

Immaculate Conception Parish

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY

BISHOP OF ALBANY DIOCESE:

Edward Scharfenberger

BISHOP EMERITUS: Howard Hubbard

OUR PARISH OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS

67 Main Street

Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

PHONE 518-686-5064

E-MAIL: immconcept@roadrunner.com

OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 10 AM to 4 PM

WEBSITE: www.icchoosickfalls.com

PASTOR: Fr. Tom Zelker

tomzelker@gmail.com

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, 4 PM & SUNDAY, 9 AM

RECONCILIATION, SATURDAY AT 3 PM

TRUSTEES: Elizabeth Ferrannini & Ed Gorman

FINANCE COUNCIL: Krissy Fauler

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Virginia Cuddihy,

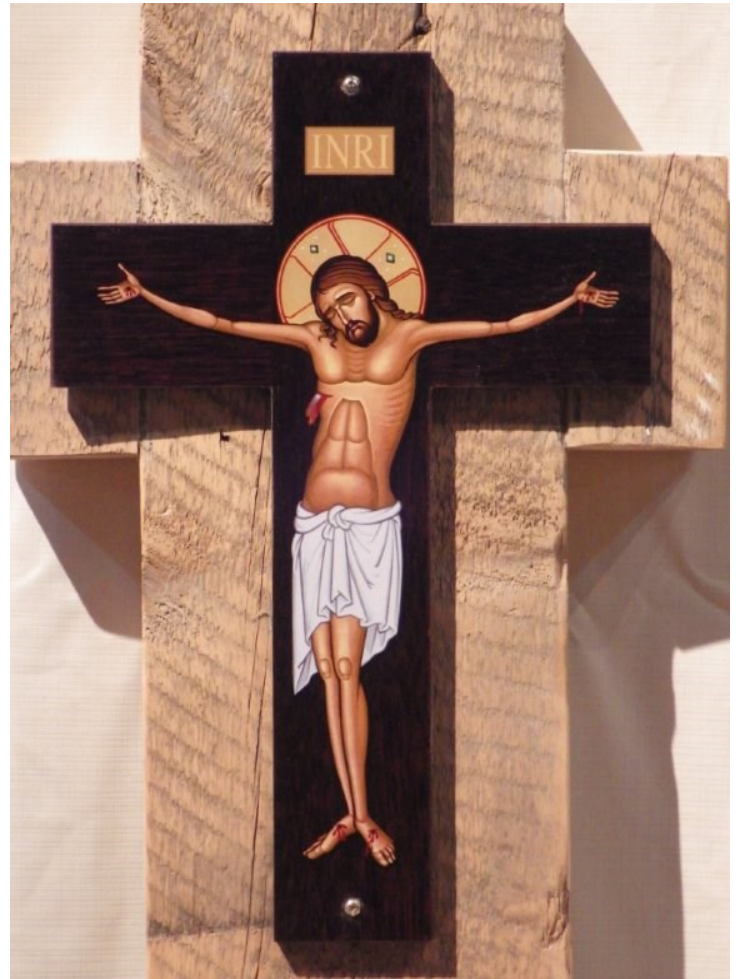
Linda Bennett, Mike Brewster,

Jerry D'Acchille, Rick Ferrannini,

Karen Kaufman, JoAnn Shea and the two Trustees

MUSIC MINISTRY: Richard Cherry

WORSHIP & ENVIRONMENT: Marie Slattery



The Cross of Mercy
The Cross of Conversion
The Very Foundation of our Lives
God's Conversation with us

WE PRAY

Our Church enters into this time of reflection, renewal, and conversion. Our Holy waters are still; bells are silenced; pussy willow branches grace our gathering space as a sign of a new Spring for all. Violets and purples reflect our yearning for conversion. We follow the Cross into worship, trusting in the transformative power of the Cross, the Word of God, and the Table of the Lord. We sing in ancient Greek, "Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison." We become more confident in the mercy of God. Our response to the Hebrew Scriptures is Psalm 139: "O Lord, I know you are near, standing always at my side. You guard me from the foe, and you lead me in ways everlasting." The Gospel is proclaimed without any Alleluias (what a contrast to Easter's exuberance!)

