

# Saint Mary's Parish

A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 2, 2008



## 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 Anglaere**  
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  
E-Mail: BBAiley@DOR.org

**Paula Gardner**  
Office Volunteer

**Dan Barefoot**  
Custodian

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



## Scripture REFLECTIONS

In Vienna in Austria there is a church in which the former ruling family in Austria, the Hapsburgs, are buried. When royal funerals arrived outside the church, the mourners knocked at the door of the church requesting to be allowed in. A priest inside would ask 'Who is it that desires admission here?' A guard would call out, 'His apostolic majesty, the emperor'. The priest would answer, 'I don't know him.' They would knock a second time, and again the priest would ask who it was. The funeral guard outside would announce, 'The highest emperor.' A second time the priest would say, 'I don't know him.' A third time they would knock on the door and the priest would ask 'Who is it?' The third time the answer would be, 'A poor sinner, your brother.'

That true story reminds us of the fact that we are all sinners no matter what our rank in society or Church. There was a time that most of us were much more conscious of our own sinfulness. But today, we become blind to our sinfulness and our need of God's mercy?"

In the Gospel for this 4th Sunday of Lent, Jesus heals a blind man. Every miracle of Jesus is meant to teach us something and this miracle of the healing of the blind man teaches us that Jesus came to cure our spiritual blindness.

There were other people in the Gospel who could see yet they were spiritually blind. They were the Pharisees. Is it possible that we may have a blind spot with regard to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and our need of God's mercy?

When we receive the sacrament what we hear in today's second reading is true of us,

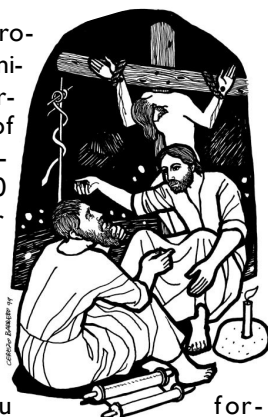
*"You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discern what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness."*

(Eph 5:8-11)

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation Healing our Blindness to Sin

During Lent, St. Mary's provides numerous opportunities for us to avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Each Saturday afternoon at 3:30 p.m., either Fr. John or Fr. Peter will be available in the Reconciliation Room to hear your confession of being a sinner and, on behalf of God and the Church, grant you forgiveness and absolution. And, on two occasions, Friday night, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday afternoon, March 15 at 2:30 p.m., we will offer communal Reconciliation Services which include an individual opportunity to declare yourself a sinner and receive forgiveness and absolution.

Like the blind man in today's gospel, we must ask the Lord to heal our blindness (to sin) so we may experience the joy of a healed spirit.



## LENTE DINNER & DISCUSSION

### TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE

Wednesday, March 5 ☩ 7:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Church, Bath

Come at 6:00 p.m. for a Lenten Meal in O'Malley Hall and an informative history of Taize at 6:45 p.m.

Stay for a reflective hour of Taize prayer at 7:00 p.m.

Call 776-3327 for Dinner Reservations. (Love Offering)

## LENTE RECONCILIATION

Friday, March 8 ☩ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 15 ☩ 2:30 p.m.

Individual Reconciliation: Saturdays ☩ 3:30 p.m.

## Lenten Mass/Communion/Reconciliation Schedule

### Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day

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

Weekday Masses: Tuesday & Thursday - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. ☩ Friday - 9:00 a.m.

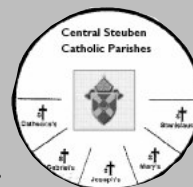
### Scripture/Communion Services

Monday - 9:00 a.m.

### The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.



A member of the  
Central Steuben  
Catholic Parishes

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

**PARISH LIFE CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY** March 2, 4th Sunday of Lent  
9:00 a.m. In Memory of Helen Kolo  
By her family

**MONDAY** March 3, Lenten Weekday  
9:00 a.m. Communion Service

**TUESDAY** March 4, Lenten Weekday  
4:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
5:00 p.m. In Memory of Bob & Lou Craig  
By Aggie Harvey

**WEDNESDAY** March 5, Lenten Weekday  
5:30 p.m. In Memory of Louise/Wallace  
Miller, By their Daughter Barb

**THURSDAY** March 6, Lenten Weekday  
5:00 p.m. Intentions of Jack & Mary Gblin  
By The Wall Family

**FRIDAY** March 7, Lenten Weekday  
9:00 a.m. In Memory Shirley Murray  
By Rita & Bob Denno

**SATURDAY** March 8, Lenten Weekday  
4:00 p.m. In Memory of Erwin Stieglitz  
By Ginny & Jim & Family

**SUNDAY** March 9, 5th Sunday of Lent  
9:00 a.m. Intentions of Carlo Marano  
By Bob & Jean Cuffney

**SUNDAY** March 2  
8:00 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel  
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour  
10:30 a.m. Religious Education  
10:30 a.m. Post Mass Choir Practice, Church  
7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

