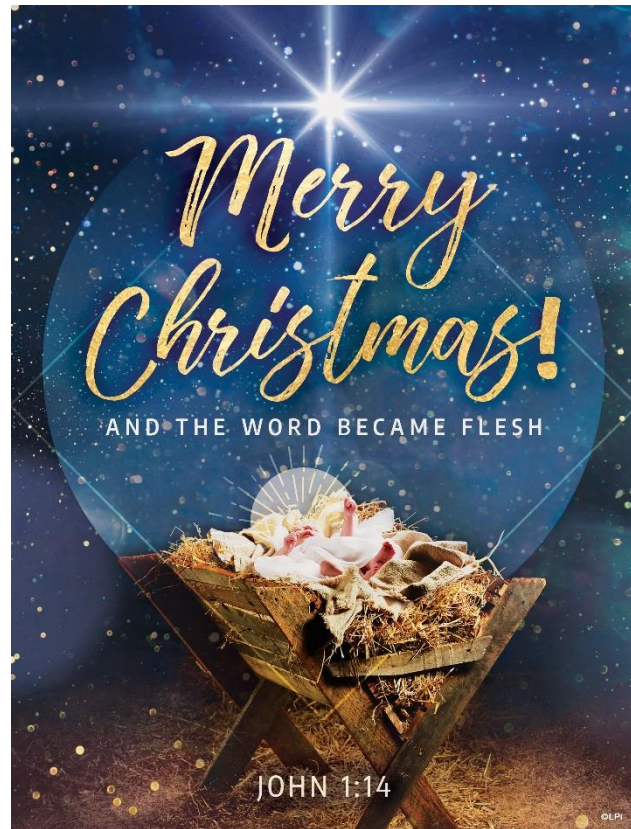


## Christmas December 24 & 31, 2023



**Holy Mary Mother of God**  
**January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**10 am Mass**

**St. Isaac Jogues, Chestertown**

Not a Holy Day of Obligation, this year.  
No other Mass Times

No Daily Masses for the Week of Christmas  
January 2<sup>nd</sup> Rosary at Blessed Sacrament 9 am  
Daily Mass, January 3<sup>rd</sup> @ St. Isaac Jogues 9:30 am  
Daily Mass, January 4<sup>th</sup> @ Blessed Sacrament 9:30 am

**Please Save your Christmas Cards**

We can use them for next year's Giving Tree.

**When School is delayed  
or cancelled, weekday morning,  
Mass is CANCELLED!**  
As well as the Rosary & Holy Hour.  
Please check even if there is a little bit of snow.

## Blessed Sacrament

**Intentions:** Please call Rita Whitney at 518-338-6858.

12/24 & 12/25 Christmas Flower Intentions  
12/31 10:30 am Mass of Thanksgiving

*Req. Anne Helmstetter*

12/31 10:30 am Thomas Muscatello *Req. by Family*  
1/7 10:30 Theresa O'Kane *Req. Denise & Steve Arata*

**Prayer Intentions:** Please call Pat Nugent 518-668-2765

**Offertory:** 12/10 \$802 12/17 \$1,245

**St. Anne's Society:** (Patron Saint of Grandmothers):

Please let us know if your young adult or someone you know would like to receive a care package from this Ministry. Anne Marie Bell-518-644-3051

**Envelopes:** Unfortunately, they will not be shipped till January 12<sup>th</sup>. Please use the generic envelopes

## St. James

**Intentions & Mass Cards:**

Please call Kathy DeBartolo at 518-494-7873

**Offertory:** 12/9 \$271 12/16 TBD

**Town Wide Meeting:** Date to be determined.

**Shelf Stable Food Donations:** We will continue to collect for our food insecure friends and neighbors for *Adirondack Community Outreach*. A check/cash donation box is also available. Thank you again for your generosity.

**Adirondack Community Outreach:** The outreach to the Johnsburg area children was simply incredible. You provide the joy & hope of Christmas to all the children we were able to provide for.

