

## What happened to the Morning of Service?



As summer has turned to fall, several parishioners have inquired about the Morning of Service: Are we going to have it? When will it be? Will I be able to participate in the same project i did in the past?

The Morning of Service which began in 2016 and survived the pandemic with at-home and outdoor projects, will be re-invented on May 3, 2025 as a Tri-parish Ministry Service Day with new activities as well as some of the old favorites. A committee comprised of members of the three churches has been meeting at St. Joseph's after the 6 pm Mass to brainstorm, including activities that the three churches have already done and new projects that could benefit the community.

The decision was made to once again include both on-site and off-site activities. The on-site, which will include, blanket, hat and scarf making and thinking of you cards, will be divided among the three churches. There will be a

food prep activity at each church with the food going to the City Mission, Street Soldiers, and Habitat for Humanity. One exciting new charity is Sleep in Heavenly Peace. This charity builds beds for children who do not have beds. The beds will be put together on May 3 by about 40 volunteers. Each bed will be delivered with a mattress, pillow, sheets, and quilts. We will be collecting these items after the Holidays when they are likely to be on sale.

One off-site activity is the Regional Food Bank where 15 parishioners can volunteer. Parkside Y, miSci and town parks are among the other off-site offerings.

In the weeks to come, the committee will be introducing parishioners to the organizations we will be helping. If you have any ideas or would like to join in the planning for this exciting venture, contact Jeanne Behr ( 518-495-5644) or Marge Rizzo (518-248-0979).

## New Live Streaming System in Operation



Bob Vielkind at the control board

The new live streaming system at Immaculate Conception is giving viewers a far more sweeping look of the Mass. From the beginning, one stationary camera was mounted in the center aisle of the main section of the church. The new system includes 2 fixed cameras which can capture different angles as they spin, tilt, and zoom.

The practice of making the Mass available to people who were not in church began in the pandemic. It has proven to be popular. Significantly, the reader at the beginning of the Mass pinpoints our location and says, "Welcome to the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Glenville, New York." Worshipers in about sixty places typically watch Mass live on Sunday; people in ten to twenty locations watch the Saturday night Mass. Some are watching from home, others from vacation spots, and still others have moved from this area and choose to reconnect with Immaculate Conception through the Mass. In addition to these live viewers, there are between four hundred and five hundred views per week of the archived masses on Facebook and YouTube.

One person operates the control board located in the servers' sacristy. In this capacity he or she is similar to a TV director. While there are preset locations which can be selected, the operator can choose to pan the congregation or zoom into the priest, deacon or a reader. Consequently, it is important that the operator know sequence of the Mass in order to predict the next best angle. When there is no one to operate the system, music director Kyle English can operate the cameras from his iPad.

Currently, five people serve in the Live-Stream Ministry, and more are needed. The main requirement is knowledge of the Mass. Beyond that, training mainly consists of meeting and observing an operator on duty.

Given the success of this live streaming at IC, Kyle is looking forward to having similar systems in Saint Joseph's and Our Lady of Grace. For more information on the Live-Stream Ministry, email [musicdirector@icglenville.com](mailto:musicdirector@icglenville.com).

## Why All NYS Bishops Say, “Vote NO on Proposal 1!” – Respect Life Ministry Update by Larry Smith

Respect for life from conception to natural death is a tenet of our Catholic faith. Your parish Respect Life Ministry strives to help parishioners educate themselves on respect life issues.

The following is a September 5, 2024 statement from the Bishops of all New York State Dioceses calling Proposal 1 a “Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing.”

“On November 5, faithful citizens throughout the nation will have the opportunity once again to exercise their sacred right to vote. Pope Francis has reminded us that as thoughtful Catholics, we must participate in the public square for the sake of the common good. Every Catholic is called to do the work of properly informing his or her conscience and voting for candidates and policies that will best advance the natural law, the protection of human rights, the dignity of the human person, the sacredness of all life, and the teachings of Christ and His Church. It is a presidential election year, and there are important votes to be cast for Congress and the state Legislature as well. Importantly, in New York, like several other states, there is also a critical referendum on the ballot.

