



Father Benintende officially retired, January 1. Father will continue to live at the rectory until his apartment is available in March; and will celebrate Mass at Saint Mary's periodically.

An Invitation

Please join us for a reception immediately following

**The 10:30 a.m. Mass on January 15th, 2012
In the Parish Center Gym to honor
Rev. Joseph Benintende
On the occasion of his retirement**

Begin the New Year by helping to provide a hot meal and warm fellowship at Saturday's Bread. Adults and youth 12 and over are welcome. Please sign up to participate by calling Ellen at 432-5514 or by e-mail at ealex@stny.rr.com. Other dates for 2012 are March 3rd, May 5th, July 7th, September 1st, and November 3rd.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Parish Mission here at Saint Mary's, Oneonta
March 24 - 29, 2012**

conducted by

**Sister Joan Bukrey, Father Michael Champlin
and Father Nicholas Punch**

of

The Thomas More Center



**Is Your Child Preparing for
First Reconciliation and First Communion?**

Please remember to send a copy of your child's baptismal certificate to the Faith Formation office. You may drop them, off on Sunday morning, bring them to the rectory or mail them to us at 39 Walnut Street, attn: Faith Formation. Thank you!



YOUTH MINISTRY

Souper Bowl of Caring is a national program which allows youth to raise funds and awareness to help relieve hunger in their local communities.

On Saturday and Sunday, February 4 and 5, Saint Mary's young people will be collecting food items and monetary donations after each of the Masses for Saint Mary's Food Pantry.

Please give generously, and support our young people in their efforts to reach out to our neighbors in need.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Final preparatory sessions for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin with an orientation session for both coandidates and their parents on Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 6:30pm in the Parish Center. An overview of our program's final steps for preparation will be given at this meeting. The Sacrament of Confirmation is offered in the Albany Diocese to those in the 10th grade or above who have been participating in Faith Formation for at least a year prior to requesting the sacrament. Please address any questions about our program to Diane DeDominicis at 432-3920 ext. 204.

THANK YOU

The 24th Friends of Christmas dinner was once again a true witness of the spirit of Christ in our community. Over 450 meals were enjoyed by the guests and the homebound. Our sincere thank you to each and everyone who contributed or assisted to make this meal a celebration of Christ's birth.



Dinner with The Saints

We are planning to have a Dinner with the Saints on Wednesday, January 25th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Rectory Meeting Room. The gathering will include food, prayer and discussion. The discussion will be based on the book Saints at the Dinner Table by Amy Heyd.

Our Saint for January will be:
SAINT HILDEGARD

This will be a Covered Dish Supper - Please call the Rectory Office if you plan to come. I have some inspired recipes that are particular to Saint Hildegard and Germany - if you would like to try one, pick it up at the Rectory Front Office.



BIBLE STUDY
with Father Benintende
begins with Lesson 1 on
THURSDAY, January 19, 2011
The Book of Job

This story speaks eloquently of the mystery of human suffering. Listen to God's Word in the midst of pain.

TUESDAY MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP
with Father Benintende
January 17th at 10:00 a.m.
The Holy Land Revealed
Lesson 16
The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Essenes
By Professor Jodi Magness



**CHRISTMAS
REMEMBRANCES AND INTENTIONS**

In honor of the Bazan and Jaskowick Families by Mr. & Mrs. James Bazan.

In memory of Gary R. Butts, Sr., Deceased of Dyckman & Wulforst Families, Helen T. Dyckman, Deceased of Leroy Butts' Family, Ethel & George Keenan, Ronald J. Hull and Clarence Dyckman by Marions Butts and Family.



**WEEKEND
RETREAT**



FEBRUARY 17 - 19, 2012

Father Benintende will be conducting a weekend retreat at Mount Saviour Monastery, Pine City, NY. We will be using "Finding Our Sacred Center: A journey to inner peace" by Henri Nouwen as our basis of discussion.

