

Saint Mary's Parish

A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach

Twenty-sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 30, 2007



Our Parish Office

32 East Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Other times by appointment
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Our Parish Staff

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Fr. John Wydeven
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Parish Deacon - 776-3258

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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

2007-2008 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

As a basic principle of our Catholic faith, we acknowledge God as the source of all we have and all we are. Stewardship challenges each of us to recognize our gifts of time, talent and treasure, to use them wisely and to share them generously.

The **Catholic Ministries Appeal** is a good example of the stewardship of treasure. This annual diocesan wide appeal challenges us to look beyond our own needs and offer a share of our personal blessings with our brothers and sisters. Through the CMA, we can show our thanks and joy for the gifts we have received and show our love for God and one another. Simply, we give as an act of thanksgiving and worship. And by doing so, we strengthen our local church and provide assistance to those who need it most.

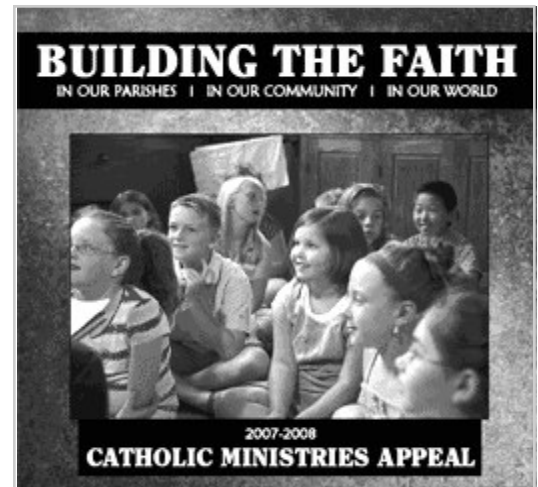
Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Catholic Ministries Appeal

Begun more than 25 years ago by Bishop Clark as the "Thanks Giving Appeal," the aim of the CMA is to raise money to support crucial diocesan-wide ministries and outreach. Last year, the fund was renamed to better reflect its intent: helping to support the crucial outreach and ministries of the Diocese of Rochester and, both directly and indirectly, the mission of each of our parishes.

Why is it important that I give to the Catholic Ministries Appeal ?

From the very beginnings of the faith and the earthly ministry of Our Lord, our Church has depended on the faithful to provide their time and energy, skills and gifts in building the Kingdom of God. Without financial support, we could not adequately teach our young, help our old, feed our poor, maintain our churches and other buildings, or provide for our priests. The Body of Christ's only real means of support is through the generosity of its members.



How is my contribution used?

When you give to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, you are really giving to the eager children hungry to learn about the faith of their parents and generations of Catholics. You are giving to the dedicated young seminarian learning to serve God and the Church, or the older priest who has served faithfully and needs retirement support. You are giving to help the Vatican in its work in the world and to the bishops for ministries that span our nation. Your money goes to help the vital work of Catholic Charities, to families just like yours whose faith sees them through the ever-growing stress of life.

And you give "locally" more than half of every dollar raised returns to your parish in the form of services and programming your parish would have a difficult time providing on its own. None of the money is used to pay legal settlements related to sexual abuse cases.

Mass/Communion/Reconciliation Schedule

Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day
Saturday - 4:00 p.m. ♦ Sunday - 9:00 a.m.
Weekday Masses:
Tuesday and Friday 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday and 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 September 30, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9:00 a.m. In Memory, Louise & Wallace Miller
 By Barb Perry

MONDAY October 1, Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin
 9:00 a.m. Communion Service

TUESDAY October 2, Guardian Angels
 9:00 a.m. In Memory, Raymond Cummings Jr. & Sr.
 By Veronica Cummings

WEDNESDAY October 3, Weekday
 5:00 p.m. For Intentions of Marcy Malonn
 By Don & Erin Young

THURSDAY October 4, Francis of Assisi
 5:00 p.m. In Memory, Marguerite Aniloski
 By Sister Ann

FRIDAY October 5, Weekday
 9:00 a.m. In Memory, Edith Yedinak
 By Betty Langendorfer

SATURDAY October 6, Weekday
 3:30 p.m. Reconciliation
 4:00 p.m. In Memory, Nicholas Minichello
 By Sister Ann

SUNDAY October 7, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9:00 a.m. In Memory, Madge Heugel
 By Helen Opila

To schedule a weekday Mass in our Visitation Chapel, please call the office 776-3327. (Suggested stipend is \$10)



SAINT MARY'S PARISH

"A Parish of Very Good Stewards"

Thank you for - Making Parish a Priority!