“Educating oneself will be especially important in the case of Proposal 1, sometimes referred to as the “Equal Rights Amendment.” The title suggests a noble cause, as all children of God should be treated equally under the law. However, this proposed amendment to the state Constitution is broadly written and could have dangerous consequences if enacted, which is why we oppose it and urge you to vote no. The measure would, effectively, permanently legalize abortion without restriction and up until the moment of birth in New York. Aside from being redundant in a state that already has stripped away all abortion limitations, the amendment would render impossible any change to the law if the hearts and minds of New Yorkers were ever to shift toward protecting the child in the womb.

“The amendment’s sweeping language and inclusion of “age” as a protected class could also lead to parents’ rights being stripped away. Courts could decide that parents have no authority over their minor children on important matters and permit children to make destructive and permanent decisions on their own which they could well live to regret, including but not limited to so-called “gender affirming” treatments and surgeries. The relationship between parents and their children is sacred. Parents must be able to support and guide their children in accord with the natural law, without interference from the government or courts, which would be reaching beyond their competency.

“Proposal 1 is a wolf in sheep’s clothing that could lead to darkness for many New York families. This amendment disregards the lives of unborn and struggling children in the name of political agendas. It could have dangerous consequences for these children and their parents. As they look to make their voices heard in the public square, faithful Catholics should consider these consequences and vote no. Likewise, they should thoughtfully vote their informed conscience up and down the ballot so that we might usher in change for good.”

For more information about Proposal 1, please visit <https://www.protectkidsny.com/>.

To read the Catholic Bishops of the United States document *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, please visit <https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship-title>.

## *Times of Joy—Sacramental Milestones*



*Congratulations and welcome to these children who received the Sacrament of Baptism from July 11, 2024 to October 3, 2024. We pray for the grace these families need to grow in their faith.*

Annamarie Louise Hicks, child of Ross & Christina

Michael Paul Giufre, child of Mark & Jennifer

Anna Rose Woodman, child of Adam & Amanda

Emma Kelly Norris, child of Timothy & Megan

Jeremiah Joseph Paniagua, child of Jeremias & Kelly

Elena Michaela Fischetti, child of Daniel & Kelsey

Alyssa Anna Piazza, child of Nicholas & Michaela

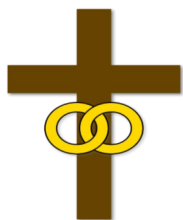
Owen Thomas Jackson, child of Joseph & Amelia

Olivia Rose Barone, child of Dominick & Jacqueline

Dominic Joseph Malone, child of Joseph & Alyssa

Maren Laine Davey, child of Christopher & Jennifer

Elena Rose Behrens, child of Kenneth & Courtney



There were no marriages performed between July 11, 2024 and October 3, 2024.

## St. Vincent de Paul Holiday Update

By Joan Bunn

**Thanksgiving and Christmas-** we will be giving food baskets to families of need. We will also be distributing Christmas gifts to the children. Our green cards will be hanging from the Bethlehem Trees.



**Food-** We would like to thank all our church families who generously donate food throughout the year so we are able to help needy families. Since we provide food for about 60 families for Thanksgiving and 70 families for Christmas, we can always use more help. We are in need of; canned fruit, tuna fish, packets of instant potatoes, cans of soup, feminine products, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Our containers are located in the gathering space of the church!

**Volunteers-** We need help sorting the food items on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you are able to help, please call or text Joan at 518 669-6300. Thank you for all your help!

"For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat... Matt 25:35

## Spotlight on the Mike and Maria Groves by Annette Botsford

In this *Pipeline* series, we hope to familiarize parishioners with those among us whom we see often but know little about. Readers are invited to contact Annette Botsford at [annettemarie829@gmail.com](mailto:annettemarie829@gmail.com) with suggestions of future subjects for this feature.

It is a pleasure to highlight Mike and Maria Groves, who are extremely active with service to their church and community

Mike and Maria met through a match making program on-line. They were both in their 30's. When they first met, they spent time chatting on-line and in one of their early conversations, she told him that she had a standing New Year's Eve date with a priest and it was not negotiable. Maria's best friend from college is a Franciscan Friar with whom she/they spend every New Year's Eve.

