

# Parish News

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

On June 1<sup>nd</sup> is the Ordination day of Fr. Benjamin Schrantz -First person in our area in almost 20 years to receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders and will be ordained to the Priesthood at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse He is from St. Paul's in Whitesboro.

## **Parish Festival**

Parish Festival is set for August 2-4  
There will be the flea market for 3 days  
Polish Kitchen Sunday August 4th  
Fried Dough, basket raffle, and regular raffle

## **Stewardship-**

Operating expenses for the Parish on a weekly basis are  
\$6,200.00 Collection.  
Stewardship for April 14, 2024 \$5839.00 Fuel \$1382.00

## **Hope Appeal**

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection at weekend Masses is for the Hope Appeal and will continue in order for the Parish to reach the  
2024 Goal  
Goal \$38,468.00 Received to date \$27,538.02

### **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 in and follow the easy registration instructions. It is Secure.

Formation for ministry/Deacon Formation 2024

Sacred Heart St. Mary's

Information Session June 9<sup>th</sup> 1:00PM-3:30PM

To register: [formationforministrysyr.org](http://formationforministrysyr.org) or  
Call 315-470-1479

### **Events at other** Parishes in our area

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

### **Totus Tuus**

Mary Mother Savior Parish

July 22-25 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6 Grade

July 21-25 7pm-9am

### **Youth Ministry Nights**

Mary Mother Savior Parish

May 20<sup>th</sup>; June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>

6:30-8pm In Lawler Hall-Lourdes Campus.

### **Save the Date**

St. Anthony and St Agnes Festival

June 7-8pm

Mary Mother of Our Savior Parish

Spring Concert of Mozart's Requiem

May 19 @ 4PM

\$12 in advance and \$15 @ the door

### **Holy Trinity-utica**

40 hour Devotion next Sunday on Trinity Sunday



As always, I like to share the deep traditions and meaning of our Church. As this Sunday the Church celebrates Pentecost I thought I would give information regarding the birthday of Church



Pentecost, the beginning and birthday of the Church, is an annual feast that closes out the Easter season 50 days after the resurrection is celebrated. The word *Pentecost* has its root in the Greek word that means five. (One can see where the word *pentagon* comes from.) It is also a word that was used in Judaism during the time of Jesus, as *Pentecost* was the word used for the harvest festival Shavuot.

The Christian celebration has its origins in the Acts of the Apostles, in Acts 2:1-12, where the early disciples

experienced the filling of the Holy Spirit promised by Jesus. Acts also states, "While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This,' he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now'" (Acts 1:4-5).

This Third Person of the Holy Trinity is known by a variety of names in Christian theology; one name is Paraclete. The name Paraclete means educator, intercessor, teacher, helper and comforter. These names describe how the Holy Spirit is present in the Church and is present with God's people. The Spirit is sent to remind us of all that Jesus said and taught. The Holy Spirit makes everything possible. These meanings highlight why meditating on the feast of Pentecost is an important thing to do. With the whole Church throughout the ages, we may rightfully pray, "Come, Holy Spirit. Come!"

Pentecost always occurs 50 days after the death and resurrection of Jesus, and ten days after his ascension into heaven. Because Easter is a moveable feast without a fixed date, and Pentecost depends on the timing of Easter, Pentecost can fall anywhere between May 10 and June 13.

The timing of these feasts is also where Catholics get the concept of the Novena - nine days of prayer - because in Acts 1, Mary and the Apostles prayed together "continuously" for nine days after the Ascension leading up to Pentecost. Traditionally, the Church prays the Novena to the Holy Spirit in the days before Pentecost.

The name of the day itself is derived from the Greek word pentecoste, meaning 50th.

The reason Pentecost falls 50 days after Easter comes from a parallel Jewish holiday, Shavu'ot, which falls 50 days after Passover. Shavu'ot is sometimes called the festival of weeks, referring to the seven weeks since Passover.

Originally a harvest feast, Shavu'ot now commemorates the sealing of the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai, when the Lord revealed the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai. Every year, the Jewish people renew their acceptance of the gift of the Torah on this feast.Â

### **What happens at Pentecost?**

In the Christian tradition, Pentecost is the celebration of the person of the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles, Mary, and the first followers of Jesus, who were gathered together in the Upper Room.

A "strong, driving" wind filled the room where they were gathered, and tongues of fire came to rest on their heads, allowing them to speak in different languages so that they could understand each other. It was such a strange phenomenon that some people thought the Christians were just drunk - but Peter pointed out that it was only the morning, and that the phenomenon was caused by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit also gave the apostles the other gifts and fruits necessary to fulfill the great commission - to go out and preach the Gospel to all nations. It fulfills the New Testament promise from Christ (Luke 24:46-49) that the Apostles would be "clothed with power" before they would be sent out to spread the Gospel.

### **Where's that in the bible?**

The main event of Pentecost (the strong driving wind and tongues of fire) takes place in Acts 2:13, though the events immediately following (Peter's homily, the baptism of thousands) continue through verse 41.

