

SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Sacred Heart Church
27 Harper Street
Stamford,
NY 12167*



*St. Philip Neri
Mission Church
60676 NY-30,
Grand Gorge,
NY 12474*



April 13, 2025 – PALM SUNDAY

RECTORY AND PARISH OFFICE

27 Harper Street
Stamford, NY 12167
(607) 652-7170

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Visit us: www.sacredheartstamford.org
Parish email: SHStamfo@rcda.org

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents please register at the Parish Office at least two months before the Baptism. The Ceremony takes place on Saturdays at 4:30pm.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements for weddings should be made at least six months prior to the marriage.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sacred Heart Church: Before and after Mass on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays (except the First Saturday of the month)

St. Philip Neri Mission Church: Before Sunday Mass

Or by appointment, at any time.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please call the Rectory

PRIEST:

Rev. Paul J. Mijas

SECRETARY:

Mr. Louis Pfaff

TRUSTEES:

*Mrs. Carole Trotta
Mr. Al Martel*

FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR:

Mrs. Carleen Russell: carleenrussell3@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRY:

FOOD PANTRY:

Mrs. Katie Ryerson: (910) 545 -3324

MASS SCHEDULE

Sacred Heart Church

Tuesday & Wednesday at 9:00 am, Friday at 12:00 pm,
Saturday 4:30 pm

Adoration is Fridays at 11:00 am & the 1st Saturday of the month at 3:30 pm

St. Philip Neri Mission Church

Sunday 8:00 am – St. Philip Neri Mission Church

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to become an evangelizing community of Christian disciples by growing in our personal relationship with Jesus, by deepening our understanding, enthusiasm and love for the Catholic faith, by increasing our confidence and courage to share the faith with others, and by faithfully living the Gospel in the world.

SACRED HEART PARISH

Sacred Heart Church/Stamford & St. Philip Neri Church/Grand Gorge

Welcome To Our Parish

We are happy that you have joined us today and want you to know that you are always welcome here. If you're new to the area either as a permanent, seasonal, or weekend resident, or even just visiting, we invite you to participate in any of our parish activities or ministries. There is a ministry booklet on our website. Activities are regularly publicized in our bulletin and posted in our churches. We all have unique and valuable gifts and talents with which we can serve God and each other.



Saturday, April 12, 2025

4:30 PM — Mass: Sacred Heart Church
† Karl Kneis, req. George & Betty Bergleitner

Sunday, April 13, 2025

8:00 AM — Mass: St. Philip Neri Church
† Joseph Resch II, req. The Giers

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

9:00 AM — Mass: Sacred Heart Church

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

9:00 AM — Mass: Sacred Heart Church
(Stations of the Cross following the 9:00 AM Mass)



Friday, April 18, 2025

No Mass

Saturday, April 19, 2025

No Mass

Sunday, April 20, 2025 — EASTER

11:00 AM—For All Parishioners and Guests



PARISH SUPPORT

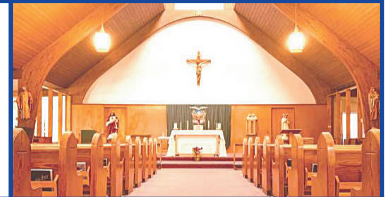
April 5th/6th

Stamford	\$1,667
2nd Collection	-
Grand Gorge	\$1,339
2nd Collection	-

If you would like to receive envelopes for your weekly contribution to our parish please let us know (607) 652-7170

MASS ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY

Stamford: 63
Grand Gorge: 56



ON-LINE GIVING

Electronically giving has been made easy! Donate today by going to our website at <https://sacredheartstamford.org/> and clicking "Donate", follow very simple instructions.

The Women's Guild

Upcoming Meeting: 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM
Monday, April 14th

DATE STAMFORD GRAND GORGE

Lectors

April 12th & 13th	Wenner	Svoboda
April 19th & 20th	-	-

Eucharistic Ministers

April 12th & 13th	Dangler	Laban
April 19th & 20th	-	-



The Sanctuary Candle (\$20) & Bread and Wine (\$15) at Sacred Heart & St. Phillip Neri

Are available for dedication!



Lenten Rules for Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics ages 18 to 59 are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Consumption of one full meal and two smaller meals that don't add up to a full meal is permitted. However, snacking between meals is not. Those aged 14 + are required to abstain (no meat or poultry) from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent.

