

Immaculate Conception Parish

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
ST. MARY'S CEMETERY**



We gather around the Lord's Table and are sent out as Christ's beloved disciples

BISHOP OF ALBANY DIOCESE:

Edward Scharfenberger

BISHOP EMERITUS: Howard Hubbard

PASTOR: Fr. Tom Zelker

tomzelker@gmail.com

OFFICE SECRETARY: Tina Becker

OUR PARISH OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS

67 Main Street

Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

PHONE: 518-686-5064

E-MAIL: immconcept@roadrunner.com

OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Friday 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

WEBSITE: www.icchoosickfalls.com

Facebook page: Immaculate Conception Hoosick Falls

WE PRAY

Our liturgies of Spring and Early Summer are simpler than those of Easter. Yet even in their simplicity, we celebrate the profound mystery of Christ among us. Our response to the Hebrew Scriptures is Psalm 113: "Praised be the name of the Lord." We celebrate our God who transcends all time and space but who is deeply in love with each person. Our Gospel acclamation is the joyful Celtic Alleluia. Coming to the Lord's Table we remember "when we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death until you come again." God's love for us is so deep that Jesus could give of his own life for all people. Our lives are transformed to be that same Christ for each other!



Please bring any type of the following items: tuna fish, canned fruit, canned goods, cookie/cake mixes or toiletry items to our donation box in church. There is always a need for old bags to be reused. **FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS ...** We are looking for volunteers at the Food Pantry to help. If you are interested, please call Dianne Hosterman at 686-5310.

CHANGE FOR THE GOOD

We have a change collection box at the entrance of our church. Spare change can be dropped off any time. These donations will be used to support good charities that serve our people. This is a place where all jingling contributions are welcome.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 2

4:00 PM Mass

Dick O'Hearn
Anne Olszewski

Sunday, June 3

9:00 AM Mass

Henry J Bender
Isabel Zarzycki

Monday, June 4

12 Noon Mass

"For Our Students"

Wednesday, June 6

9:45 AM

Communion at the Danforth

10:30 AM

Communion at the HFHC

Friday, June 8

12 Noon Mass

John Burdick
Phyllis Jake

Saturday, June 9

4:00 PM Mass

Dave & Eva Fleming
Veronica Garpacz

Sunday, June 10

9:00 AM Mass

Anna & Frank Hayes
William Bannon
Patricia Finzer

SANCTUARY LAMP

6/3/18 - 6/9/18

**In honor of the Risen Christ
we remember:**

Anne Olszewski
&
Veronica Garpacz



As part of our parish and school wide effort to become ever more a people and place of peace, we are asking all parishioners - adults and students to sign "The No Place for Hate Promise." This is a resolution to live respectfully; treating all people fairly, with kindness and tolerance. In the midst of a world embroiled in violence and fear, we need to be a church of welcome, peace, and joy. Our sign up sheet is on the hospitality table. So far 200 parishioners have signed this "Declaration" of Independence from hate. Let this freedom ring throughout our land.

REFLECTING ON THE WORD

A mother asked, "How can I explain the Blood of Christ to my second grader? She thinks drinking blood is 'yucky.'" She was encouraged to make clear that her daughter would be drinking wine that we believe is the Blood of Christ, his very life force. He becomes our "blood brother." We drink what tastes like wine, but faith tells us is something more. That seemed to help. Taking our symbols literally misses the point. Adapting Pope Francis' words from *Laudato Si'* can help: Rather than a problem to be solved, our liturgical symbols, like the world, are joyful mysteries to be contemplated with gladness and praise.

Blood gives life and can harm life. Transfusions offer healing, yet blood can carry diseases that are harmful. Untested blood can pass them on. By sprinkling the people with the blood offered to God in sacrifice, Moses binds them to do what they promise: "All that the LORD has said we will heed and do." By sharing the Passover cup with his disciples, saying, "This is my blood of the covenant," Jesus binds them and us to his cleansing sacrifice, to become what we drink.

Our "Amen" to the Blood of Christ unites us with Jesus from the inside out. He mingles his lifeblood with ours so that we can transfuse the world with the sacrifice that reconciles us with God and with each another. Our "Amen" also commits us to pouring out our lives in sacrificial love for others, just as eating the Body of Christ commits us to becoming broken in service. What a gift! What a challenge! This drinking and eating is dangerous, for we promise to heed and do *all* that he taught and to cleanse ourselves of whatever keeps us from living Jesus completely. We become his blood brothers and sisters, united with all God's people. Contemplate this joyful mystery and live with gladness and praise by sharing this wonderful sacrament.



**SPREADING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL:
IT STARTS WITH YOU!
OUR 2018 BISHOP'S APPEAL**

The 2018 Bishop's Appeal has continued. This is our opportunity to unite together as one Catholic family to answer the challenge given to us by Jesus Christ to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the afflicted, and to promote justice for every person. In these next weeks, please take the time to prayerfully reflect on the gifts that you have been given by God and respond to the Bishop's Appeal as generously as you possibly can.

Your participation is essential to the success of the Bishop's Appeal. Please join other Catholics from throughout the fourteen counties of the diocese in supporting this very important collection.

