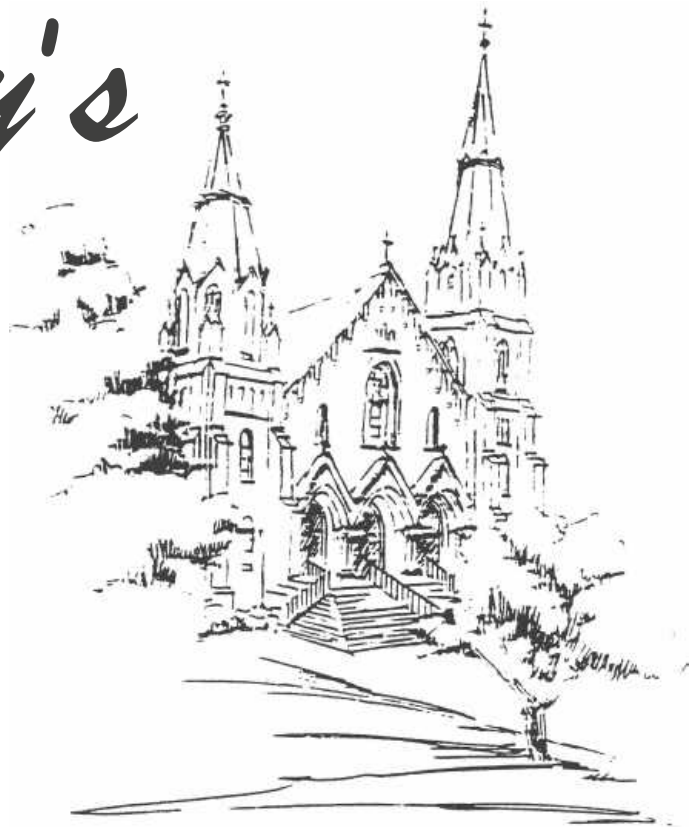


St. Mary's Parish

**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 Paulot – Custodian

Parish Council

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

Web Page: www.stmarys-clinton.com

Email: parishoffice@stmarys-clinton.com

Phone Numbers:

Parish Office853-2935
Faith Formation Center.....853-6196 or 853-7631
Parish Center853-6196
Sister Johanne McCarthy.....853-1849
Cemetery Superintendent939-3058
Music Director292-0368

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.



Dear Padre

**When is Jesus' birthday?
How do we know Jesus was born on December 25? I've checked my Bible, and I can't find any mention of the date.**

Jimmy

Dear Jimmy,

You're right: The Bible doesn't say Jesus was born on December 25. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke are the only Scriptures to give much detail about Christ's birth and infancy. They name the key political figures of the day, but not much else (Luke 1:5 and 2:1-2). Neither evangelist included specific information about the dates.

Dates were apparently not important to the earliest Christians. Besides, the first few generations of Christ's followers were far more interested in celebrating Christ's resurrection each Sunday, and eventually on Easter, than they were in celebrating his birth.

Christians started to associate December 25 with Christ's nativity centuries after the fact: the year 336 according to the earliest evidence. The most popular theory is that the Church chose to replace a popular pagan Roman sun festival celebrating the winter solstice (December 21 or 22) with a Christian feast that could overtake the pagan festival and use its sun imagery to speak of Christ as the unconquered "Sun of Righteousness."

Matthew Allman, CSsR
sundaybulletins@liguori.org

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granted on July 15, 2011, by the Most Reverent Robert J. Hermann,
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of St. Louis*

- Saturday, December 24 - Vigil Mass**
5:15 PM Eleanor Johncox by Her Family
11:00 PM For the People of the Parish
- Sunday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord**
8:00 AM Joseph A. Fox by Pat Dugan
10:30 AM Olga Cruze by Ted, Marsha, Roy & James Cruze
- Wednesday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents**
8:00 AM For the People of the Parish
- Thursday, December 29 - St. Thomas Becket**
8:00 AM For the People of the Parish
- Friday, December 30 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**
8:00 AM For the People of the Parish
- Saturday, December 31**
8:00 AM For the People of the Parish
5:15 PM - Vigil Mass For the People of the Parish
- Sunday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**
8:00 AM Edward Heintz by His Family
10:30 AM Alice Gibson Jones by Marion Walsh

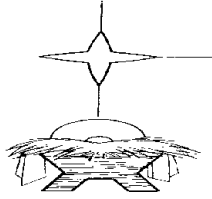
**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED, HOSPITALIZED,
SICK & SHUT-INS OF OUR PARISH**

Weekday Mass Schedule

Please note, weekday Masses this week have been changed to 8 AM.

