

PARISH WEEKLY

St. John's of Madrid and St. Mary's of Waddington, NY

Parish Office Number: 315-388-4466 Parish Email: waddingtonsec@rcdony.org
 Parish Website: mwccatholics.org Pastor: Father Garry B. Giroux ggiroux@rcdony.org
December 21, 2025

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 20, 2025

3:45-4:15pm (SJ) Confessions

4:30pm (SJ) Mass for Wanda & Dave Tyo Sr. by the Family

Sunday, December 21, 2025

8:45-9:15am (SM) Confessions

9:30am (SM) Mass for the People of the Parishes

Monday, December 22, 2025

No Scheduled Mass

5:00-6:00pm (SM) Confessions

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

9:00am (SJ) Mass for Clement & Maggie Pepin by John & Dee Cardoza

10:30-11:30am (SJ) Confessions

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 – Vigil Mass for Christmas

4:00pm (SM) Mass for the People of the Parishes

10:00-11:00am (SM) Confessions

Thursday, December 25, 2025 – Christmas Day

10:00am (SJ) Mass for All Soul's Day Intentions

Friday, December 26, 2025

No Scheduled Mass

Saturday, December 27, 2025

3:45-4:15pm (SJ) Confessions

4:30pm (SJ) Mass for the People of the Parishes

Sunday, December 28, 2025

8:45-9:15am (SM) Confessions

9:30am (SM) Mass for Robert & Kim Owens by Mark & Connie Miller

PARISH SUPPORT

Week of November 30, 2025	St. John's	St. Mary's
Envelopes	(11) \$1,315.00	(30) \$2,421.00
Online Giving	(4) 205.00	(8) 402.00
Plate	67.00	314.00
Fuel	105.00	130.00
TOTAL:	\$1,692.00	\$3,267.00
<i>Weekly Budget</i>	<i>\$1,246.00</i>	<i>\$2,172.00</i>
Cemetery Donations	\$0.00	\$10.00
Religious Retirement Fund	\$313.00	\$905.00

WEEKLY MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

Please reference this schedule for your assigned ministry. Thank you.

	<u>St. Mary's Greeters</u>	<u>St. Mary's Lectors</u>	<u>Parish Counters</u>
December 21	Beth Daley	Colby Backus	Team 4
December 28	Julie McNally	Mark Scott	Team 1
	<u>St. Mary's Altar Servers</u>	<u>Communion Ministers</u>	
December 21	Luke Mayette & Alex Backus	David Valois	
December 28	Elin Zysik & Jamison Zysik	Mary Loomis	

Faith Formation

Youth Faith Formation The next sessions are January 11th and January 25th.

What Else Needs Some Preparation for Christmas?

As we travel around our area, we see homes with beautiful decorations and lights. These decorations speak of something—Someone—special—our Savior, JESUS. Aside from the physical dwelling we call our home, let's not forget each of us has a spiritual dwelling that is for us also a home—our soul. Recall each time we prepare to receive the Lord Jesus in Holy Communion, we say, "Lord, I am not worthy for you to enter under my roof. . ." We use the metaphor of a home to speak of our inner most self as a dwelling to which we invite and receive the Lord Jesus. What kind of preparation, what kind of attention befits our 'home of homes,' our soul, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior?

REPENT! The KINGDOM OF GOD IS NEAR...

To assist with our spiritual preparation for Christmas, additional opportunities for the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation [Confession] have been scheduled over the next two weeks. These opportunities are in addition to the regularly scheduled times for the Sacrament of Confession: Saturdays, 3:45-4:15pm @ St. John's and Sundays, 8:45-9:15am @ St. Mary's. Please take advantage of this healing experience of God's mercy and love in this Sacrament.

Mon	Dec 22	5:00-6:00pm	St. Mary's
Tues	Dec 23	10:30-11:30am	St. John's

Schedule of Masses for the *First Day of Christmas*



Our two parishes will begin our celebration of the Christmas Season with the following Masses. Please invite your family members who may be visiting you to join us.



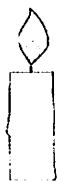
Wednesday, December 24	St. Mary's Waddington	4:00pm
Thursday, December 25	St. John's Madrid	10:00am

Retirement Fund for Religious - It's Not Too Late to Give

Thank you to everyone who contributed to last weekend's Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Your generosity helps provide care and dignity for sisters, brothers, and priests who have spent their lives serving the Church. If you were unable to give, it's not too late! Donations are still being accepted and will make a meaningful difference for those who face rising healthcare costs and limited retirement resources. Please prayerfully consider making a gift today. Together, we can say, "Your sacrifices matter. We care."

Christmas Collection

The Diocese of Ogdensburg's Retirement Plan for Priests has long been supported by a percentage of contributions from the annual parish Christmas collection. This year, 75% of the Christmas collection will be allocated to support the Plan, with the parish keeping the balance. Currently, 37 retired priests, and 11 active priests aged 70 and older, are expected to receive pension benefits of approximately \$985,000 in the 2025-26 fiscal year. In addition, 100% of the cost of health insurance premiums for retired priests, estimated at \$320,000 this fiscal year, will be paid by the Plan. Your generous contribution not only supports current retirees but will also help provide for the retirement needs of priests who will retire in the future. Say thank you to your pastor and all priests of the diocese through a generous contribution to our Christmas Collection.



The Sanctuary Candle at St. Mary's burns in loving memory of the deceased members of the Valois, Duffy, and Leonard Families.

The Marion Candle at St. John's burns for the Intentions of all St. John's Parishioners.



Christmas 2025

*"While they were there, the time came for her to have her child,
And she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped
Him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger,
Because **there was no room for them in the inn.**" (Luke 2:6-7)*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

At our Christmas Vigil Mass, we will hear St. Luke tell us that God was born in a manger because there was no room for Him in the inn. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior this year, the conditions of today's world beg us to reflect on the question: **Is there room for God in my heart? Is there room in my heart for the scared migrant, the unborn child, the terrified Ukrainian?**

Today, it seems that the list is endless: those suffering from mental illness, the elderly, the addicted, the lonely, the imprisoned, indigenous peoples, the abused, the terror-stricken refugee. So many women, men and children are hurting. They are members of our families.

We enter this Advent Season, preparing for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, grateful for blessings received, but also keenly aware of our Christian duty to be the hands and tender heart of Christ to those who currently warrant scarce attention from us. Pope Leo XIV, in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi Te*, reminds us that "contact with those who are lowly and powerless is a fundamental way of encountering the Lord of history. This Christmas, let us resolve, inspired by our own time spent with Jesus, to see His Face in our sisters and brothers who we too often neglect. We yearn to make room in our hearts for the hurting. Their human dignity demands it. Our Christian dignity impels us.

We pray that the beautiful acts of generosity that characterize the Christmas Season will be transformed from seasonal gestures of charity to lifelong acts of justice and mercy. Such personal transformation will give tangible evidence that we are *Christ-led, Christ-fed, and Hope-filled*. We can do great things in Christ Jesus, the Savior whose birth we celebrate with such joy and gratitude. Our God's unconditional love and boundless mercy became flesh and bones in the Person of Jesus Christ so that we might extend God's compassion and love.

May the Christ Child bring you and your loved ones the Gift of Love, the Blessing of Hope and the Promise of Peace. A blessed Christmas and joy-filled New Year!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg