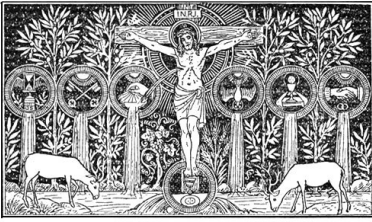




Saint Patrick's Catholic Church

115 Maple Avenue, Victor NY 14564
(585) 924-7111 • www.stpatricksvictor.org
Authentic faith, Welcoming and Engaging

Think of Sacraments. Think of Divine Life.



Sacrament of Baptism.

The sacrament through which God, in Jesus Christ, makes us His sons and daughters. To prepare for reception, call Fr. Edison @ 924-7111.

Sacrament of the Eucharist. The sacrament through which God, like a responsible parent, feeds us, with food from heaven: His Word, and the Body and Blood of Jesus.

- **Weekend Masses:** Saturday at 4:30 PM, Sunday at 8:30 and 10:30 AM, and 5:00 PM
- Weekday Masses: Monday - Wednesday, Friday at 8:30 AM, Thursday Communion Service at 8:30 AM
- For First Holy Communion, call Donna DeJoodé at 924-2800 for more info.
- Holy Communion may be brought to the sick, the home-bound, and those in nursing homes and in hospitals. Call the Parish Office @ 924-7111 for more info.

Sacrament of Confirmation. The sacrament through which God by the gift of the Holy Spirit strengthens us to give faithful witness to our Catholic Faith. To prepare for reception, call Mrs. Janet Zazulak @ 924-2800.

- Children, older than 7 y/o, and adults who needs to be baptized, receive Communion and/or be Confirmed, call Deacon John @ 924-7111.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. The sacrament through which God's mercy and love, justice and truth heals the wound of human sin. *Generally offered an hour before each Mass.* Please give the priest fifteen minutes before Mass to prepare for Mass.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The sacrament through which Jesus continues to heal the sick among us. Anointing is offered at each Mass on the first weekend of the month. Or call Fr. Edison @ 924-7111 to schedule an anointing.

Sacrament of Marriage. The sacrament through which God calls a man and woman to become visible signs of His Love. Call Fr. Edison or Deacon John @ 924-7111 for more info.

Sacrament of Holy Orders. The sacrament through which the mission Jesus entrusted to the apostles is continued in the Church. To learn more about vocations to the ordained ministry, please call Fr. Edison or Deacon John @ 924-7111.

Never miss an opportunity to celebrate a sacrament.



Your Saint Patrick's Parish, Cemetery and Preschool Staff warmly wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas Season, and may the light of the Christ child illumine you now and always!



Year of Our Parish

July 2019 - June 2020
*Celebrating our life in Christ
at home and in the parish*

Sense of Community

It is a great privilege to work with many parishioners. It is through these working opportunities that your love for our parish shines so brightly. From the older generations, it is good to hear the events of the past years when even the life of the local community took place through and in parish life. From the younger generation, it is good to see how they are building up memories for themselves that involves the parish - generally speaking, parents do it for their children and teens do it for themselves.

The set-up and the take-down for the 4 PM Christmas Eve Mass at the gym were one of these working opportunities. Both the set-up and the take-down did not take much time. We are grateful to those who showed up and helped.

In one of my conversations with the crew, a comment was made about how it is getting harder to get volunteer help from the younger generation. During the set-up and take-down, it was noticeable, compared to the previous years, that there was lesser help, in quantity, and lesser young people.

I pray that we are attentive to this reality, and should the trend worsen that we are ready to remedy it. Our sense of community must come from our deepest identity, rooted in the Triune One, from God who is a community of Three Persons. From God, we learn that to be a person is to be created for others. Others can help us overcome selfish tendencies and help us live our lives with meaning and satisfaction.

Like God, grab opportunities to make positive difference in the lives of others, through the life of community.

Liturgy & Sacramental Life

because Jesus taught us to pray

HOLY MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday Jan. 4

4:30pm - Call the Parish Office for your Mass intention.

Sunday Jan. 5 - The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30am - Ann Weigert by O'Dea Family

10:30am - Cac Linh Hon by Maria

5pm - Joanne Gardner by Jane and Bill Foster

Monday Jan. 6 - St. Andre Bessette

8:30am - Call the Parish Office for your Mass intention.

Tuesday Jan. 7 - St. Raymond

8:30am - Call the Parish Office for your Mass intention.

Wednesday Jan. 8

10:00am - Call the Parish Office for your Mass intention.