About the book:....It was January 1990, the dawn of a new decade, and Henri Nouwen, world-renowned spiritual writer, was in France but his writing wasn't going well. Frustrated and discouraged, he decided to go to Lourdes, even though it was the off season, to give his anxious heart a rest. This profoundly inspiring journal is the result of his three-day stay. Lourdes restored Nouwen's inner peace and helped him return to his sacred center. He realized, of course, that he did not need to be at Lourdes to find peace and joy. The purity, simplicity, and freedom he experienced belong to the heart and can be lived anywhere. Whether we have been to Lourdes or not, does not matter. This small journal is bound to touch our own restless and searching hearts and help us to find again our own sacred center, the living Christ within us.

Cost of the retreat will be \$125.00 plus food - if you plan to participate call the rectory office as soon as possible, as space will be limited. Henri Nouwen's book, "Finding Our Sacred Center" is now available in the rectory for \$10.

FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry is open 5 days a week, and the need for food supplies is a constant reality. Blue collection containers have been placed at the entrances of the church. Attached to the front are copies of a list of the most commonly needed food items. Please take one to use as a guide for contributions to our pantry. Thank you.

Ordinary Time

Paul Turner

Ordinary Time, the longest season of the church year, fills the weeks "which do not celebrate a specific aspect of the mystery of Christ." It's the no-particular-reason season. The Christmas cycle honors the birth of Christ. The Easter cycle rejoices in the resurrection. Ordinary Time is devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its aspects.

The number of the weeks of Ordinary Time replaces the old counting of weeks "after Epiphany" and "after Pentecost." The old calendar suggested that Pentecost ran for six months. The new calendar gives Pentecost a day. Then we return to Ordinary Time.

At first glance the principles of Ordinary Time seem basic enough. Start counting the weeks after the Christmas season. Break for Lent and Easter. Resume after Pentecost and keep counting till Advent. Basically, that's how it works. But we have a few quirks.

For example, there is no "First Sunday in Ordinary Time"; however, there is a first week. Usually the Christmas season ends on a Sunday with the Baptism of the Lord. The lectionary also calls it the First Sunday in Ordinary Time, but it is part of the Christmas season. (Some years the baptism falls on a Monday, but that's another story.) Ordinary Time gets underway on a weekday. When the next Sunday rolls around we start week two.

On the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, we see the last of Ordinary Time until after Pentecost. Even then, it emerges only on weekdays. Trinity Sunday always follows Pentecost Sunday, and the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord comes the next Sunday in the United States. (In countries where this solemnity is a holy day, it falls on a Thursday.) So when the numbered Sundays in Ordinary Time return in summer, we start out a little higher than where we left off.

Sometimes we skip one or two entire weeks of Ordinary Time during the Easter break. We want to close the Sundays of the year with Christ the King, one week before Advent. Christ the King always falls on the 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time. So, we determine the week number after Pentecost not based on where we left off before Lent but counting backwards from Christ the King. One or two weeks may disappear, but Ordinary Time still serves the complete mystery of Christ.

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time B 2 *1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20*

Beautiful Bodies

The human body is a beautiful thing to behold. It is good to appreciate beauty, as long as we do not lust after it. Beauty delights the eye and warms the heart. It can lead our thoughts to God, or it can lead our own bodies to sin.

Paul expressed these concerns to the Corinthians. "The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord." Our bodies are members of Christ, Paul says, and should be treated as such. "Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you." Because we have been baptized, we are the body of Christ, and the Holy Spirit dwells within us. We should treat the human body with the reverence we give a church, a temple or another holy place. It shares life with God. The body is where the Spirit dwells.

This is the farthest thing from our minds when our thoughts turn lustful. All we can think of is the immoral use of a beautiful body. But God made these bodies for another purpose.

With our bodies we can praise God, reach out in charity to a neighbor, serve the needy, and preach the gospel. With our bodies we can express our intimate love with the person chosen as a partner for life.

