



# Saint Mary's Parish

*A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach*

The Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 17, 2008

## Our Parish Office

32 East Morris Street  
Bath, NY 14810  
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Other times by appointment  
Office: 607-776-3327  
Fax: 607-776-3409  
Email: bstmaryc@dor.org

## Our Parish Staff

Deacon Ray Defendorf  
Pastoral Administrator  
E-mail: RDefendorf@DOR.org  
Rev. Jim Jaeger  
Sacramental Minister  
E-mail: FJaeger@DOR.org  
Deacon Ed Wight  
Parish Deacon - 776-3258  
Barbara Bailey  
Parish Bookkeeper/Secretary  
E-Mail: BBAiley@DOR.org  
Dan Barefoot  
Custodian  
Mary Faucett  
Parish Life Volunteer  
Paula Gardner  
Office Volunteer  
E-Mail: PGardner1@DOR.org  
Mary Carol Wall  
Youth Ministry/Faith Formation  
Coordinator - 776-6944  
E-Mail: Avocawalls@peoplepc.com

## St. Mary's Choir

Aubri Ordway, Director  
Assisted by Brad Ordway  
Brent Franklin - Keyboard  
Ellie Boutwell/Carl Johengen  
Saturday Mass Organists

## Our Parish Council

William MacNamara  
Chairperson - 556-3690  
Barbara Perry  
Vice-Chairperson - 776-6920  
Mary McConnell  
Secretary - 776-3265  
Jim Gallagher  
Stewardship Chairperson - 776-6810  
Denise Crossett - 776-5089  
Sean McKinley - 329-4436  
Kathy Warren - 776-4074



*"Please, Lord, for even the dogs  
eat the scraps that fall from  
the table of their masters."*



## Scripture REFLECTIONS

Today's readings are about outsiders and insiders, "them" and "us." The question of who "belongs" among the ranks of God's chosen people is a recurring theme throughout Scripture. It takes some interesting twists today.

In the first reading, Isaiah challenges those who might like to claim salvation for Israel alone. "Foreigners" will also be acceptable to God if they follow the Law. God's house is "a house of prayer for all people."

The second reading leaves us in no doubt that salvation is for everyone-Jew and Gentile alike. Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, assures us that God will have mercy on all.

It is Jesus, in today's Gospel reading, who surprises us at first. When a Gentile woman, a Canaanite, asks him to heal her daughter, he answers rather harshly-he was only sent to the house of Israel; he can't give children's food to dogs! This faith-filled outsider speaks of her knowledge of the Creator-even dogs get some scraps. Surely there is love enough for everyone.

## Story for Today Simple Scraps of Salvation

By Dr. Constance M. Popp

After a tour of duty in Iraq, Bill returned paranoid and fearful to a world that seemed threatening at every turn. He suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder but didn't know it until the police refused to listen to his warnings about Muslims in his neighborhood. After his third attempt to warn the police, with no results, he began seeing a therapist.

After several sessions, Bill left the East Coast and moved to Carbondale, Ill., where he enrolled in a community college. When he saw an Arab student, however, the old fears returned and he walked the other way to avoid contact.

Also attending the college was Yusef, president of the Muslim Student Association, who wanted to reinvigorate the group by opening its membership to all students, not just Muslims. Seeing the posters advertising the first meeting, Bill decided to attend, wanting to face his fears head on. Making sure to sit close to the door for a fast getaway, Bill was shocked to see that the Arab man he had turned around to avoid was Yusef, the student leading the meeting.

Also sitting by the door were Muslim women who believed Bill must be a government spy because he asked so many questions. But he was not a spy and Yusef was not a terrorist. The two soon discovered a common interest in magic and, within the first semester, became friends, with Bill planning a 5K walk as a fundraiser for the group.

Bill called his therapist to tell him he'd joined the Muslim Association, which the therapist cautioned might be taking things too far in too short a time, but it was not too soon for Bill.

The interviewer reporting the story on National Public Radio closed by saying, "When you see everything Bill did to overcome his hatred, it's easy to understand why hardly anyone ever does it."

Small things, like scraps thrown to dogs, can inspire people to overcome huge disabilities, like hatred.

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## Mass/Communion/Reconciliation Schedule

### Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day

Saturday - 4:00 p.m. ✦ Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

### The Sacrament of Reconciliation

1st and 3rd Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.

### Weekday Mass/Communion Services

Monday (Scripture/Communion) - 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday and Thursday - 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday - 5:00 p.m.

