

St. Mary's Church  
86 Church Hill Road  
Waterford, NY 12188

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with you!

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Download our app at  
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Parish Office:  
518-371-9632  
[smcsec@nycap.rr.com](mailto:smcsec@nycap.rr.com)

Faith Formation Office:  
518-371-9521  
[smcsecff@nycap.rr.com](mailto:smcsecff@nycap.rr.com)

**“Alone we can  
do so little;  
Together we can  
do so much!”**

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# St. Mary's CRESCENT CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Volume 4, Issue 1 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary September 8, 2017

## It Takes a Village

Written by Sarah Moreau – Youth Minister

As part of a family that moved around often, I got to experience a variety of different parishes and atmospheres when it came to my faith. I was a child who sometimes squirmed too much during mass, helped my music director father set up his music, and was always willing to fill in as an altar server. Through my childhood, I was living the faith with my family and felt a great sense of belonging in my community. However, after I had received the sacrament of Confirmation, I unfortunately began to feel lost in limbo in the particular parish we were part of at the time.

As many adolescents still feel today, I was adamant that I was not a child anymore, so I didn't see myself among those who were still in faith formation. I also didn't see myself among the adults and parents with much more life experience and responsibility than I had. Unfortunately, those that went through the sacrament of Confirmation with me were few and far between as I would look around the pews every weekend. It was through the commitment of my parents and my confirmation sponsor that I remained within the faith, but that didn't appear to be the case for my peers. I wonder to this day if they had been able to see themselves as part of the parish, would so many have disappeared? If there were parish members that guided and welcomed them into this new stage of their faith, would they have become the next leaders?

It takes a village, and that doesn't stop applying when our youth enter into the adolescent years or into young adulthood. Even outside of the Church, this is a defining time when people try to find their own unique personhood, and how they will contribute to our greater world. As a parish, we need to help our young people see where they fit into our community and welcome them into it. Not only does this make our youth stronger and give them a solid faith foundation as they move into adulthood, but it ensures that

our parish and our Church continues strongly into the next generation.

As Youth Minister, I look forward to not only creating a community for our youth to grow with each other, but to also find their place within the parish community as a whole. There are plans in the making to not only get them involved in the ministries we already have, but perhaps to use their fresh and creative knowledge to create and grow some new ministries. Through the use of teen scripture studies and small groups, I hope we can provide opportunities for growth in their own personal relationship with Jesus. And through service, show them that they have a place in and a profound impact on our parish, Church, and world, no matter how small it may seem.

I don't just see this as a personal journey for myself, but a journey that we as a parish get to take together. I welcome anyone who wants to support our youth ministry through prayer, action, volunteering, and even brainstorming to reach out to me without hesitation. As we move through this catechetical year, I pray we all begin to see our youth become more visible and even more greatly welcomed into our community as they journey through their lives.

Sarah Moreau, our  
new Youth Minister,  
can be reached at  
518-371-9521  
or via email at  
[smcym@nycap.rr.com](mailto:smcym@nycap.rr.com).

Stay tuned for more  
information on  
upcoming  
Youth Ministry  
events here at  
St. Mary's, Crescent!





**Presentation of Confirmation Candidates will be Sunday, October 29, 2017 at the 10:30 am Mass! Please join us while we pray for these young people as they begin their journey to Confirmation!**

**Our new Live Streaming capabilities in the church as well as the ability to have Wi-Fi throughout all of our Faith Formation rooms was made possible by a \$9,000 grant from the Diocese of Albany!**

**1868 - 2018 St. Mary's, Crescent will celebrate our 150th Anniversary next year! Stay tuned for more information on how we will be celebrating 150 years of continuing to spread the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ throughout the year!**

## Catechetical Sunday & Open House is September 17, 2017

Please plan on joining us for Catechetical Sunday at our 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, September 17, 2017 as we kick off our 2017-2018 Faith Formation year! This Sunday is not just about Catechists, but allows each of us as individual parishioners to come together and pray for both our youth who are embarking on a new year of Faith Formation and those Catechists who have said yes and answered God's call to share the Faith with the youth.

We will have a special social after both Masses that day and invite you to an Open House of our new Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Offices, which were redone this summer. Come and join us for some refreshments after Mass and have a chance to meet our Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Staff!

### Summer Faith Formation 2017 was a Success!

Our 2017 Summer Faith Formation program was centered on the Corporal Works of Mercy. We had 15 young people who were going into grades 6 through 8 who joined us for a prayerful and inspiring week in July. Over the course of the week the youth were able to learn about and take part in the corporal works in a variety of ways. Through visiting with the residents of Bishop Hubbard, making comfort bags for those undergoing chemotherapy for the first time, and paying respects to the deceased at the cemetery down the hill, they were able to experience firsthand what it means to serve others as Jesus teaches us.



