

# Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Roman Catholic Church



## PARISH HANDBOOK

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## BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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1925 Route 82, LaGrangeville, NY 12540  
TEL (845) 227-1710 FAX (845) 227-1734  
blessedkateri@optonline.net www.blessedkateriparish.com

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### SERVED BY

Monsignor Desmond O'Connor.....Pastor  
Father Brian Graebe.....Parochial Vicar  
Deacon John Barone..... Perm. Deacon  
Deacon Andrew Daubman..... Perm. Deacon  
Deacon Robert Horton..... Perm. Deacon  
Deacon Theodore Van De Ven .....Perm. Deacon  
Mrs. Mary Biasotti.....Director of Faith Formation  
Mrs. Nina Ricci.....Director of Music

### STAFF

Mrs. Joan Crowe ..... Bookkeeper  
Mrs. Barbara Kierstead ... Parish Secretary  
Mrs. Denise Casey..... Parish Secretary  
Mrs. Diane McCoach ..... Faith. Form. & Web  
Mr. Peter Krauss ..... Parish Organist  
Mr. Stephen Piehler ..... Facilities

### Schedule of Liturgies

The Lord's Day  
Saturdays at 5:00 pm  
Sundays at 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:15 pm and 5:30 pm  
( 5:30 pm TEEN MASS - open to everyone )

#### Monday through Saturday

Morning Prayer at 8:45 – Mass at 9:00 am

#### First Friday

Eucharistic Adoration after 9:00 am Mass  
Exposition at 3:00pm  
Benediction at 9:00pm

#### Holy Days of Obligation

As announced in the bulletin

#### Faith Formation Office

Tel (845) 227-1710 ext 3 Fax (845) 226-6150  
bkfaithform@optonline.net



## PASTOR'S WELCOME

*I want to welcome all new parishioners to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Family. We are a growing parish with many young families, and we are truly blessed by your presence here.*

*Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Church was only built as a mission church to Saint Columba Parish in 1999. We became our own parish in 2002 under the leadership of Monsignor Belford. The new church was completed in the fall of 2008. At that same time the Priest's Residence was constructed, the 'old' church was converted into much needed classroom/meeting rooms, and parish office space was added onto that building. This means we are the newest parish in the Archdiocese.*

*We have been blessed from the earliest days with parishioners who want to build up the parish into a true 'Body of Christ' living and present in this community of LaGrangeville. I was appointed pastor here in 2007 and was overwhelmed by the friendliness, desire to get involved, generosity and faith-filled love of the parishioners here. I hope and pray that all of you, as new parishioners, experience the same.*

*With the addition of the new church and meeting space, many new groups, ministries and organizations started to form. They are a wonderful means of building up the parish family here and hopefully giving everyone an opportunity to get involved in the parish. Please read over the enclosed descriptions and consider getting involved. The great thing about a new parish is that you will never walk into a situation where everybody has been a member for years and they tell you we always did it this way. New ideas are welcome, and important for the growth of our parish. We want to have programs for all age groups: from our children's programs, adolescents and teens, young adults, young families, and those who qualify for senior discounts but still consider themselves very young.*

*Let us pray that we all experience the loving presence of Christ, especially as we celebrate the Eucharist together, and transform our families and communities by bringing that loving presence to others.*

*Msgr. Desmond O'Connor*

# SACRAMENTS

## **Anointing of the Sick**

Those who need the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick are asked to contact a priest at the Parish Office at (845) 227-1710.

## **Baptism**

Baptisms are celebrated twice a month, generally on the first Sunday and third Saturday at 1:30 pm. Please call the Parish Office at (845) 227-1710 to arrange a Baptism.

## **Marriage**

Arrangements should be made first with the Church before contemplating a wedding date at least six months in advance.

## **Reconciliation**

Confessions are heard in the Daily Mass Chapel on Monday from 7:30 to 8:30 pm, on Wednesday after the 9:00 am Mass and Saturday from 4:00 to 4:40 pm.

## **Rite Of Christian Initiation Of Adults (RCIA)**

Adults who need one or more of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Communion or Confirmation) are asked to contact the Parish Office, (845) 227-1710, to start the process that begins immediately before Labor Day and culminates at the Easter Vigil.

## **Prayer Network**

The Prayer Network is a way to have prayers requested. Your intentions may be given to Nancy Vaughn or Betty Paraggio to be prayed for by our "vine" of caring people. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Prayer Network, please contact either Nancy Vaughn at (845) 226-4053 or Betty Paraggio at (845) 223-5674.

## **Faith Formation**

It is our hope that parents will provide their children with a Catholic upbringing at home and will worship regularly at Sunday Mass. Our Faith Formation program offers many scheduling options to assist parents in giving their children the gift of faith. We begin accepting children for formal religious education when they enter first grade. Registration information will be found in the following pages.

# MISSION STATEMENTS

## **Adopt-A-Night**

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha participates in the *Adopt-A-Night Program* for the Dutchess County Coalition for the Homeless located at Hillcrest House in Poughkeepsie. Hillcrest House is an overnight shelter providing services for up to sixty homeless, adults each night of the week. Hillcrest House is the only walk-in shelter in Dutchess County. It depends on volunteers to prepare and serve meals each night. Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha has committed to provide and serve meals each third Saturday of the month.

How it works:

1. up to 6 volunteers prepare a hot entrée for a serving of 10
2. up to 2 volunteers prepare a salad with dressing
3. up to 2 volunteers provide bread
4. up to 2 volunteers provide a dessert
5. no more than 5 volunteers serve the meal that evening

It's also a wonderful way for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in our parish to earn service hours by cooking and preparing meals that Adults can bring and serve to the shelter. Vivian LaColla (845) 223-5001

## **Adult Faith Formation**

The goal of Adult Faith Formation is to assist adults in their efforts to learn more about their faith, to grow spiritually, to experience a more intimate love of God and His Church and to lead Christian lives in a secular world.

Julie Borges (845) 223-3658

## **Altar Linens**

The task of laundering the altar linens is an important one, for clean linens (purificators, finger towels, and altar cloths) are essential for the celebration of each Mass. The purificators are first soaked for a day in the sacristy to be sure all the remnants of the Blessed Sacrament have been removed. They are then washed like any other white laundry, line dried and, if desired, they may be starched and ironed. They are then folded into three sections and returned for use again. Usually the linens are picked up on Monday morning after Daily Mass and returned Tuesday or Wednesday. Geraldine Natale (845) 227-2807

## **Altar Rosary Society**

Our Altar Rosary Society consists of a group of women who volunteer to do charity and fund raising work for Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Columba and St. Denis. At present there are about 80 members. Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. The parish hosting the meeting will be published in the bulletin. They have a Day of Recollection during Lent and a Holiday Craft Fair. Betty Perrino (845) 454-1840

## **Altar Servers**

At his General Audience on August 1, 2001, Pope John Paul II reminded the altar servers that they were the beloved servers of Jesus Christ:

**The altar server occupies a privileged place in the liturgical celebration.** He, who serves at Mass, presents himself to a community. He experiences firsthand that Jesus Christ is present and active in every liturgical act...above all in the Eucharist under the signs of bread and wine. He acts through the priest who, in the person of Christ, celebrates the holy Mass and administers the sacraments.

**Therefore, in the liturgy, you are much more than simple "helpers of the parish priest."** Above all, you are servers of Jesus Christ, of the eternal High Priest. Thus, you, altar servers, are called in particular to be young friends of Jesus. Be determined to go deeper and to cultivate this friendship with him. You will discover that in Jesus you have found a true friend for life.

The entire parish is asked to pray for our altar servers, taking to heart the words of Blessed John Paul II:

In the light of this, dear brother priests, I would ask you, among other initiatives, to show special care for altar servers, who represent a kind of "garden" of priestly vocations. The group of altar servers, under your guidance as part of the parish community, can be given a valuable experience of Christian education and become a kind of pre-seminary. Help the parish, as a family made up of families, to look upon the altar servers as their own children, like "olive shoots around the table" of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life (cf. Psalm 127:3)" (*Holy Thursday Letter to Priests*, 2004).

Anyone in Grades 6-12 is eligible to become an altar server. If you are interested in serving at the altar of God, please contact Fr. Graebe at [fr.brian.graebe@archny.org](mailto:fr.brian.graebe@archny.org) or (845) 227-1710.

## **Baking**

The Baking Group provides baked desserts of all types from finger snacks to fancy cakes. When called upon to help for any specific parish related event, some volunteers will be contacted. Lorraine Travia (845) 221-2741

## **Baptismal Program**

The first step in having a baby baptized is to schedule an appointment with one of the priests who will obtain basic information and discuss the document requirements and subsequent steps. These will vary depending upon the time since the last Parent Preparation Class, and whether the sponsors (Godparents) are members of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. The appointment may be made through the Parish Office.

At Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha we have included couples with a history of demonstrated Parental Faith Commitment to assist with a dialog about parental Faith with the new parents.

Those wishing to contribute to the Baptismal Instruction sessions would be asked to commit about one and one half hours per session, approximately 2 - 3 times a year, either on a Tuesday evening or a Saturday. One hour of the sessions would be covered by the clergy presentations and discussion with forty-five minutes allotted for a Parental Faith discussion by the couples on this committee.

Outlines and dialog material will be provided. New couples joining the committee are encouraged to attend one of the Baptismal sessions after a meeting with Deacon Bob. Please contact him at [notroh143@aol.com](mailto:notroh143@aol.com) if you have an interest.

## **Bereavement Support Group**

Bereavement is defined as a time of being deprived of that which we have valued! When we grieve, we experience the response by our body, our mind and our spirit. Mourning is a time of understanding what happened, a time to name feelings from the loss and a time for us to invite God in on our journey.

The Bereavement Support Group is there for you, with communal prayer, voluntary discussions with those having similar experiences, mourning together and assurance that you are not alone on the journey to healing.

Lorraine Travia (845) 221-2741

## **Bible Study**

Bible Study exists to enhance peoples' love of God and His Church through Holy Scripture. Using the Church's dictum of Faith and Reason, we strive to aid our students in applying the knowledge of scripture and the Wisdom of the Church in their Faith journey and their everyday lives.

Julie Borges (845) 223-3658 or [juliamajor1@gmail.com](mailto:juliamajor1@gmail.com)

## **Blood Drive**

Our mission is to serve the men, women and children in our community, including cancer, transplant and surgery patients, trauma victims, newborn babies and many others in need of blood transfusions each day. To accomplish this we conduct blood drives on a quarterly basis each year (March, June, Sept. and Dec.) at Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Church. For the blood drives to be a success we need volunteers who are willing to spend a few hours working in one of the following roles: Blood Drive Captain; Publicity; Greeter; Escort. As a volunteer you will be expected to support at least one of the quarterly drives each year. Ed Hogarty (845) 221-0203

## **Catechist**

The catechist is a person who forms children in the Faith within a classroom setting. Catechists must be Catholics in good standing, for their ministry is to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and to cooperate with the Holy Spirit by providing the appropriate atmosphere for spiritual, intellectual and moral growth. To achieve these goals and to teach all the grade level concepts outlined in the *Archdiocesan Guidelines for Catechesis*, a variety of teaching methods are used. Catechists are strongly encouraged to continue their own formation in the Faith by attending workshops, certification classes, retreats, etc. Mary Biasotti (845) 227-1710 ext3

## **Chapel/Church Cleaners**

Our primary mission is to assist the parish staff in maintaining the interior of the church including the narthex, chapel, meeting room and kitchen. Together, as a team, we work to enrich the quality of the parish's physical environment and serve as good stewards for the parish. Through our efforts we hope to provide the parishioners of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha with a clean environment in which to pray. Mary Covucci (845) 223-5650/ Cell (914) 475-2627

## **Church Decorators**

Responsible for the decorating of the church for the various holidays throughout the year and any special occasions that might arise. They are also responsible for decorating the Chapel and maintaining all the plants. Cathy Varano (845) 227-1529

## **Cursillo**

The purpose of the Cursillo Movement is to develop and energize Catholics to grow in Holiness and to dedicate themselves to having a Christianizing influence on their environment. These people will see themselves as part of a worldwide movement in which other Christians are engaged in transforming the society in which they live. This is done by attending a 3 day retreat to experience a richer, fuller vision of the role of a Christian.

Anthony Martino (845) 226-5207 or Ginger Fisher (845) 297-4711

## **Discovering Christ**

Discovering Christ is an 8 week experience that is geared to the churched and unchurched, believer, skeptic and anyone with questions who is looking for answers. During these exciting sessions, we gather to share a delicious dinner, listen to a dynamic teaching and explore answers to some of the most important questions worth asking about God and finding our ultimate purpose in life.

Julie Borges (845) 223-3658

## **Ecumenical Group**

For information on this group, contact Dave Borges (845) 223-3658.

## **Employment Support Group**

We aspire to empower our family within the parish to more effectively deal with the challenges of finding and keeping work by providing valuable tools, a helping hand and a positive spiritual perspective on their journey.

We believe that all people have inherent value in their God given talents which need only find the right employment opportunity where they can be applied.