Altar-Rosary Cleaners - 12/31/2011
Joyce & Denny Bojdak

Liturgical Ministers			
Time	Altar Servers	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers
8:00 AM (12/31)	NO SERVERS		
5:15 PM (12/31)	Kate Schlosser, Marilyn Cirincione & Meradith Thayer	Colleen Kanniainen	Host - Mary Paul & Sue Kielar Cup - Jim Winkler, TBA, TBA & TBA
8:00 AM (1/1)	Georgia Zoller, Jack & Jane Hughes	Anna Berney	Host - Joe & Tina Lallier Cup - Sr. Johanne, Chris Kielar, Gwen & Fran Lallier
10:30 AM (1/1)	LeeAnn Chesebro, Abby Hyde & Jacob Dombrowski	Marylalice Hogan	Host - Michele Beach & Maryalice Hogan Cup - Phyllis Moore, Anita Fitzgerald, Kathleen Teodoro & Carol Fobes



A Blessing of the Christmas Child

*Travel safely,
 And may you find your stable
 With a manger and a child.
 Listen carefully,
 And hear the child cry to you
 And take him to your heart.
 Watch closely,
 And see the guiding light
 That shows you the road to travel.
 And as you listen for the cry
 And watch for the light on your journey
 Feel the presence of hope, peace and love
 With the blessing of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
 Within you, beside you and before you. Amen*

Richard Becher

Merry Christmas from Fr. Croghan and all
The folks at St. Mary's.

Faith Formation

We wish all our families a very Blessed and Merry Christmas! Enjoy the vacation. Classes resume Sunday, January 8, 2012.

A Family Perspective

This Christmas remember your task as a parent is the same as Mary's: We must not let our doubts, fears and unfulfilled expectations get in the way of our loving ACCEPTANCE of our children.

The Country Pantry

At our Pantry distribution on Monday and Tuesday, 134 families were provided with their monthly food supplement, Hannaford's gift cards, and gifts provided by the parishioners of the 13 area churches. Thank you for spreading your Christmas cheer to those who are struggling and in need. May the Infant Savior bestow his blessings on you and yours for your kindness.

Collection for Last Weekend

Ordinary Collection	\$5898.00
Holy Day.....	1106.00
Faith Formation.....	177.00
School Assessment.....	69.00
Country Pantry	45.00
Memorial Fund.....	55.00
Flowers.....	49.00

LeMoyne College CYO Scholarship

For many years, LeMoyne College and the Catholic Youth Organizations have worked together to offer eight \$4,000 scholarships (\$1,000/year).

The CYO Scholarships will be conferred again this year to eight deserving students in the geographical Diocese of Syracuse. These scholarships will be awarded to prospective LeMoyne students who have demonstrated leadership abilities and have performed outstanding service to their school, community and parish.

Applications packets may be picked up in the parish office and must be completed and returned to the regional chairperson no later than February 1, 2012.

For information, please call (315) 445-4300.

Become a Lector or Eucharistic Minister

Are you interested in becoming a Lector and/or Eucharistic Minister? Please contact Sr. Johanne at 853-1849 or Sue King at 725-5631 for more information.

Please consider contributing to the parish serving in these ministries

Envelopes

If you plan to be away for an extended period of time, please call the Parish Office at 853-2935 (Monday - Friday, 10 - 3 PM) and put your envelopes on hold.

If you're not receiving envelopes and would like to, please fill out the registration form below and drop it in the collection basket,

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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