



Celebrate new life!

Rush Henrietta Catholic Community

...where stewardship is a way of life

Come Journey With Us

May 1, 2011

Mission Statement: *We are a Christ-centered community of Catholic Churches working towards the spiritual renewal of all. As we pursue that hope and dream together, our common Mission Statement calls us: to carry on the work and teaching of Jesus through Imitation, Proclamation, Celebration and Social Transformation.*

Bring Flowers of the Fairest

In the Catholic faith, there are many different devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Marian prayers and the liturgical feasts dedicated to Mary the Mother of God are ample proofs of the universality of these devotions.

Just like many other traditions and customs, the Church incorporated the pre-Christian May celebrations and gave them a Christian dimension. The people of ancient Rome celebrated the first day of May by honoring Flora, the goddess of flowers. She was represented by a small statue wreathed in flowers. Soon, festivals of this kind began to spread to other parts of Europe, especially England. Dances around a flower-decked May pole and choosing of a May queen were added to the festivities.

Special devotions to Mary date back to the time of St. Philip Neri, who died in 1595. He began a custom of decorating the statue of the Blessed Mother with spring flowers in early May. Soon, it spread all over the world. In the United States, the practice continues in parishes and schools where a statue of Mary is honored with fresh blossoms to indicate the virtues of Mary. Mary is celebrated as queen because she was the perfect follower of Jesus Christ and the absolute "crown" of creation. On Sunday, May 1, there will be a May crowning at Good Shepherd as one way for us to recognize our RCIA participants and to celebrate another wonderful year of children's faith formation in the RHCC.

When I was a child, May was an exciting month; in part because the school year was almost over, but also because of special Marian devotions. We created May altars in our classrooms and were encouraged to set them up in our homes too. These altars consisted of a special location where we placed a statue of Mary, always dressed in blue, and vases that we replenished with fresh flowers. We prayed many rosaries before those altars.

May altars continued throughout the month, but May Crowning was a once-a-year special event. Everyone wore his or her best clothes. Second-graders wore their First

Communion outfits again and eighth-graders proudly donned their graduation attire. Eighth-grade girls anxiously awaited the announcement of the female classmate who had been selected by the teachers, mostly nuns in those days, to crown the Blessed Virgin. The lucky girl was a virtuous student who was often encouraged to pursue a religious vocation.

When the big day arrived, we processed into church carrying flowers we brought from home as we sang, "On This Day, O Beautiful Mother," "Bring Flowers of the Fairest," and "Hail, Holy Queen Enthroned Above." We presented our flowers before the large statue that represented the Queen of May. I still remember the aroma of flowers, the coolness of the spring air, the lightness of spirit that lingered. The promise of everything made new.

The climax of the celebration was the moment when the lucky but nervous student reached up and placed the crown of flowers on Mary's head. Our angelic voices soared as we belted out, "O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today."

Through Mary, Jesus was brought to you and to me. She was delivered up like an innocent, perfect spring flower to lighten our spirits, complete our senses and bring the very aroma of heaven to our world in need of warming.

*"O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May!"*

Bernie Warren
St. Joseph's Children's Faith Formation Director



The Rush Henrietta Catholic Community Welcomes You!

Mrs. Barbara Swiecki, Pastoral Administrator ♦ Fr. Bob Beligotti and Fr. Jerry Appelby, Sacramental Ministers

Good Shepherd

3318 East Henrietta Rd.
Henrietta, NY 14467
Phone: 585-334-3518

www.goodshepherdhenrietta.org

Guardian Angels

2061 East Henrietta Rd.
Rochester, NY 14623
Phone: 585-334-1412

www.catholic-church.org/guardian-angels

St. Joseph's

1209 Rush West Rush Rd.
Rush, NY 14543
Phone: 585-533-1719

www.stjosephsrush.org

In an emergency, please call 585-281-3353.

Weekend Liturgy Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 PM at Guardian Angels
Saturday: 5:30 PM at St. Joseph's
Sunday: 8:30 AM at Good Shepherd
Sunday: 9:30 AM at Guardian Angels
Sunday: 10:30 AM at St. Joseph's
Sunday: 11:00 AM at Good Shepherd

Weekday Liturgy Schedule

Monday: 8:00 AM at St. Joseph's, 8:15 AM at Guardian Angels
Tuesday: 6:30 AM at Good Shepherd, 8:15 AM at Guardian Angels
Wednesday: 8:15 AM at Guardian Angels
Thursday: 6:30 AM at Good Shepherd, 8:00 AM at St. Joseph's
Friday: 6:30 AM at Good Shepherd, 8:00 AM at St. Joseph's

All three buildings are handicap accessible and equipped with a hearing loop (see an usher or greeter for assistance).
Child care for crawlers to age 4 available at Guardian Angels in Room 8 for the 9:30 AM Mass.

Masses for the Week

Saturday-Sunday, April 30-May 1 (2nd Sunday of Easter)

Saturday, 4:00 PM at Guardian Angels — Marisa Gugino (Joseph & Susan Berta)
Saturday, 5:30 PM at St. Joseph's — Margaret & Henry Krenzer (Family)
Sunday, 8:30 AM at Good Shepherd — Ann & Fred Meyers (Daughter Jackie Harrington)
Sunday, 9:30 AM at Guardian Angels — Ann Murphy (Children)
Sunday, 10:30 AM at St. Joseph's — George, Louise, & Mary Lou Miller (Family)
Sunday, 11:00 AM at Good Shepherd — John Guarre (Family)

Monday, May 2 (St. Athanasius)

NO 8:00 AM Mass at St. Joseph's
NO 8:15 AM Mass at Guardian Angels

Tuesday, May 3 (Sts. Philip and James)

NO 6:30 AM Mass at Good Shepherd
NO 8:15 AM Mass at Guardian Angels

Wednesday, May 4

NO 8:15 AM Mass at Guardian Angels

Thursday, May 5

6:30 AM Mass at Good Shepherd — Margaret Matochik (Kathi McSweeney & Family)
8:00 AM at St. Joseph's — In Thanksgiving for God's Graces (Irene Carlson)

Friday, May 6

6:30 AM at Good Shepherd — Andreas Langner (Mary Wallace)
8:00 AM at St. Joseph's — People of the Rush Henrietta Catholic Community

Saturday-Sunday, May 7-8 (3rd Sunday of Easter)

Saturday, 4:00 PM at Guardian Angels — Theresa Schafer, Mary Kortchak, Mary Stienhauer (Christine Schafer)
Saturday, 5:30 PM at St. Joseph's — Joseph Woloszyn (Tom & Donna Socha)
Sunday, 8:30 AM at Good Shepherd — Ann Seleski (Family)
Sunday, 9:30 AM at Guardian Angels — Stella Fainelli (Mary Pinto)
Sunday, 10:30 AM at St. Joseph's — Ellen Thornton (Dick & Phyllis Schneider)
Sunday, 11:00 AM at Good Shepherd — Mariyana Ivakovich (Kata Cirkovic)

Readings for the Week of May 1, 2011

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31
Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21
Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

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Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." ~Jn 20:26-27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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This week, the sanctuary candle will shine in Good Shepherd's Chapel in memory of Henry Peris at the request of Stuart & Joyce Harris.

Eucharistic Adoration takes place daily at St. Joseph's from 6:00 a.m. until Midnight (except during Mass) and Thursdays from 2:00-7:00 p.m. at Guardian Angels. For info or to sign up at St. Joseph's as an adorer or substitute, call Sue Waterstraat at 582-1149. For info about Adoration at Guardian Angels, call Tony Mercadel at 334-3596.

Deadline for the May 15 bulletin is Thursday, May 5.
Email bulletin articles to ksteiner@dor.org.



Join us after the Sunday Masses this weekend for our Monthly Coffee Hour, sponsored by the RHCC Perpetual Adoration and Good Shepherd Chicken BBQ groups!

RHYM News

- All young people currently in grades 5-12 are invited to join our summer softball fun-league. Games begin the week of July 3 and run for 6 weeks. Current 5th-8th graders play on Thursday and current 8th-12th graders play on Wednesdays (8th graders can choose to play on either or both teams). Registration packets are available in the common area of each building. **Deadline to sign up for the league is May 22.**
- Calling all 5th graders... Rush Henrietta Youth Ministry (RHYM) wants YOU! On Tuesday, May 10, you are invited to a special Jr. RHYM meeting at Guardian Angels, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a quick information meeting for you and your parent(s). At 7:00, you will be able to enjoy some faith, food, and fun until 8:30, when your parents come to pick you up. If you are able to attend this meeting, please RSVP by having your parent(s) e-mail our youth minister, Gina Jennison, at rhy4jesus@gmail.com or by calling 334-1412.

2nd Annual RHCC Talent Showcase & Pasta Dinner!