Friday - 8:30 a.m. (St. Gabriel's, Hammondsport)



A member of the  
Central Steuben  
Catholic Parishes  
Diocese of Rochester



## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY Aug 17, Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
 9:30 a.m. **In Mem. of Dori O'Connell**  
 By Deb & Bill Brinkus  
 Chris & Scott Howard

MONDAY Aug 18, Monday  
 9:00 a.m. Scripture/Communion Service

TUESDAY Aug 19, Tuesday  
 5:00 p.m. In Mem. of Helen Opila  
 By Henrietta & Sam Powell

WEDNESDAY Aug 20, Wednesday  
 9:00 a.m. Intentions of Mary Giblin  
 By her family

THURSDAY Aug 21, Thursday  
 9:00 a.m. Intentions of Geri & Jim Galvin  
 By Barb, Agnes & Janice

FRIDAY Aug 22, Friday,  
 (Mass at St. Gabriel's at 8:30a.m.)

SATURDAY Aug 23, Saturday  
 4:00 p.m. Intentions of Geri & Jim Galvin  
 on their 50th Anniversary  
 By Geri & jim Galvin

SUNDAY Aug 24, Twentieth Sunday  
 of Ordinary Time  
 9:30 a.m. In Mem. of Arthur John Maher  
 By Deacon Ray Defendorf

*Beginning in January 2009, a weekend Mass each month will be offered for the "Members of the St. Mary's Memorial Fund." Donations to this fund will be used to support parish ministries and capital projects.*



## PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

SUNDAY Aug 17  
 8:30 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel  
 11:00 a.m. Post Choir Practice, Church  
 3:00 p.m. Sunday Supper, Hall  
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

MONDAY Aug 18  
 6:00 p.m. Keuka Lake Players 201 & 205

TUESDAY Aug 19  
 6:00 p.m. Weight Loss Challenge - 101  
 7:30 p.m. Bath Daycare Preschool Graduation—Hall  
 7:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Rectory

WEDNESDAY Aug 20  
 6:00 p.m. Keuka Lake Players 201 & 205

THURSDAY Aug 21  
 5:30p.m. Weight Watchers - Hall  
 7:30p.m. Prayer Group—Chapel

FRIDAY Aug 22  
 6:00 p.m. Keuka Lake Players 201 & 205

SATURDAY Aug 23  
 1:00 p.m. NA - Hall

SUNDAY Aug 24  
 8:30 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel  
 11:00 a.m. Post Choir Practice, Church  
 3:00p.m. Sunday Supper, Hall  
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101



## Prayer List

Bruce Ayers, Fran Cummings, Bob Denno, Mary Fisher, Michael Furlong, Mary and Jack Giblin, Deb Griffin, Nancy Holzer, John Hurley, Joseph Kish, Jim Lamprecht, Logan Manciocchi, Deacon John Prave, Theresa Rodbourn, Cindy Travers, and Stan Wraith.



## Assembly Schedule

Aug 23- Sat. 4:00 p.m.  
 Willing Hearts  
 Aug 24 - Sun. 9:30 a.m.  
 Heavenly Hash

To join an assembly call 776-3327

## Catholic Charities Steuben "40 Week Club"

The 40 week club gives Catholic Charities an opportunity to help raise critical dollars needed to support their Anti-Poverty and Child Day Care Programs.

Please support this important work.  
 Tickets Available in the Parish Office.



## Happy Birthday To You!

08/17 Randy Crocker	08/21 Steven Olsen
08/18 Judy Snell	08/21 Eithen Ormsby
08/19 Bob Abbey	08/22 Michael Crotty
08/20 Rod McConnell	08/22 Cheryl Crocker
08/21 Dallas Armentano	08/23 Michael Bly
08/21 Teresa Perry	

## St. Mary's Youth Group



**RUMMAGE SALE**

Rummage sale time is here again. The Youth Group is looking for good useable items for this sale. If you can donate something, you can drop it off in the garage or if you need something picked up, contact the parish office. 776 - 3327.

## Joseph's Hammer

"Neighbor Helping Neighbor"



Joseph's Hammer is a ministry of St Gabriel's in Hammondsport and volunteers from other area churches that completes construction projects for needy neighbors throughout the area.

Joseph's Hammer is seeking funds and new volunteers. Place donations in the little house that is located in the back of the church.



## SAINT MARY'S PARISH "A Parish of Good Stewards"

Thank you for Making Parish a Priority!

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$4269.58  
 Maintenance \$983.65

**Today's 2nd Collection: Can & Quarter**  
**Next Week's 2nd Collection: Air Conditioning**

In addition to helping us meet our payroll expenses, your stewardship gifts will help us pay our annual Insurance bill of \$28,960.

## Turning Point August Collection

Soup

Cans or boxes of soup may be left in the back of



Deacon Ray is on vacation through August 26.

## Parish Picnic & Mass

The parish picnic has been rescheduled for Sunday, August 31  
 in St. Mary's Pavilion  
 1:00pm Mass  
 2:00pm Picnic  
 Bring a dish to pass

Meat & Beverage will be Provided.

Note: On this day, there will be **NO 9:30 a.m. Mass**



## SENT TO SERVE

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

# Treasures Hidden



Reverend Francis R. Davis

A few weeks ago, a friend sent me this story concerning the importance of treasuring each person as a special gift of God.

