

# Saint Mary's Parish

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

The Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

February 26, 2006



## 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. Frank Erb

Sacramental Minister

### Deacon Ed Wight

Parish Deacon

### Barbara Bailey

Parish Bookkeeper/Secretary  
E-Mail: BBailey@DOR.org

### Michele Ferrara

Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor  
E-Mail: MFerrara@DOR.org

### Betty Gerych

Choir and Bell Choir

### Bill Grimmer

Music and Liturgy  
E-mail: Williamgrimmer@hotmail.com

### Karen Grimmer

Parish Life/Social Ministry Coord.  
E-mail: Kgrimmer@DOR.org

### George Hoffman

Custodian

### Mary Carol Wall

Youth Ministry and  
Religious Education  
Coordinator - 776-6944  
E-Mail: Avocawalls@usadatanet.net

## Our Parish Council

### Jo Slovak

Chairperson

### Rosemary States

Vice-Chairperson

### Jim Gallagher

### Mary McConnell

### Sean McKinley

### William MacNamara

### Kathy Warren

### In Residence

### Fr. John Wydeven

Catholic Chaplain - Bath VA



## Scripture REFLECTIONS

Parents of teenagers everywhere will attest to the fact that at a certain point in time, all children attempt to undermine their parents' authority. Admittedly, most parents have "forgotten" that they probably did the same thing when they were young, and find it hard to believe their children would act rebellious. Gradually, parents accept that their kids are becoming adults and are learning to make decisions on their own.

Today's Gospel reading from Mark describes what seems to be Jesus undermining the authority of Jewish laws of the time. While all around them are fasting, Jesus and his disciples do not. The Pharisees, who seem to be watching every move Jesus makes, question him about this obvious violation of the law. He patiently explains with analogies that if a person has Christ in his or her heart, there is no need to fast for he fills every need.

The fourth precept of the church, in which we are instructed to observe fasting and abstinence in accordance with liturgical feasts, helps us to not only serve a penance reminiscent of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, but to become more in control of our instincts and to experience more room and freedom for love in our hearts. (CCC 2043) This in turn leads us to live a moral life, where our nourishment is derived by a closer association with the Word and Eucharist of the Lord.

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A Special CSCP LENTEN INSERT is included with this week's bulletin. The insert contains the times of all Lenten Services throughout the CSCP Churches.

## Nourishment From The Lord



### Our Covenant with God

When is the last time you considered yourself "eligible?" You know what I mean: out there able to play the field, i.e., in the market, that is, "available"!



If you have a spouse, hopefully you're not thinking about yourself in that way. And even if you're single, I presume a bit more maturity on your part than some of the description above.

Whether we are married or single, we are already in another type of committed relationship-our relationship with God. In prophetic words in today's first reading, Hosea describes how God has espoused us to God's self. This is a forever kind of relationship. We may wander off, but God never will.

## Mass/Reconciliation Schedule

Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day

Saturday - 4:00 p.m. ✧ Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses

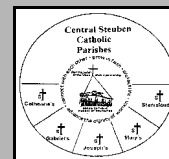
Tuesday and Thursday - 5:00 p.m. ✧ Friday - 9:00 a.m.

Scripture/Communion Services

Monday and Wednesday - 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

Diocese of Rochester



## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**SUNDAY** 9:00 a.m. **February 26, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
In Memory, Yolanda Fiordo  
By, Marge Eichensehr

**MONDAY** 9:00 a.m. **February 27, Weekday**  
Communion Service

**TUESDAY** 5:00 p.m. **February 28, Weekday**  
In Memory, Barbara Crowe  
By Tom and Jill Haynes

**WEDNESDAY** 12:10 p.m. **March 1, Ash Wednesday**  
Prayer and Ashes  
5:30 p.m. Mass and Ashes In Memory, Agnes Defendorf  
By St. Mary's Choir

**THURSDAY** 5:00 p.m. **March 2, Lenten Weekday**  
In Memory, Victor Desrosiers  
By The Desrosiers Family

**FRIDAY** 9:00 a.m. **March 3, Lenten Weekday**  
In Memory, Ginger Moran  
By Al and Mary Gaudino

**SATURDAY** 3:30 p.m. **March 4, Lenten Weekday**  
Reconciliation  
4:00 p.m. In Memory, Frank Leonhardt  
By Evelyn Walsh

**SUNDAY** 9:00 a.m. **March 5, First Sunday of Lent**  
In Memory, Richard Faucett  
By his wife, Mary



## PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

**SUNDAY** 9:00 a.m. **February 26**  
Children's Liturgy of the Word  
10:00 a.m. Pancake Breakfast  
10:30 a.m. Religious Education, K-12  
7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

**MONDAY** 6:00 p.m. **February 27**  
Bell Practice  
7:15 p.m. Choir Practice  
7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts, Room 202

**TUESDAY** 6:00 p.m. **February 28**  
Mardi Gras Dinner, O'Malley Hall  
7:30 p.m. Charismatic Prayer Group, DP room  
7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts, Room 202,203

**WEDNESDAY** 6:15 p.m. **March 1**  
Lenten Meal hosted by the PC, O'Malley Hall  
7:00 p.m. Lenten Series: Baptism and Confirmation  
"God's Call & Our Response"

**THURSDAY** 7:00 p.m. **March 2**  
Cub Scouts, Rooms 202, 203

**FRIDAY** 7:00 p.m. **March 3**  
Bingo, O'Malley Hall  
NA, Room 101

**SATURDAY** 1:00 p.m. **March 4**  
NA, Room 101

**SUNDAY** 9:00 a.m. **March 5**  
Children's Liturgy of the Word  
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour  
10:30 a.m. Religious Education K-12  
7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

## Mardi Gras Shrove Tuesday Dinner to Honor



Parish Volunteers will be honored at this year's Mardi Gras Dinner on this coming Tuesday, February 28 at 6:00 p.m. in O'Malley Hall. Musical Entertainment will be the Haverling High School Jazz Band.

