

Sacrificial Giving

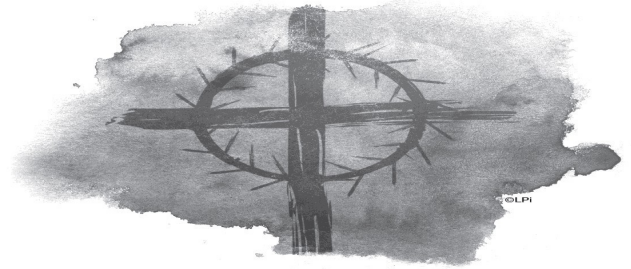
3/15/2020 Offertory-\$ 3,514.00

Thank you to all who give each week.

To Friends and Parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church: As of Monday, March 16, 2020 regularly scheduled public Masses are canceled until further notice. Our church will remain open for private prayer from 8:00am to 6:00pm. Please pray for all who suffer from COVID-19 and the tireless responders who assist them. And check in on your family, friends, and neighbors by phone. Please leave us a message at (518)758-9401 or Email us at stjohnthebaptistch@nycap.rr.com and check for updates at <http://www.stjohnsvalatie.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/stjohns>



When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. - Jn 9:35-38



4th Sunday of Lent/March 22, 2020

First Reading:

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart." (1 Sm 16:7b)

Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)

Second Reading:

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." (Eph 5:14b)

Gospel:

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" (Jn 9:35)

Readings for the week of March 22, 2020

Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46: 2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11 [8a and 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 [19a]/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53

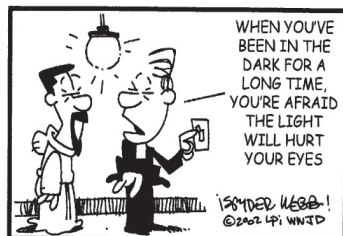
Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Observances for the week of March 22, 2020

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent

Monday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



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

Paul Amyot, Oksana Bajko, Joan Bellanger, Michael Birmingham, Sylvia Boulger, John Brady, Charlotte Chase, Eleanor Chase, Major Jeffrey Chase, Susan E. Cotsonas, Michael Doyle, Beth Drzymala, Sammy Evans, Gianni Farinacci, Concetta Florantino, Michelle Foutch, Donald Gaylord, Mary Ann Goodine, Lesha Hardgraves, Robert Havelka, Mary Hayes, Michele Hauser, 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, Ann McIntyre, Marianne Martinez, Judy Martino, Kaylee Rose Meyer, Luba Mykytiw, Amelia Nabozny, Richard Norton, David Nichlos, Rita Paladino, Tommy Palmer, Elise Panico, Bonnie Pelizza, Lisa Piazza, David Picchione, Pam Polashenski, Helen Rayve, Claire Renn, Tim Renn, William Robinson, Lisa Rossello, Rita Ryan, Alice Salvatore, Eileen Scott, Paul Seney, Frances Shields, Maddi Sidarous, Ralph Sitcer, Special Intentions, Bonnie Sperl, Sean Spicer, "anonymous", Kevin Sutton, Jeanette Tator, Joan Torcello, Nancy Troutman, Matthew West, Edward Wheeler, Dan Wiltse, Marybeth Wiltse, Chrissy Wills, Carol Wisenhunt, Veronica Wistar, Robert Woodward, Erica Wordon.

Please contact the Parish 518-758-9401 when it is appropriate to remove a name from the prayer list.



SENIOR LUNCHEON

Tuesday, March 31st at noon.

***** CANCELLED *****

A Message from Your Pastor, Rev. George Fleming

Please know of my prayers for our entire community and beyond as we implement unprecedented measures to deal with the threat of the coronavirus. Most of us are in a state of shock. I also know of the incredible faith that sustains us, and we will be stronger as we pray for each other and for all those affected. I will continue to stay in touch — and know that we are always here for you.

The *Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany* (RCDA) is joining our local, state, and national leaders to curb this threat and to help keep the virus from spreading. Attached, you'll find a statement released by the Diocese, and more information will follow. Essentially, it means that all liturgies, programming, and other events scheduled at our churches will cease until further notice. While our offices will be monitored by the staff, regular hours will cease for the time being as well. I thank our staff and volunteers for their flexibility and for keeping things together during this time.

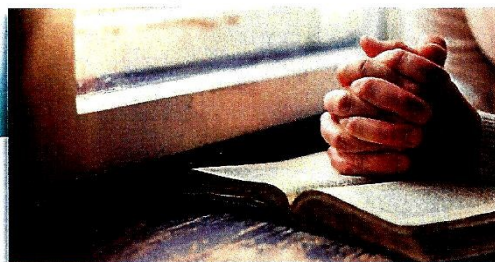
I promise to hold you all in prayer and continue celebrating daily liturgies in private. I will pay special attention to the Mass intentions of the day, even though they also will be rescheduled.

I will be updating you soon with my Pastor's Blog and other information as it comes to us.

Social distancing cannot keep us apart. As St. Paul writes:

"For I am certain of this ... nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35-36).

God bless you! -Fr. George



From the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany (RCDA): ALL MASSES IN THE DIOCESE OF ALBANY CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE; FAITHFUL URGED TO TAKE TIME TO PRAY AT HOME

Due to growing concerns and medical advice related to the rapid spread of COVID-19 in social settings, Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger has announced that all regularly scheduled public Masses in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany — except weddings and funerals — will be canceled until further notice. Churches will, however, remain open for private prayer, pending further regulations.

In addition, all Confirmations have been canceled until further notice and will be rescheduled. Funerals and weddings may be attended only by close family and in accordance with social distancing and capacity requirements. Further restrictions may force a change in those guidelines as we go forward.

"Although we know how difficult it is for Catholics to be without the Mass and without the Eucharist, we must do our part to help 'flatten the curve' and stop the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the most vulnerable among us," Bishop Scharfenberger said when making the announcement. "I encourage the faithful to pray and fast as we continue our journey through this season of Lent. Try to include at least 15 minutes of daily intentional prayer, with family where possible and safe. Use the Bible, say the Rosary, watch Mass on TV, and please remember to pray for those who are suffering from the Coronavirus worldwide and for all those in the medical community who are on the front lines."

The Diocese of Albany is keeping Catholics apprised of changes, updates, and resources on its dedicated Web page: rcda.org/coronavirus. In addition, a Faith at Home page includes links to live-streamed Mass, daily Scripture readings, saints of the day, and suggestions for creating a sacred space at home: rcda.org/coronavirus/resources.



St. James, Chatham: (518) 392-4991; sjofficeassistant@gmail.com;
www.stjameschatham.org

St. John the Baptist, Valatie: (518) 758-9401; stjohnthebaptistch@nycap.rr.com;
www.stjohnsvalatie.org

The Church of St. Joseph, Stottville/Stuyvesant Falls: (518) 799-5411;
stjosephcolumbia@nycap.rr.com; parishes.rcda.org/ChurchofStJoseph/