

April/May/June 2016

Volume 3, Issue 2

St. Joseph's Church Newsletter



From the Pastor's Desk **Reverend Peter D. Russo, Pastor**

In the last issue of "The St. Joseph's Church Newsletter", I wrote about the Jubilee Year of Mercy and how the Pope called all Catholics to practice the Corporal and Spiritual work of mercy so that all of us would be Christ's ambassadors of mercy. There are a number of ways each of us as members of St. Joseph's parish can reach out and minister to those in need.

I invite you to inform the office of people you may know who are not able to attend weekend mass and who may be interested in receiving the Eucharist on a regular basis. I sometimes encounter people in my hospital visits who have been confined at home for months or even years with no one letting the Church know. The parish has a team of people who with the deacons and myself bring Communion to the "shut-ins" every month while there are others who bring the Eucharist on a weekly basis to those desire it. If you know of someone in this situation, who presently is unable to receive Communion, PLEASE call the office 346-2316 and let us know.

There is another area of caring for the sick in which every member of the parish can help which is, The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Hospitals don't keep people very long these days unless it is absolutely necessary. People are admitted to hospital on the very day of surgery which means that a priest may not be able to administer the sacrament before the surgery, therefore, I would like to encourage the reception of the Sacrament of the Sick before your planned surgeries or serious procedures. To do this, simply contact me at the office and arrange to receive the sacrament after the liturgy, either on week days or weekends when there is a mass. You can than inform the hospital upon admission that you already received the sacrament.

A third area of out reach in which each member of the parish can take part is to give the Pastoral Council input on ways the parish can reach out to the youth and young adults in the parish. The parish has a fine gym and parish center; are there ways we can use this facility in some form of outreach? What would you suggest? How might YOU be willing to help? We would like to hear from the youth, the teens and the young adults of the parish. Please send your ideas to the St. Joseph's Pastoral Council, 45 MacArthur Dr. Scotia, NY 12302 or drop your ideas in the collection basket.

*Peace and blessings,
Fr. Peter*



Father Peter's 40th Anniversary

Sunday, May 8, 2016!

On the Anniversary of Father Peter's Ordination

May God's love and grace
continue to nourish your ministry,
which touches the lives of so many.
Congratulations!



A celebration mass will be held on **April 30th** with a buffet reception at the Parish Center immediately following mass. Details of this special celebration will be forthcoming ~ watch your mail for details (note: reservations will be required for the buffet reception portion of the evening).

All are welcome to attend and please congratulate Father Peter when you see him!

Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council held its monthly meetings on January 7th, February 4th, and March 3rd. Members of the council continue to reflect on ways to support the work and mission of our Church, encourage increased involvement of parishioners in the life of the Parish, and foster works by which the spirit of the Gospel is promoted in the community. These fruitful discussions have led to current activities to highlight the Parish's various ministries in Holy Family Hall after Mass, the organization of a Lenten speaker series, assistance in the petitioning of the Parish community for parishioners to serve as organizers for this May's Tag-and-Treasure sale, and Council member participation in a community meal service at the City Mission of Schenectady on April 12th. The Council wishes each and every member of St. Joseph's Parish a most blessed and joyous Easter.



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receive St. Joseph's Newsletter
via email please contact
Brenda at yager.brenda@gmail.com

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Check Out Our New Website

<http://www.stjosephschurchscotia.net/>



Notes from the Finance Office

As in each newsletter, listed below are the income and expenses to date compared with last year:



| | Current Fiscal Year | Previous Fiscal Year |
|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 7/1/15—5/29/16 | 7/1/14—2/28/15 |
| Total Income | \$307,222 | \$346,914 |
| Total Expenses | \$292,038 | \$330,277 |

(*Please note income figures include all sources of income, not just offertory.)