#### Pork Dinner

11/4/2017 at 5:30 pm

Join us for our fall Pork Dinner! Ticket prices are: Adults \$10, Children 12 and under \$5. Tickets will be sold after masses on the weekends of October 22nd and 29th and during those weeks in the parish office. We ask that take outs be ordered in advance. Please purchase all tickets and take outs no later than November 1st, 2017.

#### Bereavement Support Group

Our Bereavement Support Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month in our Conference room. Please call Jeanne Gracon for more info about being a part of this kind, healing, and supportive group. Jeanne can be reached via phone at 518-371-9632 x11.



#### Parish Food Pantry

Did you know that St. Mary's, Crescent collects food for area food pantries year round? Your generous donations support area families. The start of the school year can be tough, with extra expenses for many, so please remember those who are helped by local food pantries. The donation box is inside the main doors of the church by the statue of St. Mary. All non-perishable food items, toiletries and cleaning items are accepted as well as gift cards ranging from \$5 to \$50.

### Summer Projects

Our summer construction project this year was a complete remodel of what used to be the Conference Room, Lounge and Library. The Conference room stayed in the same place, but got a makeover, and the Lounge/Library areas which were rarely used, are now new offices and will house our Faith Formation and Youth Ministry staff, Rachel Collet, Loretta Putorti and Sarah Moreau. Our thanks go to Joe Martin and Ed Spsychalski for the many volunteer hours they spent building the permanent walls and our new half-wall divider, as well as Bob Haskin and Bill Yund for painting. The rooms all look great and we are excited to show them to the Parish at our Open House Event on Sunday, September 17th after both the 8:00 am Mass and the 10:30 am Mass. Come by and check out the new offices and then join us in the Hall for some after Mass coffee and snacks!

## Anointing of the Sick

### The Catholic Church's Best Kept Secret

Over the past 50 years, the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has expanded from “anointing when one was at death’s door” (thus the term used was extreme unction) to offering the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for the dying and also for those who are sick.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is another reminder, another sign of God’s care and love for us his people. We pray in the Sacrament that the sick be healed in body, mind and spirit.

**What does “sick” mean?** The Ritual for the Anointing of the Sick shares that the Sacrament is for “those of the faithful whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or by age.”

**Who might be “Anointed?”** Persons who are going to undergo surgery, persons advanced in age, persons with any number of physical or emotional impairments.

**When should I be “Anointed?”** It is suggested that one not wait till the last moment to request to be Anointed, if possible.

**When does the Parish offer “Anointing of the Sick?”** One to two times a year the Parish offers to visit our Homebound Parishioners to share in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is usually offered at Nursing Homes one to two times a year by local Clergy. It is also celebrated in early October each year for those able to come to Church. This year it will be on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 11:00 am at the Corpus Christi Church on Route 9 in Round Lake, NY. At other times, simply contact the Parish Offices at 518-371-9632 and speak with Jeanne Gracon, our Pastoral Care Associate or with Father Cebula about scheduling a day and time to be Anointed.

The Parish is now offering another opportunity to be Anointed, especially when one is about to enter the hospital for surgery; has been diagnosed with a serious illness, etc... Just speak with Father before Mass and if time allows he will anoint you before Mass or if Mass is about to begin he will anoint you after Mass in the Daily Mass Chapel.

## St. Mary’s, Crescent will be Live Streaming soon!

So what is Live Streaming and what does this mean for St. Mary’s, Crescent? Live Streaming is a video platform that allows us to broadcast live video content using a camera and a computer through the Internet, and allows viewers to play that content via the web; think YouTube.

- We will be able to live stream onto our own YouTube channel, allowing for parishioners who are unable to make it to the church (our homebound for example) to still see a live Mass from their parish.
- Once recorded, this will allow us to format Father Joe’s homily so that you can actually see video of him giving his homily, not just read the notes that he uses as talking points that are available to you now on the webpage.
- We will be able to live stream into the Parish Hall for certain masses that are usually standing room only (have you attended the 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass?) allowing for an overflow room for those crowded masses.

Stay tuned, this awesome new technology will be coming to St. Mary’s soon! If you’re interested in helping out with the technology end of things, be sure to reach out to Stephanie and sign up for our new Tech Ministry! Details in the column to the right!