Karen Grimmer has planned a New Orleans' Menu which will include Jambalaya, Chicken Gumbo (Stew), Dirty Rice (Red Beans, Tomatoes and Rice), Black eyed peas, King's bread, salads and dessert.

The event is open to all parishioners who volunteer their time and talents to any parish ministry. Please RSVP to the parish office 776-3327 by Monday.



## Happy Birthday To You

02/26	William Hall	02/28	Robert Yorio
02/26	Kevin Harrison	02/28	Michelle Neu
02/26	Nicholas Venuti	02/28	Cheryl Ambrosone
02/27	Christine Minichello		



The Sanctuary Light above the Tabernacle is burning for the intentions of Natalie N. Giordano by her children Charles & Carmen



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

**Thank you for - Making Parish a Priority!**

February 18/19, 2006

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$2,819.00 THANK YOU!  
Second Collection for Youth Ministry: \$246.00  
Can and Quarter Collection for the area's poor. \$220.56

*Celebrating 25 years* tea

## ANNUAL DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL

Saint Mary's Diocesan Ministry Appeal Goal **\$27,244**  
To Date, 152 Parishioners have pledged . . . **\$16,395**  
Needed to Reach our Quota . . . **\$10,849\***

\* St. Mary's is required to make up the difference should we not reach our quota.

**Please return your pledge card this week.**



## Sent to Serve

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

Pat and I are enjoying a few days of R and R in Florida before the busy Lenten and Easter Season begins. Typically, I bring my laptop and continue to work through these days of "vacation". This time, I've decided to leave my computer at the office and see if I am capable of rally taking time off. In my absence, I'm once again, reprinting an article by Fr. Ed Palumbos who is pastor of Assumption parish in Fairport, NY. I found this essay on "The Gift of Tears" especially enlightening and thought provoking.

*Deacon Ray*

A few years ago a colleague spoke about the "Gift of Tears" in his weekly bulletin column. I was intrigued and placed that idea in the back of my heart to ponder and write about some day. This week I was reading a short reflection by Sr. Joan Chittister, O.S.B. and once again I got in touch with the power of our tears.

Sr. Joan says that without tears, change may never come because the loss that tears frequently signify may never be acknowledged. Psychologists tell us that tears can release powerful pressure within us that we may not fully recognize until after the release. Tears can release us from the past. Weeping brings with it the therapy of disengagement. What gushes out of us in a torrent of tears has no more power to control us. What has been dulled by years of suppression, can come out, tamed from its lair as a melancholy tear that, stripped of its secret chain, weighs down our hearts no more. The ungrieved deaths of our lives can finally go to rest once our tears come. The losses of life lose their sting in the clear stream of sorrow. The memory of hurts and rejections grown larger through the years shrinks to size in the water of our tears. Tears can clean and irrigate our hearts so that new life can flow within us. They give us the right to grow beyond where we have been to a place where life beckons us to begin anew.

Who among us has not felt the need for a good cry? We all have losses and hurts and sorrows that come with trying to live life fully. When asked why he came among us, Jesus said he had come that we might have life in its fullest (see John 10:10). But living life to the fullest entails being vulnerable to others as well as the dark side of our own lives. We need not go about looking for the hurts and disappointments of life. No, these come to us all too often. Anyone who loves, knows the sorrows of life. But the alternative is not to love at all. And this is no way to live!

Until we cry about what punctures our psyches and sorrows our souls, stand toe to toe, wrestle it to the ground of our memories, we will never get beyond our wounds. The gift of tears, internal to each of us, is God's way of helping us get on with life. Don't stifle your tears, received them as the gift of God that they are.



## Youth Ministry News By Mary Carol Wall



The wonderful, and exuberant Steve Angrisano is giving what amounts to a free concert on Saturday, March 4th at Sacred Heart Cathedral from 3:30-8:00 p.m. Steve has been the keynoter at numerous Diocesan youth conventions, has taken part in numerous national conventions and emceed NCCY in Atlanta last October. If you want to know how wonderful he is, just ask the pilgrims to Atlanta!

There is an afternoon session from 3:30-5:00 with a social and supper from 5:00-7:00, followed by an evening session, which includes Eucharist, from 7:00-8:30. The Cathedral Community is providing the supper. The admission price is one 2-liter bottle of soda and one bag of snacks for every 10 people.

The concert is open to both Jr. and Sr. High youth groups, although the very young will need some stamina to get through both sessions.

Anyone who is interested in going, please contact me at the parish office 776-3327 or by email at [avocawalls@usadatanet.net](mailto:avocawalls@usadatanet.net). We are also in need of drivers, so we would be most grateful to anyone who is willing to carpool.

Please consider going. It is something you will never regret doing!



## Parish Stewardship at Lent

Coffee Hour and Lenten Dinner Hosts Needed

Often when we hear the term "Stewardship" we think of money. But true stewardship involves much more. Our stewardship of parish also includes the love for God and parish we exhibit when we give of our time and special talents. The Lenten Season offers many opportunities for stewardship. Here are two needs that invite your stewardship.

**Coffee Hour Hosts** are needed for the months of March and April. This has the potential of being a great ministry for a family or a few friends to do together. Duties involve picking up baked goods, preparing coffee and juice and clean up. Coffee hours are supported by donations.

**Lenten Dinner Meal Preparation Teams** are needed for Wednesday March 22 and March 29. Plan and prepare a Lenten supper specialty for about 100 people. Advise and assistance provided. Meals are supported by donations.

If you have time or talent to offer, please contact Karen Grimmer at 776-3327 (W) or 776-4027 (H).