

April, May & June 2019

Volume 6, Issue 2

# St. Joseph's Church Newsletter



*From the Pastor's Desk*

**Reverend Peter D. Russo, Pastor**

## On the Eucharist

Each year during Holy Week, we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday. The church teaches that the Eucharist is “the source and summit of all that we are and all that we are called to be”.

In each of the Synoptic gospels, (Matthew, Mark and Luke) we can find the institutional narrative of the Eucharist. (see: Matt.26:26-28, Mark 14:22-25 and Luke 22:19-20). In each narrative we are told by Jesus to eat this bread and drink this cup. In Matthew's account is says “drink all of you from this,...for this is my blood”. For the first six centuries of the church, when Christians gathered for the Eucharist they did share the one bread and the one cup in obedience to Jesus' command to eat his body and drink his blood. Over time, for a variety of reasons too, numerous to mention, in the Latin Rite, or Roman Catholic, communion from the cup by the laity went out of practice. Over time the laity even refrained from receiving Holy Communion altogether. This is why there is a church law that requires all Catholics to receive Holy Communion at least once a year at Easter time. (Easter Duty)

## The restoration of Communion from the CUP

The first document of the Second Vatican Council, *The Constitution Sacrosanctum Concillium, 1964*, reformed the Eucharist “mass” for all Roman Catholics. In accordance with decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship, the instructions *Sacramentali communiore* June 29, 1970 were published; communion under Both bread and wine was restored. (see sec. IV #244). At the time of the restoration communion from the cup was optional and it still is.

Jesus **TOLD** us to eat his body **AND** drink his blood, so why do so many Catholics still not receive the cup?

As Catholics we often look to see what Jesus told us to do and we try to follow HIM. Perhaps we should re-examine why we refrain from the cup of Christ's blood at communion time.

***Blessed Holy Week,***

***Fr. Peter***



## *City Mission - Thank you Volunteers/ Volunteers Needed*

Volunteering is a commitment that provides benefits not only to the community but to personal self satisfaction that you've provided a needed service. We routinely serve meals at City Mission and without our team of volunteers it would not be possible to help so many.

On March 19th, our team of volunteers served the community evening meal at City Mission, serving 402 meals that evening (a record for us) and we also brought cake for dessert.

**Thank you** to all those that walked the floors at the City Mission Dining Center ensuring that everyone got a hot meal and helped clean up.

We owe a special note of thanks to our cake baker and we'd like to **give her some help**...if anyone would like to bake two large sheet cakes at the parish center the day before our team is scheduled to serve (all supplies provided), please contact Kathy Brooks on (518)280-1478 or email [brookaska@nycap.rr.com](mailto:brookaska@nycap.rr.com).



A second person comes to the parish center and frosts the cooled cakes and covers them with sprinkles and gets them packaged to travel. We also have a volunteer who quietly goes about the business of picking up supplies for the cakes and one person that comes early in the morning of the meal serve and delivers the cakes to City Mission. We couldn't do this without everyone's help and the guests at City Mission love our cakes. **Many, many thanks!**

## *Re-Igniting Our Faith Campaign*

This Diocesan-wide campaign has begun and we are pleased to report that as of the time this newsletter went to print, the Campaign had raised **\$78,875** ~ this is the result of pledges and/or gifts from just 32 families!

We recently held "information sessions" in which parishioners were able to learn more about the Campaign and what it would mean for us here at St. Joseph's. It is our goal to wrap up this Campaign by the Easter season. If you have not already done so, please consider a donation during our "in-pew" commitment weekend on April 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>.

Additional information regarding this Campaign may be found on our parish website (under the "GIVING" tab) as well as the **Re-Ignite Our Faith** website: <https://re-ignitingourfaith.org/>



## *Faith Formation*

Lent is upon us. There are three pillars associated with Lent and they are Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. I always managed prayer and almsgiving, however, it was always fasting and abstinence that was difficult for me. Fasting does not mean that you, or your family, do without food completely, or eat bread and drink water. It simply means moderation. Fish instead of steak. A nice salad instead of mashed potatoes. (I think you get what I'm saying.) All things in moderation. Prayer. You can teach the children that when they pray they are lifting their hearts and minds to God. Finely almsgiving. Jesus said "I was thirsty and you gave me water, I was hungry and you fed me. Teach the children how important it is to help the poor during this season of lent .

