

**The Parish of
St. Joan of Arc - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**

Rev. Joseph A. Emmanuel, Pastor

32 Eagle Valley Road - Sloatsburg, NY 10974

St. Joan of Arc: 845-753-5239 - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel: 845-351-5284

Religious Education: 845-753-5193

Parish Website: www.joanofarcmtcarmel.org

Parish E-Mail: joanofarcsloats@optonline.net

Dr. Lisa Adams, Director of Religious Education - Nancianne Binder, Music Director

Mr. Walter Ford, Office Assistant



Christmas Schedule 2017

St. Joan of Arc

Vigil Mass

December 24 - 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Mass

December 24 — 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Masses

8:15 and 11:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Vigil Mass

December 24 - 5:30 p.m.

Caroling — 11:30 p.m.

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Masses

7:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Advent Reconciliation Monday

December 18, 2017

Confessions Will Be Heard

Both Churches

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

God's Mercy Endures Forever (Psalm 136)

Thoughts for the Week of December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

“Rejoice The Lord is Near”

(John 1:6-8, 19-28)

St. Paul in his first letter to the Colossians sums up the spirit of today’s liturgy, “Rejoice always (5:16).” We are getting closer to the magnificent feast of Christmas when Jesus Christ, our Savior, came into the world taking on human nature so that we might “connect” with Him better.

Even the vestments the priest wears at Mass on this day are tinted with joy. Instead of the solemn purple of Sundays one, two and four, the color of this day is rose or pink, signifying taking a step back from the solemnity of Advent and looking ahead to Christ’s coming into the world to save us.

As in John’s Gospel (1:6-8), so, too, this week, we are reminded of the work of John the Baptist whose mission was to prepare the world for the coming of the Messiah: “A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light . . . He was not the light, but came to testify to the light (v 6-8).”

John’s preparation began in the desert where, we are told by Mark, he lived the life of a hermit “clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey (1:6).” Whether deliberate or not, John’s raiment was particularly imitative of that of the great prophet Elijah in 2 Kings, chapter 1, verse 8: “They replied, ‘He [Elijah] wore a hairy garment with a leather belt around his waste’.”

John’s time of preparation in the desert is reminiscent of Jesus’s retreat to the desert after His baptism by John (Mark 1:12-13). John’s influence was so great that people were prompted to ask him if he were the promised Messiah to which John replied: “I am not the Christ (John 1:20).” To which the Pharisees responded: “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ . . . (v 25)?”

Putting his own mission in proper perspective, John responded, “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:7-8).”

During this Advent season, we must all take on the role of John the Baptist preparing the way of the Lord in our homes, in our churches, in all the places where we are seen and known as Catholics. We do this, first of all, by praying to Jesus with words of thanksgiving for our redemption. Then we should try to reduce the influence of the material world at this time of the year by concentrating on the “reason for the season.”

It has been said that Christmas is not a time or a season, it is a “state of mind.” Are we prepared to accept that “state of mind” and put our own house in order to sincerely and enthusiastically welcome the Christ Child in our hearts and homes?

“Brothers and sisters, Rejoice Always!” The Lord is near.

May God bless us on our trek to holiness.

God bless us all. Rev. Joseph A. Emmanuel

Mass Intentions - December 16 – December 24, 2017
St. Joan of Arc

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Saturday	December 16	5:15 p.m.	James Kralik req. by The Bollatto Family
Sunday	December 17	8:15 a.m.	Elizabeth & Paul Leso req. by Helen Trchala
		11:15 a.m.	John Patrick Hoffman req. by The Bollatto Family
Monday	December 18	9:00 a.m.	James Fanning req. by Andrew & Margaret Carmody
Wednesday	December 20	9:00 a.m.	Mary McCarren req. by Tom & Ann Mc Carren
Thursday	December 21	9:00 a.m.	Marion Mottola req. by The Persichetti Family
Friday	December 22	9:00 a.m.	The Bregenzer Family req. by Tom & Ann McCarren
Saturday	December 23	5:15 p.m.	Pat & Tom Cimiluca (Living) req. by Tom Cimiluca
Sunday	December 24	8:15 a.m.	Marie Jones req. by Arthur & Natalie Jones
		11:15 a.m.	Available
Christmas	Vigil	4:00 p.m.	Available
		10:00 p.m.	Tom & Julie Bollatto req. by The Bollatto Family