Readings for Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 | Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 | Col 3:1-4 | Jn 20: 1-9



Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany Office of the Bishop

April 7, 2025

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our Diocese of Albany, in the heart of a secularized region, is faced with the challenge of reimagining its fundamental approach to spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Inspired by the example of St. Francis of Assisi, as articulated in the visionary teaching of Pope Francis, we aim to revitalize and strengthen our parish, regional and diocesan-wide communities, bringing the poor and marginalized into the center of our mission. With a longstanding history of vibrant parish life up until the 2000's, we now face a financial and maintenance crisis as well – we have too many buildings! – which is leading us to realign or relinquish perhaps one-third of 126 parish churches and other buildings, even some of our remaining parish schools.

If we are to have a solid, long-term future, we cannot NOT act. We are now launching a process in an effort to implement a newly envisioned future for long term growth and the formation of mission-focused disciples. Following this model throughout the Diocese, in every parish, network of parishes and region simultaneously, we can be proactive, rather than reactive, with the realities our parishes are facing. Clergy health and wellbeing, quality sacramental ministry, consistent attendance, participation and volunteerism, well maintained properties and assets have been heading in the wrong direction. The Church is Christ's beloved spouse (cf. Eph 1:23) which we have been entrusted to care for – *all* of us, by virtue of our discipleship, our baptismal priesthood. Our "Great Commission" is to follow and proclaim Christ as he leads us through this storm to the "promised land" that lies ahead (Mt 28:16-20). It is a challenge and an opportunity to re-channel our efforts and resources towards a healthier Church focused on service, growth in our relationship with Jesus Christ, personally and communally, and sustainable for the needs we have inside and outside our walls. Through a prayerful, comprehensive and participatory evaluation process, we can ensure that the mission of the Church is carried forward, not left to decline. Together we can lead so that all the faithful remain engaged and committed to our Catholic faith, identity and mission, regardless of any parish realignments or changes to centers of worship that prove necessary.

Our main objective is that every parish in the Diocese take part in a transparent, honest – and difficult! – decision-making process over several months of discernment about the mission and resources of each parish toward a realistic vision for its future. **This is not a *plan* with a narrow focus on mergers and closures. Reconfiguration or merging of parishes and the repurposing, closing or sale of some churches, rectories and schools must surely be anticipated as part of the outcome. More importantly, however, this is a *process* to focus each parish on its mission as the Church, making best use of its personal and material resources.**

We need to move from crisis to conversion, to think bigger, looking at everything we have in place, beyond a Sunday morning. *How are we held back from our greatest potential by wanting to hold to the very things that stand in our way?* This is our chance to look at and develop our mission and how our resources currently align with it. Every resource or asset – buildings, personnel, services, holdings and expenses – must point to fulfilling the mission Christ entrusts to us.

This is our moment, a call to action! It requires sacrifice and a commitment to listen in a *synodal* way, working together as the one Body of Christ. The more we open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, resolving to participate fully and fearlessly – yes, sacrificially! – acknowledging sins and failures that have led to decline, we will live the Lord's Prayer. We unite with Jesus as a people who want nothing more than to proclaim by our actions that hope and desire, "thy will be done."

Our hard-working, dedicated pastors and parish leaders will take up new challenges and opportunities to show their boundless love for their people. As visionaries – with the patience of saints at times! – they will continue walking with them towards a future that can be handed on to their successors and to younger generations that will take up their pew and go forth to serve their community.

Our youth and young adults must be warmly welcomed and involved in this process not only for their own unique perspectives and valuable insights, but also since our decisions will strongly impact their future. Special care must be given to include the poor, persons with disabilities and the more vulnerable among us. Their stories and challenges will help us stay focused on the healing and redemptive mission of Christ. In this *Holy Year of Hope*, all of us must walk on this pilgrimage with Jesus Christ, trusting his guidance on building a stronger foundation for future generations, longing to bear active witness to his saving word.

