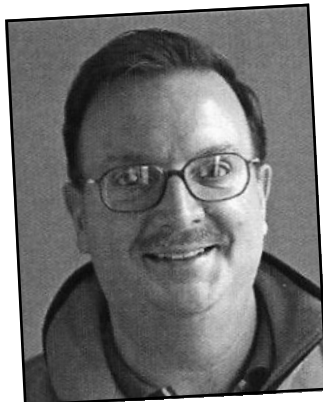


Father Jim Jaeger Appointed Sacramental Minister



I am happy to report that Bishop Clark has appointed Fr. Jim Jaeger as sacramental minister to St. Mary's and St. Gabriel's. Because of military obligations it has not yet been determined if Fr. Jim will begin his work with us on the last weekend of June, or later in the Summer. Fr. Jaeger is Lieutenant Colonel and chaplain of the Air

National Guard 107th ARW in Niagara Falls with 19 years of military service. As such, he must serve in active duty for two months each year. This deployment could take place during the summer months or at some other time during the year. Fr. Jim will meet with Maureen O'Neill, the pastoral administrator of St. Gabriel's and me next week to determine the time of year that this deployment will take place.

I first met Fr. Jim on his Cursillo weekend over twenty years ago and have enjoyed his friendship ever since. At the time he was a recently ordained priest intern at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Greece, NY. His next assignment was at St. Anne's, Hornell where he served for 4 years as parochial vicar with Fr. Elmer Schmidt. From 1990 - 1994, Fr. Jim was assigned to St. Margaret Mary Church in Irondequoit before commencing a nine year pastorate at St. Anne's Church in Hornell where was involved in the pastoral planning process that led to the formation of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish. This is the parish at which Fr. Peter will serve as pastor.

Since 2003, he has served as pastor of St. Anne Church in Palmyra and St. Gregory's Church in Macedon, New York and part-time chaplain at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Canandaigua.

Fr. Jim has a warm, vibrant personality an infectious laugh and a dedication to ministry. Hornell native, St. Mary's parishioner and diaconal candidate Bob Colomaio says that Fr. Jaeger was loved by the people of Hornell and believes that he will also be loved by the people of St. Mary's and St. Gabriel's.

Upon receiving word of Fr. Jim's appointment, I left a message on Wednesday night on his answering machine and emailed him with words of welcome. Here is his response:

Good Morning Ray,
I would like to thank you and Maureen for such a joyful welcome at my appointment. I deeply appreciate that. I too am filled with pleasure and peace in this appointment. I shall look forward to supporting the ministry that you both are doing for our faithful people in Steuben County. I am pleased to be working with someone I've known for all these 22 years of service. Ray you have been a beacon of light for so many. I look forward to serving our Diocese with you and Maureen. I know and trust that God has placed me in good hands with the two of you excellent Administrators.
I am also pleased that God has chosen me to journey with the hospitable and holy people of your communities. I look with anticipation to life and worship with you.
Peace,
Jim

Fr. Peter, who has been named pastor of Our Lady of the Valley, Hornell will begin his term on the last week of June when he returns from a month-long visit with his family in Ghana. His last weekend with us will be on May 24 and 25th. That weekend, we will also be scheduling a farewell dinner in his honor at O'Malley Hall.

Fr. Dan Condon, the chancellor of the diocese will preside and preach at Sunday Eucharist during the month of June following Fr. Peter's departure for Ghana and Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Hornell.

CGLFM Prayer and Sharing

Catholic Gay and Lesbian Family Ministry offers a morning of prayer, sharing, and reflection for Catholics who have children, parents, siblings or grandchildren who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. This session will be offered: Sat., April 19 at St. Mary's Marian Center, 224 Franklin St. in Elmira or Sat., April 26 Time: 9:00 am - noon. For more information call the CGLFM hotline: 585-303-8605.

Excerpts from other church bulletins ...

- ✠ The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- ✠ The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'
The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'
- ✠ Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 PM in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.
- ✠ Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- ✠ The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.





