



# The Parish of **MARY** **MOTHER** **OF MERCY**



**St. Francis Solanus**  
3660 Orchard St.  
Interlaken, NY

**Weekend Mass:**  
Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

**Weekday Liturgies:**  
Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.  
(Rosary at 8:00 a.m.)



**St. James the Apostle**  
17 Whig St.  
Trumansburg, NY

**Weekend Mass:**  
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**Communion Service:**  
Monday, 9:00 a.m.



**Holy Cross**  
7231 Main St.  
Ovid, NY

**Weekend Mass:**  
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation and/or  
personal dialogue:**  
Fridays, 6:30–7:30 p.m., St. Francis Solanus,  
with Father Bernard

To join the parish or to celebrate the sacraments of  
baptism, confirmation, anointing of the sick, or mar-  
riage, please phone the Parish Center.

*Note: Weekday liturgies may be cancelled  
due to funerals or bad weather.*



**Parish Center :**  
St. Francis Solanus  
P.O. Box 403  
Interlaken, NY 14847

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday–Friday  
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

**Phone:** 607–294–0064  
**Email:** [immmercy@dor.org](mailto:immmercy@dor.org)  
**Website:** [marymotherofmercy.com](http://marymotherofmercy.com)  
**IG/FB:** @marymotherofmercyparish

**Pastor:** Rev. Bernard M. Maloney, OFM Cap.

**In residence at St. Fidelis Friary:**  
Rev. Brendan Buckley, OFM Cap.

**December 15, 2024**  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**

*National Eucharistic Revival*  
*June 19, 2022–Pentecost 2025*  
*Year of Mission – Invite One Back Initiative*  
*June 2024 – June 2025*

*2025 Roman Catholic Church Jubilee/Holy Year*  
*December 29, 2024 – December 28, 2025*  
*Theme: “Pilgrims of Hope”*

**Eucharistic Revival**

**“Invite one back Initiative” Prayer:**

God our Father,

You never cease to seek out your children—the lonely, the frightened, the hurt, and the lost.

We pray for all our parishioners who have been missing from our parish community and Eucharistic celebrations. Through the intercession of Mary, please pave the way for conversations and invitations that welcome them back to the Catholic Church and our parish Community. We trust in your love and mercy for every one of your children. Amen.

**Birthright Donations and Mitten Tree:**

This Sunday parishioners are invited to leave donations for Birthright in Ithaca at the side altar at St. James the Apostle.

The Mitten Tree is also out at St. James the Apostle. Mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, and socks may be left by the tree at the front of the church. Items will be donated to Catholic Charities in Ithaca.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

There are additional opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) this season. It is a good practice to do during the Season of Advent when we are more conscious about doing God’s will and following his way as we joyfully await Jesus’s second coming in glory. The dates are:

- Tuesday, December 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m., St. James the Apostle, Trumansburg
- Wednesday, December 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Holy Cross, Ovid, and
- Every Friday, 6:30-7:30 p.m., St. Francis Solanus, Interlaken

**Holy Cross Cemetery Cleanup—This Sunday:**  
This Sunday, December 15, at 1:00 p.m., volunteers are needed for the fall clean-up at Holy Cross Cemetery. Tasks include removing empty flower pots, sticks, litter, etc. It’s a large cemetery, so all is appreciated.

**Christmas Mass Schedule:**

Tuesday, December 24

- 4:00 p.m., St. James the Apostle, Trumansburg
  - 8:00 p.m., Holy Cross, Ovid
- Wednesday, December 25
- 9:00 a.m., St. Francis Solanus, Interlaken

**Thank You:**

Thank you to our Fellowship Committee: Russ Wedemeyer (chair), Liz Coats, Pat Dickerson, Jackie Leidenfrost, and Sheila Ryan for organizing our recent parish events: Hot Chocolate and Trivia and our annual Christmas Social. We appreciate your work. Our parish is fortunate to have joyful opportunities for fellowship. These events are a blessing.

