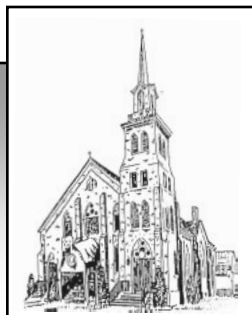


Saint Mary's Parish

A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 19, 2007



Our Parish Office

32 East Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Other times by appointment
Office: 607-776-3327
Fax: 607-776-3409
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Our Parish Staff

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Pastoral Administrator
E-mail: RDefendorf@DOR.org

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Regional Parish Priest
E-mail: peteranglae@yahoo.com

Fr. John Wydeven

Weekend Assistance

Deacon Ed Wight

Parish Deacon - 776-3258

Barbara Bailey

Parish Bookkeeper/Secretary
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Elie Boutwell/Brent Franklin

Summer Organist/Keyboard

Michele Ferrara

Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor
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Karen Grimmer

Parish Life/Social Ministry Coor.
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Custodian

Mary Carol Wall

Youth Ministry/Faith Formation
Coordinator - 776-6944

E-Mail: Avocawalls@usadatanet.net

Our Parish Council

William MacNamara

Chairperson - 556-3690

Rosemary States

Vice-Chairperson - 776-7520

Mary McConnell

Secretary - 776-3265

Jim Gallagher

Stewardship Chairperson - 776-6810

Sean McKinley - 329-4436

Barbara Perry - 776-6920

Kathy Warren - 776-4074



Scripture REFLECTIONS

There is a world of choices out there. Many of us may have a choice of breakfast cereals in the morning, as well as a choice of beverages. In some homes there's coffee, tea, milk, water, or juice readily available on any given morning. Choosing one over the other is not an earth-shattering decision, and time does not stand still until a choice is made.

How different from this weekend's Gospel in which Jesus alludes to the critical choice that a person must make in his or her own life.

We often hear about making healthy choices in the food we eat. One breakfast cereal has a campaign in which an adult explains to a child how the cereal the adult is eating will help with

The Choices We Make

a cholesterol test. The implication is that choosing this cereal over others will improve one's life.

That could well be the case, but there is an even more basic choice for us if we want to improve our lives. That choice is for Christ or against Christ. How will your choice improve your life?



STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Your Gifts of Time and Talent are Needed



Liturgical Assemblies

New Liturgical Assemblies are forming to serve at our Saturday and Sunday Masses. Each team includes people to serve as greeters, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, cross bearers, and ushers. Both individuals and family groups are needed. You may either form your own group with family and friends or let us assign you to a new or existing Assembly. Organizational help and training will be provided in September. If you missed last weekends information sessions but would like to be placed in an Assembly, please call the office, 776-3327.

R.C.I.A. Team

A team is forming to journey with prospective Catholic Christians as they prepare for Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. The team will meet in late August for prayer and planning, then meet weekly with Catechumens

and Candidates for full membership in the Catholic Church. Team members will fill a variety of roles including, teaching, faith sharing and hospitality. This is not only a great way to share your faith, but also grow in your knowledge of the faith. People who have recently joined our parish family through the R.C.I.A. process are especially encouraged to participate. For information, please contact Deacon Ray 776-3327.

Health Ministry Volunteers

Volunteer health care professionals and people with clerical and hospitality skills are needed to provide free health care services to people without health insurance at the Health Ministry of the Southern Tier's Bath Community Care Center on Liberty Street Volunteer as little as 3-4 hours per month. Call 776-8085, Ext. 218.

Summer Mass/Communion/Reconciliation

Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day

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

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday ♦ Wednesday ♦ Thursday - 5:00 p.m.

♦ Friday 9:00 a.m.