Yummmmm . . . Pasta . . . and a show! Don't miss our second annual, RHCC talent showcase and dinner on Friday, May 13, at Guardian Angels. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., dinner served at 6:30. Advance tickets are available after Mass and each parish office. Treat yourself, your family, and a friend or two to a great night of food and entertainment for only SIX BUCKS (ages 2-10 only \$3, and under 2 are free!). A **limited number** of tickets will also be available at the door for an additional \$1 per ticket. **Important note: There is still time to enter your act! Applications for the talent portion of this event are being accepted through May 1!**

Family First

Family First will present *The New Veggie Tales Easter Movie* on Friday, May 20, at 7:00 p.m., Good Shepherd Library. A great family celebration that's sure to be lots of fun! More info to come.

Prayers for the Sick

Beginning this week, and continuing on a monthly basis thereafter, the full list of prayer requests for our sick are on an insert page in the bulletin, along with lists of deaths, baptisms, weddings, and new parishioners. There will be updates to the Prayers of the Sick in our weekly bulletins, inviting you to add or remove names on the list. Consider keeping this page in your prayer book or near where you pray so that you may include all in your prayers.

Women's Connection

Deadline extended!

Are You Craving Food More Than God? Do you want to make healthy lifestyle changes for yourself but would love faith-filled support? Join Women's GRACE Ministry for "Made To Crave," a fun, social and "moving" book study experience for women of all ages & stages of life to enjoy. It is twelve Wednesday evening sessions, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (6:45pm arrival), May 11 through July 27, Good Shepherd Room 113. We will be inspired by bestselling author, Lysa Terkeurst, and her new book "Made To Crave," journeying together as companions with the book through discussion, prayer, journaling, and fun exercise. We will also partner with the "Light The Night Walk" at MCC September 9, collecting donations each time we meet, for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to honor 6-year-old fellow RHCC parishioner, Sara Bischooping, in her fight with leukemia. There will be chances to win this year's Women of Faith Conference tickets at each meeting you attend. Cost is just \$8.00. If you would like to order a book for just \$10.00, or for more info, contact Lori Trovato, gracewongem@yahoo.com or 509-8888. Please sign-up by **Monday, May 2**, for this exciting experience!

"IMAGINE" Women of Faith Conference 2011! Last year, Women's GRACE Ministry brought 58 women from the RHCC to the national Women of Faith Conference at the Blue Cross Arena, and this year on November 4-5, we will bring over 75! Christian music artists Natalie Grant and Mary Mary, and inspirational speakers Lisa Harper, Lucy Swindoll, Sheila Walsh and Henry Cloud will be there too! Escape from the everyday at a Women of Faith weekend to hear personal stories of faith to refresh and encourage your heart. Join with thousands of women in our area and your own faith community of women to uplift your spirit and connection with God and each other. Tickets are \$89 for this awesome 2-day conference, including lunch. Want to register for Women of Faith? Sign Up at any of the three RHCC worship sites THIS WEEKEND. Get information and see an informational DVD at the Crowning of Mary Pot Luck Lunch at 12:15 p.m. at Good Shepherd! Don't miss out! Carve out a Girl's Weekend for yourself to renew your faith! You will not regret it! Contact Lori at 509-8888 for info.

Ministry News

Angel Care Ministry

In the month of May, Angel Care will be collecting disposable diapers (sizes newborn, 1, and 2), baby wipes, and diaper cream. Diapers are one of the items most requested by our clients. Help us fill these requests of needy mothers, who have chosen life for their babies. There will be collection areas in each of the three worship sites.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The next daytime Prayer Shawl gathering will be at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, at Linda Henry's house. Please call Carolyn Gaffney (334-3989) for more information.

Save the date - JULY 23rd for
our 2nd annual Cluster Picnic at
Tinker Park. More information



It is pretty likely that while growing up many of us knew a set of twins. In North America roughly one out of every eighty live births is a set of twins. And we are familiar with the similarities and differences

between identical and fraternal twins. Social scientists and medical researchers love to study twins because they can ferret out key data with fewer variables that need explanation. What is often most intriguing to researchers is the parallelism that may occur in following a set of twins until a certain event or experience sets the individuals off on different paths. Twin studies have proved valuable over the years in areas such as drug dependence, learning disabilities, geriatric medicine, and depression.

We may miss it in the reading of today's Gospel, but Thomas, the protagonist of the story, is a twin. The Greek word "Didymus" and the Aramaic "Thomas" both mean twin. So where is the other half? We are never introduced to Thomas' brother (or sister for that matter) in John's Gospel. Did he (or she) die? Was he (or she) a follower of Jesus? The fact is, we just don't know.