**The Word Among us Advent Booklet:**

The booklet, *The Word Among Us*, for the season of Advent is available in the foyer of the church. The booklet contains daily readings and meditations for the Advent Season. Please take one for your home and for daily prayer.

**Cemetery Collection This Weekend:**

This weekend is the second collection to benefit the Mary, Mother of Mercy parish cemeteries. Donations may also be made online using WeShare Online Giving. Please note that the monetary donation to the cemetery can be specified either for St. James the Apostle or the Holy Cross cemetery. When the monetary donation is not specified, your donation is divided between the two cemeteries. Thank you for your help.

**Adult Study:**

Everyone desiring to know and discuss our faith are invited to attend classes on Saturdays (with one exception, the second Saturday of the month) at 5:00-6:15 p.m. at the St. Francis Solanus annex. These sessions are also helpful for people desiring to be received into the church and for Catholics preparing to celebrate Confirmation and First Communion. The December 21st topic: *Joint Mission of Son and Spirit*.

**Eucharistic Revival–Invite One Back Initiative:**

Now is the time, the Season of Advent, the month of December, for parishioners, in a hospitable way, to personally invite a parishioner back to encounter Jesus in Holy Communion. You might encourage them to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession also to have the assurance of reconciliation, forgiveness, and union with God who throws our sins behind us never to be remembered. We Catholics today are more aware than ever that we must be missionaries – be invitational, like Jesus. “Invite one back.”

**Boxed offering envelopes:**

2025 boxed offering envelopes are available for pick up at each church. If you did not order a box and would like one, please contact the office.

**Christmas Offering:**

The Parish has always been most grateful for the parishioners’ most generous offerings at Christmas time, especially on Christmas day. The parish has come to rely on that collection to help keep our parish solvent. The Lord reward you many times over for your kindness to your parish.

**Cemetery- Right to Burial Plot Cost:**

The cost of buying a plot at both St. James the Apostle and Holy Cross cemeteries will be increasing as of January 1, 2025. A plot purchase provides you with the right for burial in either the traditional part of either cemetery or, at St. James, in the green section. Presently the price to purchase a traditional plot is \$700. On January 1 that will increase to \$900. To purchase a plot in the green section at St. James will increase from \$950 to \$1000. For more information, please visit [marymotherofmercy.com/cemetery](http://marymotherofmercy.com/cemetery).

**Catholic Ministries Appeal:**

As of December 5, 2024, fifty-six parish households have pledged \$16,955 to the CMA. We are at 54.69% of our \$31,000 given goal. We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not yet given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in many ways. Please consider all the ways that God has blessed you and your family and think how the Church has brought goodness into your lives. Join the appeal and give back what you can so that we remain strong and able to do God’s great work.

**Make a Gift From your IRA:**

If you are 70-1/2 or older, you can give any amount (up to \$100,000) from your IRA directly to a charity of your choice, reducing your taxable income. Please consult with your tax or financial advisor.

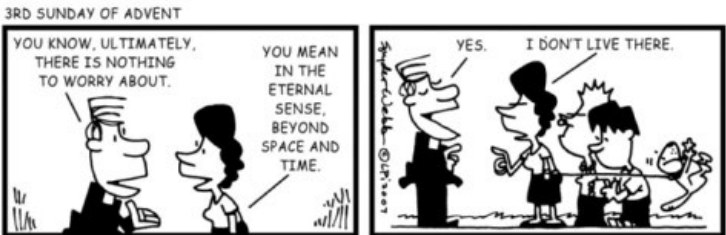
**Trumansburg Community Chorus Concert:**

The Trumansburg Community Chorus is presenting a Christmas concert on Sunday, December 15 at 4:00 p.m. Location: First Presbyterian Church, Trumansburg.


**Homeowners Facing Foreclosure:**

For free counseling services to homeowners facing foreclosure contact Keuka Housing Council, 315-536-8707: Julia Yount Ext-109 / [jyount@keukahousingcouncil.org](mailto:jyount@keukahousingcouncil.org) or Shawn Blauvelt Ext-105 / [sblauvelt@keukahousingcouncil.org](mailto:sblauvelt@keukahousingcouncil.org).