Scripture/Communion Services

Monday - 9:00 a.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



A member of the
**Central Steuben
Catholic Parishes**



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY August 19, 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9:30 a.m. In Memory, Cyril J. Reinstatler
 By his daughter, Mary Frances

MONDAY August 20, Bernard, abbot, doctor
 9:00 a.m. Communion Service

TUESDAY August 21, Pius X, pope
 5:00 p.m. In Memory, Patricia Parmeter
 By Sam and Henrietta powell

WEDNESDAY August 22, Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 5:00 p.m. The People of the Parish

THURSDAY August 23, Rose of Lima, virgin
 5:00 p.m. For the Galvins
 By Jim & Geri

FRIDAY August 24, Bartholomew, apostle
 9:00 a.m. For Ashley, Casey and Jared, the young people recently injured in an auto accident

SATURDAY August 25, Weekday
 4:00 p.m. In Memory, Dorothy Murphy
 By her family

SUNDAY August 26, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9:30 a.m. In Memory, Diane Hafek
 By Rita Dwyer

There are many Mass intentions available.
 (Stipend \$10). Please call the office to schedule.
 Weekday Mass/Communion in our New Visitation Chapel



SAINT MARY'S PARISH

"A Parish of Very Good Stewards"
 Thank you for - Making Parish a Priority!
 August 11/12

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$3371.41 **THANK YOU!**
 2nd Collection for Diocese of Ogojo: \$701.85
 This week's second collection: *Can and Quarter*
 Next week's second collection: *Maintenance*



Assembly Schedule

August 25- Sat. 4:00 p.m. - Lake Country Disciples
 August 26- Sun. 9:30 a.m. - Willing Hearts
 To form or join an assembly, call 776-3327

Assembly Information Meeting Today (Sunday) at 11 a.m.

Becoming a Roman Catholic

St. Mary's Parish invites you to share in our journey of faith. The journey begins when you let Deacon Ray or Father Peter know that you might be interested in being baptized, or entering into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church through the RCIA process. The RCIA is also open to baptized Catholics who would benefit from learning more about their faith. Call 776-3327.



PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

SUNDAY August 19
 9:00 a.m. Willing Hearts Summer Choir Practice, Chapel
No Coffee Hour

7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

MONDAY August 20
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, O'Malley Hall

TUESDAY August 21
WEDNESDAY August 22
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, O'Malley Hall
 6:30 p.m. The Light Weigh, Room 101

THURSDAY August 23
 5:30 p.m. Weight Watchers, O'Malley Hall

FRIDAY August 24
SATURDAY August 25
 1:00 p.m. NA, Room 101

SUNDAY August 26
No Coffee Hour
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101



Happy Birthday To You

08/19	Margaret Yerger	08/22	Michael Crotty
08/20	Rodrick McConnell	08/23	Michael Bly
08/21	Dallas Armentano	08/24	Lyman Sheils
08/21	Steven Olesen	08/24	Kathryn Biehl
08/21	Teresa Perry	08/24	Marissa Oksinski
08/22	Cheryl Crocker	08/24	Dorothy Cullen
08/22	Eithen Ormsby	08/25	Mary Gaudino



Wedding Jubilee Mass

On Sunday, September 23, at 2:00PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester, Bishop Matthew Clark will preside at the annual Wedding Jubilee Mass to honor couples who have been married 25, 30, 40, 50 or more years. A reception will follow the Mass.

To register, please visit the Diocesan website, www.dor.org. Under "Featured Links", and scroll to Jubilee Mass Form. Or, contact Sylvia Mancuso by phone at 1-800-388-7177, ext. 1295 or e-mail at smancuso@dor.org. Registration deadline is Friday, August 31.



ALICE'S REST COMFORT HOME

Annual Pig Roast - September 29

Alice's Fourth Annual Pig Roast and Gun Raffle will take place in St. Mary's O'Malley Hall on Saturday, September 29 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Only 750 tickets will be sold at \$10 each. Ticket includes a buffet Pig Roast and a chance to win hunting equipment or cash prizes. For more information or to buy or sell Pig Roast/Raffle Tickets, please Call 1-607-566-3420 or send check or money order to Alice's Rest Comfort Home, 8904 Cook Rd., Avoca, NY 14809



SENT TO SERVE

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

It's been a relatively quiet week around the parish, which is really one of the blessings of summertime. **Mike Ormsby** has been installing new lights in O'Malley Hall, a gift from the Knights of Columbus who will begin using the Hall for their Monday night BINGO games beginning in September. The Knights have also contracted with us to take over Room 205 on the second floor of the Zimmer Center. The space was previously rented by the Steuben Rural Health Network which has moved to new offices.

