the men and women You gave Me. They were Yours in the first place; then You gave them to Me, and they have now done what You said. They know now, beyond the shadow of a doubt that everything You gave Me is firsthand from You. For the message You gave Me, I gave them; and they took it, and were convinced that I came from You. They believed that You sent Me. I pray for them, I am not praying for the God-rejecting world but for those You gave Me. For they are Yours by right. Everything Mine is Yours, and Yours Mine, and My life is on display in them. For I am no longer going to be visible in the world; they will continue in the world while I return to You. Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life that You conferred as a gift through Me, so they can be one heart and mind. as We are one heart and mind. As long as I was with them. I guarded them in the pursuit of the life You gave through Me; I even posted a night watch. And not one of them got away.

The Gospel of the Lord

Read this passage again before coming to Mass on Sunday.

Who needs you to pray for them this week, as Jesus prayed for His disciples? How can I share the light of Christ and the fire of the Spirit with those I encounter? What challenges do I face in living my baptismal call? How can I stand for the truth of God's Word with integrity and love? Eternal life is a place of knowing, a movement toward a more intimate awareness of an ever-present triune God. It is about encountering Jesus now in our lives of prayer and sacrament and service so we can continue to live in that known presence when our lives on earth are complete. We do not wait for eternal life, we live into it. On Thursday, we celebrated the Ascension. With our Resurrection Faith, we can appreciate the "hope that belongs to our call." And what Hope it is! We need to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit that can flow among us, through us, that can inspire us, encourage us, transform our doubts into witness. The Spirit will enable us to heed Jesus' call: "Go make disciples of all nations." When we give the Spirit a chance, we will collaborate and work for justice, and then we will

hear Jesus whisper to us, “I am with you always, until the end of time.” May we trust His promise, His teachings, His presence among us.

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 the date. Rectory phone – 607-263-5143

Collection for May 14, 2023 \$1,576.00

Diocesan Assessment as of 1/1/23 \$1,069.00

“The Holy Spirit wants to stay with us: he is not a passing guest who comes to pay us a courtesy visit. He is a companion for life, a stable presence. He is Spirit and desires to dwell in our spirits. He is patient and stays with us even when we fall. He remains because he truly loves us; he does not pretend to love us, and then leave us alone when things get difficult. No. He is faithful, he is transparent, he is authentic.”

Pope Francis

- **Saint Philip Neri’s Story**

Philip Neri was a sign of contradiction, combining popularity with piety against the background of a corrupt Rome and a disinterested clergy: the whole post-Renaissance malaise.

At an early age, Philip abandoned the chance to become a businessman, moved to Rome from Florence, and devoted his life and individuality to God. After three years of philosophy and theology studies, he gave up any thought of ordination. The next 13 years were spent in a vocation unusual at the time—that of a layperson actively engaged in prayer and the apostolate.

As the Council of Trent (1545-63) was reforming the Church on a doctrinal level, Philip's appealing personality was winning him friends from all levels of society, from beggars to cardinals. He rapidly gathered around himself a group of laypersons won over by his audacious spirituality. Initially, they met as an informal prayer and discussion group, and also served poor people in Rome.

At the urging of his confessor, Philip was ordained a priest and soon became an outstanding confessor himself, gifted with the knack of piercing the pretenses and illusions of others, though always in a charitable manner and often with a joke. He arranged talks, discussions, and prayers for his penitents in a room above the church. He sometimes led "excursions" to other churches, often with music and a picnic on the way.

Some of Philip's followers became priests and lived together in community. This was the beginning of the Oratory, the religious institute he founded. A feature of their life was a daily afternoon service of four informal talks, with vernacular hymns and prayers. Giovanni Palestrina was one of Philip's followers, and composed music for the services. The Oratory was finally approved after suffering through a period of accusations of being an assembly of heretics, where laypersons preached and sang vernacular hymns!

Philip's advice was sought by many of the prominent figures of his day. He is one of the influential figures of the Counter-Reformation, mainly for converting to personal holiness many of the influential people within the Church itself. His characteristic virtues were humility and gaiety.

After spending a day hearing confessions and receiving visitors, Philip Neri suffered a hemorrhage and died on the feast of Corpus Christi in 1595. He was beatified in 1615 and canonized in 1622. Three centuries later, Cardinal John Henry Newman founded the first English-speaking house of the Oratory in London

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

Assorted soups Cup of Noodles Top Ramen Condiments Syrup Jam/Jelly

Personal hygiene Aluminum foil Laundry Detergent Chips Cake Mixes