From the Parish Office Staff

Please help us keep our records current. Please call the Parish Office (346-2316) when you have a change of address, telephone number, etc. Also, we still have many parishioners who have not completed the new census form that was mailed to every registered household over a year ago. We are currently starting to go through our files, family by family, and contacting each family individually ~ this is a very time-consuming task. Think of it this way: every year you must file out new forms at your doctor's office. We are only asking for a new form every **ten** years! Please take the time to respond to our request. Don't have the form? Please pick up a form in Holy Family Hall or call the Parish Office and we would be happy to send another form to you. Thank you for your cooperation.

Special Events & Activities

Mark Your Calendars ~ Annual Tag, Treasure & Bake Sale! Friday & Saturday, May 20th & 21st

This is one of our biggest fund raisers for the year and we need everyone's help and treasures! Please look for the "pink sheet" on the weekend of April 2nd/3rd and sign up to help ~ there is something for everyone to do! We are currently accepting donations of jewelry (old, new, gold, silver & broken pieces are accepted), books, CD's and DVD's during regular office hours (please use the front door).



As of this printing, drop off dates and times for all other "treasures" are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, May 10th | 10 am - 12 noon & 6-8 pm |
| Wednesday, May 11th | 10 am - 12 noon |
| Thursday, May 12th | 10 am - 12 noon & 6-8 pm |
| Friday, May 13th | 10 am - 12 noon |
| Saturday, May 14th | 10 am - 2 pm |
| Monday, May 16th | 10 am - 12 noon & 6-8 pm |
| Tuesday, May 17th | 10 am - 12 noon & 6-8 pm |

All acceptable items (check bulletin for list) should be brought to the side door gym entrance. Start looking through your closets, basements, attics and garages **NOW** and gather up those treasures and set them aside for our sale.

Questions??? Please contact

Frank Colemen (372-7487) or email: fcoleman@nycap.rr.com

Karen Grimaldi (315-941-9137) or email: momofffm@aol.com

Tom Hyland (370-1758) or email: hyles714@aol.com

Last year's Tag, Treasure & Bake Sale was a huge success, let's make this one even more successful!



Watch the weekly bulletin for other events & activities that may be added!

Youth Ministry & Event Photos



Mrs. Casey's Faith Formation class helped with the assembly of the Valentine Sweet Baskets on February 8th.



Bunny Zawilinski, Norma Laniewski, Marje Glover, Carm Dorazio, Sandy Van Epps & Barbara Lewis display the beautiful Dresden Quilt & Pillow they have created for the Parish Quilt Raffle (drawing will be held after the 4 PM mass on May 7, 2016).



Our 6th graders celebrating Palm Sunday at the end of their retreat. They passed out the blessed palms to the congregation and joined in the recessional procession.



Have to love the exuberance of some of the middle school young folks after a day retreat and Mass. Here are some of them singing along with the closing hymn and taking part in the recessional.



Heritage Fund ~ Wrap-Up

In April 2014, we started an 18 month Heritage Fund Campaign with a goal of raising \$100,000 to fund some major repair and renovations and equipment acquisitions that we greatly needed to keep our parish properties in good condition and to enable us to update outdated and inefficient plant & equipment. We are very grateful to all our parishioners who have given or pledged to fund this vital fundraising effort for our parish.

To date, here is where we stand on our fundraising efforts:

| Value | | |
|-----------|-----|--|
| \$ 37,608 | 120 | Outright Gifts |
| 39,340 | 28 | Pledges (\$38,495 paid to-date on pledges) |
| \$ 76,948 | 148 | Responses |

The projects and purchases we've undertaken with those funds are as follows:

| | |
|-----------|--|
| \$ 16,507 | New steam boiler for church |
| 28,000 | Masonry work on church, including Rose window |
| 5,712 | New computer equipment and copier |
| 16,380 | Electric supplies and labor for lighting upgrade in church |
| 5,322 | Repaving part of circle at parish center |
| 3,709 | Purchase of used truck |
| \$ 75,630 | Total expenditures from fund |
| 5,794 | Remaining payments due on copier |
| \$ 81,424 | Total commitments for Heritage Fund |

As you can see, we have needed to expend nearly all of the amounts collected or committed to-date for these essential projects and equipment, and have a commitment for about \$5,700 to fund the remainder of the purchase of the copier for the parish office.

