



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

May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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.

Call to register.

Marriages

By Appointment

auburnholymfamily.org

and

[facebook.com/
auburnholymfamily](https://www.facebook.com/auburnholymfamily)

The Joys of a Community Celebration: 2017 First Holy Communion Class

It is ever my best day in Holy Family, as your pastor, to encounter proud parents, grandparents, godparents, aunts and uncles and brothers and sisters, friends and classmates come from near and far to join their loved ones as they make an important step and beacon in their life of faith. Families plan celebrations around these times but the most important is the fact that their children will receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. Today is a very special day: we have 17 girls and boys among us who will make their first Holy Communion. Holy Communion is a very special grace because in the Eucharist we receive God into our hearts. God loves us so much that He wants to be with us always. Love desires union. When we love someone, we want to spend time with that person. God loves each one of us so much that He wants to be with us all the time. Of course God is present everywhere, He is never absent from us; unfortunately, we are not always present to Him. God wants us to be aware of His presence and He wants us to think of Him often and love Him. He wants us to spend time with Him in prayer. When we receive Holy Communion, we are joined with Jesus in a very special way. After we receive Him in Holy Communion, we should spend time in prayer with Him and thank Him for giving Himself to us. After we have received Holy Communion it is good to tell Jesus whatever is on our heart. It is good to talk to Jesus while He is in your soul. We are never so close to God in this world as when we have just received Him in Holy Communion.

As a parish we rejoice to witness our young people receive the body and the precious blood of Jesus for the first time. Congratulations to them and welcome to the Eucharistic table. The reception of First Communion is not a private affair. It is more than a family affair. It is an event which affects the whole church of Holy Family. That is why we have it at the parish Mass on a Sunday. The children are not only being initiated into full participation in the Mass but also welcomed into the community of faith which gathers to celebrate the Mass and which tries to live the Eucharistic life throughout the week. All of us should be affirmed in faith by witnessing the faith of the young people who have tirelessly and with commitment worked hard for this day and who are full of excitement and joy at sharing in the banquet of the Lord for the first time.

It is important that First Communion not be Last Communion. Parents have a serious obligation to bring their children to Mass every weekend. The beautiful faith so evident in these children today can die, if it is not cultivated. Children must learn that Mass on the weekend is important, more important than sports, shopping, or the many other things that can occupy free time. Parents who neglect to bring their children to Mass are teaching them that Mass is not as important as these other things. Also Religious formation does not end with First Communion. Children and youth should continue to receive Faith Formation in every one of their formative years. Faith has to develop with the child. It should not be fixed at a second (or other) grade level. Parents would not think of ending their children's secular education at the second grade. Why should education in the Faith be any different? Actually our formation in the faith should continue long after our school days are over. We should never stop growing in our knowledge and appreciation of our Faith.

When children receive the Eucharist for the first time, it represents the culmination of a lot of preparation. Many people help our children on their way to their First Communion day. It's always an inspiration to watch the intense gaze of their eyes and solemn gestures as they take Our Lord into their hearts for the first time. The joy of the occasion of First Communion goes far beyond the children and their families.

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Sunday, May 21

9:00 am Jean M. Doyle - Holy Family Bereavement Committee

11:15 am Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse Capace & Lucy Golden -
Mr. & Mrs. John Golden**Monday May 22**

