

December 27, 2020

SS JOACHIM & ANNE CATHOLIC PARISH

50 EAST AVENUE, ATTICA 14011

2311 ATTICA ROAD, VARYSBURG 14167



THE HOLY FAMILY DECEMBER 27, 2020

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 28

Feast of the Holy Innocents

No Mass

Tuesday, December 29 – Varysburg, 8:30 am

Nancy L. Beck

By Betty Beglinger

Wednesday, December 30 – Attica, 8:30 am

Sally Harding

By Pam Harding Kriger

Thursday, December 31 – Varysburg, 8:30 am

Sue Spink

By Mary Rudolph

Friday, January 1 – Attica, 8:30 am

Parishioners

Saturday, January 2 – Varysburg, 4:30 pm

Parishioners

Sunday, January 3 – Attica, 8:00 am

Sally Harding

By Jerry & Debbie

Sunday, January 3 – Varysburg, 9:30 am

Joan Suttel

By Don & Sue Pawlak & Family

Sunday, January 3 – Attica, 11:00 am

Jean George

By Mark & Kathleen Geitner



SAINT OF THE WEEK *St. Thomas Becket*

December 29 Memorial

A strong man who eventually learned that a person cannot compromise with evil and who later became a strong churchman, a martyr and a saint—that was Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, murdered in his cathedral on December 29, 1170. His career had been a stormy one. While archdeacon of Canterbury, he was made chancellor of England at the age of 36 by his best friend King Henry II. When Henry felt it advantageous to make his chancellor the archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas gave him fair warning: he might not accept all of Henry's intrusions into church affairs. Nevertheless, he was made archbishop and reformed his whole way of life. Troubles began. Henry insisted upon usurping church rights. At one time Thomas came close to compromise. He momentarily approved the Constitutions of Clarendon, which would have denied the clergy the right of trial by a church court and prevented them from making direct appeal to Rome. But Thomas rejected the Constitutions, fled to France for safety and remained in exile for seven years. When he returned to England, he suspected it would mean his death. Because Thomas refused to remit censures he had placed upon bishops favored by the king, Henry cried out in a rage, "Will no one rid me of this troublesome priest?" Four knights, taking his words as his wish, slew Thomas in the Canterbury cathedral. Within three years Thomas was declared a saint and his tomb a shrine of pilgrimage. Henry himself did penance at Thomas' tomb, but later Henry VIII despoiled the tomb and scattered the saint's bones.

Saint of the Day

May the Holy Family never withdraw its loving gaze from you and your family. Model yourselves on it and you will have peace and spiritual and temporal well-being.

~St. Padre Pio

Liturgy for Next Week, The Epiphany of the Lord

1st Reading: Is 60:1-6 Ps: 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

2nd Reading: Ep 3:2-3a, 5-6 Gospel: Mt 2:1-12

To the parish: Thank you so much for the nicest Christmas basket ever! May God bless all who contributed or helped with this wonderful, much-appreciated project!! Delores Wackenheim

WEEKLY GIVING — Dec. 20

Regular.....\$3633.00
Flowers.....\$30.00
Last year 12/22.....\$5125.00

Thank you for your generosity!
Remember your parish in your will.

May the little child we contemplate today in the manger watch over all the children of the world and every vulnerable person. May we all receive peace and consolation from the birth of the Savior! ~Pope Francis

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

A huge "THANK YOU" and a note of deep gratitude to all who helped with our Drive-Thru Living Nativity on Saturday, December 19. Thanks for all the preparations, the clean-up crews, the soup makers, the costumers, all who were front & center, all those behind the scenes, the watchful eyes & the willing hands. Thanks for so many children, so many WACY members, so many parish families. The music was great that brought the beautiful scene to life. Thanks to those who brought animals, extension cords, props and extra visitors. Thank you to Fr. George and Fr. Jim who led us, encouraged us, provided space, supplies & prayers to bring it all together. We were truly blessed to have witnessed this amazing effort that brought our Savior out of church and into life for others to experience. God must be pleased with our love for Him and each other.