Mike had been married previously and obtained an annulment. Maria had always thought she would get married at the Siena Chapel. It was Mike who thought they should get married in the church where they were going to be worshipping. **FUN FACT:** They were the first wedding in the church after the renovations in 2000-2001.

They were 35 and 40 the year they married. Children were not part of the plan for them, but they feel blessed to have had many families share their kids with them through Youth Ministry and Confirmation. Many of those young people have become friends who continue to share their life with them. Currently, they stated they have "kids" who are in their 30's married with kids of their own. Each of them holds a special place in the Groves' hearts. They feel that many of them have taught them more than they ever taught them. "They make us better people."



Maria and Mike have pets that have always been family. Currently they are owned by a 10 lb Malshi named Friar Tuck, who likes to ride around town with Mike in his pick-up truck.

Mike grew up in Kansas, the youngest of four children. He was active in sports, mostly football and wrestling and cub/boy scouts. In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, he began working part time in local restaurants until he

graduated from high school. Summer weekends were occupied with sailing and camping at local lakes with his father. Mike's dad was a deacon and a church elder in the Presbyterian Church. Faith was important, but sometimes took a backseat to weekend sporting events and his part time restaurant jobs. He attributes working in the restaurants to developing his love of cooking and his ability to be able to cook for large groups.



Mike attended college and received his Bachelor's degree (Automotive Technology, Heavy Equipment) from Pittsburg State University, in Pittsburg, KS. He also took Army ROTC and earned his commission as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Army. He said, "I was a terribly average student." However, he has proven that he is a very special human being.

After college, Mike served in the US Army in the Republic of Korea and Ft Hood, Texas, mostly as an Infantry Platoon Leader. After 3 years, he moved on to a 35-year career with General Motors as a Field Manager in Sales, Service and Parts Operations. He retired in 2023.

Maria is a cradle Catholic born and raised in the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake area. She was baptized in the original Our Lady of Grace Church in Buell Heights. All of her sacraments were received at OLG or Immaculate Conception. She began teaching Faith Formation at ICC in high school. At first, she taught kindergarten and by the time she was a senior, she was coordinating the program. Those were the days of Sister Lucille and Mary Cinelli.

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## Mike and Maria Groves, continued from page 5

Maria is the oldest of three children, born to Terry and Noella Morris. Faith was instilled in them at an early age, along with the values of community service and paying it forward. Mass was a must on Sunday mornings. Maria said, "The greatest gift my parents gave me was that of faith." Her favorite experience of mass as a youth was around the fire pit at Clover Patch Camp with Father Joe from Ireland. She spent many summers volunteering at camp. It would become her first foray into Human Services.

Maria, along with her parents, siblings, nieces and nephews graduated from Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Schools. This area is home for her. She attended Siena College and studied Social Work. While there, she was active in Campus Ministry, as a lector and Eucharistic Minister as part of the Social Concerns Committee. During her sophomore year, she spent spring break in Philadelphia at St. Francis Inn, a soup kitchen run by the Franciscans, in the Kensington Neighborhood. That experience had a lasting impression of what it is like to be a social work student. There were many lessons learned during that time. Being at Siena in the 1980s when Campus Ministry had many Friars as part of the team and an amazing Sister of Mercy named Sister Rosemary, provided her with both friendship and spiritual guidance. "Campus Ministry was my home away from home during my time at Siena and The Franciscans hold a special place in my heart. I grew in faith during those years."

Maria also has a Master's of Science in Education: College Student Personnel from the College of St. Rose. She attended graduate school while working full time at the SUNY Cobleskill. At one time she was a Credential Alcohol and Substance Use Counselor (CASAC). She said, "Having spent too many years as a policy wonk in State Government, I let it expire."

Maria grew up working part-time in the family business, but chose to study Social Work. This allowed her to work with college students and it was through that experience on the college campus she developed an interest in working with individuals with substance use disorders. She then went to work in an outpatient clinic that treats individuals with substance use disorder and their families. From there, she went to work at the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS). There, she had the privilege to build the Adolescent, Women and Families portfolio, developing guidance for the treatment programs that provide services to youth, women and families impacted by substance use disorder. Currently, she states she is honored to serve as the Acting Associate Commissioner of Addiction Treatment and Recovery. Besides being able to develop new services and help providers improve services, one of the best parts of her job is to mentor young people entering government service and developing teams of committed and dedicated

professionals. In Maria's words, "Watching people find recovery from addiction and connect back to their "higher power" of God as they know him, is a true honor and when it is a young person or new mom, it is amazing. I entered this field because the students that I was working with at the time, lacked a spiritual connection that I found at Siena, and my first year working with the students some died."

