

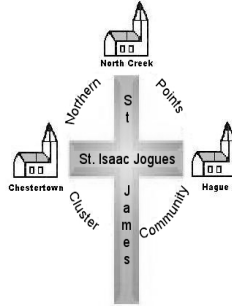
Northern Points Cluster Bulletin

Rev. John O'Kane, Pastor of the Parish of St. Isaac Jogues
Blessed Sacrament Church, Hague and St. John the Baptist Church, Chestertown
Sacramental Minister of St. James Church, North Creek

Sr. Francesca Husselbeck, RSM, Parish Life Coordinator of St. James Church, North Creek
Barbara Carlozzi, Cluster Coordinator of Youth Ministry and Administrative Assistant at St. Isaac Jogues
Third Sunday in Advent, December 11, 2011

Parish of St. Isaac Jogues

Blessed Sacrament & St. John the Baptist
P.O. Box 471, Chestertown, NY 12817
(518) 494-5229 ext 31 for Emergency



St. James Church

P.O. Box 23
North Creek, NY 12853
(518) 251-2518

Northern Points Cluster Website: www.northernpointscluster.org

Weekend Mass Schedule

4:00 pm, Saturday Vigil, St. Isaac Jogues-St. John the Baptist Church, Chestertown
5:30 pm, Saturday Vigil, St. James Church, North Creek
8:00 am Sunday Mass: St. James Church, North Creek
9:30 am Sunday Mass, St. Isaac Jogues-St. John the Baptist Church, Chestertown

Weekday Mass Schedule

2:00 pm Liturgy Monday: Adirondack Tri-County Nursing Home, North Creek
9:00 am Mass Tuesday: St. Isaac Jogues Parish Center, Chestertown
5:30 pm Mass Wednesday: St. James Church, North Creek

Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment

Hospital Visits

Please notify Fr. John and Sr. Fran if a family member is hospitalized so that they may visit the individual

Preparation for Baptism and Marriage

St. Isaac Jogues, please call Fr. John O'Kane at 494-5229 ext 34
St. James, please call Sr. Fran Husselbeck at 251-2518

Happy Spiritual New Year!

As we enter the third week of Advent, we are more than half way to Christmas. Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday with the lighting of our third and pink Advent candle. We are well on our Advent journey. Advent is the spiritual New Year for Christians as we prepare for the birthday of Jesus! We find ourselves dusting off ornaments, decorating and preparing for Christmas.

Advent is the time to prepare to receive God's love through his son Jesus. Just as we dust off our Christmas decorations, we should dust and remove anything that keeps us from Jesus' love.

We will have the Sacrament of the Sick during the 6:30 PM Mass on Wednesday, December 21st at St. James Church in North Creek. This sacrament is for those who need healing of the body, mind and spirit. Please join us for this Advent event to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord!

God bless,
Father John



Cluster News

Youth Ministry News: Classes are in session this Sunday. Next Sunday, December 18th, at 5 pm, our teens will be caroling at the Adirondack Tri-County Nursing Home. We are inviting and encouraging family members and members of the community to share in this Christmas Spirit. Please plan on arriving at the Nursing Home by 5 pm.

Evangelization: The diocesan program for evangelization is the “Amazing God” series. To promote this program and to assist us with our evangelization efforts, there is a second collection on the weekend of December 18th. Forty percent of this collection will stay in the parishes for their own programs. Envelopes are available at the back of the church for this collection.



Cluster Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick: This Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, December 21st, at St. James in North Creek. This is a time to prepare for the Christmas Season with Jesus’ healing presence of forgiveness. As we continue the new Church year, we ask and seek the Lord for his healing presence through this Sacrament.

Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat: Hurting from an abortion? Experience God’s healing love on a Rachel’s Vineyard weekend retreat, January 6-8, 2012 at The Priory Retreat House in Chestertown. The cost is \$130. Some financial assistance is available. For more information of to register, contact: Mrs. Kathy Whimple, 518-469-0779 or Mrs. Pat Mousaw, 518-792-8942(h), 518-222-1160(c) or email: rachelvineyardalbany@yahoo.com.



If you know anyone interested in becoming Catholic, please speak to Fr. John or Sr. Fran. We will set up an information night soon for them to attend. Perhaps there is someone who just needs a nudge by you.

Priory News

The Priory invites you to several activities:

Sunday, December 11th - Decorate The Priory and enjoy a potluck dinner; 2 pm to 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 18th - Enjoy holiday music, a Christmas Story and refreshments; 3 pm to 5 pm

Please call The Priory for details, 494-3733 or email www.prioryretreathouse.org

Leaflets explaining other programs offered by The Priory are available at the back of the church.

ST. JAMES PARISH

Religious Ed News: Classes today.

St. James Children’s Mass and the First Reconciliation service will be at the 5:30 pm Mass on December 17th (not December 10th). All the 4th-6th graders are invited to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, along with the 3rd graders who will be receiving for the first time. We will have a birthday party for Jesus and a pizza party for the children and their families following the service.

Classes are in session today, December 11th, but there will not be class on December 18th.

Advent Evening: This Wednesday, December 14th, Mass will be offered at 5:30 pm, followed by a soup supper and an “Amazing God” presentation

Christmas Family Giving Tree: We thank everyone who is helping North Country Ministry families. Please return your gifts with the card attached by Sunday, December 18th.

Save the Date: Our Gala will be Saturday, January 28, 2012, at Echo Lake Lodge

Cemetery Woes: Our pillars are falling down. We are in the process of addressing this major financial problem. We will keep you posted.

PARISH OF ST. ISAAC JOGUES CHURCHES OF BLESSED SACRAMENT & ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Religious Education: Please remember our community service project this year! Our children are participating in a food drive for local pantries. We are asking the children to bring in non-perishable food. The drive will conclude on December 21st.

We will be fitting our youngsters for costumes for our Christmas Eve Pageant during religious education classes this week. Please note: There will be a rehearsal for the pageant on Saturday, December 17th, at 9:30 am.

Holiday Food Baskets: Thanks to all who donated so generously to fill the Christmas food baskets. We will be packing the baskets in the parish center on Friday, December 16th, at 3 pm. If you would like to help out, please call John at 494-4398.

Giving Tree: Thank you for your wonderful generosity during this Christmas season. Through your kindness and caring, His light will continue to brighten the world for many others.

