

THE AUBURN-N. CAYUGA CATHOLIC PARISHES

Holy Family • Our Lady of the Snow • Sacred Heart and Saint Ann
Saint Alphonsus • Saints Mary and Martha • Saint Mary's

Creating a New Weekend Mass Schedule

The weekend Mass schedule will change at the point when any of our priests move to senior priest status or different appointments—perhaps as early as July 2018. Please read through the information below and plan to attend one of the upcoming parishioner meetings: **Mon., Apr. 9, 1:30-3:30 pm at St. Alphonsus or 7:00-9:00 pm at St. Joseph, Weedsport; Wed., Apr. 25, 1:00-3:00 pm at Sacred Heart or 6:00-8:00 pm at St. Mary's.**

Who makes the decision and when?

After input from parishioners, the pastors and the rest of the planning team will make this decision at their May 1st meeting.

How will they decide?

The decision will be based upon analysis of data and prayerful discernment of what schedule best serves the needs of all Auburn-N. Cayuga area Catholics. The following principles will guide decision making:

- Enhance the participation of the faithful.
- Minimize the disruption to parishioners in their current Mass attendance patterns as much as possible given the challenge of fewer Masses.
- Pay attention to liturgical ministries, especially the existence of strong choirs or music groups. Where possible, choose vibrant music over weaker options.
- Allow the largest number of parishioners to attend Mass at more convenient, popular Mass times.
- Allow sufficient time for the priest to travel between sites for Masses, including in winter weather.
- Allow sufficient time for the priest to prepare for Mass and to interact with parishioners afterward.
- The Mass schedule may affect the times for Sunday morning faith formation sessions, but families will be able to participate in both Mass and religious education.
- Pay attention to the potential impact on the Offertory. Anticipate that Mass attendance may decline – at least initially. Consider how that will affect the Offertory.

What options are being considered?

The planning team has agreed to present the following options to parishioners for feedback. The final Mass schedule will depend on the input received. You will notice that none of these options anticipates having a weekend Mass at St. John in Port Byron. **The new schedule will include a Sunday 5:00 pm regional Mass.**

CLUSTER 1: Our Lady of the Snow, St. Mary's, Ss. Mary and Martha

Option A

- Saturday: 4:00 pm at St. Francis or St. Hyacinth, 4:30 pm at St. Patrick in Cato, 5:30 pm at St. Mary's
- Sunday: 7:00 am at St. Mary's, 9:00 am at St. Francis or St. Hyacinth, 10:00 am at St. Mary's, 10:30 am at St. Joseph in Weedsport, 12 noon at St. Mary's

Option B

- Saturday: 4:00 pm at St. Francis or St. Hyacinth, 4:00 pm at St. Patrick in Cato, 5:30 pm at St. Mary's
- Sunday: 7:00 am at St. Mary's, 8:30 am at St. Francis or St. Hyacinth, 9:30 am at St. Joseph in Weedsport, 10:00 am at St. Mary's, 12 noon at St. Mary's

CLUSTER 2: Holy Family, Sacred Heart/St. Ann, St. Alphonsus

Option A

- Saturday: 4:00 pm at St. Alphonsus, 4:30 pm at Sacred Heart, 6:00 pm at Holy Family
- Sunday: 7:30 am at Sacred Heart, 8:30 am at St. Ann, 9:00 am at Holy Family, 10:15 am at St. Alphonsus, 11:00 am at Sacred Heart

Option B

- Saturday: 4:00 pm at St. Alphonsus, 4:30 pm at Sacred Heart, 6:00 pm at Holy Family
- Sunday: 7:30 am at Sacred Heart, 9:00 am at Holy Family, 9:00 am at St. Ann (Memorial Day to Columbus Day only), 10:30 am at St. Alphonsus, 11:00 am at Sacred Heart

Option C

- Saturday: 4:00 pm at St. Alphonsus, 4:30 pm at Sacred Heart, 6:00 pm at Holy Family
- Sunday: 7:30 am at Sacred Heart, 9:00 am at Holy Family, 9:00 am at St. Ann, 10:30 am at St. Alphonsus, 11:00 am at Sacred Heart

The input the planning team is seeking includes responses to the following questions:

1. What additional advantages and/or disadvantages do you see regarding each of the Mass schedule options presented by the planning team?
2. What has the planning team missed or overlooked in their work to create a healthy weekend Mass schedule which serves the needs of all as best as is possible?
3. Do you have specific ideas for ways to improve any of these Mass schedule options?

Current Weekend Mass Schedule and October Attendance 2015-2017

Parish/Church	Day	Time	2015	2016	2017	Capacity	% Occupied
Holy Family	Sat	4:30 PM	130	137	117	390	30%
Holy Family	Sun	9:00 AM	166	158	142	390	36%
Holy Family	Sun	11:00/11:15 AM	96	114	109	390	28%
Sacred Heart	Sat	4:30 PM	183	188	180	304	59%
Sacred Heart	Sun	7:30 AM	114	131	136	304	45%
Sacred Heart	Sun	10:30 AM	185	171	161	304	53%
St. Ann	Sun	9:00 AM	92	100	109	189	58%
St. Alphonsus	Sat	4:00 PM	256	212	210	528	40%
St. Alphonsus	Sun	10:00 AM	228	192	187	528	35%
St. Alphonsus	Sun	5:00 PM	180	177	127	528	24%
St. Mary	Sat	5:30 PM	184	228	226	484	47%
St. Mary	Sun	7:00 AM	241	254	262	484	54%
St. Mary	Sun	9:45 AM	320	248	235	484	49%
St. Mary	Sun	12:00 PM	205	218	181	484	37%
OLOS St. John	Sat	5:00 PM	56	71	46	156	30%
OLOS St. Pat	Sun	8:30 AM	62	74	60	196	30%
OLOS St. Jos	Sun	10:30 AM	85	92	82	267	31%
SM&M St. Hy	Sat	4:00 PM	200	181	181	610	30%
SM&M St. Hy	Sun	8:00 AM	56	70	76	610	12%
SM&M St. F	Sun	10:00 AM	192	119	99	485	20%

Thank you for your participation in this important work. Please attend a parishioner meeting, pray for our parishes, and ask for God’s guidance as we work together to choose a weekend Mass schedule that will be most beneficial to all our parishioners.

The Auburn-N. Cayuga Planning Team