**A** man was exploring caves by the Seashore.

In one of the caves

he found a canvas bag with

a bunch of hardened clay balls. It was

like someone had rolled clay balls and left them out in the sun to bake. They didn't look like much, but they intrigued the man, so he took the bag out of the cave with him.

As he strolled along the beach, he would throw the clay balls one at a time out into the ocean as far as he could. He thought little about it, until he dropped one of the clay balls and it cracked open on a rock.. Inside was a beautiful, precious stone!

Excited, the man started breaking open the remaining clay balls. Each contained a similar treasure. He found thousands of dollars worth of jewels in the 20 or so clay balls he had left.

Then it struck him. He had been on the beach a long time. He had thrown maybe 50 or 60 of the clay balls with their hidden treasure into the ocean waves. Instead of thousands of dollars in treasure, he could have taken home tens of thousands, but he had just thrown it away!

It's like that with people. We look at someone, maybe even ourselves, and we see the external clay vessel. It doesn't look like much from the outside. It isn't always beautiful or sparkling, so we discount it. We see that person as less important than someone more beautiful or stylish or well known or wealthy. But we have not taken the time to find the treasure hidden inside that person.

There is a treasure in each and every one of us. If we take the time to get to know that person, and if we ask God to show us that person the way He sees them, then the clay begins to peel away and the brilliant gem begins to shine forth.

May we not come to the end of our lives and find out that we have thrown away a fortune in friendships because the gems were hidden in bits of clay. May we see the people in our world as God sees them.

**J**ust such a treasure went to the Lord's embrace last week. Father Francis R. Davis was a gentle, thoughtful and totally dedicated priest of the Diocese of Rochester for over 63 years.

I met Fr. Davis in early 1980 when, after moving to Corning, I was seeking a home for "Celebrate Life" the teen musical group I had formed eleven years earlier in Horseheads. Fr. Frank agreed to let us use St. Patrick's School building and park our bus in his parking lot. For four years, St. Patrick's was our home base as we traveled throughout the area and state giving concerts and producing shows such as *Godspell* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Following my ordination in 1982, Fr. Davis invited me to share his pulpit at St. Patrick's each month in addition to my assignment at St. Mary's, Corning.

Following his retirement in 1990, Fr. Davis and I became a presider/deacon team in the newly formed Corning-Painted Post Roman Catholic Community. Each weekend I would join Fr. Davis on the altar for two or three Masses. One weekend he would preach. I would preach the next.

In over twenty years of working with Fr. Davis, I never heard him say an negative word against any human being. I came to love him as a person without ego - the only such person I have ever met. A humble, innocent and extremely generous man, Fr. Davis occasionally found himself being taken advantage of by people who would regular visit the rectory for assistance. Yet, time and again, he opened his wallet and trusting heart to them - without judgment or regret.

Fr. Frank was a voracious reader, a trait that suited him well in his first priestly assignment at the librarian of St. Bernard's Seminary. Later he served as pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes in Elmira and St. Mary's, Danville before beginning his ministry at St. Patrick's.

This kind and gentle man, remained faithful to his daily recitation of the Liturgy of the Hours, daily Mass and rosary throughout his priesthood. He spent the last years of his life at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse and Infirmary in Rochester, breviary at bedside.

I had the privilege of preaching at a Memorial Mass for Fr. Davis which was held At St. Mary's in Corning on Wednesday night and also attending his Funeral Mass (with Fr. Jim)

on Monday morning at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester

**B**efore leaving for a delayed vacation on Thursday morning, I signed a few checks that it is important that you know about. These included:

- The July Bath Gas and Electric bill of \$868.
- Our monthly 4% of collections tithe to Catholic Charities - \$498
- Our monthly Catholic Courier Bill of \$239
- And our annual insurance bill of \$28,669.

Yes, you read that correctly. Our annual insurance bill is \$28,669. While we must pay this amount upfront for the entire fiscal year, it breaks down to a monthly cost of \$2,389.08 to insure our church, rectory, the Zimmer Center and O'Malley Hall as well as workman's comp. and disability insurance for our paid staff. To cover this bill, we used the \$8,200 raised by the UNFAIR, \$10,469 from our operating budget and an additional \$10,000 from our Investment savings fund.

In early September, I'll mail a 2007-2008 State of the Parish Report which will include last year's financial statements and our 2008-2009 budget summary. Then we'll schedule a Town Meeting to discuss these reports and seek your input on ways that we might effectively face our continually rising financial obligations.

I want you to know how grateful I am to you for your personal support for my ministry here at St. Mary's and for the very generous ways that you support the work of your parish.

Have a good week. Serve each other well!

**Church Name: St. Mary's Church**

City, State: Bath, NY

File Name: 06-0323

Phone: 607-776-3327

Contact/Editor: Paula Gardner or Deacon Ray Defendorf