Merry Christmas to all!!

1 PETER 3:15

"Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you."

WHAT CAN MARY'S TRUST TEACH US?

Mary's fiat to God's request is a model to us in many ways: a model for responding to the will of the Father in our lives; for personally welcoming and receiving Jesus; for being open to the action of the Holy Spirit; and for embracing the word of God and allowing it to be implanted in us to grow and bear fruit. When Mary gave her consent to bear Jesus, the Word was made flesh—literally—from her human substance. Physically, Jesus had her genes. In appearance, perhaps he even "had his mother's eyes" and the same hair color and complexion as hers. Years later, when Jesus declared, "My mother and my brethren are those who hear the word of God and do it" (Luke 8:21), he was not repudiating his family ties or criticizing his mother. Rather, he was commending Mary not only as his mother according to the flesh, but as one who had indeed done the will of God. By pointing to Mary's obedience and trust, Jesus was making it clear that her fundamental relationship with him was not through her physical connection to him but through hearing and acting on the word of God. None of us can be united with Jesus in the way that Mary was as his biological mother. But each of us can, like her, embrace him through faith and trust. Through our obedience to his word, we, too, can be closely and intimately united to Jesus as members of his family.

My Soul Magnifies the Lord, A Scriptural Journey with Mary

LECTOR SCHEDULE for January 2 & 3

4:30 pm	Dee Gutowski
8:00 am	Dave Ciurzynski
9:30 am	Sue Pawlak
11:00 am	Sheila Springer

Let us pray for those who have died, for those in the military and their families, and for those in need of God's healing:



Nov~ Catherine Mucha, Ed Kirby, Alan Sawyer, Mary Kay Lynch, Peter Millen, Jonathan, Pam Innsina, John Wilkolaski, Shawn Knoop, Patrick Clothier, Irene Rossi, Jolyn Gorski, Debbie Beach, John Thompson, Joyce Horner
Dec~ James Stone, Garry Stone, Helene Zaremski, Cheryl Coye, Bill & Alice Bowen, Tanya Argy

THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA

The first (alpha) and last (omega) letters of the Greek alphabet are used in a monogram symbolically as the beginning and the end of all things in God, the Creator. In Revelations 22:13 the Evangelist John applies this title to Christ: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End!" These two letters are found as symbols in works of art, such as banners or stained glass, and historically they are a traditional sign of Christ in His divinity and are so used today in our churches. In its context the sign also means the resurrection of all who persevere in grace into the finality of peace in the Lord. *The Catholic Encyclopedia*

Our parish is looking for a tech-savvy person to record and stream weekly Masses! We have a Facebook page, YouTube channel and parish website which are visited by many. The desire for viewing Masses from home continues to be necessary for some of our parishioners. If you are looking for a way to serve our parish, and love this technology, please contact the rectory (591-1228).

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Pizza.

Pizza who?

Pizza on earth, good will toward men!



A NEW YEAR'S DAY BLESSING

God, creator of all time, as we find ourselves ending a year, we thank you for what has been, for the various events of the year, including its joys and blessings, and most especially its challenges and sorrows. Now as we cross the threshold to a new beginning, we look forward to another year to live and to love. Give us the grace to begin this year of unknowns with renewed faith, hope and abiding trust in you. Bless us in this New Year and may our lives be a living legacy to you, our God! Amen.

U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of New York has established a deadline of 8/14/21 as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese of Buffalo, NY. If you have a claim you must file on or before that date or you forfeit your rights. Call 855-292-7696 or see <https://case.stretto.com/diocesefofbuffalo>

Parish Activities

~Friday, 1/1, New Year's Day Mass, 8:30 a.m., Attica

~Saturday, 1/2, 1st Saturday Devotion, 8:30 a.m., Varysburg

Outside Activities

~Friday, 11/20 thru 1/3/21, Nativity Sets on Display. See 300 nativity sets from 58 countries at the Fatima Shrine, Lewiston, during "Festival of Lights," from 5-9 p.m. each evening. For info, contact Fr. Roy at 716-852-2076 or roychope@aol.com