

Saint Mary's Parish

A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach



The Feast of the Holy Family

December 30, 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
Email: bstmaryc@dor.org

Our Parish Staff

Deacon Ray Defendorf
Pastoral Administrator
E-mail: RDefendorf@DOR.org

Rev. Peter Anglaaere
Regional Parish Priest
E-mail: peteranglaa@yahoo.com

Fr. John Wydeven
Weekend Assistance

Deacon Ed Wight
Parish Deacon - 776-3258

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Parish Bookkeeper/Secretary
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Paula Gardner
Office Volunteer

George Hoffman
Custodian

Mary Card Wall
Youth Ministry/Faith Formation
Coordinator - 776-6944
E-Mail: Avocawls@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

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

*God sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.
Whoever honors his father atones for sins,
and preserves himself from them.
When he prays, he is heard;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.*

SIRACH 3:2-4



Holy Family Sunday

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Mass/Communion/Reconciliation Schedule

Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day
Saturday - 4:00 p.m. ✦ Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Tuesday & Friday - 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday & Thursday - 5:00 p.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 December 23
Fourth Sunday of Advent
 9:00 a.m. For Curtis Murphy
 By his family

MONDAY December 24
Vigil of Christmas
 4:00 p.m. Kathy Donahue
 By Deacon Ray & Pat Defendorf

TUESDAY December 25,
Nativity of the Lord
 10:00 a.m. In Memory of Mr. & Mrs
 Robert Bonbrake
 By Mary Eaton

WEDNESDAY December 26,
Stephen, first martyr
 5:00 p.m. In Memory of Clara Kuczak
 By Henrietta & Sam Powell

THURSDAY December 27,
John, apostle, evangelist
 5:00 p.m. In Memory of Robert Bonbrake
 By Bob & Jean Cuffney

FRIDAY December 28,
Holy Innocents, martyrs
 9:00 a.m. In Memory of Pat Adamowicz
 By Anna Bossers

2:30 p.m. Taylor Healthcare Center
 In Memory of Verona Kish
 By Mike Bocek

4:00 p.m. Lakeview
 In Memory of Joseph John Calviello
 By Jim & Carol Lamprecht-

SATURDAY December 29,
5th Day in Octave of Christmas
 4:00p.m. In Memory of John Walsh
 By Evelyn Walsh

SUNDAY December 30,
Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary & Joseph
 9:00a.m. In Memory of Tom Park
 By Geri & Jim Galvin



PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

SUNDAY December 23
No Faith Formation Classes
No Coffee Hour

8:00 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel
 10:30 a.m. Post Mass Choir Practice, Church
 Pageant Practice
 Decorate Church for Christmas
 12:00 Noon Choir Christmas Luncheon

7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

MONDAY December 24
TUESDAY December 25
WEDNESDAY December 26
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, Room 101

THURSDAY December 27
 5:30 p.m. Weight Watchers, Room 101

FRIDAY December 28
SATURDAY December 29
 1:00 p.m. NA, Room 101

SUNDAY December 30
 8:00 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel
No Coffee Hour
No Faith Formation Classes



Happy Birthday To You!

12/24 Anthony Ferrara	12/28 Frances Ducharme
12/24 Charles Murray	12/28 Cody Hutcheson
12/26 Ashley Russell	12/28 Paul Wolfe
12/26 Keith Russell	12/28 Teresa Koehler
12/26 Anthony Russo	12/29 Henrietta Powell
12/27 Michelle Carpenter	12/29 Ashlee Motsay



Assembly Schedule

December 29 - Sat. 4:00 p.m.
 Willing Hearts
 December 30 - Sun. 9a.m.
 Luminaries



SAINT MARY'S PARISH

"A Parish of Good Steward"
Thank you for
Making Parish a Priority!
December 15/16 2007

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$3299.00
Can & Quarter: \$374.06
Today's Second Collection: Maintenance



St. Mary's Coffee Hours

We are in need of families, individuals or assemblies to host coffee hours in the upcoming months. If you are interest, please contact the office at 776-3327



Please Pray for Our Sick

Bruce Ayers, Mary Beebe, Nancy Caporizzo, Joe Clancy, Dorothy Dougherty, Jared Fisher, Mike Francis, Paula Gardner, Mary and Jack Gblin, Donald Harvey, Josephine Lewis, Logan Manchodkee, Charlie Murray, Shirley Murray, and Teresa Rodbourn.

If you or a family member wish to be added or deleted from this list, please call the office.



The office will be closed on Monday, on Monday December 31st and Tuesday January 1st for New Years Eve and New Years Day.



SENT TO SERVE

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

A Celebration of Family

Did you know that one of the most influential writers of aids to homilists is not herself a homilist. Each month for over 25 years, **Patricia Datchuck Sánchez** has broken open the scriptures for priest and deacons in the publication *Celebration*, a must have resource for homily preparation. Today, in lieu of my thoughts on family life (which I'll share with you at this weekend's Masses,) I'll let Mrs. Sanchez break open the message that this Feast holds for people like you and me whose ministry begins and ends in a celebration of family.

