



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



## **St. Francis Solanus**

*3660 Orchard St.*

*Interlaken, NY*

### **Weekend Mass:**

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

### **Weekday Mass:**

Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.



## **St. James the Apostle**

*17 Whig St.*

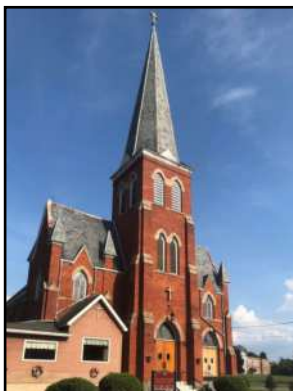
*Trumansburg, NY*

### **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 marriage, please  
phone the Parish Center.

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

**DECEMBER 21, 2025**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins." - Mt 1:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

GLP

### **Parish Center :**

St. Francis Solanus  
P.O. Box 403  
Interlaken, NY 14847

### **Office Hours:**

M, T, W: 2:00–5:00 p.m.

**Phone:** 607-294-0064

**E mail:** [immmercy@dor.org](mailto:immmercy@dor.org)

**Website:** [marymotherofmercy.com](http://marymotherofmercy.com)

**@m:** [@marymotherofmercyparish](https://www.instagram.com/marymotherofmercyparish)

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

**Administrative Assistant:** Susan Guydosh  
[Susan.Guydosh@dor.org](mailto:Susan.Guydosh@dor.org)

**Business Manager:** Eileen Heptig  
[Eileen.Heptig@dor.org](mailto:Eileen.Heptig@dor.org)

**Cemetery Manager:** Pamela Jones  
[pamela.jones@dor.org](mailto:pamela.jones@dor.org) or 315-283-8042

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

**December 21, 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*2025 Roman Catholic Church Jubilee/Holy Year*  
*December 29, 2024 – December 28, 2025*  
*Theme: "Pilgrims of Hope"*

**Funeral:**

A funeral service was held on December 5, 2025 at Ness-Sibley Funeral Home for Nicholas Lee Knebel, who died on November 26, 2025 at the age of 23.

**Food Pantry—Ways to Donate:**

Our parish supports food pantries located in Interlaken, Lodi, Ovid and Trumansburg. With the federal SNAP payments delayed, our parish will focus on seeking support for the food pantries through December. All of your donations will stay local to help our friends and neighbors in our community. Thank you for your support.

- Envelopes are available in the foyers of the churches if you wish to make a monetary donation to our local food pantries. The envelopes may be placed in the collection baskets.
- You may donate online through our website at [marymotherofmercy.com/giving](http://marymotherofmercy.com/giving).
- Food items may be brought to St. Francis and Holy Cross at any time and to St. James on the second Sunday of the month.



**Mitten Tree:**

An Advent tradition at St. James the Apostle is the Mitten Tree. Children's and adults' mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, and socks may be hung on the tree at the front of the church. Items will be brought to Catholic Charities.

**Advent Birthright Donations:**

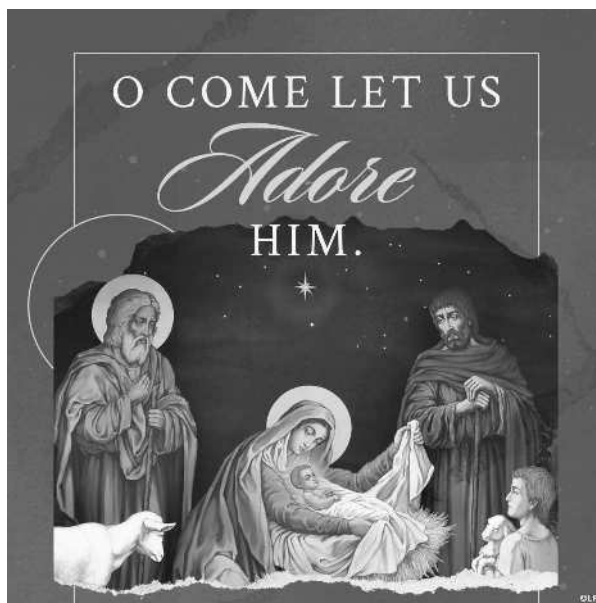
This Advent, our parish is collecting donations for Birthright in Ithaca.

This year, Birthright is requesting: Receiving blankets (boys and girls), Sweaters (sizes Newborn to 6 months), socks (newborn to size 5T), outfits (girls 18 months to 5T), outfits (boys sizes 3T-5T), board books, formula (Enfamil and Gentlease), and Size 5 diapers. Desitin, baby wash and lotion are also a help

Please place your donations near the side altar at St. James or in the foyers of St. Francis Solanus and Holy Cross. Thank you for your support!

**Christmas Project:**

Our parish filled fifty (50) angel tags. Thank you so very much for your very generous donations of gifts and gift cards, your time and talents with taking applications and the distributions of coats and the gifts this year.



**Christmas Mass Schedule:**

Wednesday, December 24

◦ 4:00 p.m., St. James the Apostle, Trumansburg

◦ 8:00 p.m., Holy Cross, Ovid

Thursday, December 25

◦ 9:00 a.m., St. Francis Solanus, Interlaken

**Children's Christmas Pageant at St. James:**

We would like to invite all children to join us in celebrating the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve mass at St. James in Trumansburg. Children will dress up with Nativity costumes and join in the procession. Meet at 3:30 in the St. James Pine Room. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Christy Reynolds [creynolds424@gmail.com](mailto:creynolds424@gmail.com).