12:15 pm Julia Guzalak - Robert Bruno

Tuesday, May 23

12:15 pm Jim Salva - Salva Family

Wednesday, May 24 Mass of the Ascension Vigil

10:30 am Mass at Fingerlakes Center

5:30 pm - Judy Nicolosi - Linda & Ken

Thursday, May 25 Mass for the Ascension

12:15 pm - Judy Nicolosi - Linda & Ken

5:30 pm Joseph Savarese - Len & Nancy Smith

Friday, May 26

12:15 pm Carolyn Kokowsky - Delaney Family

Saturday, May 27

4:30 pm Rick Downer - Vi

Yolanda Capace - Beth & Mark DeTomaso

Sunday, May 28

9:00 am Barbara Foster Dellostritto - Family

11:15 am Jack Hogan - Family



BACCALAUREATE RECOGNITION: To honor all 2017 Holy Family graduates, we are planning a prayer for graduates at Masses the weekend of June 17 & 18. A congratulatory bulletin announcement will list all parishioners who are graduating this year, including eighth grade and high school graduates, and recipients of degrees for college undergraduate and post-graduate work. Please call Nancy Smith, or send in the information via mail, collection basket or email nwsmith@dor.org, by June 6 with the name of the graduate and school, and for college, the degree and subject.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS SUNDAY is today, a day to honor the Sisters of St. Joseph and Sisters of Mercy working and serving the needs of our brothers and sisters of Brazil & Chile. We are called to take part in the missionary work of the Church. The support of our Diocesan Missionaries by the Church of Rochester is a great piece of our history. May we share the gift of faith today by helping our missionary friends with our prayers and a generous gift.

MARK THIS DATE Our Annual Parish Picnic will be held July 30th, 2017 at the Auburn Correctional Recreational Facility Center beginning with Mass at 11:15 am.

**ALTAR SERVERS****Saturday, May 27**

4:30 pm A. Ringwood, C. Ringwood

Sunday, May 28

9:00 am A. Blair-Kinsella, T. Dennis, J. Siddall

11:15 am E. Sbelgio, N. Sbelgio

LECTORS**Wednesday, May 24 Feast of the Ascension - Vigil**

5:30 pm P. Ferrari, A. Seneca

Thursday, May 25 Feast of the Ascension - Daytime

12:15 pm S. Marullo, A. Lane

5:30 pm E. Nolan, A. Bryant

Saturday, May 27

4:30 pm B. Ringwood, C. Tomandl

Sunday, May 28

9:00 am E. Nolan, S. Nedza

11:15 am S. Weldon, J. Renahan

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**Wednesday, May 24 Feast of the Ascension - Vigil**

5:30 pm G. Bennett, D. Holmes, A. Seneca, M. Warter

Thursday, May 25 Feast of the Ascension - Daytime

12:15 pm A. Lane, S. Marullo, K. Pines, C. Walsh

5:30 pm R. Bryant, S. Dec, E. Petrosino, B. Wilson

Saturday, May 27

4:30 pm G. Bennett, J. Madden, C. Tomandl, D. Walsh

Sunday, May 28

9:00 am C. Kinsella, C. Siddall, P. Stolarow, T. Yoensky

Nursing Home: P. Stolarow

11:15 am S. Mills, T. Nolan, K. Pines, S. Weldon

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**5/14/2017**

Attendance	392
No. of Envelopes Used	167
Regular Collection	\$3,933
St. Joseph's School	\$125
Fuel/Heat	\$113
Roof	\$301
Easter	\$5
Catholic Home Mission	\$5
Diocesan Missions	\$15

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

ELECTRONIC GIVING for the month of April was \$4,176.00.

Thank You!

ELECTRONIC GIVING is one way of moving into the 21st century. We currently have 25 families using this automated system and I must say, folks really like it. I know I am from the old school; I like to hold my newspaper and turn the pages as I read. However, when I look at the cost of printing the envelopes, the mailing, and the number of trees it takes to create the envelopes, we need to move forward. I would like to double the number of families using electronic giving this year. Please give me a call, or stop in the rectory to discuss how you can get signed up, pick your days of the week or month for deductions to be made. It is simple, safe, and a cost saving for Holy Family all rolled into one. Please give this some thought and hope to hear from you soon. Thanks for listening. Sandi Mettler, Bookkeeper

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



2016/17 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL--

(continued from page 1)