Within the next few weeks, three new HVAC units should arrive and be placed on the roof of O'Malley Hall. These units replace the original units which have been bandaged together for as long as I've been at St. Mary's. This capital purchase will take another \$15,000 chunk out of savings, but it is something that must be done at this time. One older unit will remain in place. We've salvaged enough spare parts to hopefully keep us cool in the summer and warm in the winter for another 15 to 20 years.

A few weeks ago, I mentioned the projects to be discussed by our **Building and Grounds Committee**. One of these project was the sealing of the parking lots. Not a day passed before a parishioner offered to pay for this project. The resealing has been scheduled for the first week of September. We have again been blessed with the spirit of stewardship. Thank you.

Stuck on Community Stewardship

Speaking of stewardship, it can take many forms including service to community organizations such as United Way. Two St. Mary's parishioners, **Kathy Biehl** and **Mark Alger** recently allowed themselves to be duct taped to a board at the



County Office Building Snack Shop as a UW fundraiser. Perhaps you saw this photo in last Sunday's **Courier Advocate**. Another parishioner, **Pam Colomaio** is chairing the **Central Steuben UW Campaign**. Several other parishioners serve on Pam's Campaign Committee.



Car Needed

About a year ago I requested the donation of automobiles for parish families in need of reliable transportation. Several people responded and were rewarded for their generosity with a tax letter acknowledging their donation at the assessed value of the vehicle. Recently, another family approached me in need of a vehicle that would allow members of the family to attend school in Elmira and Mass here at St. Mary's on Sunday morning. If you have a drivable car that you could donate to this family, please call the office. Your gift will truly make a difference in this family's life.

Vacation Time

This summer I've been traveling on my day off to Chautauqua where Pat serves as house manager to priest chaplains and guests at Catholic House. Following today's Mass I'll rejoin her - this time for a week's vacation.

Have a good week. Serve one another well.

Deacon Ray 3

Father Pius Celebrates

Father Pius Pathmarajah was the guest of honor at a party last Sunday at the home of **Al** and **Evie Hanning Fr. Pius**, who now serves at St. John the Evangelist Church in Greece, NY, recently celebrated his 35th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.



Thank You from Fr. Francis Eworo

Fr. Francis Eworo, who spoke at last weekend's Masses on behalf of his **Diocese of Ogojo, Nigeria**, was truly touched by the generosity and warm hospitality extended to him by our parish.

Welcome Father O'Connor

Today we welcome again **Father Gerald O'Connor** as presider of our Sunday Eucharist as Father Peter enjoys some vacation time before beginning his studies at Alfred University.



Building Peace with Justice


A Reflection for August 19, 2007



It can be dangerous to speak out on behalf of those who are poor and marginalized. Jeremiah, knowing the danger, prophesied anyway. He could not have been surprised when the princes threw him into the cistern. Jesus speaks many times in the Gospel of Luke of the way prophetic speech can divide even members of the same family.

Speaking out carries the risk of sometimes being wrong and often being ridiculed, but being quiet cedes all the power to those promote a gospel of hate and cynicism.

Reflection: Foolhardiness and fear are both enemies of prophetic speech. Do we have the wisdom and faith to overcome them?



Our Bishops Speak on Global Warming

Our mistreatment of the natural world diminishes our own dignity and sacredness, not only because we are destroying resources that future generations of humans need, but because we are engaging in actions that contradict what it means to be human. Our tradition calls us to protect the life and dignity of the human person, and it is increasingly clear that this task cannot be separated from the care and defense of all of creation. (USCCB - *Renewing the Earth: An Invitation to Reflection and Action on Environment in Light of Catholic Social Teaching*, 1991, 2)

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File Name: 06-0323

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