**MONDAY** March 3  
6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do  
6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Meeting, Room 204B

**TUESDAY** March 4  
6:00 p.m. Relay for Life Meeting—Hall  
7:30 p.m. Prayer Group, Chapel

**WEDNESDAY** March 5  
6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do - Room 204  
6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner and Discussion

**THURSDAY** March 6  
5:30 p.m. Weight Watchers, Room 101

**FRIDAY** March 7  
6:00 p.m. NA, Room 101

**SATURDAY** March 8  
1:00 p.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel  
Coffee Hour  
10:00 a.m. Religious Education  
10:30 a.m. Post Mass Choir Practice, Church

There are many weekday Masses available in the upcoming weeks (stipend \$10). To schedule a Mass, please call or come to the Parish Office

**Father O'Connor Update**

Father Jerry O'Connor had successful surgery to remove a malignant tumor from his bladder. We will continue to say the rosary for him 15 minutes prior to our weekend Masses. Also people are being scheduled to be present with Father day and night. For information or to volunteer, call Pat Dix at 562-3501. If you would like to send Father a card, here is his address:  
**Fr. Gerald O'Connor,  
3839 Severne On Seneca,  
Himrod, NY 14842**

**The Bath Ministerium invites you to a COMMUNITY SEDER SUPPER**

Palm Sunday, March 16 ☩ 3:00 p.m.  
New Bath Fire Station Hall  
Join with other Christians from Bath area churches in the traditional Jewish Seder. This meal recalls with scripture and symbolic food and drink God's salvation of the Jewish people on the night of Passover. A Simple Soup and Bread supper will follow the Seder.  
Call the Parish Office to RSVP.



**Happy Birthday To You!**

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 03/02 Tim McLaughlin  | 03/05 Darka Roote    |
| 03/02 Rachel Crocker  | 03/05 Kathryn Clancy |
| 03/02 Charles Stitt   | 03/06 Grace Truth    |
| 03/02 Joshua Harris   | 03/06 Noah Shuster   |
| 03/04 Don Masti       | 03/07 Bob Colomaio   |
| 03/04 Wayne Patterson | 03/07 Angela Beyler  |
| 03/04 Geri Galvin     | 03/08 Kathy Warren   |



**SAINT MARY'S PARISH  
"A Parish of Good Steward"  
Thank you for Making  
Parish a Priority!  
February 23/24, 2008**

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$2738.60  
Diocesan Collection: \$194.40  
Today's 2nd Collection: Ghanaian Fund / Youth Ministry Envelope  
Next Week's 2nd Collection: Maintenance



**Assembly Schedule**  
March 1 - Sat. 4:00 p.m.  
Willing Hearts  
March 2 - Sun. 9:00 a.m.  
Willing Hearts



The Sanctuary Light is burning in memory of Rosalie Glosick by her sister Evelyn Glenn



**Prayer List**

Bruce Ayers, Mary Beebe, Fr. Frank Erb, Joe Clancy, Bob Denno, Esther Gerhart, Mary and Jack Gblin, Terry Hochreiter, Joseph Kish, Merva Leckinger, Logan Manchocke, Fr. Gerald O'Connor, Deacon John Prave, Theresa Rodbourn, and Stan Wraight.



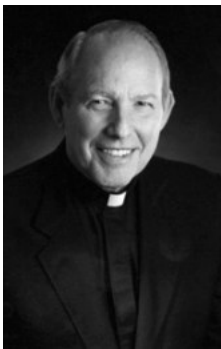
**REMINDER**  
Turn clocks ahead on March 9

**CAR DONATIONS NEEDED**

Do you have a car to donate to a parishioner in need? Currently two parishioners are in need of reliable transportation to get to work and school. Donate your car to the parish and receive a letter crediting you with a tax deductible gift for the vehicles full value. Please call the parish office for details.

**OUR PARISH WILL TAKE UP THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION.**

Nearly half the world's population lives on less than \$2 a day. For Catholics, these are not just statistics but brothers and sisters who need our help. The Catholic Relief Services Collection supports church agencies that provide emergency relief in times of crisis, support long-term development programs, offer assistance to immigrants and refugees, and advocate for a more just and peaceful world. Please give generously.



**A Mini-Retreat with  
Bishop Matthew Clark**

**Saturday, March 15 ☩ Noon - 2:00 p.m.**  
Bishop Clark recorded this 90 minute video retreat for use by parishes throughout the Diocese. We will experience this mini-retreat from noon— 2:00 p.m. Then, after a short break, those who wish may stay to attend the Lenten Reconciliation Service at 2:30 p.m. Our Retreat will end with Mass at 4:00 p.m.