Deacon Ray

A Celebration of Family

By Patricia Datchuck Sánchez

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, an intensely private person was loathe to give personal interviews. On one of those rare occasions when she consented to answer a reporter's questions she remarked, "If you bungle raising your children, I don't think whatever else you do well matters very much." (quoted in *Good Housekeeping*, July 1994). Coming as it did from a woman whose wealth, education, background and connections could have assured her a prestigious career in politics, academia or diplomacy, this statement may seem surprising. But Mrs. Kennedy was convinced that family was the most important element in her life. The readings for today's Feast of the Holy Family also underscore the necessity of a wholesome and holy family life. But there is little doubt that many factors in society today militate against such a value, viz. divorce, separation, economic tensions, mobility, decreased contact with relatives, lack of communication and time spent together.

In his book, *The De-Valuing of America* (Summit Books, 1992), former U.S. Secretary of Education **William J. Bennett** observed, "We have ceased being clear about the standards we hold and the principles by which we judge. As a result, we have suffered a breakdown of sorts, in areas like education, family life, crime and drug abuse, as well as in our attitudes toward sex, individual responsibility, civic duty and public service."

Aware of the situation of the contemporary human family and sympathetic to its needs, the participants at the Second Vatican Council affirmed, "The family is the principal school of the social virtues which are neces-

sary to every society. It is above all in the Christian family, inspired by the grace and the responsibility of the sacrament of matrimony that children should be taught to know and worship God and to love their neighbor. . . In it, they will have their first experience of a well-balanced human society and of the church. . . It is through the family that children are gradually initiated into association with their fellow human beings in civil life and as members of the people of God" (Declaration on Christian Education, # 3, 28 October 1965).

Ever aware and sensitive to the needs of the people and the signs of the times, the Church gathers together the praying assembly today for a celebration of family.

Today is not a time to bemoan the obvious difficulties which threaten every family but to accent the unique and positive qualities which every family enjoys.

Today is not a day for dredging up an unrepeatable past by reciting the litany of how things used to be "when I was your age" . . .

Today, with its newness, affords each family an opportunity to look truthfully and without regret at how things are and then to envision, realistically and with trusting hope, the direction in which the family would like to grow together.

To that end, Sirach (first reading) invites family members to honor and reverence one another as God's special gifts.

In today's second reading, Paul offers the family of the church sound (although frequently misunderstood) counsel with regard to the interpersonal relationships upon which family is founded.

Luke's Gospel with its two-edged message reminds us that every child born into a family will bring to that family joys and blessings ("my eyes have witnessed your saving deed, a revealing light to the gentiles, the glory of your people" as well as sorrow and suffering ("You yourself shall be pierced with a sword"). Through it all, God, the one and gracious parent of us all, Jesus, our loving brother and the abiding power and presence of the Spirit remains ever near as the source and center of who we are as family.

Patricia Datchuck Sánchez holds a masters degree in literature and religion of the Bible from Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary in New York. © 2006 Celebration. Used with permission.

Star Light! Star Bright! Epiphany Retreat

Next weekend, as our parish gathers for Mass, we will also be joining the Magi in a search for Jesus. At both weekend Masses, **Fr. James Vacco, O.F.M.** will be our presider and preacher. Father Vacco will also be our spiritual guide during our first annual Epiphany Retreat. His theme will be **Star Light! Star Bright!** The guide for our Journey.


Decide now to start your journey through the New Year with these sacred days of prayer, music and inspiring preaching

The Retreat begins with a Dish to Pass Supper on Epiphany Sunday at 5 p.m. This night will feature time for scriptural Lessons and Carols, an informal Conversation with Fr. Vacco and Night Prayer.

Monday Evening at 7:00 p.m. we will meet in the church for a service of the Liturgy of the Hours - the sacred prayer of the Church. Fr. Vacco's presentation entitled: Star Bright! Looking for the Light, will help us to discern what God has called us to be.

Tuesday Evenings presentation: Star Bright! A Guide for our Journey will begin in O'Malley Hall and following a candlelight procession to the Church, will conclude with a celebration of the Eucharist.

Epiphany Retreat 2008
Star Light, Star Bright
the guide for our journey
with James Vacco, O.F.M., M.Div.



Start your journey through the New Year by following the Star of Bethlehem at a three day retreat featuring inspiring talks by Franciscan Friar Fr. Jim Vacco of St. Bonaventure University.

SAINT MARY'S CHURCH
32 East Morris Street ♦ Bath

Introductory Homily at Masses
Weekend of January 5/6
Epiphany Sunday, January 6 at 5:00 p.m.
Saint Mary's O'Malley Hall and Church
Pre-Retreat Dish to Pass Supper
Lessons and Carols Prayer
Conversation with Fr. Jim
Candle Light Procession & Night Prayer

Evening Retreat Sessions
Monday, January 7 ♦ 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Star Light: Looking for the Light
Tuesday, January 8 ♦ 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Star Bright: a guide for the journey

Retreat Masses
Monday at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday* at 7:00 p.m.
*As part of final Retreat Session

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available Monday at 5:00 p.m. or by appointment. Call 776-3327

Church Name: St. Mary's Church

City, State: Bath, NY

File Name: 06-0323

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Contact/Editor: Michele Ferrara or Deacon Ray Defendorf