Thursday Jan. 9

8:30am - Communion Service

Friday Jan. 10

8:30am - Call the Parish Office for your Mass intention.

Saturday Jan. 11

4:30pm - Erin Price by Mary and Michael Rogan

Sunday Jan. 12 - The Baptism Of The Lord

8:30am - Frieda Sutton by Kolb and Warren Families

10:30am - Carolyn J. Ray by Nancy and Mike McCay

5pm - Bruce Stauffer by Jim and Joan McMahon

Important Note: If you have requested the Mass intention and would like to bring up the gifts during the Offertory, please inform the ushers before Mass. We appreciate your help.

Daily 3 PM Prayer Intentions

Please include any of these intentions at your daily 3 PM prayer:

- For a prayerful 2020 to all parishioners,
- For the conversion of hearts to robust faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist,
- For stronger parental witness to their children in living out the faith as Christian disciples,
- For a greater sense of community in the families, parishes, and local communities,
- For the success of the 2019-20 CMA.

Let us be known by our praying for each other.



Encountering Jesus

There is a difference between learning and encountering Jesus. Learning about him may remain simply about information about him. As

Christians, we are called to something more: to encounter Jesus and to grow a personal relationship with him.

We offer our monthly Eucharistic devotion when Christian Formation is in session. Catechists and children are invited to pray before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

This January, the Eucharistic devotion will be offered on the 13th, Monday, from 4:30 to 5:45 PM, and 14th, Tuesday, from 5 to 7 PM. All parishioners are invited to spend a few minutes or spend a holy hour in church.

Christmas Season

Until when is the Christmas Season?
Until January 12, the Baptism of the Lord.

Liturgical Ministers for the Weekend of January 11 – 12

Ministry	Saturday 4:30 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10:30 AM	Sunday 5:00 PM
Sacristan	Liz Gartland	Teresa Sheffer	Fransia Aguila	Phim Dalupang
Lector One	Cheryl Avery	Julie Knapp	George Heissenberger	Leilanni Dalupang
Lector Two	Neng Marquez	Devin Barrett	Peggi Heissenberger	Leuel Dalupang
Holy Body (3)	Sam Condo, Tina Condo Dave Avery	Deacon John, Amanda Didas, Mark Geiser	Margie Rafferty, Thom Rafferty, Kristen Ruggerio	Sante DiCarlo, Pat DiNovo, Christine DiNovo
Precious Blood (2)	Ted Gartland, Liz Gartland	Perri Geiser, Diane Gernert	Kathy Semmler, Bill Semmler	Beverly Grippo, Joan McMahon
Altar Servers (3)	Gianluca Mammano, Alessio Mammano	Zoey Prezyna	Jane Marino, Landon Ray Gavin Ray	Katie Moussallem
Head Usher (Front Doors)	Pat Bolger	Dennis O'Dea	David O'Hare	Sante DiCarlo
Ushers / Greeters	(1) Jerre Ryan	(1) Bob Kolb	(1) Ken Trotta	(1) John Butler
(1) Parish Center, (2) Family	(2) David Mammano	(2) Mark Weigert	(2) Adline Nwugwo	(2) Nick Ward
Room, (3) Front Doors	(3) Mike Manikowski	(3) Mark Shea	(3) Philip Nwugwo	(3) Jeff Gensiejewski

Note: Ushers/Greeters, we appreciate you welcoming parishioners at your assigned station.

If interested in serving as liturgical minister during the weekend Masses, please give the coordinators a call. See page 5 for contact info.



Traveling Chalice and Paten

Every family has the responsibility of becoming the seedbed for raising vocations in the Church: faithful husbands and wives, committed religious brothers and sisters, and dedicated bishops, priests and deacons.

In our parish, the Traveling Chalice and Paten is a simple way to get families involved in praying for vocations in the Church.

Every week, we need families to host a Traveling Chalice and Paten. Sets are found on the heater by the Resurrected Christ. Hosting families, sign out a set using the sign-up sheet on the heater. Remember to bring back the set at Mass or at the Parish Office porch.

We thank the *Fitzsimmons* and *Iacusa* families for hosting the Traveling Chalice and Paten.

Pray daily for vocations in the Church.

St. Patrick's Men's Retreat

Finding God in Life's Transitions

Throughout our lives we experience transitions.

Whether joyful, unexpected, challenging or even heartbreaking... One thing is sure: God can guide us through all, if we open our entire being to Him.