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Saturday	December 16	4:00 p.m.	Michael Burke req. by Lynn Hank & Family
Sunday	December 17	7:00 a.m.	Available
		10:00 a.m.	Rosemary Mertzell req. by The Buono Family
Monday	December 18	8:00 a.m.	Available
Wednesday	December 20	8:00 a.m.	Available
Thursday	December 21	8:00 a.m.	Available
Friday	December 22	8:00 a.m.	Isabelle Rogacki (Living) req. by Cyrille Velasco
Saturday	December 23	4:00 p.m.	Jerry & Sue Magurno (60th Wedding Anniversary) req. by The Family
Sunday	December 24	7:00 a.m.	Katherine Derbyshire req. by The Derbyshire Family
		10:00 a.m.	Available
Christmas	Vigil	5:30 p.m.	Margaret Mason req. by Andrew & Margaret Carmody
		Midnight	Ray & Kay Barone req. by Laurie Barone

Mass Collections

December 9 - December 10, 2017

Sunday Collection: \$2,756.00 - Number of Envelopes: 74

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Parish News



At this time we ask that you include the following people in your prayers:

Patricia Phillips, Michael & Maria Thys, T.J. Petry, Laura Buckley, Nick Gelles, Alan Buythewood, Sylvia Manez, Guido & Laura Rotella, Chris Rotella, and John Dolan.

We pray for these people at mass even though their names are not announced.

If you would like someone to be included in these prayers please have a family member call the rectory (845-753-5239).

Names will only be left on this list for 1 month Names will be removed after the December 31st bulletin After that we ask that you will please contact us to make sure that they are placed on the list again for another month. It is the only way we know if someone has recovered. We thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Adoration Chapel Memorial Lamp
December 2017 - Catherine
Req. by Mary Petrosky
Please contact the rectory for details-845-753-5239
Donation is \$25.00

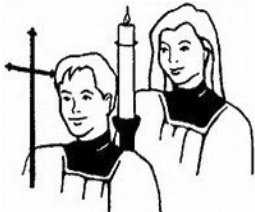
Bread and Wine for St. Joan of Arc
December 2017- Conklin & Rioux Families
Req. by Ray & Pat Rioux
2018 - January, February, June, July, November and December are taken
Please contact the rectory for details-845-753-5239

St. Joan of Arc Adoration Chapel
Every Thursday
9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
We need additional adorers in order to maintain our commitment of two adorers on the hour and one on the half-hour to ensure that the Lord will not be left unattended. Almost all hours are available.
Visitors always welcome & should sign the attendance sheet. Please contact Bob Albert at 845-753-8213 if you wish to spend some quality time in adoration of Our Lord.

Scripture Sharing Sessions
Meet in the religious education building every other Friday at 7:15 p.m.
Call Mike Spina at 845-753-5291 for further details

As a sign of respect for the Blessed Sacrament we ask that you maintain silence when in the presence of the Tabernacle.
Thank you for your co-operation!

Altar Servers Needed
Both St. Joan of Arc and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel are in need of altar servers. Servers should be mature enough to understand their responsibilities and to carry them out well and with appropriate reverence. They should have already received holy communion for the first time and normally receive the Eucharist whenever they participate in the liturgy.
What a wonderful way for your child to be an active participant in the celebration of the mass!
For more info call Fr. Emmanuel, 845-351-5284 or the rectory, 845-753-5239



Liturgical Ministers
There is a critical need for both Lectors and Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St. Joan of Arc church. If you, or anyone you know, is interested please contact Father Emmanuel (753-5239).
These two ministries are vital to the life of the parish. Prayerfully consider joining one or both of these ministries



Parish News continued....

Solemnity of Mary

Monday, January 1, 2018

This is normally a Holy Day of Obligation but because it falls on a Monday this year, Catholics are not required to attend mass. Daily mass will still be held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel at 8:00 a.m. and St. Joan of Arc at 9:00 a.m.

200 Club

The 200 Club half-year Membership is \$26 per half year (January - June). **\$52.00 for the entire year (January - December).** Checks are payable to St. Joan of Arc-Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Send to rectory or place in the box at the back of Church.

Please Consider joining us.

Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Parish Hospitality Group

Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month. Next meeting is Wednesday January 3, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Joan of Arc Church hall. All Are welcome!



