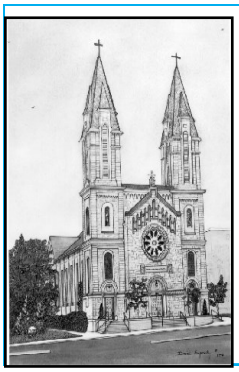

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

The Mother Church of Auburn

85 North Street, Auburn, New York 13021 phone 315-252-9576, cell 315-246-3112

E-Mail FGathenya@dor.org

January 8, 2017

The Epiphany of the Lord

Parish Office
315-252-9576
Office Hours
Monday through Thursday 9:00-5:00
Closed on Fridays

Pastor Ext. 10
Fr. John Gathenya
Secretary Ext. 14
Karen Brennan
Faith Formation Ext. 16
Nancy Smith
Bookkeeper Ext. 13
Sandi Mettler
Pastoral Minister Ext. 15
Carole Tomandl

Pastoral Council Chair
Liza Kelly - **Acting**
Finance Council Chair
Robert Ringwood
Co-Chair
Laurie Piccolo
St. Joseph School 253-8327
Principal
Michael Carney

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:15 am

Reconciliation
Saturday: 3:30 pm

Baptisms
By appointment. Class January 18, 6:30;
Call to register.

Marriages
By Appointment

auburnholyfamily.org and facebook.com/auburnholyfamily

The Church of Holy Family is Our HOME

The choice and purchase of a home is one of the most significant decisions that a person or a couple will ever make. To do so they put many factors into consideration: How much does it cost? Is it large enough to meet our family's needs? How well is it built? What kind of neighborhood is it in? Does it have a warm and homey atmosphere? Is it conducive to hospitality! What about when people and families are seeking for a church that would be truly THEIR HOME! Each week there are people who come to Mass here at Holy Family whom I have never seen before. Some are visiting from out of town—perhaps one person or group at each Mass. Two at least at each Mass are coming to our church for the first time. They may be hesitating, looking around and may be discerning deeply whether Holy Family can be their SPIRITUAL HOME. My biggest question is how do we prepare, keep and maintain our HOME, the Church of Holy Family that all who join us even for a single celebration of the Eucharist may feel welcome, accepted, loved and their spiritual longing nourished! It is our paramount ministry to create an atmosphere of prayer and of loving care, a family where people feel they belong, where they are valued and accepted. Every parishioner has a role in building such a caring family—this can only happen when we are open, sincere, welcoming and friendly in our attitude to all.

I have always being grateful to the Parish Life committee particularly in their invitation to all parishioners to share in either coffee hours or potluck dinners! These are gracious opportunities to build our HOME and Community. We can't create community simply by going to church on Sunday morning, checking it off your list, and going home. At some point you need to break bread with people, to experience life with people, to see where your church is going as a body. There is a lot in Scripture about "breaking bread" together, because something beautiful happens when people enjoy a meal together. It breaks down differences and unites you in your need to sustain yourself with food. I've often said that what happens at these meals may be as important as what happens in church. Don't mistake what I'm saying. The table of the Word and the table of the Eucharist are the source, center and apex of our spiritual life! So is good doctrine. But you can do those two things and not have community and a home, and therefore experience a void in your relationship with God. So, join us for these events and celebrate the bond of love and fellowship through sharing a meal which is the work of our hands and kitchen. Every so often I receive a compliment after Mass from a person visiting from out of town. They will thank me for the Mass and comment how vibrant the liturgy is or how welcoming the parish feels. I will thank them for the compliment, but always try to remind them how little I have to do with that. It is the people of the parish that give us that spirit of welcome and life. How a parish welcomes new parishioners can have a tremendous impact on the success of stewardship educational efforts in your parish. If parishioners feel warmly welcomed into the parish family from the very beginning, they are much more likely to be receptive to our annual stewardship appeal. Additionally, parishioners are usually much more willing to get involved and offer their gifts of time and talent in a parish where they are made to feel comfortable and welcomed. New parishioners can bring gifts to the parish that had never been present before – new talents, new experiences, new ideas and new commitments. By welcoming new parishioners appropriately, you have the opportunity to grow into a new and better parish. By ignoring new parishioners, you ignore the new gifts God is sending your way. When a parish embraces the concepts of stewardship, it is important that new parishioners, too, be invited to share in the joy that stewardship can bring. Remember that first impressions can be lasting impressions.