## North Country Ministry

**NCM** is seeking donations of apparel for kids and babies! There is an abundance of clothing for woman. If you would like to donate clothes to NCM, please drop them off Monday & Tuesday from 9 a.m. – Noon.

**NCM Food Pantry:** We are collecting for the Food Pantry for Blessed Sacrament & St. Isaac Jogues. There is a bin at the back of church in which you can place your items for donation.

**Christmas Giving Tree:** Kudos on a job well done. Simply amazing what all 3 churches did for children who would not have had Christmas otherwise.

## St. Isaac Jogues

**Intentions & Mass Cards:** Please call Kathy DeBartolo at 518-494-7873

12/23 4 pm Theresa O'Kane & Gene Rounds, Sr.  
*Req. Barb & Bill Carlozzi & Family*

12/25 9 am Joseph DeMato, Joseph &

Thomas Turcotte *Req. Turcotte Family*

12/30 4 pm Phyllis Thomas *Req. Michele & Bill Ryan*

1/6 4 pm Theresa O'Kane *Req. Kathy DeBartolo*

**Offertory:** 12/10 \$2,556 12/17 \$2,046

**Music Ministry:** Congratulations & thank you to Steve Leaden & Bill Ommerborn for taking over for Gerry Marmillo's position.



Because its flaming red leaves resemble the star of Bethlehem, with the red leaves of the

poinsettia symbolizing the blood of Christ, the poinsettia has become the most popular Christmas plant.

It originally grew in Central America and was introduced into the United States by Dr. Joel Roberts Poinsett who was Ambassador to Mexico. In 1829, he brought it back with him when he returned home to South Carolina. There is a Mexican legend which explains the origin of the "flower of the Holy Night."

One Christmas Eve a poor, young Mexican boy had no gift for the Holy Child. He didn't know what to do and his steps were heavy as he slowly made his way to church.

When he reached the church, he knelt on the ground outside and prayed to God: "I am very poor but I love you. I wish I had a gift to give to your Son on his birthday."

As he finished praying, he stood up and there at his feet he was surprised to see a green plant with dazzling red leaves. He gently broke the flower from the plant, carried it inside and laid it before the Christ Child.

The poinsettia blooms every year at Christmas time and has become symbolic of the holi-day spirit.



## Diocesan Assessment Appeal

The Diocesan Appeal has begun! Why should you tribute?

Support of the parish and the greater Church is the responsibility of ALL of us, not just a few.

- Support of the Diocesan Appeal is not for the benefit of the Diocese as an entity itself – rather it is a key mission and logistics partner/resource for our parish allowing us to focus on ministry.
- It's the expectation that the church is here to serve you and your family in your everyday and milestone moments. Unfortunately, there are costs associated with that, but if we ALL share the costs, the individual burden is less AND we are more likely to be able to fund the church beyond its needs and toward our wants.
- It is gratifying to know that support of the Diocesan Appeal impacts ALL 126 parishes in the Diocese – that is powerful!

The active practice of religion is in jeopardy and the impact on society is evident. It is not enough to quietly attend Mass and privately practice. If not us, who? We need to be Jesus' witnesses, showing people the joy that Jesus brings to us in our life and bringing others to follow him in this beautiful way of life. Let us join together and rebuild our local and regional Catholic Church – support our parish offertory and Diocesan Appeal goal!

To make your gift:

- Please reply to the Appeal mailing you received at home;
- Make your gift online at [www.thediocesanappeal.org](http://www.thediocesanappeal.org);
- Or mail a check payable to "Diocesan Appeal" to 40 N. Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203.

TIP: Have you decided you are going to make a gift but you're not ready to make the payment now?

Consider a pledge! You can spread out your payments through June 30, 2024, or delay payments until 2024 (payable by 6/30/2024 **and** you avoid multiple solicitations! You allow us to then focus on those who have not yet made a commitment to supporting our Diocesan Appeal Goal!

St. James' Assessment is \$5,000

St. Isaac Jogues' Assessment is \$18,357

Bl. Sacraments' Assessment is \$31,043