Our bodies can do much good, but they are tempted by much evil. Paul's advice is simple: "Glorify God in your body."

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SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 15th – JANUARY 22nd

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2012

4:00pm Mackena, Delaney & Kason Miller
by Aunt Jean (1st Anniversary)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2012

8:30am Gloria Christie
by Mark & Armida Colone
People of the Parish

10:30am Fr. Paul Roman (Birthday Remem.)
by "Diz" & Jo-Anne LaMonica
Eleanor Ronovech (24th Anniversary)
by Husband

MONDAY, January 16, 2012

9:00am For the Special Intentions of
Brian Connty by Brian Smith

TUESDAY, January 17, 2012

9:00am Josephine Mongillo by Family
(Anniversary Remembrance)

WEDNESDAY, January 18, 2012

9:00am Donna Hathaway
by Uncle Babe & Aunt Jeanette

THURSDAY, January 19, 2012

9:00am For the Special Intentions of the
James Rieker Family by Loretta Weaver

FRIDAY, January 20, 2012

9:00am Robert Cole by Pat Allen & Joanne Johnston

SATURDAY, January 21, 2012

4:00pm Vito Bagnardi by Luigia Bagnardi

SUNDAY, January 22, 2012

8:30am Ann Guiliano by 2004 Women's Cornerstone
People of the Parish

10:30am Girolama Ruffino by Rose Grigoli

**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn
JANUARY 15th – JANUARY 21st
In loving memory of
Mackena, Delaney & Kason Miller
by Aunt Jean**

**The Bread and Wine for
January 14th – January 15th
are in memory of
Mackena, Delaney & Kason Miller
by Aunt Jean**

**The Rectory Office and St. Mary's Food Pantry
will be closed on Monday, January 16th for the
Martin Luther King holiday.**

**Bulletin blurbs/announcements need to be in
the Rectory Office on Thursdays by noon.
Thank you.**

PRAYER CORNER

We ask that you remember in your prayers the following persons who are ill: *Phil and Patricia Devine, Sharon Ann Hickey, Frank Furlan, Beulah and Ralph Morley, Barbaranne Nelson, Frances Baker, Mary Downs, Margaret Osterhoudt, Kathleen O'Hara, Owen Howarth, Betty Benintende, Dorothy Walsh, Robert Conway, Deborah Conway, Jack Stanley, George Parslow, Pat Healey, Ruth Healey, Noel Ranieri, Joseph Mercun, Karen Kelsey, Kristen Collins, Christine Schermerhorn, Joan Ingram, Jason "Jake" Deleski, Paula Hickey, Patty & Carl Wener, Victor Olmedo, Robert A. Harlem, Marlene Nagy and George Gerken* (names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks, and then removed unless notified by family - thank you)

We pray for the men and women of our parish and community who are serving in the military.

We remember in prayer the following Priests of The Albany Diocese: **Fathers O. Robert DeMartinis, Joseph O'Brien, Donald Rutherford, Daniel Ryan, Francis McCloskey, Leo Markert, Raymond Piechocki, Firmin Finn, OFM Cv, V. Rev. Anthony Barratt, Richard Testa, Vincent Ciotoli, James Madden, CSC and Bishop Joseph W. Estabrook.**

Let us remember those who have died especially the members of our families and parish community.

THINK ABOUT IT.....

When you hear homilies about the Christian call to feed the poor, clothe the needy and house the homeless have you ever wondered HOW do I help do these things? There is a way you can respond to this call. The St. Mary's Peace and Justice Committee focuses on these issues and more.

Why not start the New Year with a commitment to become part of the solution to these problems. Join the Peace and Justice Committee. Our next meeting is Monday, January 16, 2012 at 7:00p.m. in the Parish Center. If you have any questions, call Marjorie Pietraface at 432-1385.



Please remember our parish in your will...we are:
**"St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Oneonta,
NY"**

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