## *Faith Formation Important Dates to Remember*

### **First Reconciliation**

Date/Time: March 23 at 10:00 am

Location: Church

Those who did not attend the Reconciliation Workshop in the fall, and have planned to do the make-up retreat at Our Lady of Grace, are expected to be at OLG on March 16th at 9:30a.m. The retreat runs till about noon.

### **First Eucharist Workshop**

Date/Time: April 13 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: The Parish Center Library (Parents need to stay to assist their children with this program.)

Be sure to notify Roberta ASAP if you have a conflict with this date, as options are limited.

### **Rehearsal for First Eucharist**

Date/Time: May 2, at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Church

Everyone is expected to attend.

### **First Eucharist**

Date/Time: May 4, during the 4:00 p.m. mass

Location: Church

The big day will be here soon!!!

God bless you!

Roberta M. Quinn

Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

quinnr@nycap.rr.com ; Phone: St. Joseph's 374-3382, OLG 384-0109

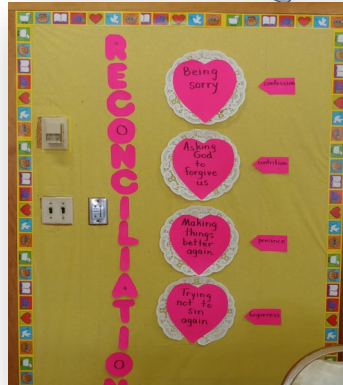


# Photos...Photos...and more Photos...



The **first grade** class was caught decorating their valentine cards. They seemed very pleased with the outcome!

Mrs. Brooks has lots of interesting spring projects coming up for them. Growing flowers is just one of the ways they will be learning about God's creations.



The **second grade** class has been busy and has a very busy schedule ahead of them.



## The Seven Sacraments

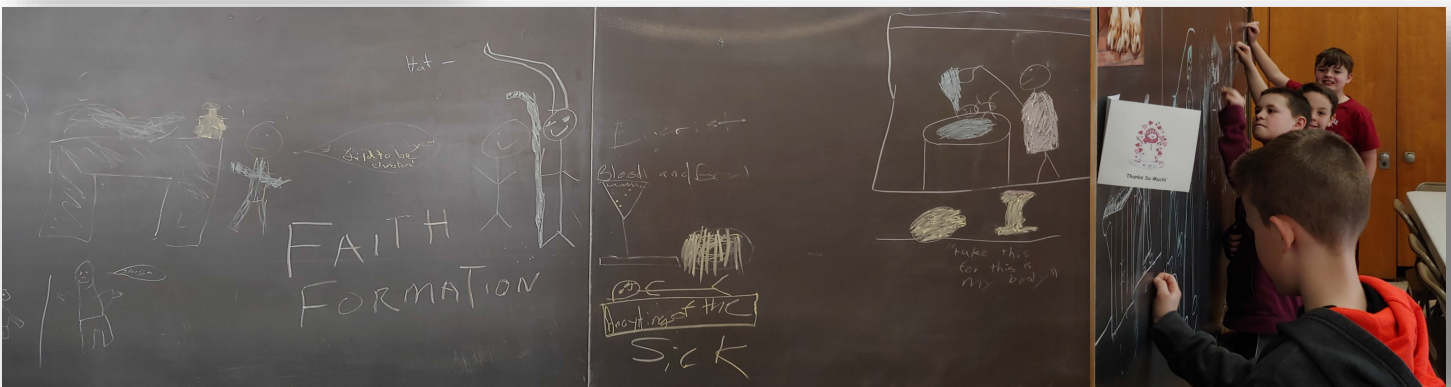


Mrs. Mayer **third grade** class has spent time learning about the Mass and went to the chapel that is located in the parish center to have their own mass.