Envelopes may be dropped off at our office or donations may be made online at www.thebishopsappeal.org. Our parish assessment this year is \$22,726. After our first collection we have currently collected \$20,768.00. Thank you.

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
4 PARSONS AVENUE, HOOSICK FALLS, NY
PHONE: (518) 686-4314, FAX: (518) 686-5957

Principal, Mrs. Amanda Goyer
Mrs. Mary Beth Smith, Secretary

St. Mary's Academy is the parish school of the Immaculate Conception Faith Community. Founded in 1891, St. Mary's Academy provides education for students beginning in Pre-Kindergarten and continuing through Grade 8.



Dear Friends of SMA,

As the calendar turns to June, we pause to reflect on all the fruits of the spirit that we have talked about throughout the year: Self Control, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Peace, Love, Patience, Joy, and Gentleness. These nine fruits shape our days here at SMA.

Our SMArathon fundraiser was a huge success! The weather was beautiful for our walk around the village. The students raised \$2,179.46! Thank you to all those who sponsored a student!

The Quack 5 will arrive next Saturday, June 9th at Brown's Brewery in North Hoosick. There will be a Chinese auction, bake sale, 50/50 raffle, and the band Carryin' On will be entertaining the crowd. Festivities are from 3:30pm-6:30pm with the duck launch taking place after Mass at 5:30pm. Ducks are \$20 each and can be purchased from any SMA family or at school. Ducks will also be on sale after weekend masses. Don't miss out on a chance to win \$1,000, \$250, or \$100!!

8th grade graduation will be held on Friday, June 15th. We hope you will be able to attend as we celebrate the Class of 2018 and all their accomplishments.

Call SMA at 518-686-4314 to book your tour today! We have just 10 spots left in PreK-3 and 10 spots left in PreK-4!

As always, I encourage you to stop by and visit your parish school.

With many blessings,
-Mrs. Amanda Goyer-



Alive in God's Spirit....Confirmation 2018



May Crowning Prayer



SMA is now accepting Graduation Monetary Gifts for the "Last" 8th Grade Class of 2018. Please drop off at the school or mail to SMA 4 Parsons Avenue Hoosick Falls, NY 12090 (attn. Mary Beth Smith). Thank you in advance for your generosity.

ST. ANTHONY PASTA PICNIC

Wednesday, June 13th at 6 PM

On the rectory grounds.

A festa of Italian delicacies, music, and wine.



HELP YOUNG MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

Take a baby bottle home,

fill with change and return by Father's Day, June 17th.

Your donations support the lives of babies and their families.

True North Pregnancy Resource Center



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

5TH ANNUAL

DUCK DERBY

DUCKS: \$20 EACH

1ST: \$1,000 2ND: \$250 3RD: \$100

Saturday, June 9, 2018

3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Duck Launch @ 5:30 pm

Brown's Brewing North Hoosick, NY

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

5TH ANNUAL "QUACK RACE"

Saturday, June 9, 2018

Duck Launch @ 5:30 p.m.

EACH DUCK \$20

NAME _____

PHONE _____

Sold

by _____

Please Print Clearly

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ⇒ Baccalaureate - Wednesday, June 20th at 7PM - Hoosick Falls Baptist Church. Our community gathers in prayer with our High School graduates.
- ⇒ High School Canoe Trip - We paddle down (sometimes up) the Battenkill. All graduates from our parish are invited.
- ⇒ College Reunion Flotilla - Our college students reunite for fun, friendship, and some gentle competition on the Battenkill.
- ⇒ Up the Hoosick Without a Paddle Canoe and Kayak Race - We paddle down the mighty Hoosic through rapids, meanders, and rocky shoals. Beginning at the Rock Cut and finishing at Wysocki's farm. A wild race testing strength, skill, stamina, and know how.
- ⇒ HAPPY BIRTHDAY - This Saturday, June 2, 2018 we celebrate Carolyn Bachorz's 100th Birthday! Carolyn is a beautiful gift for our parish. Sto lat!

UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

At the conclusion of the recitation of the Law, the people assent, "We do everything that the LORD has told us." Moses then commits the Laws to writing, and both parties must engage in a ritual to "seal the deal." The Hebrew word for covenant, *berit*, may be derived from *barah*, "to cut." To seal an agreement, both parties cut themselves and mingled their blood, binding them together. The practice developed into sacrificing and cleaving an animal through which each party would pass, symbolizing their "joining" together. The sacrificed animal would then be eaten by both covenanted parties. Eventually the meal together came to represent the sealing of the covenant. In the first reading, the altar represents the divine presence upon which Moses splashes the blood of sacrifice. After the people consent to the laws of the covenant, Moses then sprinkles the blood on the people. The divine and human are now connected in a covenanted relationship.

The reading from Hebrews evokes another Old Testament image of blood, that of sacrifice for the cleansing of sin. Blood was believed to hold the essence of life, making it especially sacred, and therefore capable of cleansing sins and reuniting worshipers with God. As Hebrews presents it, Christ became both the high priest and the sacrifice, "cleansing" participants by his own blood, and establishing a whole new covenant so that they may now receive their eternal inheritance.