**Prayer of St. Gertrude:**  
Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.



**Donating to Your Parish:**  
Online giving by WeShare is safe, simple and convenient. It’s as easy as 1, 2, 3:  
1. Visit the parish website’s giving page: [marymotherofmercy.com/giving](http://marymotherofmercy.com/giving)  
2. Follow the directions under the “Donate Online” section.  
3. Set up your donation or payment.  
If you experience any problems, please email Eileen at [eileen.heptig@dor.org](mailto:eileen.heptig@dor.org).



## Third Sunday of Advent

### First Reading:

The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness.  
(Zep. 3:17)

### Psalm:

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. (Is. 12:6)

### Second Reading:

The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.  
(Phil. 4:5-6)

### Gospel:

The crowds asked John the Baptist, “What should we do?” (Lk. 3:10)

### Words to Inspire the Faithful:

“If we wish to make any progress in the service of God, we must begin every day of our life with new eagerness.” —St. Charles Borromeo

### MASS INTENTIONS

*December 14–22, 2024*

#### **Saturday, December 14**

4:00 p.m., St. Francis Solanus  
Parishioners and benefactors

#### **Sunday, December 15**

9:00 a.m., St. James the Apostle  
Rogelio Mendez Flores  
*from the Mendez family*

10:30 a.m., Holy Cross

Robert Woodard  
*from Rita Woodard*

#### **Saturday, December 21**

4:00 p.m., St. Francis Solanus  
Parishioners and benefactors

#### **Sunday, December 22**

9:00 a.m., St. James the Apostle  
Rodney Palmer  
*from Kathleen Rourke*

**Parish Schedule**  
**Week of December 15, 2024**

**Sunday, December 15:**

*Cemetery Collection*

Mass: 9:00 a.m., St. James the Apostle

Mass: 10:30 a.m., Holy Cross

Cemetery Cleanup: 1:00 p.m., Holy Cross Cemetery

**Monday, December 16:**

Communion Service: 9:00 a.m., St. James

**Tuesday, December 17:**

Rosary: 8:10 a.m., St. Francis

Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. Francis

Reconciliation: 6:30-7:30 p.m., St. James the Apostle

**Wednesday, December 18:**

Rosary: 8:10 a.m., St. Francis

Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. Francis

Prayer for Healing/Harmony: 2:00 p.m., St. James

Book Study: 3:15 p.m., St. James the Apostle

Reconciliation: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Holy Cross

**Thursday, December 19:**

Rosary: 8:10 a.m., St. Francis

Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. Francis

Prayer for Healing/Harmony: 7:00 p.m., St. James

**Friday, December 20:**

Rosary: 8:10 a.m., St. Francis

Mass: 8:30 a.m., St. Francis

Father Bernard is available, no appointment

necessary: 6:30–7:30 p.m., St. Francis Solanus

**Saturday, December 21:**

Mass: 4:00 p.m., St. Francis Solanus

**Community Outreach**

**Food Pantries:**

◦ Ovid Federated Church: Mondays, 10:00 a.m. and Thursdays, 5:00 p.m.

◦ Food Truck: January 7, 4:00–6:00 p.m., South Seneca High School

◦ Interlaken Reformed Church: Fridays, 3:00–6:00 pm

◦ Trumansburg Food Pantry: Dec 16, 3:30–6:00 p.m., Methodist Church

◦ Lodi's Community Pantry: Saturdays, 12:30–2:00 pm., Lodi Rod & Gun Club

**Family Hope Center:**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Holy Cross

**AA:** Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., St. Francis



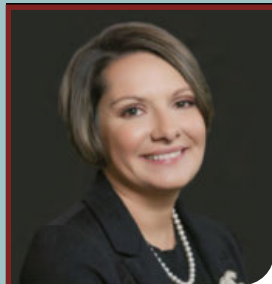
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