Let us look at:

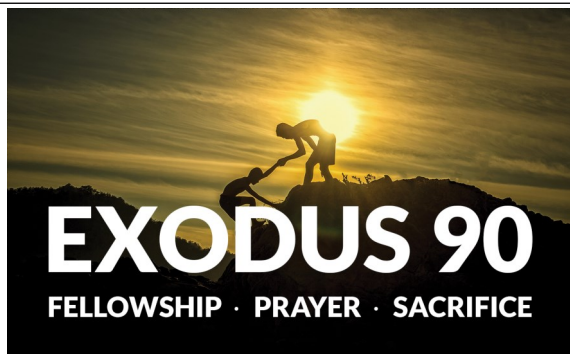


- How do we cope with the unexpected transitions?
- How do we properly discern the major decisions in our lives?
- Who in the Bible went through transitions and what was their process?
- What strength and wisdom might we glean from various saints lives and their transitions?

Please join fellow men in our parish for 40 hours of reflection, prayer, and quiet time with Jesus Christ, at Notre Dame Retreat House on January 31 to February 2.

Contact Bill Clifford at 742-2358 or billbarbclifford@aol.com or John Becker at 924-0568 or jabecker58@aol.com for reservations or information."

The parish calendar is accessible through the parish website:
www.stpatricksvictor.org



The men of St. Patrick's are invited to take part in a spiritual exercise, beginning on January 13th 2020, to help grow in Christian virtues by breaking from vices and bad habits. Exodus 90 is a spiritual exercise rooted in the pillars of prayer, self-sacrifice and fraternity, and is based on the Scripture and scientific evidence. The idea is to grow closer to Jesus through daily prayer, self-sacrifice, and brotherhood with fellow men disciples. To date, over 20,000 Catholic men have accepted and completed the challenge and taken back their lives. Please go to exodus90.com to learn more. Contact John Ahern at 764-7768 if you have any questions or would like to join the group.

Membership & Parish Life

because Jesus called a community

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday	Jan. 5
8:30am	- Anointing of the Sick - Church
9:30am	- Coffee Hour - Parish Center
10:00am	- Children's Choir Rehearsal - Music Room
10:30am	- Children's Liturgy of the Word - Music Room
11:45pm	- Christian Formation - Preschool
5:00pm	- Life Teen - Church, Parish Center
Monday	Jan. 6
4:30pm	- Christian Formation - Preschool
5:45pm	- Children's Choir Rehearsal - Music Room
6:30pm	- Catholic Scouting Committee - Alcove
6:45pm	- Adult Choir Rehearsal - Music Room
7:00pm	- Social Ministry - Library
Tuesday	Jan. 7
6:30pm	- Christian Formation - Preschool
6:30pm	- Confirmation Class - Music Rm, Library, Alcove
Wednesday	Jan. 8
10:00am	- Senior Exercise - Alcove
7:00pm	- Pastoral Council - Alcove
Thursday	Jan. 9
9:00am	- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - Library
Friday	Jan. 10
9:00am	- Charity and Justice - Parish Center
9:00am	- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - Library
Saturday	Jan. 11
5:30pm	- Knights of Columbus Movie - Parish Center



Louise Therrien, Carol Estes, Becky & John Crowley, Jim & Kathy Heilmann, Bill & Marlene Goodermote, Rosa Cordaro, Maria Kluber, Lori Fisher, Dominic DiMarco, Frank Acquilano, Ed Wicks, Samantha Haldeman, Joseph Felice, Helen White, Jerry Martin, Ann Amico, Dick Ashlaw, Michael Keane, Carole Annesi, Martin Neenan, Ann Spadaro, Jim McMahon, Caroline Gillen, John Becker, Randy Bishop, Christine Palmer, Bev Henahan, Stephen Melenric, Jack Marren, John O'Brien, Karen Wicks

Note: This list of parishioners who are ill appears once a month in the bulletin. Please help keep this list up-to-date by informing the Parish Office at the end of the month if you want your name to be kept.

Ongoing Christian Formation

because Jesus taught us his way of life

Formed.org

1. It is easy and free! Go to [Formed.org/register](https://formed.org/).
2. Enter access code: 3KRJJJ (capitalized).
3. Enter your email and password (you need these to log in later). Enjoy and share the faith.



