



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep in your prayers the sick and homebound of our parish and those who care for them:

- Anonymous, Paul Amyot, Okgana Bajko, Joan Bellanger, Michael Birmingham, Sylvia Boulger, Virginia Bradley, John Brady, Daniel Burnett, Michael Burnett, Charlotte Chase, Eleanor Chase, Major Jeffrey Chase, Susan E. Cotsonas, Dave Daly, Barbara Domigan, Michael Doyle, Beth Drzymala, Sammy Evans, Gianni Farinacci, Concetta Florientino, Michelle Foutch, Donald Gaylord, Charlene Genaway, Mary Ann Goodine, Leshia Hardgraves, Robert Havelka, Mary Hayes, Ed Helfer, William Hernandez, David Jaffarian, Craig Kingsley, Doug LaBudde, Jack Law Jr., Pinky Laviano, Kristen Law, Kevin M. Lynch, William Lindberg, Dominick Lizzi, Cindy Mahony, Erica Matthies, Kevin McCann, Gary McDonald, Edin Mercado, Marianne Martinez, Judy Martino, Kaylee Rose Meyer, Luba Mykytiw, Amelia Nabozny, Richard Norton, David Nichlos, Rita Paladino, Tommy Palmer, Elise Panico, Bonnie Pelizza, David Picchione, Pam Polashenski, Helen Rayve, Claire Renn, Tim Renn, William Robinson, Lisa Rossello, Dawn Ruchel, Rita Ryan, Alice Salvatore, Eileen Scott, Maddi Sidarous, Ralph Sitcer, Special Intentions, Bonnie Sperl, Sean Spicer, Kevin Sutton, Joan Torcello, Nancy Troutman, Matthew West, Edward Wheeler, Dan Wiltse, Marybeth Wiltse, Gary Wickes, Chrissy Wills, Carol Wisenhunt, Veronica Wistar, Robert Woodward, Erica Wordon

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life?” - Mt

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time/September 6, 2020

SUNDAY'S READINGS First Reading:

Readings for the week of September 6, 2020
Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20
Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 [11]/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 [24b]/Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12 [2]/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 [17]/Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8]/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

HOLD THE DATE

An outside Tailgate Christmas Sale

St. John The Baptist Church, Valatie, NY

October 3 and 10, 2020

More to Follow



Masses for September

- September 5/6 Last name beginning with E-L
September 12/13 Last name beginning with M-R
September 19/20 Last name beginning with S-Z
September 26/27 Last name beginning with A-D

If extra seats available All Are Welcome. Call 518-758-9401 to register.

Northern Columbia County Blood Drive



September 8, 2020 1pm—7pm

Church of St. Joseph, Rt 9, Stuyvesant, NY

For an appointment visit redcrossblood.org or Call 1-800-733-2767



Pastors Blog,

***"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20***

Memorial Day is the unofficial start of the summer season and Labor Day is the unofficial start of the fall even though the actual seasons begin several weeks later. We measure our lives with the ebb and flow of the rituals and realities that mark us as a people. The Back to School season is an expression of time with which we can all relate, even if we do not have loved ones participating. Year after year, it feels the same....until this one.

We live in a world that has been described as a season of pandemic, filled with uncertainty and fear. This can breed frustration, distrust and anger, often putting us at odds with one another. We share common and sometimes polarizing grievances which can attack us if we do not hold true to the message of the Gospel this week. With love and care we must move toward reconciliation, to love our neighbor as ourselves. It reminds us that when two or three are gathered, God is in our midst.

On this Labor Day weekend, I am very much aware of those who put their lives at risk for the safety and wellbeing of our communities. From first responders to those on the front lines of health care and social services, we are blessed to have heroes in our midst. I am also aware of those who struggle to reopen our schools, our churches and our communities in a safe and responsible manner. The self-sacrifice and the adjustment of so many, including our family members who care for others, is overwhelming. I am so proud to be part of our extended community.

I am still haunted by the image of a friend of mine who shared a meditation online back in the early stages of the pandemic. He reflected that he was grappling with the notion that he was not an essential worker. The fact that I admire his gifts and talents so much made this difficult to hear. It also challenged me to see how essential we all are for one another. To love our neighbor requires us to respect one another.

We are all essential workers when we gather together or in solidarity to pray. Pope Francis has encouraged us to commemorate the encyclical *Laudato si'* (in English: "Praise be to You!") with a period of prayer focused on the Season of Creation. The Holy Father's groundbreaking work was subtitled, "on care for our common home" and challenged us to think of God's creation as a gift for which we are called to be true caregivers. There are resources I will share next week but I am touched that this season of prayer lasts until October 4<sup>th</sup>, the feast day of St. Francis. This year that day also marks the celebration of Confirmation for our parishes. How beautiful that will be!

When two or three are gathered, Christ is in our midst. That works for individuals and I truly believe it is even truer when two or three parishes work together.

On this Labor Day, may you find rest and may your good works continue to pour forth for others. God bless you!

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Fr. George

### **Congratulations to Dan McHale**

Our summer seminarian will be ordained as a deacon Sept.5th at the Cathedral in Albany.

### **THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE**

#### **Saturday, September 5**

**4:00 pm Geri Adams, by Frank & Eileen Szepessy**

#### **Sunday, September 6**

**7:30 am Joanna Moore, by Robert Havelka**

**Mary & Donald Rutherford, by the family**

### **Faith Formation Resources for Families**

**Registration forms for Faith Formation** will be sent out next week. We are making changes in our program to reflect the ongoing pandemic protocols. Space restrictions at our parish will not allow for our usual gatherings. We are creating **family-centered faith formation packets** to be used at home for the months of **Oct., Nov., and December**. We will re-evaluate our program in January.

If you have questions or concerns, please call **Ruth Ellen at 518-758-1828**.

Thank you all for your generous donations to our school supply drive. We can always count on our parish for help!!