## SENT TO SERVE

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

# Lenten Prayer and Action

**T**oday we begin the fourth week of Lent. I wonder how your time in the desert is going? Again this Lent, I am trying to make more time for both prayer and exercise. Typically, my life is filled with noise and activity and I find it very challenging to be still and allow God to whisper to me in the quiet of my heart. I also find it challenging to get myself to **HealthWorks** fitness center in Painted Post where I've been a member for years but sporadic in my visits. Fortunately, I've also pledged to be gentle on myself when I fail to meet these challenges.

### Lenten Series features Ecumenical Taizé Prayer



I've sensed a much more relaxed atmosphere at this year's Lenten Dinner and Discussion Series. But perhaps the really relaxed one is me. In past years, great

amounts of time and energy was put into recruiting speakers for our Wednesday night programs. This year, we have instead utilized the gift of DVD technology to present, reflect on and discuss the Sunday Lenten Gospels. For the last two weeks we've been using a DVD by gifted singer, storyteller and Christian educator **Vallamar Jansen**. Attendance has averaged about 36 people, nearly the same as last year and participation in our small group discussions has been very good.

This week's program will feature a brief explanation of **Taizé Prayer** by **Roxanne Gaylord**, music minister at **St. Thomas Episcopal Church** followed by a hour of beautiful, reflective and very sing-able Taizé music. An added blessing will be the presence of friends from several local churches who will join us in prayer. Please make this evening a Lenten priority and bring the family.

### Shining Light on Governor Spitzer's Reproductive Health and Privacy Protection Act



**T**his week I have become more aware of a call to a responsibility that we all share. There is proposed legislation moving into the state government that I have serious concerns about. **Governor Elliot Spitzer** is pushing the **RHAPP – The Re-**

**productive Health and Privacy Protection Act.** While it has an innocent and positive sounding title, it contains some very difficult and challenging provisions for people (like us) who believe in the sanctity of life.

**Kathleen Gallagher**, the spokesperson for the Bishops of New York State on Pro-Life issues, has produced an excellent 9-minute video overview of this proposed legislation which does not reflect our Catholic conviction that life is sacred at all stages of human development. You can check it out on the New York Catholic Bishop's website <http://www.nyscatholic.org/pages/home/home.asp>.

After you see this video, take action by contacting **Senator George Winner** and **Assemblyman Jim Bacalles** to voice your dissatisfaction with what the Governor proposes. You can easily do this by clicking on the "Take Action Now" button and indicate your opposition to this proposed legislation. All you have to do is sign your name and an email will be sent to these state legislators in your name. While I am not personally acquainted with Senator Winner, I consider Jim Bacalles a friend and am sure that he will appreciate hearing from you and others concerned with RHAPP. Please consider doing this. It is a great way to put your faith into action during this Lenten Season.

Throughout Lent, our bulletin will offer information about this proposed legislation and its potential effect on our community. The Lighthouse logo is a reminder that we are called by Baptism to be a light in this world illuminating the way to the Lord by the way we live, love and stand up for what we believe.

**T**he pillars of our Lenten tradition are prayer, fasting and the giving of alms. Just as there are many forms of prayer, there are also many types of almsgiving. We give of our resources and we choose to live more simply so that other may simply live. "Operation Rice Bowl" is one such opportunity in which we can share our resources with others. This



project of the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has a long tradition and we are happy to be part of it. You can pick up one of these Lenten reminders to give alms to the poor at a table near the entrance of the church. Some folks use these as a way to educate their children as to the plight of the poor of our world and of our responsibility towards them. Do consider raising your awareness in this way.

Have a great fourth week of Lent. Serve one another well.

### Parish Teens at Foundations Leadership Training



By Mary Carol Wall

**W**inter break week found six of our high school students immersed in a five-day leadership training program.

At **Foundations** youth learn to discern their own gifts and talents, and leadership style. They work through moral issues and decision making and develop ways to lead others in service, worship, peer encounters, etc. Saint Mary's youth who gave up their winter break for this training were **Andrew Ferrara, Julia Gennello, Jessica Harris, Jake Snell, Emily Sokolowski, and Ei Truth.**

This event also offered St. Mary's youth an opportunity to work for some funds for future events. We were given the opportunity to feed 50+ youth for the first three days of the training, all meals. Special thanks are given to **Mary Catherine Colomaio, Chapin Czarnedki, Lauren Kreager, Grace Truth, Lael Truth, Livvy Truth, Liam Wall, Allison Warren, Blaine Young, and Teresa Young** for working extremely hard and very cheerfully for long hours on all three days. We are also exceedingly grateful to the adults who helped us pull off this event: **Betsy Carisetti** for menus and planning, and hard labor by **John and Nancy Cardona, Bob Colomaio, Bill and Penny MacNamara, Vivian Strache, and Jim Wall.** We are a very blessed youth group!

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