**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.

**January 1, 2026 :**

New Year's Day is the Octave Day (Eighth Day) of Christmas. It is also the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. In celebration of this Holy Day of Obligation, there will be three Masses:

Wednesday, December 31:

◦ 4:00 p.m., St. Francis Solanus, Interlaken

Thursday, January 1:

◦ 9:00 a.m., St. James the Apostle, Trumansburg

◦ 10:30 a.m., Holy Cross, Ovid.

### Parish Educational Opportunity:

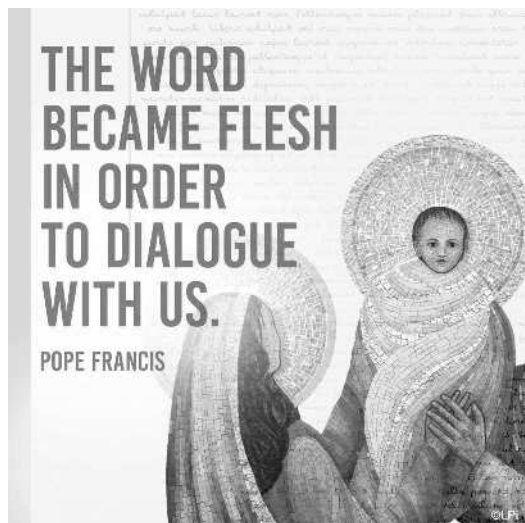
Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 9:30 a.m. at St. Francis Solanus Church, St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry On The Road, will be sending from Rochester to our parish Dr. Matthew Kuhner who will give a presentation on *Evangelization and Catechesis: Proclaiming the Truth of the Gospel with Joy, Humility, and Love*. Dr. Kuhner loves teaching, and he has a special way of presenting Catholic thought and history in a profound, yet down-to-earth style. This event is coordinating with the Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Mass and the 9:00 a.m. coffee and pastries social. Plan to attend and bring a friend. Thanks to the Parish Council Word Committee for planning this event.

### Saturday Classes:

All those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, including those hoping to celebrate of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, are invited to classes with Fr. Bernard following the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturdays at St. Francis Solanus. (The exception is the second Sunday of the month.) This is an excellent opportunity to discuss a variety of topics related to Catholicism and Jesus Christ.

### 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.



### Sunday—December 28th:

The feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is celebrated on the first Sunday after Christmas. It is a family day celebration and a good time to gather families to celebrate the family's union with Jesus in the Eucharist (Holy Communion).

### 2026 Calendars and Boxed Offering Envelopes:

Parish Calendars for next year (2026) have been placed in the foyers of the churches. Parishioners are welcome to take one for their home.

2026 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 parish office.

### The Word Among Us Booklets—Advent:

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



### 2025-2026 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)

On December 9, 2025, it was reported that seventy-nine parish households have pledged \$30,285 to the CMA. This represents 94.64% of our given parish goal. The parish goal is \$32,000. 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. (This year there is a Diocesan effort to increase the number of donors over CMA 24-25. The parish with the greatest percentage increase in number of donors will be awarded \$5,000. For every parish that increased the number of donors by 10%+ over CMA 24-25 will be awarded \$1,000.)

### Children and Family Faith Formation:

Families with children in grades K-6 are invited to join our parish Family Faith Formation program. The program includes preparation for First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation. Please register to participate by contacting [immmercy.religioused@dor.org](mailto:immmercy.religioused@dor.org).

### 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).



## December 21, 2025

### First Reading:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel. (Isa. 7:14)

### Psalm:

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory. (Ps. 24)

### Second Reading:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom. 1:7)

### Gospel:

“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” (Mt 1:20-21)

### Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

*December 21-27, 2025*

Holy Cross

Glenn and Mary Rose Corcoran  
from the Corcoran family

### MASS INTENTIONS

*December 20–28, 2025*

#### Saturday, December 20

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

#### Sunday, December 21

9:00 a.m., St. James the Apostle  
Intentions of Sr. Anne Alderman, SSJ  
*from Linda Marmora*

#### Wednesday, December 24

4:00 p.m., St. James the Apostle  
Ray White  
*from Linda Freese*

8:00 p.m., Holy Cross  
Kaili M Collins and Tom Margeit  
*from Eileen Collins*

#### Thursday, December 25

9:00 a.m., St. Francis Solanus  
Special intention

#### Saturday, December 27

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

#### Sunday, December 28

9:00 a.m., St. James the Apostle  
Intentions of Annette Hade  
*from Judith Wilson*

10:30 a.m., Holy Cross  
Patricia Guinan  
*from the Corcoran family*

### Parish Schedule Week of December 21, 2025

#### Sunday, December 21:

*Cemetery Collection*

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

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

#### Monday, December 22:

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

#### Tuesday, December 23:

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

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

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

#### Wednesday, December 24: *Christmas Eve*

4:00 p.m. St. James the Apostle

8:00 p.m., Holy Cross

#### Thursday, December 25: *Christmas day*

9:00 a.m., St. Francis Solanus

#### Friday, December 26:

*No Rosary 8:10 a.m.*

*No Mass 8:30 a.m.*

*No Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.*

#### Saturday, December 27:

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

Adult Faith Formation: 5:00 p.m., St. Francis

#### Food Pantries:

• Ovid Federated Church: Mon. 10:00 a.m. & Thurs. 5:00 p.m.

• Food Truck: Jan. 6, 4:00 p.m. until gone., South Seneca High School

• Interlaken Reformed Church: Fridays., 3:00-6:00 pm

• Tburg Food Pantry: Dec. 29, 3:30–6:00 p.m., Methodist Church

• Lodi's Food 4 All: Saturdays, 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., 8466 Main St., Lodi

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

4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT







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