September 22/23

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$2,526 THANK YOU!

Campaign for Human Development: \$85

Faith Formation Collection \$392.75

This week's second collection: Heating

Next week's 2nd collection: Ghanaian Scholarships



Assembly Schedule

September 29 - Sat. 4:00 p.m. - Jordan's Cross

September 30 - Sun. 9:00 a.m. - The Bread of Life

To form or join an assembly, call 776-3327

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Annual CROP Walk

Barb Ezzo invites you to participate as a walker or donor to the annual CROP Walk on October 14. Sign-up following Mass.

Assembly Captain's Meeting

A Meeting of Assembly Captains will be held on Sunday, October 7th after Mass.



PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

SUNDAY September 30
 8:30 a.m. Willing Hearts Choir Practice, Chapel
 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour hosted by Warren & Loretta Teter
 10:30 a.m. Religious Education, K - 12
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

MONDAY October 1
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, O'Malley Hall

TUESDAY October 2
 6:00 p.m. Relay for Life Meeting, Rm. 101

WEDNESDAY October 3
 6:00 p.m. K of C Ladies Auxiliary, Hall
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do, Rm. 204
 7:00 p.m. RCIA - Creator and Father, Chapel
 7:00 p.m. GS Leaders Meeting, Rm 204B

THURSDAY October 4
 5:30 p.m. Weight Watchers, Rm 101
 6:00 p.m. Blessing of Animals, Church Steps

FRIDAY October 5
SATURDAY October 6
 1:00 p.m. NA, Room 101

SUNDAY October 7
 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour - Hosts Needed
 10:30 a.m. NO RELIGIOUS ED - Columbus Day Holiday
 10:30 a.m. Assembly Captains Meeting - Chapel
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101



Happy Birthday To You

10/01 Allison & Andres Warren	10/03 Michael Carisetti
10/01 Elizabeth Muller	10/04 Alexis Leigh
10/02 Raymond Karowski	10/05 Julie Squires
10/02 Jennie Grosfelt	10/05 Angela Mattoon
10/02 Kathleen Patterson	10/05 Maureen Johnson
10/03 Blake Palmer	10/06 Josephine Musso
10/03 Richard Pruner	10/06 Gail Lyle

The Basics of Islam

The Five Pillars of Islam are: Profession of Faith, Prayer, Almsgiving, Ramadan and Pilgrimage. This week - Almsgiving - the third pillar.

Almsgiving. The third pillar of Islam involves a serious redistribution of wealth. Since all is given by God, then nothing of what I own is mine, unless it is shared according to God's will. Muslims traditionally give 2.5 percent of their wealth to the poor, although this tithing sometimes has taken the form of a tax if the government is Muslim. Nevertheless, the intent remains the same: to give to the poor and to be a just and peace-filled society.

The pillar of almsgiving is not only because a just society requires equity but also because earthly prosperity is a proof of God's blessing. This is a strongly rooted belief of both Judaism and Islam. Muslims also believe that these riches will also bless them when they reach heaven for God wants his people to prosper and to live in abundance.

This is the fifth in our series of articles on Islam
Next Week - Ramadan - The Fourth Pillar of Islam





SENT TO SERVE
Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf



Scripture
REFLECTIONS

The Rich Man and Lazarus

Please Support the Catholic Ministries Appeal

If you are a registered member of St. Mary's, within the past week you've received a letter, brochure and pledge card from Bishop Clark asking for your support of this year's **Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)**. As in the past, you've been asked to join together in the spirit of stewardship by making a financial commitment to the Church of Rochester. Your gifts to the CMA provide essential operating support for diocesan programs that provide direct services to both this parish and thousands of people throughout the twelve counties of our Diocese.