Laughter the Best Medicine

A golfing preacher, who too often committed the golfing sin of looking up too soon, started a round by suggesting that his caddie pray for him. The bag-toter watched carefully as the minister addressed the ball. "Are you praying for me?" the minister asked. "Yes, sir," was the reply, "I'm praying, but you gotta keep your head down."



St. Joan of Arc annual Giving Tree is now in the back of the church. All gifts will be going to Birth Right of Rockland. Please take a star from the tree and return the item in a gift bag. Gifts should be returned by December 24.

St. Joan of Arc

Mass Schedule

Weekday

(Except Tuesday & Saturday)

9:00 a.m.

Rosary 8:45 a.m.

Weekend

Vigil Mass

5:15 p.m.

Sunday - 8:15 and

11:15 a.m.

Mt. Carmel

Mass Schedule

Weekday

(Except Tuesday & Saturday)

8:00 a.m.

Rosary 7:45 a.m.

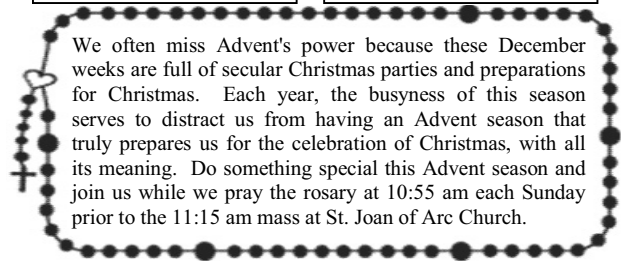
Weekend

Vigil Mass

4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 7:00 and

10:00 a.m.



We often miss Advent's power because these December weeks are full of secular Christmas parties and preparations for Christmas. Each year, the busyness of this season serves to distract us from having an Advent season that truly prepares us for the celebration of Christmas, with all its meaning. Do something special this Advent season and join us while we pray the rosary at 10:55 am each Sunday prior to the 11:15 am mass at St. Joan of Arc Church.

Attention Sponsors

Anyone interested in being a sponsor for Baptism must meet with Fr. Emmanuel at least one month before the ceremony. This is necessary to avoid any last minute problems if the baptism is to take place in another parish. Call 845-753-5239 for an appointment.

Thank you

All envelope users in St. Joan of Arc Church

We have compiled a list of all envelope users over the course of the past 9 months. This month parishioners that have consistently used envelopes will begin receiving new envelopes every two months in the mail. You should begin using these on the Solemnity of Mary, January 1, 2018. Each envelope will already have your name, address and ID number on it. ***Your ID will remain the same as it has been.***

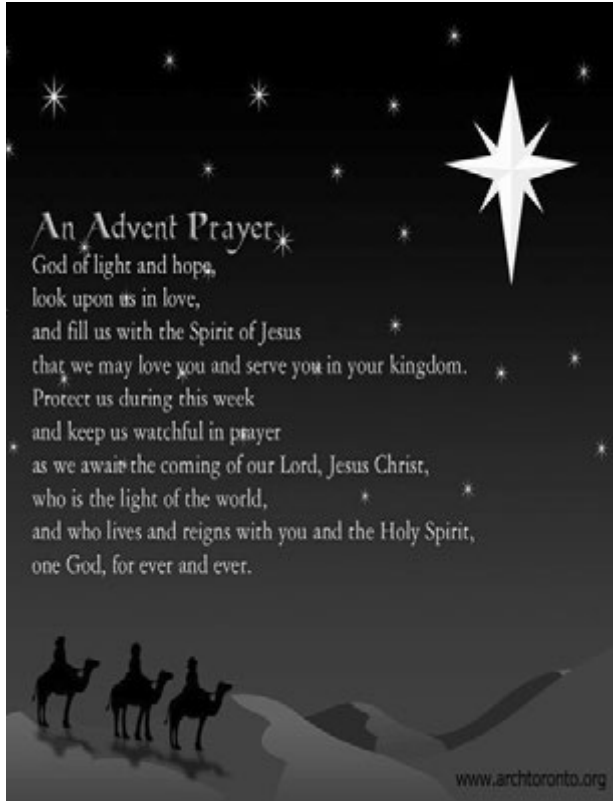
If you currently do not use a collection envelope but would like to receive them please call the rectory at 845-753-5239.

