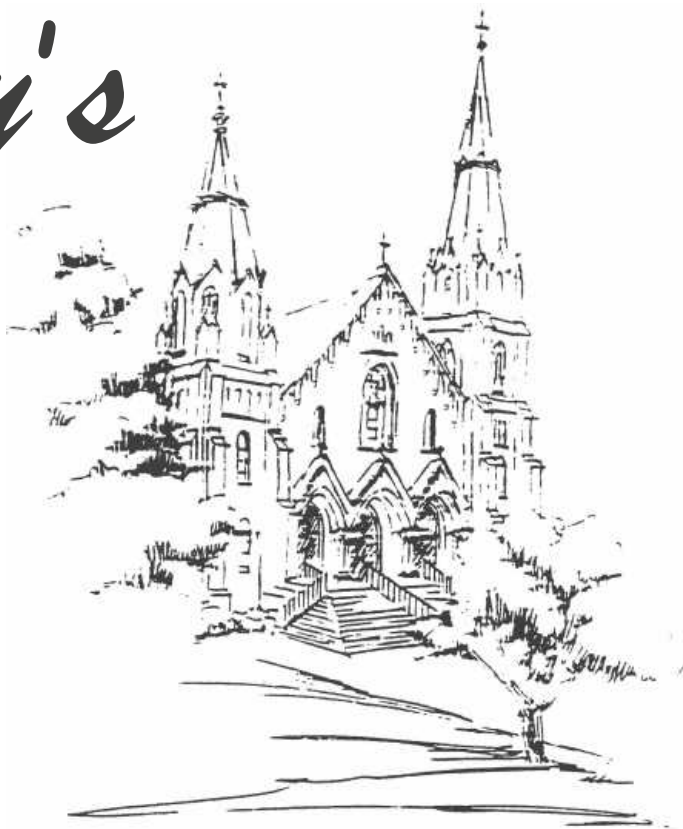


# St. Mary's Parish

**13 Marvin Street  
Clinton, New York 13323**



**PARISH STAFF:**

*Rev. John P. Croghan* – Pastor  
*Sister Johanne McCarthy, CSJ* – Parish Associate  
*Carol Marshall* – Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper  
*Mary Lou Lauchert* –  
Director of Faith Formation  
*Susan Cambridge* – Preschool Director  
*Chris Ellis* –  
Superintendent of St. Mary's Cemetery  
*Valerie Wright* – Director of Music/Organist  
*Joe Schick* – Custodian

**Parish Council**

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Jeanne Roback, Vice-Chairperson  
Maureen Hughes, Secretary  
Evelyn Micciche  
Elizabeth Tantillo  
Patricia Balon

**Web Page:** [www.stmarys-clinton.com](http://www.stmarys-clinton.com)

**Email:** [parishoffice@stmarys-clinton.com](mailto:parishoffice@stmarys-clinton.com)

**Phone Numbers:**

Parish Office .....853-2935  
Faith Formation Center.....853-6196 or 853-7631  
Parish Center .....853-6196  
Sister Johanne McCarthy.....853-1849  
Cemetery Superintendent .....939-3058  
Music Director .....292-0368

**Eucharistic Liturgies**

**Weekend Mass**                      Saturday Vigil 5:15 PM  
   Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM  
**Weekday Mass**                      Wednesday – Friday 7:00 AM  
   Saturday 8:00 AM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 4:00 – 4:45 PM

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Please call the parish office to make arrangements. Baptisms normally take place on the first and third Sundays at 11:30 AM.

**Sacrament of Marriage**

Couples planning to be married are asked to schedule an appointment with Fr. Croghan at least 6 months before the desired date. Wedding dates cannot be scheduled over the phone. One of the parties being married and/or their parents must be registered members of St. Mary's (Pre-marriage instruction is required).

**Prayer Line**

If you or any of your loved ones are in need of prayer, please call Margaret – 853-5280, or Pat – 853-5229.

**New Parishioners**

Welcome! Please introduce yourself after Mass. We invite you to become an active member of our parish community. Please call the parish office to register.

**Bulletin Deadline**

All announcements for the bulletin should be in writing and submitted to the parish office by Monday noon.



**Saturday, December 17 - Vigil Mass**  
 5:15 PM Ben & Mary Hillage by Their Family  
**Sunday, December 18 - 4th Sunday of Advent**  
 8:00 AM Leila Adour by Her Family  
 10:30 AM Florence Reynolds (2nd) by Her Family  
**Wednesday, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius**  
 7:00 AM Terry Hamlin by Her Family  
**Thursday, December 22**  
 7:00 AM Nora Reynolds (30 days) by Patrick Reynolds  
**Friday, December 23 - St. John of Kanty**  
 7:00 AM Benjamin Burdick (17th) by His Family  
**Saturday, December 24 - Vigil of Christmas**  
 5:15 PM Eleanor Johncox by Her Family  
 11:00 PM For the People of the Parish  
**Sunday, December 25 - Christmas**  
 8:00 AM Joseph A. Fox by Pat Dugan  
 10:30 AM Olga Cruze by Ted, Marsha, Roy  
 & James Cruze

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED, HOSPITALIZED,  
 SICK & SHUT-INS OF OUR PARISH**

**Altar-Rosary Cleaners - 12-24-2011**  
 Karen Winkler & Joan Scoones

# Dear Padre

**What is vespers?  
 My friend has invited me to attend his parish's Advent vespers service. I'm confused: Isn't vespers prayed year round?**

**Tracey**

Dear Tracey,

Indeed it is. Vespers is an evening prayer praising and thanking God for the gift of the day. It's one piece of the Liturgy of the Hours, a set form of hymns, readings, and prayers recited at specific times of day.