Featured Resources

The Story of the Nativity. The story of the birth of Jesus is often misunderstood. But this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the

Nativity clears away widespread misunderstandings of Jesus' origin. Join top scholars, inspirational speakers, and popular authors as they explain the story behind the story of the birth of Jesus. The Story of the Nativity also includes stunning works of art depicting the biblical story, from Fra Angelico to Rembrandt, and footage from the Holy Land showing the places where the Christmas story actually took place. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus's miraculous conception, the birth of John the Baptist, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus. This is an invaluable tool for believer and unbeliever alike to learn more about Jesus of Nazareth and about the truth of Christmas.



Foundations. A Four Part Video Series for Thriving in Parenting, by Families of Character. You were never meant to do this parent thing alone. With the help of

theological scholars, psychologists, and educators, discover what it means to parent with God; how to unlock each family member's uniqueness; and how to learn to love and be loved.

Jake and Heather are two ordinary parents navigating the adventure of parenting. They host four short episodes where they share information with you to help take your parenting from surviving to thriving.

Thank you for using Formed.org resources.



Following Christ

Following Christ, the second in the three part Christ Life series, is scheduled to begin on January 9, 2020. It will be held Thursday evenings from 6:45-8:30 PM in the Parish Center.

There will be 7 Thursday sessions, and one Saturday In-house Retreat. The program ends on February 27, 2020. Completion of Discovering Christ is required for attendance. If planning on participating, please contact Sam Condo @ 678-4472 or Dan Lafferty @ 924-3898.

Social Ministry & Outreach

because Jesus called us to serve



Community Dinner

Our next dinner will be served on January 18. Parishioners are invited to get involved. Refer to the sign-up sheet on the Alcove Welcome Table. We accept toiletries - please deposit them in the designated bin near the Alcove.

March for Life 2020



High school students are invited to join the March for Life 2020. We are working with Saint Louis Church in organizing the trip. Our group will be leaving on Thursday, January 23 at 9:30 PM and will be returning midnight of Saturday, January 25.

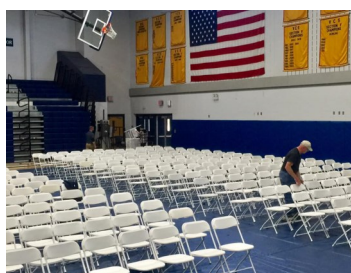
Registration fee is \$40. Please register by Jan 1, and the easiest way to do this is to visit stlouischurch.org and scroll down on the homepage. Click on March for Life, and then, 'Register'.

Why do we exist as a parish?

In order to love God with all that we are,
to love our neighbor as ourselves,
to make more and better disciples, and
to learn and teach how to keep
Jesus' commandments.

Our Mission is based on Matthew 22: 34-40, 28:16-20.

Set-Up and Take-Down Crew for Christmas Mass at the VHS Gym



Eric, Amy and Ryan Averill, Wayne Brotsch, Carl Galland, Andrew and Kyle Dempsey, Ted, Liz, Olivia, Meryl and Eddie Gartland, Ben Gensiejewski, Ena Gill, Tom Gormel, Robert, Karen and Kayla Grasso, Dave Keebler, Dennis O'Dea, Sam Samoriski, Ted Shawe, Paul and Mary Beth Then, Dan and Mark Weigert, and Ryan Williams.

Thank you for being so generous with your time.

Keep Christ in Christmas Yard Signs

The Victor Knights of Columbus wish to thank the parishioners for displaying the 300 "Keep Christ in Christmas" yard signs. Please continue to use them through the Christmas Season, until January 12. It was a great success with many comments of approval.

Please store them in your garage or home for next year. If you have no room, drop them off in the Parish Garage. If any question, please contact Ken Reasoner at ukr2@yahoo.com or call (585) 924-2029.

Stewardship

because Jesus gave us gifts to share



We are grateful

- To Colette Gotham for organizing the Children's Christmas Pageant, and to the children who participated.

Eddie Gartland for the liturgical set-up and take-down at the 4 PM Christmas Eve Mass.

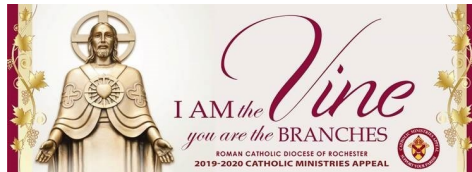
- To the Saint Patrick's Festival Choir, the Children's Choir, Megan Samoriski, Taylor Ward, Annie Stocklosa and Eva Moore for the Christmas Mass music.

Sunday Collection Revenue

July - November 2019

Thank you for your generosity to our parish,
for being good stewards of your treasure.