They are now working on the ten commandments and learning more about Moses and how he obeyed God's commands.

In upcoming classes they will be discussing how to make "good choices" and how to avoid making "bad choices".

Special thanks to Mrs. Massaro for filling in for Mrs. Mayer on February 3rd.



This year's **fourth grade** class is a very artistic group, according to their teacher, Mrs. Schaffer.

Here they are describing the different sacraments through their creativity.

## *Photos...Photos...and more Photos...cont.*



Mrs. Casey's **fifth grade** class are making Valentine baskets for the home bound parishioners, that get delivered by volunteers from the parish.

**A Special Thanks** to all of the students that made cards to go with the valentine baskets and to all the parents who participated in this wonderful program. It is a good way for us to give the gift of our time and talents.

## *Giving Tree Donations*



The tables were overflowing with the Giving Tree donations! Over 326 items were donated and distributed to Bethesda House, Lighthouse project, Glendale Home, Scotia Mansion, Things of My Very Own and YWCA. Many thanks to Suzanne Bernadt, Maureen Boniewski, Carol Casey and Kathy DeMarco for spearheading this project

## *Youth Ministry*

Youth Ministry took a recent trip to Congregation Gates of Heaven. Rabbi Matt is pictured below showing our group of teens and adults the Torah scrolls and explaining why they don't touch the scroll.



## Special Events & Activities



Many thanks to Barbara Lewis, Marge Glover, Marianna Gatta, Bunny Zawilinski and Norma Laniewski for creating such a beautiful quilt!

The St. Joseph’s Quilters have been busy working on this beautiful queen size Irish Chain quilt and they are ready to raffle it off! A mailing was recently sent which included 10 tickets with a suggested donation of \$2.00/ticket. Please consider purchasing your tickets or selling them to friends, family & co-workers or simply make a donation. Tickets may be returned to the Parish Office or dropped in the offertory basket in an envelope marked “Quilt Raffle”. The winner will be selected on Mother’s Day, **May 12<sup>th</sup>**, after the 9:00 am liturgy.



## Annual Tag, Treasure & Bake Sale

This is our biggest fund raiser for the year and we need everyone’s help and treasures! Please look for the famous “pink sheet” on the weekend of April 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> and sign up to help ~ there is something for everyone to do! We have already begun accepting donations of jewelry, books, CD’s and DVD’s during regular office hours (please remember we are closed on Friday). As of this printing, drop offs for all other items are scheduled as follows:

**Tues., May 7<sup>th</sup> (noon-3 pm & 6-8 pm)**

**Wed., May 8<sup>th</sup> (noon-3 pm)**

**Thurs., May 9<sup>th</sup> (noon-3 pm & 6-8 pm)**

**Fri., May 10<sup>th</sup> (noon-3 pm)**

**Sat., May 11<sup>th</sup> (10 am-2 pm)**

**Mon., May 13<sup>th</sup> (noon-3 pm & 6-8 pm)**

**Tues., May 14<sup>th</sup> (noon-3 pm & 6-8 pm)**

As always, please check the bulletin and parish website for up-to-date changes that may occur. All acceptable items should be brought to the **side door gym entrance**. Start looking through your closets, basements, attics and garages **NOW** and set aside your “treasures” for us! Questions??? Please contact **Tom Hyland** (518-370-1758 or email [hyles714@aol.com](mailto:hyles714@aol.com)) or **Deb Griffith** (518-810-8911 or email [debgriffith@verizon.net](mailto:debgriffith@verizon.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 <u>7/1/18-2/28/19</u>	Previous Fiscal Year <u>7/1/17-2/28/18</u>
Total Income*	\$309,311	\$322,914
Total Expenses	\$350,561	\$350,431

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

The Finance Committee is currently working on the budget for FYE 6/30/20 which must be submitted to the Diocese by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Once the budget is finalized, we will be sharing this information with parishioners via the weekly bulletin as well as future newsletters. Please take the time to read this important information and become familiar with the expenditures that are necessary in order to keep our Parish operating.