So as we wrap up our campaign, we are 75% of the way to our goal of \$100,000, and are hopeful that we can still achieve this important goal. If you have been unable to give or pledge up to now, we ask you to consider a gift of any amount to help us meet our current commitment and to assure we have the funds to meet other vital needs to maintain our parish facilities for your family and generations to come.

Thank You for your Support!!



Periodically we receive "thank you" notes from various individuals and organizations who are grateful for our kindness and support. Here are just a sampling of some of those notes and cards that are posted on the bulletin board in Holy Family Hall:

From Molly Caruso: "Thank you for the poinsettia & calendar. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated greatly."

From Doris Urban: "Thank you all so much for the beautiful Christmas plant and also for the nicest visit from such a lovely family...."

From Lucia & Arthur Bianchi: "Thank you so much for the lovely poinsettia plant delivered by the sweet family who also made the delivery last year....it was nice to see how the children had grown & good to chat with them all."

From Regina Ryan: "Thank you so very much for the wonderful Valentine's Day box of goodies. The gesture to include the adorable cards was so wonderful..."

From Ken & Carolyn Mundweiler: "Thank you so much for the Valentine basket. Ken loved the cookies and I loved the candy & all the little "extras" were great...."

From Therese Keohan: "Thank you for all the various gifts & goodies. They made my day!"

From Barbara Hanley: "Thank you very much for all the goodies....your thoughtfulness was really special. The cards were a delight..."

From Ann Litynski: "Thank you very much for the lovely, delectable basket that I received on Valentine's Day. What a thoughtful gesture to brighten a winter day!"

From the Scotia Food Pantry: "Thank you for the generous food donations made in January. Your donations will help to feed many families this winter....."



The baby crib was overflowing with donations for the Christ Child Society. Many thanks to all who contributed to this special annual collection



Kids Corner



Color Me In!

Hail Mary Word Search

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | L | H | S | I | N | N | E | R | S |
| F | O | O | E | J | E | S | U | S | F |
| H | K | Y | R | A | M | C | A | R | J |
| B | D | Y | R | D | O | S | U | F | A |
| G | E | A | H | V | W | I | U | M | N |
| R | S | R | A | D | T | L | O | O | P |
| A | S | P | I | E | L | N | R | T | N |
| C | E | D | L | A | G | H | Z | H | E |
| E | L | O | V | T | T | H | E | E | M |
| K | B | G | M | H | O | U | R | R | A |

| | |
|---------|---------|
| AMEN | JESUS |
| AMONG | LORD |
| BLESSED | MARY |
| DEATH | MOTHER |
| FRUIT | PRAY |
| FULL | SINNERS |
| GOD | THEE |
| GRACE | WOMEN |
| HAIL | |
| HOUR | |



The angel told the women something. What was it?

Use the code to find out.

| | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| A = B | F = G | J = K | N = O | R = S | V = W |
| B = C | G = H | K = L | O = P | S = T | W = X |
| C = D | H = I | L = M | P = Q | T = U | X = Y |
| D = E | I = J | M = N | Q = R | U = V | Y = Z |
| E = F | | | | | Z = A |

"
— — — —
F N

— — — — — — —
P T H B J K X



— — —
Z M C

— — — —
S D K K

— — —
G H R

— — — — — — — — — — !
C H R B H O K D R

St. Joseph's Church
Parish Office
45 MacArthur Drive
Scotia, NY 12302
(518) 346-2316

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Church:
231 Second Street
Scotia, NY 12302

Parish Office
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 - 3:00
Closed on Friday
45 MacArthur Drive
Scotia, NY 12302
Phone: 518-346-2316 (office)
518-374-3382 (FF/YM)
Fax: 518-374-3383
E-mail: stjosephschurch@albany.twcbc.com

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