As we gather around the Lord's Table, we remember how you loved us through death to new life. Our mystery of faith is revealed in Christ's real presence among us in Bread and Wine as our beliefs come alive in our transformed lives. We share in this Holy Communion; we ask Jesus to keep us near the Cross, the Precious Fountain of life giving grace flowing forth from our worship to all people through each one of us. We become evermore, People of the Cross. We become Hope for our world in Christ. We leave in quiet reflection to live faithfully every day.



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 27

4 PM Mass

*John (Ersel) Hickey
Anthony (Ski) Bromirski*

Sunday, February 28

9AM Mass

*Mark Burlingame
Patricia Lohnes
Dick Murphy*



Monday, February 29

12 PM Mass

*Margaret Hoffman
The Carelli Family*

Wednesday, March 2

8:30 AM Mass

at St. Patrick's Church
12:00 PM Ecumenical Prayer
at the Hoosick Falls Baptist Church
Followed by a soup and sandwich lunch

Friday, March 4

12 PM Mass

Remembering the Lost & Forgotten

Saturday, March 5

4 PM Mass

*Ben Nowik
Kay Shiland*

Sunday, March 6

9AM Mass

Members of the Gorman Family



Please bring soups, instant potatoes, and cereals to our donation box in church.

There is always a need for old bags to be reused.

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS ...

We are looking for volunteers at the Food Pantry to help. If you are interested, please call Dianne Hosterman at 686-5310.

HELP CLEAN UP OUR WATER AND LAND

If you know or are aware of any old/former chemical dump sites in our area, please let representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the N.Y., Department of Environmental Conservation also know so this pollution can be cleaned up. This is all anonymous; no one will be labelled a trouble maker/informant. This is for the food of all. Representatives are at the Armory Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM and Saturdays from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

Online contact is dave.lukas@mrbgroup.com

HELP FEED OUR KIDS

Support our local backpack food program with donations to our "Regional Food Bank", 965 Albany - Shaker Rd., Latham, NY 12210. Check Memo should say "HF Backpack Program".

STONE SOUP GROUP

Please remember our neighbors in need of a hot meal. Once again, we are facilitating our Stone Soup Group. All you have to do is make 10 cups (we provide the containers) of any soup and get them to the Food Pantry at 10:00 AM on Mondays and Fridays or 6:30 PM on Wednesdays. We can even get the soup to the pantry if you cannot. Please contact our office to sign up for a time slot.

IF YOU NEED:

- Clean Drinking Water Delivered: call the Hoosick Falls Village Hall - 686-3040.
- The Warming Place - Free Hot Dinner-- Every Night 6pm-9pm from January thru February at the Cambridge Food Pantry (the old Red Rooster on Rte 22 across from Cambridge Central School. If anyone would like to make a meal or donate your time, please call Betty Carey at 677- 8106.

RENDER UNTO CAESAR

If you would like your contribution statement for your tax preparation, please call our parish office @ 686-5064. For assistance with taxes, please call Alison at 686-9491. Sponsored by the churches of HACA.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Tired of the winter cold?
Heat up your marriage on the next Marriage Encounter weekend
March 11-13.
Call 518-279-3243 or visit www.albanyme.org for more information

HOPE FOR SHARON

Saturday, March 5th at 1:00 PM at HAYC3's Owl's Nest. There will be a fundraiser for Sharon Sigot. A full buffet lunch and dessert table will be provided. There will be a silent auction, raffles, door prizes, and much more. Entry is \$15 per adult and \$5 per child. If you have any questions or would like to just make a donation please contact Stephanie at StephanieKSigot@gmail.com.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Maeve Ronan, Luke Hoag, Fred Yager, Jean Waytkus, Lester Goodermote, Kelly McCart, Diane Bamrick, Bill Ellis, Frank Morandi, Bob Williams, Danny Green, Jean Brewster, Chuck Leeseman, Perry Coffman, Elaine Schultz, William J. Osterhout, Sr., Baby Charlotte, Armand Rousseau, Paul Cipperly, Ed Granger, Butch LaFlamme, John West, Sal Herradore, Helen Betner, Helen Hogan, Wanda Hunt, Phyllis Bushner, Bea Peterson, Patricia Cherry, Rosemary Johnston, Amy Kalb, Leonard Austin, Deanna Aldrich, Art Crandall, and Jane Clarke. Those who have been on the list for quite some time will still be prayed for, but will not appear in the bulletin. If you are in need of prayer for yourself or someone you know, please call: Margaret O'Malley at 686-7835.