GOOAAAL: Many Pastors would agree with me and acknowledge the fact that **no parish could possibly survive** for very long without the many good people who devote and sacrifice their wealth, time and talent to the community. We shine in Holy Family Community because of such generous and caring parishioners. It has been a long struggle yet a wonderful journey since we inaugurated the 2016/17 Catholic Ministries Appeal in our parish last October. **IT IS MY JOY TO ANNOUNCE FROM THE ROOF-TOP THAT WE HAVE MET OUR 2016/17 GOAL OF \$33,060.00 WHICH MARKS YOUR SACRIFICES AND GENEROSITY.** Our total contribution and pledges to-date is \$33,560.00 which is 101.51 %. **We exceeded our goal! Thank You! Thank you!** However, we still have until the month of May for those who have not yet paid off their pledges which is included in this final total. We have allowed the hand of God to touch our hearts and lives in the most generous and hospitable ways which are beyond measure. I would like to express our most sincere and heartfelt gratitude to all of you for contributions, prayers, your love for Holy Family, and above all for trusting us all along this journey. However, our participation fell short in comparison to our last year record number of 248 households' participation which was 44.93% of our total number! Our number fell this year to 219 families who contributed towards our goal which is 39.67%. A great and wide engagement from parishioners is more important to me than the monetary figure as it demonstrates that we are growing aware of our collective responsibility and embracing ownership of our church in its growth and development. Thank you to all who have helped make our campaign a success especially Ricard Nestor who oversees the CMA on behalf of the Finance Council and Debbie Pinckney who gave the final "cheerleading" toward our goal. God bless and thanks for allowing us to serve our parish through your hospitality and generosity. Fr. John

The teachers who have prepared them for this day also enjoy watching these children receive this sacrament, knowing that this part in their growth in faith has been accomplished, and wondering what these children will become one day after being so close to Jesus at this point of their life. We congratulate the parents who have persevered in providing Christian education for their children. We thank the teachers and catechists who have given of their time and talent to see that these children are properly prepared. The children are also enrolled in our Faith Formation program and instructed by our volunteer catechists. I know they join me in thanking their teachers and catechists, Valerie Curtis who helped them prepare for their First Communion. They gave many hours of dedicated and generous service as well as the good example of their lives.

A big thank you for Nancy Smith, our Director of Faith Formation, for her patience and faithful dedication in serving our parish. And finally, thanks to all of you, the people of Holy Family Parish, whose presence, prayer and patience provide the prayerful context for these wonderful celebrations of grace. I hope that every time we receive Holy Communion we do so as if it were our first time, as if it were our last time, and as if it were our only time! I especially extend a warm welcome to the family and friends of our First Eucharist candidates who are here with us today to celebrate and share the joys of this memorable event. God blessings be upon you all, Fr. John



THANK YOU! On behalf of Ellen, Jen, Linda, Terry and Rose (God rest her soul) we would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all the people that participated and donated to "Raise the Roof". Our community is blessed with your kindness, caring and support.

Holy Family Parish Life Scholarship Application

The Parish Life Committee will again be awarding scholarships to High School Seniors who are planning on going to college or an institution of higher learning. The amount of the scholarship can vary from year to year because it is based on the monies that we raise from our Family Fun Day and other fund raisers minus the budgeted amounts that we donate to charities.

To be considered for a scholarship, please include a list of parish, school and community activities. Also a written essay of 150 to 200 words on why you are a good candidate for the scholarship. Please mail back all the information with completed application to: Holy Family Church, 85 North Street, Auburn, NY 13021 or drop it in the collection basket. Attention: Parish Life Committee. The deadline for returns is Sunday, June 4, 2017.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

College/Institution: _____

Major/Field of Study: _____

OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

- Tuesday , May 23**
10:00 - 11:00 am Clothes Closet - School
- Thursday, May 25**
6:00 - 7:00 pm Clothes Closet - School
- Saturday, May 27**
3:30 pm Confessions

MEMORIAL DAY MASS will again take place at the altar at St. Joseph Cemetery on Monday, May 29th, at 9:00am. (If inclement weather, the Mass will be at St. Mary's at 9:30am. This annual event is sponsored by the knights of Columbus, Fr. Albert Shamon, Fourth Degree Assembly #0735. At this Mass, we remember all ;those who have lost their lives in military service, and others at home such as Firefighters and Police. All Are invited to attend.



PRESERVING OUR TRADITION AS COMMITTED STEWARDS: With 552 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, May 9, 2017, we have received **\$178,475.52** in gifts and pledges! We are now at **59%** 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!**

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AUBURN, NY
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