As you say, vespers is prayed all year long, but many parishes have special vespers celebrations during Advent and Lent or on special feasts. In those cases the format of the service is customized; for example, the celebration at your friend's parish will include Advent hymns.

From the very beginning of its history, the Church has prayed psalms and Scriptures. Priests, deacons, monks, and nuns are obligated every day to the Liturgy of the Hours. But they are not the living heart of this prayer - Jesus is. As members of the Church, they pray through him, with him, and in him.

Can you, a layperson, be part of this? You certainly can! You're not obligated, but you are warmly invited because you're a member of the Church that is the Body of Jesus on this Earth.

A suggestion: At little expense you can buy a slim volume called *Shorter Christian Prayer*, a compact Liturgy of the Hours. You'll find the instructions there. Pray for all of us!

John Hamrogue, CSSR  
 sundaybulletins@liguori.org

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Liturgical Ministers			
Time	Altar Servers	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers
5:15 PM (12/24)	Georgia Zoller, Jane & Jack Hughes	Annemarie Moffitt	Host - Mary Paul & Sue King Cup - Ann Wilkinson, TBA, TBA & TBA
11:00 PM (12/24)	Elizabeth Balch, Madeline Krasniak & Hannah McHarris	Pearl Gapp	Host - Jim Winkler & TBA Cup - TBA, TBA, TBA & TBA
8:00 AM (12/25)	Jenny Maxam, Abby Hyde & Fritz Gale	TBA	Host - TBA & TBA Cup - TBA, TBA, TBA & TBA
10:30 AM (12/25)	Grace Collins, Samantha Gaffney & Rick Heintz	TBA	Host - Sue Kielar & TBA Cup - TBA, TBA, TBA & TBA

**Faith Formation**

In Jesus' birth we see God's love for us. The children are learning that this love was meant for the whole human race and to treat everyone with the dignity which they deserve.

Monday classes for grades 1-8 will meet at the regular time.

There will be no Wednesday class for grades 1-8 this week.

High School Classes this Sunday, December 18.  
Grade 9 will meet 6:30-8 PM and Grades 10, 11 & 12, 6:30-7:30 PM.

**Liturgy of the Word for Children**

Your children, grades K-5, are invited to join in Liturgy of the Word for Children at the 10:30 AM Mass this Sunday.

**The Country Pantry**

Our Christmas distribution will be held on two days this month, December 19 and 20. Due to your generosity, our families, in addition to their regular monthly food supplement, will be receiving a gift certificate to Hannaford's to purchase their preferred holiday meat and food items. The children, disabled and elderly will also receive gifts provided through our Christmas Star collection. Thank you for helping us to make Christmas a little brighter for those who need some sunshine in their lives. God bless us everyone!

**A Family Perspective**

Question: What do you call a family which began with an unmarried pregnant teen and had a twelve year old son who ran away from home and was eventually executed as a criminal?

Answer: **HOLY!** Two lessons in today's gospel:  
1) No matter what is happening in your family, "The Lord is with you." 2) "Do not be afraid" for "nothing is impossible with God."

**Confessions**

Please note, confessions will be held from 10-11 AM on Saturday, December 24.

**There will NOT be confessions at 4 PM that day.**

**Area Advent Penance Services**

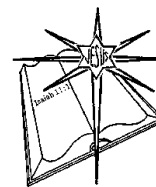
- December 18, 4 PM - St. Bernard's, Waterville
- December 19, 7 PM - St. Anthony's, Utica
- December 21, 7 PM - Our Lady of the Rosary, New Hartford

**Collection for Last Weekend**

Ordinary Collection .....	\$6,834.00
Holy Day.....	611.00
Christmas.....	137.00
Faith Formation.....	7.00
School Assessment .....	86.00
Country Pantry .....	50.00
Memorial Fund.....	42.00
Diocesan Collection.....	312.00
Christmas Flowers.....	105.00

**Christmas Mass Schedule**

- Saturday, December 24
- 5:15 PM, Mass
- 10:30 PM, Choir
- 11:00 PM, Mass
- Sunday, December 25
- 8:00 AM, Mass
- 10:30 AM, Mass



**Good News Foundation Programs**

*Separated & Divorced Support Group* meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, 5 PM, at The Good News Center, Utica.

*The Third Option* meets every other Sunday, 6:30-8:30 PM, at The Good News Center, Utica.

*GriefShare* meets Tuesday evenings from 6-7:30 PM, at the Good News Center. Utica.

For information on these and other programs offered at the Good News Foundation, please contact Andrea, Program Coordinator at (315) 735-6210 x 228, [andrea@thegoodnewscenter.org](mailto:andrea@thegoodnewscenter.org), or visit [www.thegoodnewscenter.org](http://www.thegoodnewscenter.org). Inquire about free child-care.

**Registration In Our Parish**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please check one:  
 I am new in the parish & wish to register  
 I am unsure if registered or not, please check  
 I am previously registered and wish to receive envelopes.  
 I moved to the above address.

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