## Bishop's Appeal Update

Again, a big "thank you" to all who contributed to the **2018** Appeal. As of March 15<sup>th</sup>, we do know we had **exceeded** our Parish Assessment of \$66,787 and we will be receiving a "rebate" of 50% of the payments made over our assessment. This is always good news when we do not have to use any operating funds to meet our Diocesan assessment. Please be aware that the "kick off" for the **2019** Appeal will begin on the weekend of May 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>. Details regarding our assessment and commitment envelope will be mailed out in mid-April. As always, thank you for your support of this annual Appeal.



Please check the bulletin for weekly updates as well as additional programs that may have been added after this newsletter went to print.

If you would like to receive the St. Joseph's Newsletter via email please contact Brenda at [yager.brenda@gmail.com](mailto:yager.brenda@gmail.com)

We're on the Web!  
[Stjosephschurchscotia.net](http://Stjosephschurchscotia.net)  
 and don't forget to Like us on Facebook!

## *Thank you!*

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 Barbara O’Leary:*** “I want to thank you very much for the beautiful plant and calendar. It’s so nice to be remembered. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.”

***From Anne Martinec:*** “I wanted to let you know how much I appreciated the beautiful plant sent from St. Joseph’s before Christmas. It was delivered by a lovely grandmother & her 4 young grandchildren – what a joy!”

***From Things of My Very Own (in response to our Giving Tree donations):*** “Thank you for your donation to Things of My Very Own, Inc. It is only through the support of our community that we are able to provide services to approx. 5,000 children annually. Your donation will help ensure that children are able to stay with their non-abusive family members & out of the foster care system whenever possible.”

***From Glendale Nursing Home (in response to our Giving Tree donations):*** “Thank you for the generous Christmas gifts your parish provided for our residents. You sure made Christmas special for all of them.”

***From Lucia Bianchi:*** “My thanks again for the Valentine Day “goodie” box sent by the children & parents of our church. It warms my heart to see the little notes signed “your friend” by a child I have never seen & who has never seen me—a true manifestation of Valentine’s Day.....The lovely poinsettia plant delivered at Christmas time is still blossoming & lending its color to my living room....”

***From Bernice Lukas:*** “I received a phone call telling me I had a package from St. Joseph’s Church. A nice man with his two daughters delivered this generous, attractive box & notes of Valentine’s! I am enjoying some each day & want to thank all the kind people who made this possible.”

***From Doris Urban:*** “To all – thank you so much for the beautiful Valentine’s cards, all the goodies & the always nice visit. You all have been so good.”

***From The Christ Child Society:*** “Thank you so much for the donations.....please let everyone know that we are grateful for your efforts. We would like to thank everyone who donated the clothes, diapers, afghans, sweaters, etc.”

***These are just a few of the many ways that we reach out to those within our community and spread the good news of Jesus Christ through our actions.***



# Holy Week Schedule



**April 13:** Palm Sunday Vigil Liturgy ~ 4:00 pm

**April 14:** Palm Sunday Liturgy ~ 9:00 am

**April 18:** Holy Thursday Liturgy ~ 7:00 pm  
(Adoration until 10:00 pm in Children's Chapel at Church)

**April 19:** Good Friday ~ Liturgy of the Passion & Death of Jesus ~ 7:00 pm

**April 20:** Easter Vigil Liturgy ~ 8:00 pm

**April 21:** Easter Sunday Liturgy ~ 8:30 & 10:30 am



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## *St. Joseph's Church Newsletter*

Church address: 231 Second Street  
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Mass Times: Saturday - 4:00 pm  
Sunday - 9:00 am

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### *Inside this issue:*

<i>From the Pastors Desk</i>	<i>Cover</i>
<i>City Mission Thank You/ Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Re-Igniting Our Faith Campaign</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Faith Formation</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Photos...Photos...and more Photos...</i>	<i>3-4</i>
<i>Giving Tree Donations</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Youth Ministry</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Special Events &amp; Activities</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Notes from the Finance Office</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Thank you!</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Holy Week Schedule</i>	<i>8</i>