## Have you been tempted?



The music ministry at St. Mary’s, Crescent is always looking for new singers and/or instrumentalists! Have you thought about joining before, but perhaps shied away for one reason or another? Here are the thoughts of one new member of the music ministry:

*I always had pondered the idea of joining the Saturday choir, but fought the temptation. I hadn't done anything musically since high school. I didn't know if I could carry a tune anymore. Last year, Katie announced before Mass that she was looking for new singers, and that was the push that I needed. I was still very nervous about singing with new people. I quickly found out that my fears were unfounded. Katie and the members of the group were so welcoming, helpful and supportive, I felt right at home immediately. If anyone has any reservations or second thoughts about joining the music ministry, they shouldn't! It is one of the best decisions I have made for myself. It's true what Father Joe said once, not all temptation is bad. If anyone is tempted to come and sing they should. They will be glad they did. - Terry Little, choir member at the 4:30 pm Mass*

Richard and Katie would love to have you join them as music ministers! Richard Putorti is our Liturgical Ensemble Director and leads our Sunday 10:30 am Mass. Katie Dill is our Associate Liturgical Musician and leads our Saturday Vigil 4:30 pm Mass and our Sunday 8:00 am Mass. Richard rehearses Sunday mornings at 9:00 am and Katie rehearses on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. They can be reached at: Richard - smcmusic@nycap.rr.com Katie - smcsong@nycap.rr.com



Are you tech savvy? Would you be interested in serving during Mass as a part of our new Tech Ministry? We are looking for responsible people to serve as Tech Ministers and help out with the new Live Streaming capabilities that we have! Interested? Please contact Stephanie at 518-371-9632 or via email at smcsec@nycap.rr.com



Classes starting soon!

Have you heard of Financial Peace University? This is not your typical money class - FPU is practical, entertaining and fun! Allow Dave Ramsey to entertain you to Financial Peace. The average family completing the course pays off \$5,000 in debt and saves \$2,000 in just 90 days. That’s a \$7,000 change in position! Whether you are struggling to make ends meet, or you’re a millionaire, FPU is for you!

To register or for more info, reach out to Stephanie at 518-371-9632 or via email at smcsec@nycap.rr.com.

This 9 week course begins on Wednesday, 9/20/17. We are working together with Grace Fellowship Church in Halfmoon and they will be hosting this joint session. The next session will be hosted here at St. Mary’s, Crescent and will begin in late February of 2018.

# Welcome Sarah Moreau!

Mrs. Sarah Moreau joined us on August 7, 2017 as our new Youth Minister. She will be working closely with Loretta Putorti and Rachel Collet and will be responsible for Grades 6 through 10 Faith Formation, Confirmation, and Youth Ministry for Grades 6 through 12. Sarah grew up in both upstate New York and Minnesota where she became active in the music ministry with her father (a music director) at the parishes they were a part of.

She graduated from SUNY Albany with a Bachelors of Arts and went on to obtain a Masters in Art Therapy from Marywood University. In December 2015, Sarah married her husband David and they moved to the Clifton Park area. Both Sarah and David participate in the music ministry at St. Mary's. Please be sure to welcome Sarah to the SMC Staff!



Join us during the Tuesdays of October for:

## Conversations for the Living about Dying

*A Pastoral Care Ministry Series*

ALL sessions are **FREE** and begin at **6:30 pm**

### **October 3, 2017 - Now and At the Hour of Our Death**

**Presenter:** Fr. Rick Lesser, Pastor, Corpus Christi Church

**Location:** Corpus Christi Church, 2001 Route 9 at Ushers Rd, Round Lake

### **October 10, 2017 - Legal Issues**

**Presenter:** Tara Anne Pleat, Esq., Wilcenski & Pleat PLLC Attorneys at Law

**Location:** St. Mary's Church, Crescent, 86 Church Hill Rd, Waterford

### **October 17, 2017 - Celebrating the Christian Funeral**

**Presenter:** Deacon Jim O'Rourke, Family Services for Albany Diocesan Cemeteries

**Location:** All Saints on the Hudson, Joe Scerbo Center, 52 William St., Mechanicville

### **October 24, 2017 - Conversations Before the Crisis**

**Presenters:** Pat Spreitzer, RN, BSN, Community Nurse Liaison, Community Hospice and Linda Seymour, RN, BSN, MS, Health Educator

**Location:** Corpus Christi Church, 2001 Route 9 at Ushers Rd, Round Lake

Register for one or all **FREE** sessions in this series.

Registration ensures availability of handouts. Contact Jeanne Gracon to register at 518-371-9632 x11 or via email at [smcare@nycap.rr.com](mailto:smcare@nycap.rr.com).



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### **Weekend Mass Schedule:**

**Saturday Vigil Mass**

**4:30 pm**

**Sunday Masses**

**8:00 am & 10:30 am**

**Contact Us**

**Phone : 518-371-9632**

**Email: [smcsec@nycap.rr.com](mailto:smcsec@nycap.rr.com)**

**[www.stmaryscrescent.org](http://www.stmaryscrescent.org)**

A Roman Catholic Faith Community committed to prayer, presence, witness, and support.