

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time January 22, 2023



### Upcoming Events

#### Rescheduled Pastoral Council Meeting:

Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm in the Parish Center in Chestertown at St. Isaac Jogues

**Ash Wednesday** February 22, 2023

### Church of the Blessed Sacrament

Bolton Landing

**Intentions & Mass Cards:** Please call Rita Whitney at 518-338-6858.

1/22 Andrew Rohs *Req. Henry Rohs*

1/22 Tom Mihalics *Req. Maureen Mihalics*

1/22 Rosemary & Nick Rausch *Req. Dawn Fallter*

1/29 Frank McDonald

*Req. Deacon Joe & Annette*

1/29 Al Van Valkenburgh

*Req. Michael, Claire, Maggie & Liam*

**Offertory:** 1/15/23 \$968

**Diocesan Appeal:** We have collected \$14,105 which is 56.4% of our goal of \$25,008, with 37 gifts to date. We strive for 100% participation, not equal gifts. Thank you, your stewardship is truly appreciated.

## St. James

North Creek

#### Intentions & Mass Cards:

Please call Kathy DeBartolo at 518-494-7873

1/21 People of the Parish

1/28 & 2/4 Mass Intention Available

**Offertory:** 1/15/23 \$676

1/8/23 \$791

**Diocesan Appeal:** We have collected \$5,381 which is 74% of our goal of \$7,252, with 21 gifts to date. We strive for 100% participation, not equal gifts. Thank you, your stewardship is truly appreciated.

**42<sup>nd</sup> St. James Golden Opportunity Raffle:** Support the major fund-raising event for the Parish by taking a chance! Many people place several names on the same ticket! Grand Prize is \$10,000 or there is an option of deciding to split the grand prize between the last two tickets drawn. Both would receive \$5,000 each. The Contribution for the ticket is \$100. Only 200 Tickets available. The Golden Opportunity Raffle will conclude Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> after the 5:30 pm Mass.

## St. Isaac Jogues

Chestertown/Hague

**Intentions & Mass Cards:** Please call Kathy DeBartolo at 518-494-7873

Sat & Sun 1/21 & 1/22 People of the Parish

Sat, 1/28 Jim Mulholland *Req. Kathy DeBartolo*

Sat, 2/4 Paul Baltes *Req. Patricia Baltes*

**Offertory:** 1/14 & 1/15 \$2,766

**Diocesan Appeal:** Wow! We have collected \$16,973 which is 86.3% of our goal of \$19,659, with 55 gifts to date. We strive for 100% participation, not equal gifts. Thank you, your stewardship is truly appreciated.



Beginning Friday February 3<sup>rd</sup>: VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (Free Tax Return Preparation for Qualifying Taxpayers) in Warren, Washington, & Northern Saratoga counties in February and March. This is free tax assistance for families and individuals whose household income is \$60,00 or less per year. Call 1-800-211-5128 to schedule an appointment. March 2<sup>nd</sup> will be at St. Isaac Jogues Parish Center. If enough people call to make an appointment, they possibly would open another date!

## Woman's Retreat

March 31<sup>st</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup> Dominican Retreat & Conference Center, Niskayuna, NY. This years theme is "Make My Joy Complete" (Philippians 2:2). The Guest Director is Mary Reddy Reichley, OPA, D. Min. Enjoy hours away from daily routine for rest, quiet, learning and reflection, inner healing, growth, prayer, and sharing. Open to all faiths and all ages. *Call Ginny Raymond @ 518-251-3515 or Pat Audi 518-792-3447 for more information.*

### Recognizing God in the Ordinary Moments

#### The Art of Retreat

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Social media has made it far too easy for me to share my opinion.

These virtual spaces tend to strip our words of all empathy. Someone will post something that I think is nonsense, and I just have to tell them why — and quickly! Hurry! Before they delete it!

Nine times out of ten, when the dust is settled, I find that I've said too much and listened too little.

As I've gotten older, the motto I try (not always successfully) to live by is this: You do not have to be on the attack all of the time, even if it's for what you think is the truth.

I can't help but notice that the first thing Jesus does when he hears of the arrest of John the Baptist is to retreat. He doesn't punch a hole in a wall or take to the streets in protest. He withdraws.

And what does he do after withdrawing? A lot of praying, I would imagine. A lot of thinking, a lot of reflecting. A lot of listening to the voice of his Father.

Sometimes we mistake stillness with vulnerability. But Christ shows us that to withdraw, to contemplate, can actually be a tremendous show of strength. Even the fiercest dogs wait for the command of their master before they act. *For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with the wisdom of human eloquence. — 1 Corinthians 1:17*

8 more weeks of Winter.



## Stewardship



So the NFL season is almost over. Only the Super Bowl remains. For some fans, the season is already over since their team is now sitting at home. It is amazing the allegiance some people have to their teams. Some people bleed Green Bay green and yellow or believe the only team is supposedly America's team, the Dallas

Cowboys. Of course, if you are reading this outside the States, perhaps you live and breathe a team like the New Zealand All Blacks or the Calgary Flames.

In the early church, people took their allegiance to certain leaders to an extreme. Paul chastised them for thinking that the baptism of one community or the teachings of a certain leader were superior to the anything else in this new movement of Jesus followers. He reminded them that there is to be no division in Christ and that all things flow from Christ, not from the leaders in the community. Those who follow Jesus are one body of Christ: a place where there is no room for competition or condescension.

Sometime our stewardship efforts in a parish become all about the parish. We seek to get people to do more stuff and give more money and we lose sight of why we live a stewardship way of life in the first place: Jesus. It is wonderful to watch our parishes grow into more vibrant communities that lead people to Jesus. We should rejoice to be in such a parish family. But one day there will be no parishes and those who have received his gifts freely and have followed him will live with Christ as one forever. In your stewardship, always keep Jesus as *the main thing*.



**TO ALL PARISHIONERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE North Country Ministry's Giving Tree program at Christmas! Your efforts prove that many hands working together make a huge difference to children in need in our community. 239 children from 101 families received incredible, thoughtful, gifts through the Giving Tree. Your compassion and generosity, as always, represent a Hand of Hope. North Country Ministry is very, very grateful for your support of the Giving Tree.**