Thank You!

All envelope users in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

We have now completed the update with our existing envelope company. If you have been using envelopes during the last 9 months you should continue to receive them in the mail. **If you do not receive the envelopes in the mail for January & February 2018 or if you would like to start receiving them, please contact the rectory at 845-753-5239.**

Thank You!



Sacred Heart school is seeking a part-time person to work in the school's office from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Knowledge of Microsoft & Google required. Send resume to officestaffsacredheartssuffern@gmail.com or call 845-357-1684.

St. Joseph Church
245 North Main Street
Spring Valley, New York 10977

On behalf of the pastor, Father Levelt Germain, you are cordially invited on **December 17, 2017 at 5:30 pm** to the annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at Saint Joseph Church, Spring Valley, New York. The Parish Choir, under the direction of Mr. Mark LaRosa, will sing the music of Holst, Stopford, and Vaughan Williams along with Advent and Christmas hymns between the nine lessons. A freewill offering will be taken and a reception will follow in the school auditorium. Doors open at **5:00 pm** with organ prelude starting at 5:20 pm. All are invited to attend.

FOOD PANTRY

The Sloatsburg Food Pantry depends upon our community to keep the doors open and shelves stocked. We accept food and monetary donations. Even the smallest donation makes a difference!

Items always needed: *Esp. Hearty soups, Cereal, healthy snacks; granola/breakfast bars, non perishable milk, microwaveable single meals. (We are also in need of shopping bags) Leave bags & food in back of both churches*

Please consider a **monetary donation** that can be done by going to:

<http://www.sloatsburgfoodpantry.org/>

***Prayer for the Advent Candle Week 3
Light 2 purple candles and the pink candle***

Third candle symbolizes Joy and reminds us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming of the birth of Jesus.



Oh Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

Capuchin Youth Leadership Training

January 19-21, 2018, **registration deadline 1/16/18**

Capuchin Youth Leadership Training is a hands-on, dive-straight-in challenge which persuades and inspires young students to view themselves as important, influential leaders within their community, capable of directing and enacting meaningful and directed service. They build important leadership skills which correlate to academic, professional and social success! Participants learn not only how to effectively lead others, but in the process, learn to create real change within themselves as well as within their communities. Our experience-based learning modules are presented by peer and adult facilitators which participants then actively demonstrate themselves in small and large group settings, expanding each's leadership potential. This growth spurs passion and will to drive a purpose for change and an appetency for lifelong learning; as we are continuously reminded about our Leadership Training on our follow-up surveys.

Holy Rosary Society

Angel Tree



Gifts under the Angel Tree at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church are being delivered to the Newburgh Ministry. The families they serve all year long will be able to receive one new toy and one new article of clothing for each of their children, infants through the age of 12. They serve over 360 children. Your love is making a difference in the lives of those who are impoverished or homeless. Thank you for your love and compassion to those who have need.

Ranger Rosary Ministry

As we gather with family and friends this Christmas season, remember the sacrifices of the men and women in the Armed Forces who are away from their families. They all give so much to protect us and serve freedom. Say a prayer for them.

Ranger Rosary's mission is to put a rosary into the hands of every member of the Armed Services who wants one. This all-volunteer ministry makes rosaries by hand, has them blessed, and ships them to military chaplains at the academies and bases around the world and to VA hospitals. Chaplains ask for these beads for those they serve because they see the peace and blessings it brings.

A soldier from the Persian Gulf wrote:

"The rosaries you sent are perfect; compact, durable and fit easily in my pocket. Any time I am missing my wife and family or feeling just a little stressed out, I give the rosary a quick squeeze and I am instantly comforted. It reminds me not only of God's presence but also of the amazing people like you back home we fight for."

Ranger Rosary volunteers are working year-round to make rosaries and ship them to our troops. To participate in this ministry, contact Nancy Bourke at 351-5625. For more information go to www.facebook.com/RangerRosary. Watch the bulletin for our next meeting date in January when step-by-step instruction will be given and supplies available to bring home.



Holy Rosary Society

Looking for a way to be more active in your church? Membership in the Holy Rosary Society is open to all women of our parish interested in growth of their faith, support of our churches, and outreach to the community at large. Our next meeting will be January 10th, 7 p.m., in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel church hall.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Continue to monitor this page for updates on coming Holy Rosary Society events.

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