

# Parish News

Here is your weekly update. There are also attachments for this week.

This is the last time to sign up for the DYCY in Syracuse next week for our 7 to 12 graders. Please reach out if you wish to attend.

Stewardship-  
Operating expenses for the Parish on a weekly basis are \$6,900.00 Collection.

Stewardship for Nov 3rd<sup>th</sup> Ordinary \$6532.00

All St Day \$1414.00

All Souls Day \$788.00

Fuel \$1582.00

Seminary \$341.0

Hurricane Donation \$3798.00



Hope Appeal 2025

The Assessment for the Parish is \$32,143.00

Currently received as of 10/27/24 \$16,572.02

### Parish Giving-

The Parish is pleased to introduce “Enhancing Stewardship through Electronic Funds Transfer. It is convenient no more searching for a checkbook or Sunday morning stops at the ATM. To excess simply Log on the parish website [www.sacredheart-saintmary.org](http://www.sacredheart-saintmary.org) and click on the Parish Giving Log and follow the easy registration instructions. It is Secure.

### Events at other Parishes in our area

Please remember we are all a Catholic Community and need to support each other.

Mary, Mother of our Savior Parish invites all teens in the Greater Utica Area to join us for Youth Ministry Nights:

Who: Teens in grades 7 thru 12 from the Greater Utica Area

Where: Mary Mother Of Our Savior Parish, Seton Center, 2 Barton Ave, Utica (look for the welcome flag)

When: Monday evenings 6:30PM-8:00PM  
(following the school calendar)

Youth Ministry Kickoff will take place on Monday, September 30th  
[www.motherofoursavior.org](http://www.motherofoursavior.org)

Our Youth Ministry Nights (YMN) consist of games and snacks, followed by a short faith message. Then the teens form small groups to talk about that topic in a safe, honest, authentic way with their peers. This is a highlight of the night, to hear from peers about the faith, to share doubts and questions and to be lifted up and encouraged in their faith in God, all guided by an adult core team member. Then we go to the chapel for a short prayer service and end with an awesome dinner! We also make sure to include social nights once a month. Social Nights may include: Movie Nights, Camp Fires, Holiday Parties, Trips/Teen Outings like GetAir, Retreats, Service Opportunities and more...

*For information please reach out to Brittany Wilcox: [bwilcox@syrdio.org](mailto:bwilcox@syrdio.org)*

### Utica Newman Catholic Christian Fellowship

For registered College Students/Utica Area

For questions Contact Campus Minister, Pat Gillick @

[Uticanewmandoutreach@syrdio.org](mailto:Uticanewmandoutreach@syrdio.org)

Free Pizza and Wing Dinner after every 4pm Sunday Evening Mass

Our Lady of the Rosary Campus

Food for thought





### Registration for the Faith Formation 2024-2025

I have received a number of calls if it is too late to register for Faith Formation. No it is not too late to register children for the program. If you have not registered your child (ren) simply come to the school on Sunday before class to register.

Fee of \$25 for 1 child and \$45 per family

### **Confirmation Students making the Sacrament this Spring**

There will be an important student/parent meeting on November 17th @12:00pm in the school.

Mark your calendars



PCA Collaborate Event -December 8<sup>th</sup>

St. Pauls, Sacred Heart/St Mary's/ Holy Trinity & Mary Mother of Savior Parish

St Paul's Whitesboro

From 2-4pm Activities

Grades Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> and Parents



There will no Mass on Thursday

Let's remember that as Catholics, the importance of attending Sunday Mass. At Mass we stand at mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.

Thirty -third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: DN 12:1-3

Responsorial Psalms: PS 16:5, 8-9, 9-10, 11

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Heb 10:11-14, 18

Gospel: Mk: 13:24-32

While these are wonderful reflections, please remember that they are not to be a substitute for the wonderful sermons of Father or Deacon Kirk at Mass.

As always, I try to find wonderful reflections for this week's Gospel reading. I let the Holy Spirit guide me.



Mark 13:24-32 Reflection: The Words of Jesus  
A reading from the gospel according to Mark 13:24-32

Jesus said to his disciples:

24 “In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,  
25 and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

26 “And then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in the clouds’ with great power and glory,  
27 and then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the end of the  
earth to the end of the sky.

28 “Learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know  
that summer is near.

29 In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that he is near, at the gates.  
30 Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.  
31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 “But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the  
Father.”

Reflection: The words of Jesus will stay forever.

No one knows when Jesus will come again in full glory. Let us not believe false prophets who claim they have received exclusive knowledge of God’s plan. Great disasters have come and gone and, God forbids, many more might come. What we are sure of is that He will come soon. What we need to do is to be ready at all times. Day and night, we need to pray, to purify ourselves, to forgive others and ourselves, to be in service to others so that when Jesus comes, we are ready.

Sure, God sends us sign and we must be alert for anything that God might be revealing to us. May the power of the Holy Spirit grant us the gift of wisdom and discernment so that we will be able to understand His will for us and for the world. In the meantime, we hang on to His promises as the reading tells us that His words will never pass away.

Jesus is asking us to have a sense of urgency in the light of His second coming. The impending judgment of the world should move us to act now or be caught unprepared. Let us make the decision to repent and be renewed now. Yet, we should be joyful rather than fearful for we know that we are loved and that we have been redeemed by His death on the cross.