(continued on page 3)

Sunday, January 8
9:00 am Michael Evangelista - The Nicolellas
11:15 am Celeste & Ed Felber - Family
Monday, January 9
12:15 pm John Fiermonte, Sr. - Family
Tuesday, January 10
12:15 pm Win Dobbins & Carmen Nicolella - Al & Josie
Celeste & Ed Felber - Family
Wednesday, January 11
12:15 pm Alice Bellnier - John & Cheri Farrington
Thursday, January 12 No Mass
Friday, January 13
12:15 pm The Family of Terry Romeo - Pat
Saturday, January 14
4:30 pm Jack Feeney - Mom
Bev Peacock - Sister Vi
Sunday, January 15
9:00 am William Foster - Family
11:15 am Joanie & Mark Rozellle - Kelly Pines

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

	12/25/16
Attendance	692
No. of Envelopes Used	289
Regular Collection	$7,274
St. Joseph's School	$7
Fuel/Heat	$20
Roof	$1,175
Christmas	$3,119
Christmas Flowers	$27
Immaculate Conception	$1

Thanks to Smiley's and the Volunteers who arrived here at Holy Family to do the decorating for Christmas. Mary Warter.

HAIL MARY FULL OF GRACE...please kneel down after Mass and pray three Hail Mary's for the next parishioner who dies.

God Bless you for your generosity. Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.

Thank You!

ELECTRONIC GIVING: Currently we have 23 parishioners who participate in electronic giving. It is safe, secure and convenient. You can choose to give your regular Sunday collection on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis. Once you are set up it is automatic and you don't have to worry about your church envelopes again. Let's double our participation in 2017, pick up an electronic giving packet at the entrances of the church or call the rectory for more information. Thank you!

FAITH FORMATION OFFERTORY PROCESSION: This week--Children's Liturgy of the Word. Next week, 3rd grade Faith Formation will bring up the gifts.

SNOW CANCELLATIONS FOR FAITH FORMATION CLASSES will be on facebook.com/auburnholyfamily and on these TV stations and their websites: WSTM-3, WTVH-5, WIXT-9, and TWC News.

OUR THANKS to Nicpon Funeral Home for sponsoring our bulletin this week.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR LIFE: Bishop Matano will be celebrating the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, January 22, 2017 at Holy Apostles Church, 7 Austin St in the City of Rochester. This is on the 44th Anniversary of Roe vs Wade and we will be praying for the protection of all human life, especially the vulnerable unborn. The parish is hosting a coffee and donut reception following Mass. Questions? Contact Suzanne Stack, Diocesan Life Issues Coordinator, at 585-328-3210 x1304 or sstack@dor.org.

HOLY FAMILY LOANING LIBRARY IS UP AND RUNNING and located in the front vestibule of the church. Come and browse our selection of Catholic books, CDs and DVDs for children and adults that are free for you to borrow.

LAST CHANCE TO GET YOUR TICKETS! The Holy Family $100 raffle will take place this **Sunday, January 8, 2017 after the 11:15 Mass**. There are **LESS THAN 20 TICKETS LEFT** for sale. You may still purchase your tickets after each Mass this weekend. Each ticket purchased entitles the purchaser's household to a free brunch after the drawing, from 12:00pm to 2:00pm in the Holy Family Gym. **GOOD LUCK !**

We welcome Dillon Mancini to our faith community. Congratulations to his family.

ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday, January 14
4:30 pm C. Duffy, K. Duffy
Sunday, Janurary 15
9:00 am W. Furnia, E. Trupiano, J. White
11:15 am E. Sbelgio, N. Sbelgio
LECTORS
Saturday, January 14
4:30 pm C. Tomandl, A. Lane
Sunday, January 15
9:00 am R. White, A. Bryant
11:15 am J. Kearse, S. Weldon
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Saturday, January 14
4:30 pm A. Lane, J. Madden, S. Marullo, C. Tomandl
Sunday, Janurary 15
9:00 am P. Allen, A. Bryant, R. Bryant, M. Lavey
Nursing Home: P. Allen
11:15 am S. Dec, S. Mills, T. Nolan, S. Weldon

PARISH NEWS

SCHOOL CLEAN-UP: Holy Family will be giving away furniture and miscellaneous items on January 21st, at the school from 9:30am –12noon. Large pieces include: wooden hutch with glass doors, greeting card rack, 2 display shelving units (one wood, 1 metal). All items need to be taken that day.

HOLY FAMILY'S CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CMA): Our goal for 2016-17 is $33,060.00. As of Tuesday, January 3, 146 of our 552 families have pledged $21,370.00 which is 64.64% of our goal. Your contribution is critical. Thank you all for your sacrifice and I continue to invite those who have not yet participated to continue praying about it and I am sure that you will join us along the way. So far our effort and generosity is just breathtaking and outstanding!! Your response to God's generosity is of great consolation to me as your pastor, and I hope that I can count many more families participating this year. If you can help your parish in this load, but do not want to contribute to the CMA directly, please place your check payable to Holy Family in the weekly collection and at the MEMO write "PARISH SPECIAL CARE". This will ensure that these monies are used to make up the difference. Your continued support is a great encouragement to me in my ministry here at Holy Family as we continue our work of Christ. **We need all households and families to participate. As you know, whatever we do not make in voluntary donations will be made up out of the regular Sunday collections. Please do the best you can and we will soon put this behind us.** I sincerely thank you for the many ways that you bring goodness and joy in my life, and also making Holy Family a home where families and friends can worship and dwell in peace. ***Thank you for your consideration and generosity.*** Fr. John

CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH: Father Tom Poisson will be visiting our parish next weekend Jan.14th and 15th. He will speak at all the Masses on behalf of Cross Catholic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and Central and South America.