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

4 PARSONS AVENUE, HOOSICK FALLS, NY
PHONE: (518) 686-4314, FAX: (518) 686-5957

Mr. Michael Piatek, Principal
Mrs. Mary Beth Smith, Secretary

St. Mary's Academy is the parish school of the Immaculate Conception Faith Community. Founded in 1891, St. Mary's Academy provides education for students beginning in Pre-Kindergarten and continuing through Grade 8.



Dear Friends of SMA,

The week of February 15-19 was a busy week at St. Mary's Academy. During the week our heating system was repaired and flushed resulting in heat in all parts of the building. Also a charcoal activated water filter was installed. However, we will continue to use bottled water for drinking and cooking.

I would like to thank everyone who bought a cheesecake and remind everyone that Fish Fry Fridays continue through Lent in our Church Hall starting at 5:00pm.

Registration and re-registration for the 2016-17 school year will start soon. Any family wishing a personal tour of SMA or who has questions should call us at 686-4314.

We thank all of you for your continued support of your school and your students. We appreciate everything you do for us.

Blessed Mother Pray for US,

Mike Piatek



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY ANNUAL LENTEN FISH FRY FRIDAYS RETURN!

Every Friday during Lent, February 12th ~ March 18th
5:00pm-7:00pm, or until we run out.

Held in the Immaculate Conception Church Hall

Fish Fry Dinner is \$9.00 per person

Fish Fry, Fresh Cut French Fries, Side of Coleslaw, Juice and Dessert
Or Mac N Cheese for \$5.00 - -Eat In or Take Out!

All proceeds benefit St. Mary's Academy
Thank you in advance for your support!



Class this Sunday, February 28th. All regular classes meet at St. Mary's Academy on Sunday mornings from 10:15 - 11:30 AM. Confirmation Classes for grades 10-11 will be meeting in the St. Joseph's Room church hall. Please pick up a complete list of dates on the back table. If you have any questions please contact Deb Kapron Grades K-6 @205-5014 or Deb Mahar Grades 7-12 @ 686-1692.



LEAP YEAR 2016

This year, February, has an extra day...Monday the 29th! Every four years we get an "extra" day as our Earth revolves around the Sun. Yet what do we do with this additional day?...or for that matter...each day, minute, or breath? Let each moment for us be the time we soak in the present...the love...the gift...God.

"May I join you, cosmic congregation of galaxies, as you dance with delight before our God. You spin and leap with brilliant bursts of light, never tiring of your sacred circle play, singing cosmic chants of divine fire. I find my time of devotion so often flat, routine, and stagnant. As I seek to join you, may I spin with sparkling splendor each new day...each new moment...as I, too, leap with enthusiasm and joy for I am of you forever."

LEAP YEAR FUN NIGHT

Monday, February 29th from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

In our Church Hall

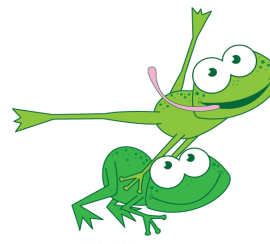
To celebrate this extra day for 2016

We are feasting on pizza - wings - mozzarella sticks and then having a snowball (or nerf ball) epic fun time on the North Lawn (or Wood Park).

For all high schoolers grades 7-12.

Come and leap for joy!

Plus a Leap Frog Contest.





HOLY WEEK SIGN UP

Please begin thinking about your participation in our Holy Week Liturgy - Palm Sunday - Holy Thursday - Good Friday - Easter Vigil - Easter Sunday. We need readers, ministers of Communion, altar servers, foot washers, ushers, singers, bell ringers, and fire starters. The sign up sheet will be available next week.

LENTEN CROSS

“The Humanity of Jesus...our Foundation of Faith”. The mystery of God’s Love is revealed most deeply in the death of Jesus. Our Crucifix shows the beauty of Love through the tragedy, ugliness, fear, and darkness of death. Jesus empties himself so the fullness of Love be revealed among us. The Cross is fashioned from the broken wooden beams of our Church’s foundation. Those beams had collapsed after over a century of holding up our Church. They were replaced by stronger, cemented supports. Our new Cross reminds us that our faith foundation is Jesus Christ. The broken beams of our world, our lives are completely repaired, renewed, and supported by the Wood of the Cross. Our life’s foundation is the Love of Christ - crucified and risen for us.



