

 <p>St. Cyril of Alexandria 28 Walton St. Alexandria Bay, NY</p> <hr/> <p>Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>The Catholic Community of Alexandria 17 Rock St. Alexandria Bay, NY 13607 315-482-2670</p> <p>pastor@stcyrils.org www.stcyrils.org</p> <p>Rev. Douglas G. Comstock, Pastor Bernard Slate, Deacon Joel Walentuk, Deacon</p>	 <p>St. Francis Xavier 43596 State Route 37 Redwood, NY</p> <hr/> <p>Sunday 8:30 a.m.</p>
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Liturgy Schedule for Week of December 31, 2017

Saturday, Dec. 30, 2017 5:00 p.m.	Feast of the Holy Family Keith Irwin by Tony & Kathy Folino
Sunday, Dec. 31, 2017 8:30 a.m. (SFX) 10:00 a.m.	Mr. and Mrs. John George by the Estate of Emma George Anna Marie Damrath by Mike & Barb Bresnahan
Monday, Jan. 1, 2018 10:00 a.m.	New Year's Day Mary, the Mother of God Our Parish Family
Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018 8:00 a.m.	Veronica LaFontaine by Deacon Bernie Slate
Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018 8:00 a.m.	The Intentions of Greyson C. Topa by Grandpa & Grandma Ringer
Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018 8:00 a.m.	Mike Bresnahan, Sr. by Joe Wilczynski & Carol Dwyer
Friday, Jan. 5, 2018 8:00 a.m.	Frank Vargo by his father, Frank Vargo, Sr.
Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018 5:00 p.m.	The Epiphany of the Lord Wendy Nelson by the Rose Family
Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018 8:30 a.m. (SFX) 10:00 a.m.	Jayne and Maurice Simpson by the Estate of Marie Clickner Cecilia Tidd by Linda Reynolds & Family

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:45 – 4:30 p.m. at St. Cyril of Alexandria Church
Sunday 8:00—8:15 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church

Our Stewardship

December 23 – 24 - 25, 2017

Envelopes	\$1,705.00	Diocesan Priests' Retirement	\$3,321.75
Plate	\$215.00	Christmas Flowers	\$50.00
Youth		Religious Retirement	\$80.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,011.05	Fuel Collection	\$140.00
Total	\$2,931.05	Total Fuel Contrib.to Date	\$13,691.00
Last Year	\$1,614.00	Total Fuel Goal in '17-'18	\$20,367.00

Calendars and Envelopes for the New Year

Calendars and Envelope Sets for the New Year may be picked up in the Our Lady's Chapel at St. Cyril's Church and in St. Francis Xavier Church.

Sincere thanks

To everyone who helped make our Christmas celebrations so wonderful: those who prepared and decorated our churches, the choir, directed by Becky Rose, and the children who sang, the Soloist for *Ave Maria*, Maria Inserra, the altar servers, lectors, and Ministers of Holy Communion and our dedicated Deacons. Many, many thanks!

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family, which occurs the first Sunday after Christmas (or on Dec. 30 if Christmas is on a Sunday). The feast is meant to recognize the union of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as a family unit.

“Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child Jesus. All we know are the facts of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-year-old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. In her liturgy the Church hurries over this period of Christ's life with equal brevity. The general breakdown of the family, however, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth. The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar of all Christian families.” (Excerpted from *With Christ Through the Year*, Rev Bernard Strasser, O.S.B.).

The Holy Family, just as every family, had problems that they had to face and overcome. Like us, the Holy Family had to “carry crosses,” such as the anxiety of having a “lost” child ([Luke 2:41-52](#)). Love for each other and God kept this family together.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, in an address on Dec. 28, 2011, talked about the life of the Holy Family. He said, in part: “The Holy Family is an icon of the domestic Church, which is called to pray together. The family is the first school of prayer where, from their infancy, children learn to perceive God thanks to the teaching and example of their parents. An authentically Christian education cannot neglect the experience of prayer.”

Just as the Holy Family survived all its crises through love for each other and faith in God, let us pray that our families will follow this example.

Judy Pearson

Pope Francis' General Audience on December 27th:

Dear Brothers and Sisters: In this holy season of Christmas, we celebrate the birthday of Jesus, who is God's gift to us, our savior and the Light of the world. Without Jesus there is no Christmas! Our traditional celebrations express our joy that God's light shines in a world darkened by sin and injustice. Like the shepherds of Bethlehem, we too are called to seek and find Jesus, who comes to us in hiddenness and poverty. Sadly, despite the coming of the light many prefer to live in darkness. Yet those who receive the gift of Jesus come to know God's saving grace and the promise of a new life, based no longer on selfishness but on self-giving love. Our tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is ultimately a sign of our gratitude for the gift of Jesus and our desire to share him with others. Christmas reminds us that God's plan intersects with our history, and opens the way to a better future, a new world. This Christmas, may Jesus be born anew in each of us, so that by our lives, he may be a sign of salvation for all, especially the poor and those of our brothers and sisters who are most in need.

Scripture Study

The next Scripture Study Program continues in St. Mary's Parish Center this Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:00 p.m.