

**4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2017**

The angel addressed Mary, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." When Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord," she became a model for all.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

4:00PM + (St. Pat's) Jennings & Ducharme Families by their Families

5:30PM + (St. Mary's) NO MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:00AM + (St. Mary's) Bechard Family by Jane & Bruce West

10:00AM +(St. Pat's) In Loving Memory of Rita LeBlanc by her Family



CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00PM (St. Mary's) Parishioners of St. Mary's

6:00PM (St. Pat's) Parishioners of St. Patrick's

CHRISTMAS DAY -NATIVITY OF THE LORD

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:00AM (St. Mary's) Parishioners of St. Mary's

10:00AM (St. Pat's) Parishioners of St. Patrick's

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

9:00AM +(St. Pat's) Abram & Cecile Fosher by Bob & Maria Fosher

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00AM +(St. Pat's) Communion Service

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00AM + (St. Mary's) Kevin Castine by Donald Castine & Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00AM + (St. Mary's) Alfreda Willette by Catherine Gooley

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

4:00PM + (St. Pat's) Richard Anctil by his Family

5:30PM + (St. Mary's) Ronald & Anna Gooley by Homer & Mary Bushey

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:00AM + (St. Mary's) Jack Favreau by Class of 62'

10:00AM +(St. Pat's) 7th Anniversary of Dorothy Sweeny by her Family

**NEW YEAR'S EVE, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD
DECEMBER 31**

4:00PM + (St. Mary's) Elton Burky by Steve & Linda Burky & Family

**NEW YEAR'S DAY, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD
JANUARY 1**

9:00AM+ (St. Pat's) Barbara Jean Bodete Sommese by Paul Corbiere

PRAYER REQUESTS: Patrick Leibach, Janet Carey, David Poole, Pauline Scriver, Pat Lewis, Ron Frennier, Deacon Laszlo, Jane Sample.

Nursing Homes - Shirley Morrison, Doris Deso, Gerry Hayes.

Please pray for all of our Military including: Maritza St. John-Lester, Reese Tucker, Avery Trombley, Shawn LaFontaine.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

DECEMBER 17	2017 (68)	2016 (48)
Envelopes	\$1,948	\$1,472 (Storm)
Make-ups		
Plate	123	104
Kids	2	
Total:	\$2,073	\$1,576

VIGIL CANDLE - DEC. 23 - 30

(St. Joseph) Joseph LaBonte by Seymour & Meseck Families
(St. Ann) Ruby Tetreault by Pat & Mary O'Connor

SANCTUARY LAMP - DEC. 23 - 30

In Memory of Darriel Demers by Joyce, Children & Grandchildren

CONGRATULATIONS to...Linda Gonyo-Horne. Linda was the lucky winner in the 2018 Lotto \$500 give-away! Thank you to everyone who purchased or sold Lotto's. We certainly appreciate your support in this fundraiser.

If you have tickets to turn in, you have through the end of December to get them in.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Diocese of Ogdensburg's Retirement Plan for Priests has long been supported by parish contributions from its annual Christmas Collection. Currently 40 retired priests, and 8 active priests age 70 and older, are expected to receive pension benefits of \$892,000 in 2017-18. Also 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests is paid by the Plan. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will also help provide for the retirement needs of priests who will retire in the future. Say *thank you* to your pastor and all priests of the diocese through a generous contribution to our Christmas Collection. **Envelopes for this collection are provided in your Christmas mailing packet.**

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

We all know someone who has simply stopped practicing their faith. As we celebrate Jesus' birth, God wants all people to join in the praise. Invite them to come to Church with you this Christmas!

PARISH OFFICE HOURS NEXT WEEK

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26.

THANK YOU...to all the little children participating in the 4:00PM Christmas Eve Pageant/Mass: *Graham Lavalley, Daylce Manor, Ty Gauthier, Kiera Ryan-Gadway, Kael Ryan-Gadway, Emmett & Simon Turner, Colin Lawrence, Lukas Gadway, Gavin Gowette, Haley Gadway, Vivian & Taylor Cardin, Aislinn Winters, Eva Gowette, Marley Gauthier.*

Special thanks to the decorating Committee who did an outstanding job decorating the church for Christmas. We truly appreciate all of your help.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM BISHOP LAVALLEY

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I have asked the youth of our Diocese to provide me with a cover design for this year's Christmas card. I received many fine pieces of art, many of which were captioned with verses from Scripture. One citation that surfaced on a few cards is from St. Luke's Infancy Narrative: "The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.'" (Luke 2:10)

What an appropriate message for each of us to reflect upon this Christmas. We should give careful attention to this angelic proclamation that offers such hope and heavenly happiness to all people. Fear, bad news and division seem to be having their way in our world today. In the midst of such darkness, we remember that there is no reason to be afraid because God brings Good News of great joy for all of God's people through His Son, born of Mary.

"Do not be afraid." I need not provide a list of serious concerns that today cause so many to fear what tomorrow may bring. No matter the heartache, this is a season of hope and joy. Jesus is the One who rescues humanity from sin and delivers us from the condition of alienation from God. With His birth, the Christ Child brings an unfathomable gift that we must unwrap to enjoy. He brings salvation to all humanity. But in order to enjoy the salvation won for us, our personal encounter with Jesus must be tended to through a lifelong journey of love and service.

Just a few weeks ago, I consecrated the Diocese of Ogdensburg to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We know that Mary submitted humbly and totally to God's will, even without fully understanding it. By saying "yes" to God's mysterious will, she enabled salvation to enter the world through the birth of her Son. We must tug at her sleeve, she who desires so much to lead us, all of us, to Jesus.

We want to follow Jesus. Christ-led and Christ-fed, we can be hope-filled and not weighed down by the menace of evil. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior and greet a New Year, let us unwrap the gift of salvation offered by making Mary's words our own: "Let it be done to me according to thy word."

May the Christ Child bring you and your loved ones the Gift of Love, the Blessing of Hope and the Promise of Peace. A blessed Christmas and joy-filled New Year!

*Faithfully yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg*

2017 BISHOP'S FUND APPEAL

If you have not already contributed to the Bishop's Fund Appeal, it is not too late. To date St. Mary's total toward the goal of \$8,026 is \$7,421.24. Thank you to all who have so generously contributed. Pledge envelopes are located on the radiator covers or log onto the diocesan website www.rcdony.org.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL BULLETIN

The Christmas Memorial Bulletin will be available on the radiator covers on Christmas Eve. Please be sure to pick up a copy.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

St. Mary's, 4:00PM (with Choir)

St. Patrick's, 6:00PM

Christmas Day

St. Mary's, 8:00AM

St. Patrick's, 10:00AM

New Year's Eve

St. Mary's, 4:00PM

New Year's Day

St. Patrick's, 9:00AM

From our table to yours.....

CHRISTMAS DINNER PRAYER

Loving God and Father of us all,
we joyfully celebrate the birth of your Son,
the eternal Word who came to dwell with us and is born
this day of the Virgin Mary.

May the meal we share on this great feast satisfy us not only with the good food you give us, but also grace us with the fullness of your love, which you bestowed on our human nature when your Son took on our very flesh.

May we come to share completely in your divine life through the coming of your SON among us.

May his self-giving love be made manifest in our hearts so that the joy of our Christmas feast may extend beyond our family and home to touch the lives of others with the love that makes this day holy and makes us all children of one family in you.
Amen.

On behalf of

Fr. Lewis

and St. Mary's Staff

we would like to wish each and everyone of you a very

Blessed and Merry Christmas !

**NO SUNDAY MORNING RELIGIOUS ED UNTIL
JANUARY 2018!**