

## ***Northern Points Cluster Bulletin***

*(The weekly cluster newsletter of the Diocese of Albany's Roman Catholic communities serving Northern Warren County)*

**Rev. John O'Kane, Pastor of 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 Director of St. James Church, North Creek**

**Deacon Bob Wubbenhorst, Deacon at Blessed Sacrament Church, Hague and St. John the Baptist Church, Chestertown**

**Barbara Carlozzi, Cluster Coordinator of Youth Ministry and**

**Administrative Assistant at St. John the Baptist Church, Chestertown and Blessed Sacrament, Hague**

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 & Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2009**

***Blessed Sacrament Church***

***P.O. Box 529, Hague, New York 12836***

***(518) 543-8828***

***St. James Church***

***P.O. Box 23, North Creek, New York***

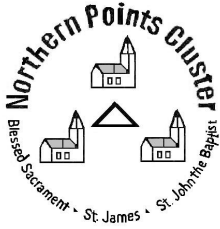
***(518) 251-2518***

***St. John the Baptist Church***

***P.O. Box 471, Chestertown, New York 12817***

***(518) 494 5229 Fax (518) 494- 5663 (please call before sending)***

***Emergency number 494 5229 ext 31***



***Northern Points Cluster Website: [northernpointscluster.org](http://northernpointscluster.org)***

### **Mass Schedule**

#### ***Our Summer Schedule***

***5:30 pm Saturday Evening Vigil Mass: St. John the Baptist Church, Chestertown***

***9:00 am Sunday: St. James Church, North Creek***

***9:00 am Sunday: Blessed Sacrament Church, Hague***

***11:00 am Sunday: St. John the Baptist Church, Chestertown***

***(June 27 & 28<sup>th</sup> until Labor Day Weekend: a Saturday Vigil Mass at 4pm at Blessed Sacrament and a 7:30 am Mass at St. John the Baptist will be added)***

***(Reminder when you go to one of our sister churches, please designate your offertory collection for your own parish)***

### **Weekday Liturgies week of May 24<sup>th</sup>**

***8:00 am Mass, Monday: St. James Church, North Creek***

***2:00 pm Liturgy, Monday: Adirondack Tri-County Nursing Home, North Creek***

***There is no weekday Masses the week of May 31<sup>st</sup> as Fr. John is on retreat, remember him in your prayers***

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: by appointment**

### **Hospital Visits**

**Fr. John and Sr. Fran request that you please let us know**

**if you or someone in your family is in the hospital so that we may visit them!**

### **Preparation for Baptism and Marriage**

**St. John the Baptist/Blessed Sacrament please call Fr. John O'Kane at 494-5229 ext 34**

**for St. James Sr. Fran Husselbeck at 251-2518**

## **Faith through times of transition**

In our reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter becomes the leader for the community during a turbulent time of transition. The community is familiar with this form of leadership. In our Gospel, we hear that Jesus prays for the consecration of his followers. These followers are asked to continue the Mission of Christ. In our community today, we are going through transitions. With God's help, the merging of Blessed Sacrament and St. John's parish into one new parish and our continued link with St. James in our Northern Points Cluster, will make us a stronger faith filled community. A special thank you to the volunteers who hosted the reception and to all my fellow priests, family and friends, both new and old, who attended my installation, & I am humbled by the many cards, gifts and prayers given to me in recognition of my installation as pastor. The last few years have been a learning and growing experience for me. I ask for your patience and prayers in the years to come. God has truly blessed me throughout my priesthood and I am grateful he has brought me here to "God's Country" NPC!

**God Bless, Fr. John**

## Cluster News

### **.Bishop's Appeal 2009: Being connected To One Another**

There is an old song called "Dry Bones". It paraphrases Ezekiel 3: 1-15 in which the prophet had a vision. He saw dry bones scattered in a desert field. Upon hearing the Word of God, they started to rise up and connect with each other. Then when the Spirit of the Lord breathed upon them, they became the living people of God.

This vision of Ezekiel can apply to us as God's people in the Church of Albany. The parishes in the 14 counties are all connected to each other and, as such, form the Body of the Risen Lord. Each of us needs to be there for the other and work for the betterment of the whole.

An important means to share a life-giving connection is through the Bishop's Appeal. If each parish does what it can, we will be able to sustain the services and ministries in the diocese that nurture all parts of the Body of Christ. These are difficult times. Some may have to give less and maybe those who can do so, could give more. The Word of God will keep us together and the Spirit of the Lord will continue breathing God's life into us if we but do our part to keep from being "dry bones."

**To date St. John the Baptist has collected 29% of its assessment of \$17,280, Blessed Sacrament 7% of its assessment of \$6915., and St. James 30% of its assessment of \$9,990. Please be generous with your pledge.**

### **New Parish Name**

As most of us know the two parishes of Blessed Sacrament and St. John the Baptist are merging into one Parish Corporation with the two separate church buildings as our worship sites. The new parish corporation that is to be formed will need a new name. A new corporation means that our two parish finances will be combined as one. We will have one parish council and one finance committee instead of two. Next year, we will have only one Bishops Appeal. Blessed Sacrament and St. John's folks we need your help! Do you have any thoughts on the name for our new parish family? There are cards and pencils in the pews for you to jot down potential names with the reasons for the name. These cards can be put in a box in the back of the church or can be mailed to the office at your discretion. We will later have a list with the names from the cards and we all will choose three names from the list. Our top three choices will be submitted to the Bishop and he will choose the name of our new parish community. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask me or call the office at 494-5229. Take this time to think and talk about it with your family and friends. What would be a good name for our new parish? Thank you for your cooperation and patience with this process. Father John

### **North Country Ministry News**

For more information, contact Brother James, Sr. Mary, or Caroline at Leaven House 251-4425

### **Priory News**

The Priory Retreat House in Chestertown will hold its annual Garage Sale July 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Sr. Connie Messitt, CSJ welcomes your contributions of any usable items before July 1<sup>st</sup>. We would welcome help anytime Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup>. Please call 518-494-3733 if you can volunteer & /or to bring donations.

**Youth Ministry** Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> starting with the 9:00 am Mass, the 6<sup>th</sup> Graders from St. James and St. John's will be having a retreat concluding at 1:30 pm. We will be going to The Fun Spot with UNLIMITED Golf, Go-Carts, Laser Tag and the Bounce Around, ending at Martha's for Ice Cream afterwards. Lois will be contacting you as to the date of June 18<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>; whatever is best for you! Cost will be \$15 and if you buy ice cream – you pay.



### **BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH**

**Weekday Liturgy:** will resume on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. If the Parish Center isn't completed by this date, Mass will be in the Church.

**Blessing of Homes** This is the last week to have your home blessed during the Easter Season, you can make arrangements with Deacon Bob at 644-9121.

### **ST JAMES PARISH**

**Our Special Anniversary Mass,** procession and blessing of the cemetery will be at 8AM Monday.

### **ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

**Blessing of Homes** This is the last week to have your home blessed during the Easter Season, you can make arrangements with Deacon Bob at 644-9121.

**Thank You** to all who have donated beautiful flowers to enhance our church grounds and to Carol Feldt and Suzanne Robbins for their continued care of them.