PRAY FOR . . .

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK; Mary Adams, Caroline Blowers, Arthur Conti, Ray Cuddy, Sue Daly, Tim Daly, Virginia Dranscak, Ginny Elardo, Mary Guido, Carter Hergert, Caleb Jones, Sr. Rita Kaufman, Joanne Komanecky, Elizabeth Lane, Frances Lane, Kathryn Malek, Alicia Mattie, Sonja O'Brien, Jim O'Connor, Joan Petrucelli, Siobhan Phillippe, Roberta Slayton, Leonard Smith, Rev. Conrad Sundholm, Paul Vitagliano, **those listed in our Book of Petitions and those serving our country:** LCpl Brian Baxter USMC, Capt Gregory Baxter USMC, Capt DJ Benzing USAF, LtCol Joseph E. Brooks USAF, PFC Earl Doyle Jr. USA, Sgt Tom Ellis Sr. USA, SSgt Angel Gonzalez USA, Cpl Eddie Gonzalez USMC, Pvt Zachary Gonzalez USMC, CWO4 Roger Graf USA, 1SGT Zachary Howell USA, Sgt James Johnson USMC, SFC Jason Mero USA, Pvt Justin Miller USA, TSgt Diana O'Connor USAF.

OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Tuesday January 10
10:00 - 11:00 am Clothes Closet - School
Thursday January 12
6:00 - 7:00 pm Clothes Closet - School
Saturday January 14
3:30 Confessions

(continued from page 1)

Treat newcomers to your parish as cherished guests, not as imposters. Pope Francis addresses the role of an authentic Catholic community with these words: "Being Church means being God's people, in accordance with the great plan of his fatherly love. This means that we are to be God's leaven in the midst of humanity. It means proclaiming and bringing God's salvation into our world, which often goes astray and needs to be encouraged, given hope and strengthened on the way. The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel."

Did you notice the welcome given to everyone at every entry of Holy Family on Christmas day and a presentation of a Christmas gift of a book by Holy Family Adult Faith-Formation ministers! God's warmth, love and welcome is experienced only through you and me, simply by our being present at the doors and saying, "Welcome To Holy Family and Merry Christmas." Holy Family is our HOME as we are bound together as a FAMILY by virtue of the Faith we share in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Eucharistic sacrificial lamb. We have found a home in God with one another. We have found a place where our elders and our children are welcome. We have plenty of good room for our tears, our laughter, our sadness, and our joy. Others are still looking. People are looking for a faith community to join, one that is active, one that is alive. We are the Body of Christ—we need one another. We serve, celebrate, learn and pray together. Please offer some of your time in our community this year in service as part of your gratitude to God. Our Faith Community cannot be the LIGHT OF THE WORLD unless you have found ways to share God's love and have found ways to let it move beyond you, your pew, your family and work! There are those as near as our doors that would love to be welcomed by you: How do you assist to build our HOME here at our parish community—we have many ministries, councils and outreach that help us coordinate our services to our people and keeping our church spiritually healthy and secure. We are all invited in these endeavors by ways of our own commitment and the sacrifices that we make to keep and maintain our HOME of Holy Family, Fr. John.

God bless our HOME and I love you all, Fr. John

ST. MARY'S CHURCH OF AUBURN will be holding their monthly **Pasta Dinner** on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at Schrader Hall 15 Clark St. Serving will be from 5-7pm. The menu includes **pasta, meatballs & sauce, salad & dressing, Italian bread, dessert & beverage**. Tickets must be purchased at the door: **ADULTS $8.00 AND $6.00 FOR CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE YEARS OLD.** Eat in or take out!

Renovation Fund
How Can You Help?

PRESERVING OUR TRADITION AS COMMITTED STEWARDS: With 554 households at Holy Family, we should easily raise $300,000 and even more. Our true goal is to have a 100% participation in the Church Roof Campaign. As of Tuesday, January 3, 2017, we have received **$165,990.52** in gifts and pledges! We are now at **56%** of our desired goal of $300,000.00. **Thanks to all of you who have helped us reach this point and our success depends on us!**

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH,
AUBURN, NY
315-252-9576
06-0081