The Gospel of Mark parallels the sacrifice of the lambs with the institution of the Eucharist: "On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover Lamb." Immediately images of covenant, Exodus, and sacrificial lambs come to the fore. Within this ritual context, Jesus takes bread and wine, and offers them to his disciples. Like the ancient covenants that were ratified with a meal, Jesus offers himself as the efficacious sacrifice to seal the new covenant with his blood. Though the mention of shedding blood refers to his impending death, the mood is one of hope. He assures his followers that the next meal in which he will participate will be in the kingdom of God.

PLANT A ROW



As you till and plow your gardens this spring, please consider adding an extra row of vegetables dedicated to our Food Pantry. We serve many elderly and young families in our community. Fresh fruit and vegetables are crucial in a healthy diet. Any fruits or vegetables may be dropped off at the "Veggie Bin" at the Pantry any time.



WE NEED YOU!

Wouldn't it be wonderful if everybody here was a Minister of Communion?! Yes, you can...and yes you are needed to help share our Eucharist at Mass. Please see Mary Waytkus or Fr. Tom Zelker soon.

PRISON MINISTRY

Can you write a letter of hope and encouragement to a person incarcerated? Tell them to have a good day, write out your favorite quote so they can remember people outside prison, love them and care that they exist. Loneliness abounds in the isolation in prison and we would like to do a little something to share God's love. In fact, Our Holy Father challenges us to think about the least of our sisters and brothers. If you are interested in such a small but significant gesture, then please contact Patty Austin at 518/428-8686 and leave your name and number. We will start meeting once a month to write the letters, make it fun, and a time for fellowship as well.

A SPRING EVENING PRAYER

Beloved God, Eternal Womb from which all life has come, I greet the arrival of night with gratitude and faith in you. As this part of the earth turns away from the sun and darkness shadows us, dawn is breaking aglow in golden light on the other side of this small planet. one with those who are now awakening, united with those of us who are preparing to enter into sleep, I pause to reflect on how I have used the hours of daylight that have been given to me...

I am filled with gratitude that your love is unconditional and that you have forgiven me the moment that I stumbled in my journey to be your living presence in my world. Grant me the grace to forgive others as you have forgiven me. One with your Spirit who prays continuously in my heart, I now enter into the prayer of silence.

This night is filled with the sounds of life. To all those sounds I now join my voice in a prayer of devotion.

With faithfulness, this planet earth has traveled over a million miles in its orbit around the sun since I last slept. Because of its life-path, this planet flourishes with living beings, plants and animals. I pray that my life path this day has also enriched and given life to all with whom I have come in contact.

As I prepare to enter into the sacrament of sleep, I lift up into your divine heart the following intentions:____. I pray as well for my brothers and sisters who have no roof over them this night and for those who are imprisoned by the chains of fear, doubt, addiction, or violence.

Grant me a restful sleep, and if it be your will, may I rise tomorrow to the gift of a new day of life. With trust I place myself in confidence
in your Holy Name
and in the name of your Son
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
JUNE 2 & JUNE 3, 2018

This Week: June 2 & June 3, 2018

Lay Ministers: Team #1
Counters: Mike Bailey, Mike Shea & b Andrea White

Next Week: June 9 & June 10, 2018

Lay Ministers: Team #2
Counters: Terry Hewson & Heather Hassett
(It is your responsibility to find a substitute if you are unable to serve.)

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS May 26 & May 27:

Offertory.....\$2,966.00

Eastern European Collection.....\$155.00

Candles.....\$29.00

Total: \$3,150.00

ATTENDANCE May 26 & May 27:

4 PM.....136 9 AM.....176 Total: 312

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Mary McCaffery, Chick Thurber, Marie Godfrey, Mary Carter, Corinne Philpott, David Martin, Rosemary O'Malley, Cheryl Kresky, Jim Baker, Judy Quackenbush, Beverly James, Winnie Restino, Frank Marmillo, Mark Rice, Anne Eberle, Mary Austin, Jane Davis, Juliana Saurez, Dave Lukas and Jerry McAuliffe. Those who have been on the list for quite some time will still be prayed for, but will not appear in the bulletin. If you are in need of prayer for yourself or someone you know, please call: Margaret O'Malley at 686-7835.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Our automatic withdrawal system is working well. This may be an easy way for you to support our parish. Please contact our office for more information.



- ♦ Wednesday mornings at 10 AM: Bulletin proofreaders. **Call the office.**
- ♦ Sunday morning: Collection counters. **Call the office.**
- ♦ Lectors (readers) at Mass: **See Mary Merriam, Gloria Shufon, or call the office. 686-5064**

Holy Communion...Please be sure to let one of the greeters know if you are unable to approach the altar. The usher will then make arrangements for Communion to be brought to your pew.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK ...

DEWEY'S AUTO REPAIR

Expert Electronic Diagnostics | Reasonable Rates
Air Conditioning | Service & Repairs
Quick Service | N.Y. Inspection Station
182 Main St., Hoosick Falls, NY 12090
(518) 686-9830
Kevin Dewey, Owner