2nd reflection by *reflection is by Father Moïse E. Dadja,*

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, today's texts take us to end times. The first reading from the book of Daniel takes us back to the time of the great tribulation under the Seleucid king Antiochus Epiphanes (175-164 BC). The Jews were forced to choose between sacrificing to idols or dying in atrocious torments. Many chose to renounce their faith. But a core group of faithful, including a mother

and her sons, preferred to face death: these were the first martyrs of the faith. A question arises: can the faithful God allow those who have shown themselves faithful to the point of giving their lives for him to die? The Book of Daniel provides the answer: Michael, leader of the heavenly army and patron saint of God's people, will rise to preside over the final deliverance.

Further reading: [Sunday reflection: Christ's sacrifice and vulnerable social groups](#)

Eternal life is promised to the martyrs, to those who stand firm in their faith to the end. In the Gospel, Jesus opens our human eyes to the forerunners of his return, which will only be the entry into his glory. But what remains hidden is the date of that moment. That remains a secret with the Father. This [coming of the Son of Man](#) is not written on any earthly calendar. One thing is certain: "The Lord has come, he is coming, he will come." The only thing that counts is knowing that Christ's return will take place and that we must prepare for it or risk finding ourselves irreparably excluded from the Kingdom. He will send the angels to "gather the elect from the four corners of the earth, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven."

Further reading: [Sunday reflection: Listening to God](#)

Salvation is a free gift from God, who wants his children to be happy. Even in our doubts and our most terrible [suffering](#), God himself is at our side to help us. Hence, there is a need to renew our trust in His love. Our challenge is to work and contribute to the coming of the Kingdom of God through our sincere commitment to the church and the world while remaining in the garb of service. The vigilance to which Jesus invites us has nothing to do with fear or anxiety. Our concern must be to do God's will and to bear witness to him through a life of faith, hope, and love. We must not lose sight of the fact that our life here on earth is precarious or, at best, fleeting. This is the *sine qua non* for the Son of Man to be able to bring us into his Kingdom of justice and peace when our time comes.

### **This week's Saints of the week:**

The saints are models of human excellence, perfected by the life of Christ and the communication of his Spirit. They demonstrate in their lives how to really live and how to really die. They consistently point to the horizon of love which leads to the fulfillment of all human desire: eternal communion with the Holy Trinity.

Nov 21-Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Novb 22 Memorial of St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr





The program has started. There are children who are too young to attend the program or have decided not to return this year. As always, I find material to you to share with your children so they may understand today's Gospel reading

### **There's a Great Day Coming**

#### **Theme**

Jesus promised he would come again, but he didn't say when, he just told us to be ready.

#### **Object**

A calendar with some important dates marked on it.

#### **Scripture**

"However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows." Mark 13:32 (NLT)

This calendar is very important to me. I have a circle drawn around the most important days of the year on this calendar. Do you see the circle around this date? That's my birthday. Every year my birthday is the same day. I always know when it is. Here is Christmas Day. That's an important day, isn't it? December 25th is Christmas day. It may be any day of the week, but it is ALWAYS on December 25th. Your birthday is an important day too. If I want to be sure to remember your birthday, I will draw a circle around it and write a note that says, this is Mary's birthday. That way I will always know when it is your birthday.



In our Bible lesson today, Jesus told his followers that a very important day was coming. He told them that a day was coming when people would see him coming in the clouds with power and glory. He told them that on that day he would send his angels to gather his people and take them home to heaven to be with him.

That's an important day, isn't it? When is that day going to be? Jesus didn't tell his followers that part. In fact, he told them, "No one knows the day or hour when I will return. Only the Father knows. That is why you must be ready, I will come at a time when you least expect it." Wow! If we don't know when he is coming, how will we be ready? By doing the things that Jesus would want us to be doing — loving one another, caring for the sick, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor. If we are busy doing those things, we will be ready when he comes.

Dear Father, even though we don't know the day or hour when Jesus will come to take his children to be with him, let us live in such a way that we will be ready when he comes. Amen.

Prayer is such an important part of our faith. As we enter November, here is a November Blessing prayer.





## Diocese of Syracuse

Office of Liturgy & the O.C.I.A.

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 -- A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

In 2024, December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent, so the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9. **Previously**, when the DATE was transferred the obligation was abrogated. That will no longer be true.

«**FROM THE USCCB**: Earlier this year, Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki, Chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance, wrote to the Holy See seeking clarification about the obligation to attend Mass when a holy day of obligation in Advent, Lent, or Easter falls on Sunday and the Solemnity is transferred to Monday. In a memo to the U.S. bishops dated Thursday, October 10, Bishop Paprocki communicated the Dicastery for Legislative Text's response: "the feast must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred." In light of this new directive, **the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Monday, December 9, 2024 is to be observed as a holy day of obligation.**

From the Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Discipleship

**Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference-The greater Utica area will participate in this event. Last year a number of students went and experienced a great and spiritual time.**

### **REGISTRATION OPEN!**

**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024

**Location:** Sacred Heart Church - Cicero, New York

Youth from across the diocese are invited to join Bishop Douglas Lucia for this Diocesan Youth Conference! Featuring keynote speaker Ennie Hickman and worship leader John Paul von Arx! Participate in Mass, games, talks, lunch, and Adoration.

Open to youth in grades 7-12. \$20 per participant.

Lynn M. Springer  
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Sacred Heart/St Mary's  
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