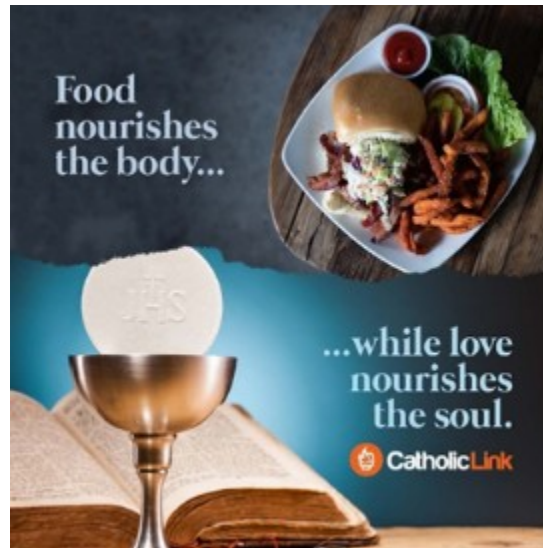
### **Happy Birthday, Church**

It was right after Pentecost that Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, preached his first homily to Jews and other non-believers, in which he opened the scriptures of the Old Testament, showing how the prophet Joel prophesied events and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

He also tells the people that the Jesus they crucified is the Lord and was raised from the dead, which "cuts them to the heart." When they asked what they should do, Peter exhorts them to repent of their sins and to be baptised. According to the account in Acts, about 3,000 people were baptised following Peter's sermon.

For this reason, Pentecost is considered the birthday of the Church - Peter, the first Pope, preaches for the first time and converts thousands of new believers. The apostles and believers, for the first time, were united by a common language, and a common zeal and purpose to go and preach the Gospel.

## Catholic Food for thought





The First Communion Group pictures are in. They may be picked this Wednesday May 22 at 6pm or next Sunday after the 11 am Mass.

Please remember that your child faith formation does not end with a year's program. Share your faith with your children until the 2024-2025 year begins in September. Attending Mass is a wonderful way to continue your family faith journey.

There will be the 1 week summer Totus Tuus program and Mary Mother Savior Parish.  
July 21-25

More information to follow.



## Mass Schedule



**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Will be offered the first Wednesday of every month after the 12:15 Mass.

Saturday 4pm

Sunday's

7:30am 9AM and 11AM

Weekdays 12:15 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Friday.

There will no Mass on Thursday

Let's remember that as Catholics, the importance of attending Sunday Mass. At Mass we stand 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.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2:1-11**

**Responsorial Psalms: 104: 1, 24, 29-30 ,31, 34**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13**

**Gospel: Jn 20: 19-23**

**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. While this one is a bit long, the Holy Spirit leads me to share with everyone. Powerful**



This weeks reflection comes from Sr. Kristine Anne Haprenau- Sister of the St. Benedict of Ferdinand Indiana

### **John 20:19-23 - Pentecost Sunday**

This Gospel begins by describing how Jesus' disciples had locked themselves in a room. They were afraid of the Jews. Imagine this scene! Here are eleven grown men locked in a fairly small room, fearful of what might happen to them. So much for Jesus' "brave disciples."

Then Jesus quietly appears in their midst. Did they rub their eyes wondering if something was wrong with their eyesight? Did they think they were going crazy when they saw Jesus? Did they immediately recognize that this apparition was Jesus, their beloved friend and teacher?

Jesus quietly and simply said to his beloved friends and disciples: "Peace be with you." I suspect that the primary emotion the disciples experienced when they saw this apparition was not "peace." Rather, I assume that they felt shock, fear, disbelief, astonishment and perhaps hope. Did they ask themselves: How could this be? Is this real? Is Jesus truly here with us?

Then Jesus showed his beloved friends his hands and his side. Did Jesus do this so they would know and believe that Jesus truly was in their midst? I suspect that the disciples needed some proof that this apparition truly was Jesus, their teacher and friend. Yet as they began to absorb the fact that Jesus truly was with them once again, they rejoiced. They were awed and amazed!

Jesus once again said to his disciples: "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Did the disciples experience peace envelop them when Jesus spoke these simple yet powerful words? Jesus then breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit! Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained!"

Take a moment and hear Jesus say to you: "Peace be with you (your name)! Then quietly breathe in Jesus' gift of peace for 3-4 minutes! Allow Jesus' peace to envelop you, to fill you! (Do it, don't just read the sentence and move on!)

What was your experience? Do you feel Jesus' peace within you? Do you feel less stressed or worried? Jesus gives us the gift of peace every day! However, we have to consciously accept and absorb His peace! If we do this every day, we may find that we are more peaceful, relaxed and joyful!

**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.

Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church -  
May 20



While there is no faith formation until September. Below are reflections for the children until they return to the program in fall.

Theme: The Day of Pentecost

Object: Balloons (uninflated); birthday gifts; birthday candles

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21



We are going to have a celebration today! Let me show you what I have for this party. (Hold up the birthday gifts, birthday candles and balloons). Can you guess what kind of celebration we might be having? Of course: a birthday party. Now, there might be someone here today whose birthday is close, but that is not why we are celebrating.