A successful Catholic Ministries Appeal is vital to the continued health of both our parish and our Diocesan Church. As our parish and Diocese are one, comprising the Body of Christ, neither can exist without the other and both need your support. We can and do make a difference.

Again this year, I ask that every parish family join our family in donating to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Let me assure you that our parish and its programs benefit from each gift to this annual appeal. The theme of this year's CMA, "**Building the Faith**" is right on target - for our support ensures that our religious education and youth ministry programs remain vital sources of learning and support for the young people who will one day lead our Church. The CMA also ensures that the profound needs of the sick, the troubled and elderly are continuously met by the various offices of Catholic Charities. It ensures continuous and essential training for all those who are called to ministry within our Diocese including our priests and deacons in formation. In short, it ensures that our church remains a vital, faith driven community.

On the cover of today's bulletin, I've provided some history of the CMA and answered some frequently asked questions. Last year, our parish raised \$20,995 toward our goal of \$26,971. Parish funds were used to make up the difference between our assessment and the total gifts received. **This year, due to a new diocesan assessment formula that takes in to account the economic conditions present in the Southern Tier, our assessment has been reduced to \$24,687. Still, we need on average, a gift of at least \$100 per household to meet our parish assessment.**

Please be as generous as you can in your response. Every gift is needed and important! If it is easier, you can make your gift online at www.dor.org/sd - you can also pay your pledge off in six installments. Pledge forms, which can be put in the collection or mailed directly to the Diocese, as well as copies of the CMA brochure, are available at the entrances to our church.

Again, I thank you again for making our parish a vibrant faith community. May the Lord continue to bless us and this generous parish that strives to do his will.

Have a good week. Serve one another well.

Deacon Ray

New and Handmade Items needed for
CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR
Call Evie and Al Hanning: 776-9269



This is a story of contrasts - contrasts between a man dressed in the finest purple linen and a beggar covered with sores. A contrast between their lifestyles and a contrast between their after-life. A contrast between being carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham (something we pray today in our funeral rite) and a man who died and was buried. A contrast between someone who was blind to those around him and someone who would notice if a crumb of food fell in his direction.

The Hebrew Scriptures teach us that if we care for needy people we are children of Abraham. The rich man in Hades calls out to Abraham, but his actions on earth denied this relationship.

There were no deeds of loving kindness, rather a self centered callous way of life - a way of life that made the rich man blind to the plight of those who were less fortunate. It was a case of apathy any myopia - it simply did not occur to the rich man that he could do something, despite the wealth of teachings in the Hebrew Scriptures on caring for the poor.

As Christians we have the teachings of the Hebrew Scriptures along with the Christian Testament where Jesus builds on the teachings of Abraham and Paul gives lengthy teaching on the Body of Christ. Jesus taught "that whenever you did to the least of my brothers you did also to me." We have the teachings of someone who rose from the dead, so really we have no excuse for ignoring our wider social responsibilities.

Who are the invisible people around us? Homeless people? Alcoholics and other drug users? Migrants? Unemployed? Single mothers? Elderly people shut in their homes? There is an extensive list. Their desperate situation is enough to attract the attention of God.

Jesus said "this is my body" and sometimes that body is covered in sores. Hundreds of thousands of people are dying of AIDS, covered in sores, and yet developed countries deny these people medication. The people in Sierra Leone have a life expectancy of 34. The people in Darfur have been subjected to genocide. What are we doing for these people?

In today's world the media keep us informed of what is happening around the world, we cannot claim ignorance of the millions who wait outside our front door. We have the Scriptures, we have the risen Christ, we have the means, do we have the will?

Learn More About Your Catholic Faith
Join our RCIA Inquirers as they discover

What Catholics Believe About
GOD: CREATOR AND FATHER

Wednesday, October 3 ♦ 7 - 8:30 PM
Saint Mary's Visitation Chapel

Blessing of the Animals
The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.
October 4 ♦ 6 p.m. ♦ Church Steps



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