St. Mary's Parish Council Minutes - March 11, 2008

Member's Present - Bill McNamara, Rosemary States, Barb Perry, Jim Gallagher, Kathy Warren, Sean McKinley, Deacon Ray. **Absent:** Mary McConnell. **Guests:** Denise Crossett, Don Young

Pastoral Administrator's Report

Building & Grounds

Dan Barefoot is doing a great job as custodian. He is very skilled and has a wonderful attitude. Dan found both school boilers going at same time full force in upstairs room. The modem was never hooked up so there was no way to control heat. Siemans came, Dan found another modem. Problem is corrected.

Lighting system in O'Malley Hall

Mike Ormsby has been working on fixing lights in O'Malley Hall. Mike rewired the circuit box and contacted the company and they gave us 20 new bulbs. That did not solve issue. The company then replaced the twenty ballasts. Mike is installing them to see if this was the problem. Meanwhile, Phillips has donated bulbs, which hopefully will corrected issues. Mike added lights along sides of hall that can be dimmed.

O'Malley Hall Rental

The Keuka Lake Players would like to rent O'Malley hall to put on a dinner theatre.

Heating System

The cost of heating the church remains high in spite of Chapel being used for weekday Masses. The programmable thermostat in the Church was on a five-day system. Dan replaced it with a seven-day thermostat so the heat can be reduced on days it isn't needed.

Building and Grounds Committee

Building and grounds committee met last Sunday (March 9). There are currently no major projects. They are planning to point the steeple this spring, as well as replacing the roof over the school lobby and installing the new HVAC system on this roof.

Parish Finance Report

Ray reported that last month's stock investments lost \$5000. The cemetery lost \$1000. The committee is short members and would like to recruit a few more people to serve on this committee.

Spiritual Life Committee

A Holy Week supplement will be in bulletin this month.

Spirit Alive

There is a billboard on Route 17 towards Corning inviting people throughout diocese to participate. Spirit alive is a three-year initiative to encourage relationships with Christ. It includes reconciliation services for each region. Ray received a list of suggestions on how to invite more community members in at Easter.

Bishop Clark recorded a 90 minute retreat on DVD. On Saturday (March 15) from noon to 2:00 p.m., parishioners are invited to come join watch and stay for discussion. (Note: Approximately twenty parishioners attended this mini-retreat.)

Central Steuben Catholic Parishes (CSCP)

This is an important group for us. The Central Steuben Catholic Parish Implementation Committee held a five-church event on March 1 in Campbell. 10-12 parishioners from St. Mary's went. Each parish has two reps and one alternate. They meet every two months. Their goal is to implement the CSCP plan for our area.

The diocese has made our region a model on how rural churches survive. In November there is a diocesan planning day whose topic will explore ways of keeping rural churches vital. A Listening Session planned for April 8 at St. Joseph's in Campbell and in other rural settings throughout the diocese will help planners set the November program.

Al Hanning is currently our only representative on the CSCP Implementation Committee. Paul Wolfe and Krista Armentano have recently departed the Committee and we are in need of replacements.

Diocese Stewardship Day

This day long event is set for April 26 in Rochester. Ray encouraged parish council members and parishioners to attend. (To Register, contact the parish office.)

Stewardship Update from Jim Gallagher

Parish council discussed several questions from the parish stewardship assessment survey. Topics: description of parish ministries, welcoming members to parish, lay leaders taking on roles.

Parish Council Vacancies

We currently have one vacancy on the parish council. Rosemary States' term concludes in June. Sean McKinley and Kathy Warren will continue into their second terms. We will discuss potential candidates at April meeting. Elections will take place on the third weekend in May.

Parish Council Assembly

Parish Council members will serve as the Assembly at Saturday Mass on April 5. Assignments were made.

April Meeting Agenda

The next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday, April 8, 2008.

Agenda items for this meeting include: items for next month's agenda will include:

- ♦ Financial Statement
- ♦ Brainstorm on plans for welcoming new parishioners
- ♦ Stewardship survey questions
- ♦ Parish council elections

Meeting closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Warren