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Regular Envelopes	\$ 127,185	\$ 114,583	\$ 12,602
Loose Plate	\$ 30,917	\$ 37,500	\$ (6,583)
Electronic (EFT)	\$ 85,627	\$ 91,360	\$ (5,733)
Holy Days	\$ 2,609	\$ 2,500	\$ 109
Christmas	\$ 200	\$	\$ 200
Total	\$ 246,538	\$ 245,943	\$ 595



Parish Goal:
\$113,885

As of Dec 27, Amount Raised: \$ 62,021 or 54.46%

Number of Donors: 200 Households

How does your CMA contribution support our parish?

Information Technology Support / Staff Support

Parish Governance Support / Ministry Support

Cemetery Support / Buildings and Grounds Support

Promotion of Cultural Diversity

Did you know that when we do not make our CMA goal, we pay for the deficit from our parish funds? These past three years, your stewardship had been supporting two major campaigns, the annual CMA and the parish capital projects.

Parishioners had been extremely generous in that we have met our goals for the capital projects every year, and we have reasonably minimal deficit for the CMA in these past years.

We continue to rely on your generous stewardship as this allows us to improve our parish facilities and address our diocesan responsibilities.

To contribute to the CMA, please use the envelopes in the pews, or visit www.dor.org to make an online donation.

To contribute to the Parish Building Fund, please write a check payable to Saint Patrick's Church, and on the memo, specify 'Building Fund,' or visit stpatricksvictor.org for online donation. Thank you.

Our Parish Ministries: Serving God and Neighbor

Call. Ask. Discern. Serve like Jesus.

I. Liturgy and Sacramental Life

Altar Linen	Sue Stehling / 924-3409
Altar Servers	Pat Bolger / 924-9351
Baptism Preparation Team	Judy & James Miller / 924-8158
Children's Liturgy of the Word	Lynn Foley / 259-3823
Church Cleaners	Lei Dalupang / 224-6091
Communion Ministers (EMHC)	Liz Gartland / 329-3168
First Responders at Masses	Coordinator Needed
Funeral Liturgy Team	Jackie Lafferty / 924-3898
Lectors	Duane Pancoast / 576-6588
Liturgy Committee	Judy Klein / 924-7022
Marriage Preparation Team	Gayle & Brian Reh / 924-4804
Music Ministry (choirs, cantors)	Carl Galland / 924-7111
Sacristans	Ena Gill / 733-6650
Ushers & Greeters	Sante DiCarlo / 742-3118
Visitation Ministry	Helen Barnes / 298-2247

II. Membership and Parish Life

Coffee Hour Team	John Shields / 615-5765
Funeral Brunch Team	Kelly Mason / 924-3532
Knights of Columbus	Wayne Brotsch / 924-3855
Membership Team	Ken Reasoner / 924-2029
Parish Life Committee	Sam Samoriski / 802-6755
Women's Group	Judy Klein / 924-7022

III. Ongoing Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation Group	Sam & Tina Condo / 678-4472
Bible Study	Anne Leitner / 742-3417
Catechists & Aides	Donna DeJoode / 924-2800
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd	Carolyn Robinson / 924-2800
Confirmation Coordinator	Janet Zazulak / 924-7111
Faith Formation Advisory Board	Donna DeJoode / 924-2800
Parish Christ Life Team	Sam Condo / 678-4472
Preschool	Donna DeJoode / 924-2800
RCIA Team	Deacon John Payne / 924-7111
Youth Ministry	Christine & Pat Di Novo / 924-7111

IV. Social Ministry and Outreach

Assisi Ministry	Marcie Hamilton / 924-1528
Community Dinner	Jean Acquilano / 645-7998
Giving Garden	Dan & Karen Lynch / 314-5098
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Mary E 742-2949 / Mary S 924-7724
Prison Ministry	Helen Barnes / 298-2247
Social Ministry Committee	Joan Muto / 924-2501
Veterans' Dinner	Bob Kelly / 924-5792
Family Promise of Ontario County	Joan Trost / 924-3092

V. Stewardship

Buildings and Grounds Committee	Joan Oliphant / 742-3452
Cemetery Board	John Butler / 924-7111
CASE Review Board	Cathy Fafone / 924-7111
Finance Council	Suzanne McCaffrey / 398-8219
Parish Bakers	Coordinator Needed
Parish Gardens	Becky Fountain / 281-8004
Parish Magazine	Editor Needed
Parish Office Volunteers	Ev DeVelder / 924-2903
Pastoral Council	Bob Muto / 924-2501
Money Counters	Marge Gawronski / 398-7802
Stewardship Committee	Dave Keebler / 208-6923

Let there be light...