A PSALM OF LENT

O God of all worshipers,
I offer you a Lenten prayer.
Ordained in my mother’s womb,
anointed by the Spirit
before the sun burned bright,
I am a priest as was your son Jesus,
according to the order of old Melchizedek
upon whom no one laid hands.

“This is my body, this is my blood.”
I silently say these words with a priestly heart,
in each act of holy sacrifice
poured forth with love this day
for family and friends,
for stranger and foreigner.

Awaken me during this Lent
to my sacred calling to the priesthood,
that by sacrificial gift,
I have the power to lift up a fallen world
and to bring to fullness your divine dream
of a whole, united and healed cosmos.

Like precious jewels upon a cord,
I link my crosses this day,
my sufferings and self - denials,
with those of your countless other lovers, O God.
And I join these million so f gifts of love
with the one great sacrifice
of the holy priest of Nazareth
who surrendered upon his timeless tree of the cross
that our old and beloved world
might be healed and cleansed of sin and division,
might come to wholeness and oneness in you.

A Journey Through Lent

- Ecumenical Prayer and Lunch: At Noon, every Wednesday at the Hoosick Falls Baptist Church (Our parish is leading the prayer service and providing lunch on Wednesday, February 24th. We need your help in making small sandwiches. Sign up at church)
- St. Casmir Feast of Eastern European Culinary Delight: Saturday, March 5, 2016 at 5:00 PM at Immaculate Conception Hall. We share foods of Lithuania, Poland, and Slovakia.
- Communal Reconciliation: Monday, March 7, 2016 at 5:30 PM at Immaculate Conception Church
- St. Patrick’s Parade and Community Party: Saturday, March 12, 2016. Main Street and Immaculate Conception Hall
- St. Patrick’s Day Dinner: Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Immaculate Conception Hall. Hoosick Falls Central School Jazz Band and Corn Beef. And Irish songs with Dave Sutton.
- Good Friday Ecumenical Walk: March 25, 2016 at 12 noon. Way of the Cross through the streets of Hoosick Falls (begins at First United Presbyterian Church and ends at Immaculate Conception Church)

Our Church is open 24 hours a day for prayer, meditation, adoration, and walking.

When we enter the Holy Doors of our church, we remember our own holiness as we come into this sacred space.

When we leave, we become an even more loving, merciful, and beautiful blessing for our world.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
FEBRUARY 27 & 28, 2016**

This Week: February 27 & 28, 2016

Lay Ministers: Team 4

Counters: Judy Flynn, Peg Bakaitis & Jerry McAuliffe

Next Week: March 5 & 6, 2016

Lay Ministers: Team 1

Counters: Mike Shea, Gina Harrison & Andrea White

(It is your responsibility to find a substitute if you are unable to serve.)

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS February 20 & 21:

Offertory.....\$3,006.00

Candles.....\$52.05

Total: \$3,058.05



ATTENDANCE February 20 & 21:

4 PM.....146

9 AM.....157

Total: 303

Our church is open and lighted 24 hours a day.

Our church is open for quiet prayer, meditation, prayer walking, or contemplative reflections.

SHARE THE FAITH—FIND YOUR HOME HERE

Anyone wishing to join our faith community and live the Catholic way, please call our office 686-5064 or see Fr. Tom Zelker. We welcome you with a loving embrace.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

We have low gluten hosts for anyone affected by Celiac disease. Call our office for your hosts. 686-5064.

Holy Communion...Please be sure to let one of the greeters know if you are unable to approach the altar. The usher will then make arrangements for Communion to be brought to your pew.

OUR PARISH HALL

If you would like to use our parish facilities or chairs/tables, please call our office to make reservations. Your hall makes a fine place for family gatherings.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK ...

We would like to thank

J.A. BRADLEY & Sons, Inc.

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**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEET
EVERY 2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAY AT 7PM**

**IN THE ST. JOSEPH'S ROOM
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CHURCH HALL.**

ANY MAN IS WELCOME TO JOIN!