The details of the process will be unfolded in weeks to come and launched on Pentecost Sunday. It is centered on sound principles of pastoral care, unified action and evangelization, ensuring every participant feels heard, valued and supported as we walk together with Christ in this transition. If it seems like something we already do, or have done before, consider that we live in a landscape of more difficult circumstances, very much like the first Christians in a pagan world, skeptical and hostile to a message of hope in life beyond death and of freedom from the shackles of sin. This will not be another "Called to be Church," which served other needs in another time. So much has changed for our people whose care and well-being we are responsible for. The faith and trust of so many have been shaken. **We need to focus now on re-evangelization, re-education and becoming the *mission* Church we long for and know we can be.**

My prayers for you now are for a fruitful and richly blessed Holy Week and a joyful Easter season. We have every reason to be confident that the graces yet to unfold throughout and beyond this *Holy Year of Hope* will reveal that our best days are yet to come. In the beautiful words from the Hebrew Scriptures (Nm 6:24-26), I pray: "The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you his peace!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ 
+Edward B. Scharfenberger

Bishop of Albany

MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS, HAVE MERCY ON US...

Prayer Requests

Annette Bevilacqua
 Bill & Pat Svoboda
 Bob Abarno
 Father Arul Carasala
 Brian Pare
 Catherine Wargo
 Frank Leonardo
 Harvey Sandig
 Louis Pfaff Jr.
 John & Jacob Markowski

Joseph Schrom
 Luke Wenner
 Maria Lopane
 Marlies Kneis
 Mary Nally
 Mike Manz
 Pope Francis
 Sarah Wenner
 Therese Wenner

Announcements AND News

-Father Arul Carasala, a dedicated Catholic priest, was tragically shot and killed on April 3, 2025, outside the rectory of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Seneca, Kansas.

-Pope Francis is sending Cardinal Krajewski back to Ukraine to deliver 4 more ambulances.

-The Holy See Press Office reported a slight improvement in Pope Francis' health as he continues to recover from bilateral pneumonia.

-Jubilee of the Sick: On April 6, Pope Francis addressed the faithful during the Jubilee of the Sick in St. Peter's Square, reflecting on how suffering can become "a place of encounter" with God.



Diocesan Appeal

Our Parish Goal for 2024 -2025

\$ 23,759

The **Diocesan Appeal** supports all of the vital ministries and programs throughout the Diocese of Albany. It is our one time opportunity during the year to reach out in support of all the people of God beyond the boundaries of Sacred Heart and St. Philip Neri Mission Parish. Donations directly help our parish to pay its share of the important work of the Diocese. Please respond to the Appeal by making a pledge that you can pay to the **end of June 2025**.

***Our Goal is 100% participation
 Not for equal gifts, but equal sacrifice!***

The Palms: Symbols of Victory and Peace

Palms were a traditional sign of victory and triumph in Jewish culture. On Palm Sunday they represent:

- Christ's victory over sin and death, foreshadowing His Resurrection
- The faithful's welcome of Jesus as King and Savior
- A call to follow Him, not just in moments of joy, but through suffering and the cross

The blessed palms we receive at Mass serve as a sacramental, reminding us throughout the year of our call to remain faithful to Christ.

It invites us to welcome Jesus into the Jerusalem of our hearts, to follow Him with humility and trust, and to enter Holy Week ready to share in both His suffering and His glory.

Entering into the Holy Triduum



Holy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper)
 7:00 pm Margaretville

Good Friday (The Passion of our Lord)
 3:00 pm Margaretville

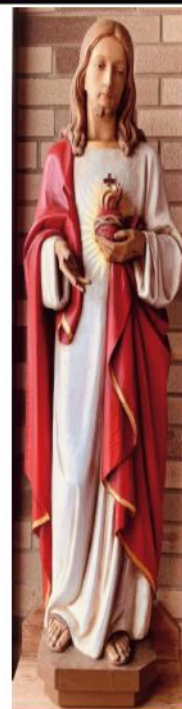
Holy Saturday (Blessing of Food)
 12:00 pm Margaretville

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
 8:00 pm Margaretville

Easter Sunday Mass
 9:00 am in Margaretville; 11:00 am in Stamford

Parishioners of St. Philip Neri in Grand Gorge are asked to join the Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Stamford @ 11:00 am

Parishioners of St. Anne's in Andes are asked to join the Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Margaretville @ 9:00 am





Diocesan is proud to now be printing *Sacred Heart & St. Philip Neri's Sunday Bulletin*

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**Knights of Columbus
Council #13222**

Meetings on the 2nd Tuesday
of Each Month at 5:30pm

George: 607-652-3311
Richie: 607-652-2526

New Members Welcome

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