What is clear in the Thomas story is that the appearance of Jesus after his resurrection shows the two faces of believers, categories that are a matched set just like a pair of twins. There are the believers who have seen the risen Lord: Mary of Magdala, Simon Peter and the rest of the Twelve, and of course, Thomas. And then, like Thomas' unknown twin, there are all the rest of the believers who have never seen the risen Lord. We, and every generation of Christians since the apostles, fall into that group. We have not seen, but we still believe. And, according to Jesus, we are just as blessed and just as much a part of the family as those who have seen and touched the One who is risen from the dead.

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This Week in the RHCC

Sunday, May 1 — Hospitality Weened

8:30AM Ensemble-Guardian Angels Church
9:45AM Mustard Seeds-Good Shepherd Teachers Lounge
10:45AM Children's Faith Formation-Guardian Angels
12:15PM Pot Luck Lunch & May Crowning-Good Shepherd
3:00PM Feast of the Divine Mercy-St. Joseph's Church
6:00PM PYRO-Guardian Angels Rm 3
8:30PM Men's Basketball-Good Shepherd Gym

Monday, May 2

6:30PM OL of Guadalupe Novena-Guardian Angels Church
7:00PM CCWM-Good Shepherd Chapel
7:00PM K of C Officers-Good Shepherd Rm 109
7:00PM Small Base-Offsite
7:30PM Scripture Sharing-Guardian Angels
8:30PM AA, Al-Anon, Alateen-Guardian Angels Rm 2, 4, 5

Tuesday, May 3

7:00PM Choir Rehearsal-St. Joseph's Church
7:00PM 1st Communion Rehearsal-Good Shepherd Chapel
7:00PM RHYM Cares-Guardian Angels
7:00PM Prayer Shawl Ministry-Panera Bread
7:30PM Mustard Seeds-Offsite

Wednesday, May 4

9:30AM Mustard Seeds-Good Shepherd Rm 106
6:45PM Women's GRACE Ministry-Guardian Angels Rm 3
7:00PM 8:30 Mass Choir Rehearsal-Good Shepherd Chapel
7:00PM Rediscovering Catholicism-Good Shepherd Library
7:30PM Bingo-Guardian Angels Rm 2, Hall

Thursday, May 5

1:00PM Women of Faith-St. Joseph's West Wing
1:30PM Prayer Shawl Ministry-Linda Henry's House
6:00PM Boy Scouts Den 2-Good Shepherd Rm 106
6:00PM RHYM Leadership Council-St. Joseph's Hall
7:00PM Ensemble-Guardian Angels Church

Friday, May 6 (Parish Offices Closed)

8:45AM Rediscovering Catholicism-St. Joseph's Hall
7:00PM 1st Communion Rehearsal-St. Joseph's Church
8:30PM Men's Basketball-Good Shepherd Gym

Saturday, May 7

9:30AM RHYM Music-Guardian Angels Rm 4
9:30AM Team RHYM-Guardian Angels Rm 3
10:00AM Visitation Core Team-Guardian Angels Rm 3
1:00PM 1st Communion Rehearsal-Guardian Angels Church
2:30PM Reconciliation-Guardian Angels Church
3:30PM Reconciliation-Good Shepherd (thru Fr. Vogt Room)
3:30PM Rosary-Guardian Angels Church
7:00PM K of C Game Night-Good Shepherd Rm 109

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturdays, 2:30-3:30 PM at Guardian Angels; 1st Saturday of the month, 4:00-5:00 PM at St. Joseph's; 2nd through 5th Saturdays of the month, 3:30-4:30 PM at Good Shepherd. Other times may be arranged by appointment by calling your home parish office.

Baptisms: Arrangements should be made in advance. (Preparation class required.)

Weddings: Arrangements should be made 6 months in advance. (Pre-cana required.)

Anointing of the Sick: By request; in an emergency call 585-281-3353.

Rush Henrietta Catholic Community Staff

You can now call any parish office and be transferred to any Staff member or dial their extension.

334-3518 ♦ 334-1412 ♦ 533-1719

In an emergency, please call 585-281-3353.

Barbara Swiecki (x 1103; bswiecki@dor.org)

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Deacon Emeritus Tony Mercadel (334-9546,
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RHCC Evangelization Coordinator

Children's Faith Formation Director (St. Joseph's)

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RHCC Social Ministry/Justice Coordinator

Youth

Gina Jennison (x3106; rhym4jesus@gmail.com)

Rush Henrietta Youth Ministry (RHYM) Coordinator

Counselor at Good Shepherd: Michael J. Sullivan, LCSW-R, CASAC offers therapy to individuals, couples and families in the areas of marriage and family, chronic illness, grief, geriatric, and drug & alcohol counseling. Call 388-9258 for appointment. Confidentiality assured.