Today is the day that we celebrate the birthday of the Church. The day that the Church really got its start. We call it the day of Pentecost and it's when we remember the day when God sent the Holy Spirit to His people just as Jesus had promised that He would.

These birthday party items are going to help us to remember what happened in the Church on the day of Pentecost. They will also remind us that the Holy Spirit is still at work in the Church today.

Balloons can add a lot to any celebration, but, as you can see, these balloons are flat and lifeless. They need to be filled. They need someone to breathe some life into them. (Blow up the balloons.) The Bible tells us that on the day of Pentecost, the followers of Jesus were all together in one place when suddenly they heard a sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind and it filled the whole house. (Let the air out of one balloon so kids can hear the rushing sound.) We are here today waiting for the Holy Spirit to fill this place and to breathe new life into the church of Jesus Christ.

Like any good birthday cake, we have candles. (Show the candles.) Later on, we will light the candles and be reminded that on the day of Pentecost tongues of fire came and rested upon each of the people in that place and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them ability. Just as on the day of Pentecost, we need the Holy Spirit to come and light our fire and give us the power to do things which will bring glory to God.

What is a birthday celebration without gifts? (Show the gifts.) On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit gave the early church the gifts of forgiveness, truth and a new life. The Holy Spirit offers those same gifts today. He leads us to truth, forgives us, and gives us a better way to live.

As we celebrate the birth of the Church, let's remember that the Holy Spirit is still alive and at work in us today like He was in the people of the early church.

Dear Father, we thank You for sending the Holy Spirit. Help us to remember that the Holy Spirit still fills the church with power today, just as He did on the day of Pentecost. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## Weekly Prayers

**Blessing for Pentecost Sunday Lord . May your heart be open  
to receive the Holy Spirit This weeks prayer is to be open  
to receive the Holy Spirit in our lives**

Come to us God almighty,  
Send your Spirit.  
Ignite the fire in our hearts,  
Feed your flame within.  
Rushing wind blow on us,  
Grow the sparks and spread them,  
Let your Spirit prepare,  
Strength and equip us.  
Come to us Lord Jesus,  
Send your Spirit.  
Let it proclaim who you are,  
And multiply your presence,  
Throughout the earth.  
Ignite its flame to fill us  
with generosity and caring.  
Come to us Spirit of truth,  
Consume us with your fire.  
Let your power shape our world,  
with love and peace and justice.  
Let your love fill our world  
with compassion, and joy and hope.  
Amen.

Christine Sire <http://godspace.org>  
Image: Pentecost by Simon Marsh <http://simonmarsh.org/>



*Pentecost*

*Simon Marsh 5/12*





## Diocese of Syracuse

3) From the Catholic Schools Office:

Save the Date: On Monday, June 17, 2024 we will hold our **3rd Annual Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament** at [Turning Stone Resort](#). This exciting event benefits Catholic Schools scholarships. We strive to raise much needed funds for our Light a Child's Future Scholarship program, which enables economically disadvantaged students to attend Catholic Schools in our diocese. Did you know that 65% of our students rely on financial aid or scholarship support to attend our schools? Your support will directly aid underprivileged students, ensuring their participation in a faith-centered community focused on promoting academic excellence.

**Please join us:**

- [Serve as a Sponsor](#) or [Register as an individual or foursome team\(s\)](#)

Sponsorships begin at \$500 - Click [here](#) for a complete list

- **Promote the Golf Tournament in your Parish**

See attached flyer for bulletin boards and Parish website

**Event Details:**

**Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament.**

**Monday, June 17 2024**

**Shenandoah Golf Club, Verona NY**

**18 holes of golf, rain or shine**

**11:00-1:00 Registration and grab-and-go lunch**

**1:00 Shotgun start**

**5:30 Cocktail hour**

**6:30-9:00 Celebration Dinner**

7) From the Office of Adolescent Catechesis & Discipleship:

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER PILGRIMAGE**

**August 10, 2024 - Niagara Falls, New York**

Middle school youth are invited to visit Niagara Falls and the Fatima Shrine, ride the Maid of the Mist, and finish the day with Laser tag and pizza and wings at LASERTRON!

This all-day event is open to youth entering grades 6 through 8.

The cost of the trip is \$65 per participant and includes all activities, a t-shirt, and dinner.

[Click here to register your group!](#)

Contact Mary Angela Fisher at 315-470-1402 or [mafisher@syrdio.org](mailto:mafisher@syrdio.org) for more information.

**Young Adult Hike with Bishop Lucia**

**Saturday, June 29, 2024**

**Highland Forest County Park, Fabius, NY**

**\$25 per ticket**

Young adults (ages 18-39) from across the Diocese of Syracuse are invited to join Bishop Douglas Lucia on the fourth annual summer hike! The hike will begin at Highland Forest, Fabius, New York. Following the hike, the bishop will celebrate a private Vigil Mass for the following

Sunday. The evening will conclude with dinner and drinks, catered by Dinosaur BBQ, and the opportunity to socialize.

(The ticket cost covers dinner, beverages, and dessert)

Lynn M. Springer  
Director of Faith Formation  
Sacred Heart/St Mary's  
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