Witnesses to Divine Truth

*Though darkness covers the earth,
and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the Lord shines,
and over you appears his glory.
Nations shall walk by your light,
and kings by your shining radiance. ...
Caravans of camels shall cover you,
dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
All from Sheba shall come
bearing gold and frankincense,
and heralding the praises of the Lord.*

- Isaiah 60:2-3, 6

To name for Himself the Chosen People God has one particular reason: so that through them, divine revelation or the self-communication of God to the world may unfold in time. In other words, a nation is chosen so that through them, God may reveal Himself to the world and the world may come to know and believe in Him.

At the Christmas Masses, as proclaimed in the opening verses of the Fourth Gospel, John the evangelist offers us great insight into divine reality - that Jesus, from the beginning, was with God and is God. Though Jesus entered history at a particular time and place, he actually existed from the beginning.

And the Second Reading, in the opening verses of the Letter to the Hebrews, we are made aware how God chose His revelation to unfold gradually and progressively in time, for our benefit - that we may be ready when, in time, the fullness of divine relation in Jesus would come.

As bearers of the divine revelation, the Chosen People carry the light not only for themselves but for all nations of the earth. God gave them His light so that the whole world may walk in the very light of God. Gentiles, in properly understanding and appreciating the gift of divine light, would search for it and be shown it, and in gratitude for such gift, would offer gifts of gold and frankincense to God.

*...behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,
"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?"*

*We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage." ...*

*The chief priests and scribes said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea,
for thus it has been written through the prophet:
And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel."*

- Matthew 2:1b-2, 5-6

Today, on the Feast of the Epiphany, we recognize when God removed the veil from the eyes of the Gentiles so that we too may see and encounter God whose coming the Chosen People gave witness to. At the manger scene, two thousand years ago, the magi from the East ushered in the participation of the Gentiles in the story of salvation.

Two things led them to Jesus. First, the star. The magi were learned men. Their studies in fields of sciences, philosophy and religion led them to the Christ. Second, the Word of

Parish Office & Preschool Information

Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

(lunch time: 12:30 PM - 1 PM)

Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Parish Office Phone: (585) 924-7111

Parish Office Fax: (585) 742-3296

Faith Formation & Preschool: (585) 924-2800

Stay Connected

- Parish Website: www.stpatricksvictor.org
- Parish Facebook Pages:
St. Patrick's Church /
Saint Patrick's Victor Youth Ministry
- Parish Youtube Channel:
St Patricks of Victor NY
- Parish App: Text 'App' to 88202



Our Parish Staff

Father Edison Tayag, Pastor	fr.edison.tayag@dor.org
Deacon John Payne, Deacon	john.payne@dor.org
John Butler	john.butler@dor.org
Cemetery Manager	
Christine and Pat DiNovo	christine.dinovo@dor.org /
Youth Ministers	pat.dinovo@dor.org
Cathy Fafone	catherine.fafone@dor.org
Parish Secretary	
Dr. Carl Galland	carl.galland@dor.org
Director of Sacred Music	
Donna DeJoode	donna.dejoode@dor.org
Coordinator of Christian Formation and Preschool	
Nancy Kolb	nancy.kolb@dor.org
Christian Formation & Preschool Secretary	
Benny Malijan	benny.malijan@dor.org
Housekeeping	
Rich O'Donnell	richard.odonnell@dor.org
Finance Director	
Wayne Sweet	wayne.sweet@dor.org
Building Maintenance	
Janet Zazulak	janet.zazulak@dor.org
Confirmation Coordinator	

Keep you parish staff in your daily prayers.

God, as prophecy given by the prophets. In the Gospel reading this Sunday, the chief priests and scribes confirmed the resonance between the guidance of star and the prophetic words of Micah, and helped send the magi to Bethlehem.

This Sunday, we are reminded that once we hear and accept the divine revelation, like the faithful of the Chosen People, we are to find ourselves privileged and accountable for such gift. And like the magi, we need to allow our fascination for the natural world and its sciences, philosophies and religions to point us to the greater reality of God.

Faith and reason are both gifts from God, and both allow us better contemplate the love and truth of God. Our Catholic reflection through centuries on faith and reason has enabled us to honor the respective autonomy of faith and reason and acknowledge how they can complement each other.

It will be a valuable use of our time to read and reflect on Saint John Paul II's encyclical, Faith and Reason. In his words, may we see faith and reason as like two wings that allow us to contemplate the truth of God.

- Father Edison