

Welcome to St. Paul's Catholic Church (St. Rita's Oratory)

210 LeRay Street, Black River, NY 13612 - Phones: SP's 315-773-5672 & SM's 315-629-4678 - <http://rivercatholics.org>

PASTOR: Reverend Vicente F. Jazmines - vfjazmines@hotmail.com

Deacon Candidates: **DAN LEROY and NOEL VOOS**

December 20, 2020

OFFICE HOURS

SP's: Monday & Friday, 12:30 – 4:00 PM
SM's: Monday & Friday, 8:30 AM – noon

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Sunday @ 10:30 AM
Also by Appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Contact the Pastor.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Envelopes \$1330.00; Plate \$ 208.00
21st Century \$27.00
Weekly cost to run Parish: \$1,627

Religious Retirement Collection held last week.

Thanks for giving. ” We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year, “says a Catholic sister. “Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters.” Thank you for donating to last week’s second collection.

Christmas Collection: The Diocese of Ogdensburg’s Retirement Plan for Priests has long been supported by a percentage of parish contributions from its annual Christmas collection. This Christmas, to help parishes with financial stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the diocese is reducing the contribution from 75% to 50% of the Christmas collection, with the parish keeping the balance. Currently 40 retired priests, and 11 active priests age 70 and older, are expected to receive pension benefits of \$970,000 in 2020-21. Also 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests, estimated at \$220,000 this fiscal year, is paid by the Plan. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will also help provide for the retirement needs of priests who will retire in the future. Say thank you to your pastor and all priests of the diocese through a generous contribution to our Christmas Collection.

Ushers for this week (12/20/2020) are:

- Frances Dunbar
- Charles (Andy) Rumschlag
- William Flynn

Lector – Ken Blankenbush

Ushers for 12/24/2020) are:

- Frances Dunbar
- William Flynn
- Ken & Sheila Blankenbush

Lectors – Charles (Andy) Rumschlag

Dr. Newell – (Pageant)

Ushers for 12/25/2020): Please Volunteer

Ushers for next week (12/27/2020) are:

- Frances Dunbar
- William Flynn
- Dr. Newell
- Ken Blankenbush

Lector – Sheila Blankenbush

Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Saturday, 4:00 PM (SM)
December 19

Jim Bertrand
By His Family

Sunday, 9:00 AM (SM)
December 20

For the People of the Parishes

11:00 AM (SP)
Norma LaMora
By Helen Martini

Liturgical Schedule:

Monday, 8:00 AM (SM)
December 21

Mariam Wartha
By Brigitte Schulz

Tuesday, 8:00 AM (SP)
December 22

Norma LaMora
By Sharon & Stephen Maloney

(Followed by recitation of the Rosary)

Wednesday, 8:00 AM (SM)
December 23

Amelia Nuzzo
By Brigitte Schulz

CHRISTMAS VIGIL:

Thursday, 4:00 PM (SM)
December 24

Melvin & Eileen Beckstead
By John, Carol & Tim
Geno Martini
By Ken & Sheila Blankenbush

6:00 PM (SP)

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Friday, 9:00 AM (SP)
December 25

Geno Martini
By Pat Barbalich

The Holy Family:

Saturday, 4:00 PM (SM)
December 26

Jim Bertrand
By The Wagoner Family

Sunday, 9:00 AM (SM)
December 27

Richard & Charlotte Hall
By Their Sons & Family
For the People of the Parishes

11:00 AM (SP)

WEEKLY MEMORIALS (this week)

St. Paul's: The **SANCTUARY LAMP** will burn in loving memory of SAMANTHA LUCILLE TURNER, requested by her grandparents. The **ALTAR CANDLES** will burn for the special intentions of Michael & Cecelia Gracey

IN OUR PRAYERS: At this Christmas time, we thank God for all our blessings; we pray for all those who are sick, in sorrow, or lonely; for world peace, national security, and safety for all our military serving in distant lands; for the safety of all travelers; and for all our faithful departed.

PLEASE wear your masks, practice social distancing and don't linger in groups in the parking lot. Protect yourselves and others. Please leave the kneelers down in the pew you occupied when you leave so that we may know to clean it. Thank you

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

- December 20 - Faith at Home, FORMED – Pageant Practice 9:45 to 10:45 AM (for Grade 2 Students only)
- December 27 and January 3 - No Class
- January 10 - Class



Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve Family Mass at 6:00 PM - for Grade 2 students please arrive at 5:30 PM

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK, FR. VICENTE F. JAZMINES – CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2020

Christmas is, first and foremost, about Love, God’s love. How much does God love us? God loves so much that God gave us the most precious gift imaginable, Jesus, God’s own Son. That’s the heart of Christmas.

This great and wonderful love calls us to love one another. We share love in and through our human relationships, especially with our families and friends and also with our neighbors. Love isn’t always a warm and cozy feeling; love is a commitment and a decision to stick by others, come what may through thick and thin, when the going is easy and when the going gets more challenging. The love that we share in our human relationships is a reflection of the love of God, calling us to give of ourselves to others.

Each time you let God love others through your faith, it is Christmas time; each time you smile at someone and offer that person your hand and heart, It is Christmas time.

May Christ’s peace and hope be with your family now and in the days ahead; may His love warm your hearts; may He give you a spirit of Wisdom.

Wishing you the Love, Peace and Happiness that the true meaning of Christmas brings.

Fr. Vicente F. Jazmines
Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Gospel Reading:

Luke 1:26-38 The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

(Family Connection) One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God’s plan for us and to remain open to God’s will and God’s actions in our world. Filled with God’s grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God’s plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God’s saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God’s grace working in our lives. Gather together your family and talk about what you have been doing as a family to prepare for Christmas. How have these preparations helped you to better celebrate the central mystery of Christmas, the Incarnation? Our Gospel today talks about how Mary was prepared for her role in Christ’s birth. Read today’s Gospel, Luke 1:26-38. Consider the question: What enabled Mary to say yes to God? Which of your Advent activities have made you more aware of God’s grace in your life? Conclude in prayer together that God’s grace will enable your family to be more faithful and obedient to God. Pray together the Magnificat.

December 20: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Mary said YES! She didn't have to. She could have said 'thanks but no.' She could have said 'when it is more convenient.' We can learn a lot from Mary's yes. How do we respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit? Are we even open to listen? How often do we say things like: someone should do something about that? Maybe that someone is you! Or perhaps we have an inspired idea for something, but out of fear or false modesty, we keep it to ourselves. Mary's yes was courageous. She trusted God's will for her. Perhaps today we can find a quiet place and ask Mary for help to know and say yes to God's will in our own lives. Have a joy-filled and blessed Christmas season!

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 20, 2020

“Be it done unto me according to your word.” Docile obedience to the Lord’s will is the fruit of humble prayer. If God is inviting you to a deeper consecration as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, talk to Fr. Vicente or Fr. Christopher Carrara at (315) 393-2920, ext. 1340/ccarrara@rcdony.org or Cathy Russell, the Diocesan Vocation Coordinator at (315)393-2920, ext. 1450/crussell@rcdony.org. See us at www.myvocation.net.

SCRIPTURE AND REFLECTION: “He shall be a Son to me, and I will be a father to him, and I will establish the throne of his kingship over Israel forever.” (1 Chronicles 22:10b) In the Annunciation made by the angel to the Virgin Mary, God’s promise of salvation is kept. The hope of God’s people is fulfilled, as our Advent hope will be fulfilled when Christ comes in his glory.

Christmas 2020 “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing...” (Isaiah 9:1-2).

Please read the Bishop’s Christmas Message attached.