

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

December 31, 2017

Mary, Mother of God Mass tomorrow~
St. John the Baptist at noon.

Reconciliation Saturday 3 pm at St. John.

Visits at Home, Care Facility, or Hospital

Call the office to arrange for one of our ministers of the sick to bring Eucharist or stop by for a visit.

Delhi Food Bank

Please drop at Food Bank items at St. Peter or directly to United Ministry: peanut butter; boxes of mashed potatoes, stuffing. Thank you for your continued support and care.

Week-End Backpack Program

This on-going Walton community project began in 2010 to address the need for nutritious food being available to children on the weekends (teachers have seen a marked improvement in achievement as a result). Needed items:

- 18 oz. peanut butter
- 8 oz. peas, beans, corn, carrots
- 10 oz. chick, veg/beef, tom soup
- oatmeal (individual packet box)
- pasta, ravioli, beefaroni (indiv)
- granola, fruit 'n nut bars
- 5 oz. tuna
- 11 oz. pork/beans
- instant breakfast
- single serve cereal
- Ramen noodles
- small raisin boxes

Money, bags for packing, help shopping and/or packing are also needed. Items may be dropped at:

- ⇒ Townsend Elementary School
- ⇒ Ogden Library
- ⇒ United Presbyterian Church

Any questions or offers to help, call 865.4390.



Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The Gospel shows Mary and Joseph were not 'perfect' parents. If you have ever been amazed and astonished at what came out of your child's mouth, then you are in good company. If there were times you didn't understand your child or felt anxious about their behavior, so did Mary and Joseph. Parenting is tough, but it is also the stuff of holiness.

Medical Equipment Exchange

Free of charge loan of canes, wheelchairs, walkers, lift chairs, hospital beds, etc. are available from Durable Medical Equipment Exchange at First Congregational Church in Walton. For more information or if you have items to donate, please call 865.4420.

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

We humans mark time with watches and calendars. As we start a new year, however, perhaps it would be meaningful today, to enter into a conscious NOW with your beloved. As you read this, pause, find your spouse, and look at each other tenderly and ponder the goodness of being together. Embrace.

Pastoral Care Enrichment Presentation

In Pastoral Care Ministry you often meet the tears of those whom you serve. How can these tears be a source of healing for those we minister to? Attend the January 27 mini-presentation, "Christ Reveals Himself in Tears" to explore how to see Christ through the lens of tears, and how they can be a source of healing.

The session will be video-conferenced to St. Mary's in Oneonta 9 am to noon on Saturday, January 27 (check-in: 8:30 am). Register: online at portal.rcda.org:81/Pastoral Care Registration; call: 518.641.6818.

Must register by January 12.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

How will you celebrate the end of 2017? Gather the family and remember the joys of the year -- birthdays, accomplishments, milestones -- and the sorrows -- deaths, hurts, mistakes. Have a group hug.

Adoration

Start 2018 off right: stop in one of our Adorations and rest a few minutes, immerse yourself in the peace of our Lord.

St. Peter on Tuesdays and St. John on Thursdays

Suicide Survivor Support

A support group for adults who have lost a loved one to suicide meets every second Wednesday of each month, 6 to 7 pm. This is an opportunity to express yourself, find support, comfort, and resources along with others who have been affected by personal loss themselves. Led by trained facilitators at First United Methodist, 101 North Street, Walton.

Suicide prevention crisis lifeline: 1.800.273.8255

~ Canticle of Simeon ~

Lord, now let Your servant go in peace;

Your word has been fulfilled:

my own eyes have seen the

salvation which You have prepared

in the sight of every people:

a light to reveal You to the nations

and the glory of Your people Israel.

Retreat

Dominican Retreat Conference Center 518.393.4169

January 26-28: Women's Retreat ~ "... and after these ... a tiny whispering sound." Director: Sr. Kay Kanick, RSM
Cost: \$205 (65+ \$190)

Gospel Reflection

The Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses, and it alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.

According to the Law as presented in the Book of Leviticus, a woman was considered ritually unclean for a prescribed period of time following the birth of a child - 40 days after the birth of a son. In order to be restored to ritual purity, a Jewish woman performed the rites of purification and made the prescribed ritual offering.

The Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after His birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth Mary performed the purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

Another Jewish rite referenced is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord, and in this tradition Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem. It is here that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna, who recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel's hope for redemption. In Simeon's words we find a prediction of Mary's witnessing of Jesus' death on the cross. (The Canticle of Simeon, Nunc Dimitis, is prayed at night prayer, or compline, during the Liturgy of the Hours.)

Offertory Envelopes

Please contact either office if you would like to have weekly offertory envelopes. To save on Church expenses, please call if you no longer use them.