Mike has always had a fascination and love of all things automotive and mechanical. He restored his first vehicle before he was 16 and has had more than a few automotive projects over the years. This fueled his interest in motorsport. He loves to occasionally attend a live NASCAR event or local amateur drag racing.



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## Mike and Maria Groves, continued from page 6



And now, on to their volunteer work. Mike is a member of the Knights of Columbus, a lector, works on the parish picnic and Holy Thursday dinner. His first ministry at ICC was as a catechist teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2000. This was before he had even joined the Catholic church. He completed RCIA and received his sacraments of confirmation

and first communion in 2003. He is no stranger to the church kitchen. He got his start during Lenten soup lunches that were run by Mary Lou and Charlie Moskov. He was asked to help supervise a group of youth volunteers that were helping one week. He offered to help with some of the prep and Mary Lou handed him a 5 or 10 pound bag of onions which he promptly chopped in short order without shedding a tear. This did not go unnoticed by several of the ladies involved and he was promptly recruited to help with future Holy Thursday Dinners.

Maria has taught Faith Formation, wherever she has been, since she was in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Adolescents and young adults are her favorite. She has been a lector, a Eucharistic Minister, worked with Mike on fish dinners, Holy Thursday Dinners etc. She was on the Pastoral Council for a while. As a couple, they are a true partnership. Maria said, "Volunteering has always been part of my life and thankfully I found a partner in Mike who shares that value." Her latest activity is helping to get Cope House up and running and assisting in planning the Tri-Parish Day of Service scheduled for next May.



Mike and Maria have said that they are not adventurous travelers. They spent their honeymoon in Bermuda and hope to return someday. When Mike's parents were alive, they traveled annually to Kansas to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with them, usually making the cross-country trip via car. They have vacationed in Florida a few times and once in the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Beyond wanting to return to the Outer Banks, they like to take long weekends to the coastal areas of the northeast and are saving for longer trips for when they both retire.



*Saint Marianne Cope, a Sister of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities, was canonized on October 21, 2012. She is the first Franciscan woman from North America to be canonized and only the 11<sup>th</sup> American Saint.*

*Cope House is a project of the tri-parish family of churches. The house exists to assist the neediest members of the community. It will provide a "closet" for those in need of clothing, school supplies, personal hygiene products and warm coats for the winter.*

*Like Saint Marianne Cope, it will seek to assist individuals in need with compassion, respect, and grace.*

Poems by Dan Nosek

**Yellow Leaves**

Yellow leaves,  
Blue and red,  
Orange leaves  
Are overhead;  
I could never tell you  
Which is best,  
But once again  
As in the past,  
The variety exceeds  
My extravagant request.

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**Christmas List**

Sleet ticking on window panes,  
Wintery wind that waxes and wanes  
(Rafters creak but they always hold),  
A crackling fire dispels the cold,

Christmas presents beneath the tree,  
Some quiet time for you and me,  
A silent prayer for family and friends,  
Some cocoa to the old year's end,

Faithful dog before the hearth,  
And peace on earth.

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**Thoughts on a Winter Night**

Lying in bed on a winter night  
curled up and listening,  
comforted by the ebb and flow  
of the wind...

Does that sound remind me of her heartbeat,  
her breathing,  
inside that safe place  
she reserved for me  
and me alone?

Nine months  
she risked her asthmatic health;  
miscarriage;

Until on that day  
when I first knew the cold;  
when she first held me;  
when from that soft, dry blanket  
my frightened eyes  
first met her loving eyes.

These days I believe that joy,  
though it may have struggled,  
won the day  
when, some months earlier,  
she, in her heart, said,  
“Let it be!”

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Fr. Russ on the front page of the Daily Gazette on October 5 at the blessing of the Animals.