We believe that times of unemployment and career transition are a fact of the earthly world, and though they create real hardships, that God uses these times for a purpose... to grow in our faith in Him and to grow our strength in helping others delivering value, making us more employable as an outcome.

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

To expand on the hours of adoration and enhance everyone's understanding of the Blessed Sacrament by holding informative discussions and lectures explaining Holy Hour.

Dave Borges (845) 223-3658

### **A D O R A T I O N OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST**

**“Could you not watch with me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40)**

At the Passion of Jesus Christ, our Lord urged Peter and the two sons of Zebedee to be with Him and stay awake as He prayed to the Father. They were His close friends, one of whom He had entrusted with the Church and the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Our Lord had no need of the apostles at the Garden of Gethsemane. He has no need of us today. However, He constantly invites us - God's children, His friends - to be with Him because He *wants* us. He truly *loves* us perfectly and *wants* to give His entire self freely to us. Out of that love our Lord gave us the Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist, as His gift to draw us to Himself and lead us to our Father in Heaven.

**God truly is present in the great Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.**

The Eucharist is proof of Jesus Christ's everlasting love for His people: As He sits at the right hand of the Father, Jesus desires and continues to be present to His beloved ones always. Pope Pius XII, in his encyclical *Mediator Dei* (November 20, 1947, par. 131) reminds the faithful that “the Eucharist is at once a sacrifice and a sacrament; but it differs from the other sacraments in that it not only produces grace, but contains in a permanent manner the Author of Grace Himself.” Thus, being in and contemplating the True Presence allows the faithful to obtain the graces and strength necessary to become a holy and Christian people from God Himself, *the* source of all grace.

**“Jesus waits for us in this sacrament of love.”**

(*Dominicae Cenae*, February 24, 1980, par. 3) In his apostolic letter *Dominicae Cenae*, Pope John Paul II notes the great need of the Church and the entire world for worship of the Eucharist. He exhorts all the bishops and ultimately the entire people of God to meet, praise, adore, and glorify the Lord in the Eucharist. More importantly, the Holy Father encourages all to “be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation for the great faults and crimes of the world.” (*DC*, par. 3)

**“The worship of the Eucharist outside of the Mass is of estimable value for the life of the Church.”**

(*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, April 17, 2003, par. 25) Pope John Paul II's teaching in his encyclical echoes the call by one of his predecessors, Pope Paul VI, to pay a visit to the Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament everyday: “Such visits are a sign of gratitude, an expression of love and an acknowledgement of the Lord's presence.” (*Mysterium Fidei*, September 3, 1965, par. 66) Furthermore, while the Eucharistic Sacrifice is the pinnacle and perfection of Christian life, worship of the Blessed Sacrament outside Mass extends the faithful's union with Jesus Christ the Lord achieved at communion. (From the Roman Ritual, *Holy Communion and the Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass*, 1976, par. 81)

**“The Eucharist is the fount and apex of the whole Christian life.”**

(*Lumen Gentium*, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, November 21, 1964, par. 11) When the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, the faithful is stimulated “to an awareness of the marvelous presence of Christ [and are invited] to a spiritual communion with Him.” (*Eucharisticum Mysterium*, Instruction on the Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery, May 25, 1967, par. 60) Since the Eucharist contains the real and complete presence of God, all other sacraments, ministries, apostolic work, and the life of the Church ultimately “are linked with the Eucharist and are directed towards it.” (*EM*, par. 6) Indeed, without the Eucharist there is no life of the Church.

### **Encounter the Lord in the Eucharist!**

At his installation as the 265<sup>th</sup> successor to St. Peter, Pope Benedict XVI urged the faithful to encounter Christ. He repeats that call in his apostolic exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis* (February 22, 2007), so that the personal encounter with the Lord in the Eucharist may bring success and holiness to the lives of God's children and unite them more fully to each other and to Him.

**Come and adore Jesus Christ the Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament every First Friday at 3:00 p.m. through hymns, prayers, and silent meditation. Contemplate His Real Presence and love for us! Benediction takes place at 9:00 p.m.**

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

We are people who bring Christ to the world through the Eucharist and our lives. We serve Mass on Saturday evening, Sundays and at daily Mass in the chapel.

Deacon Ted Van De Ven (845) 592-8088

## **Faith Formation**

Faith Formation at Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha is one of the most significant aspects of parish life. The goal of our program is to help parents begin in their school age children the lifelong process of formation in the Roman Catholic Faith. To that end, an integrated experience of traditional classroom catechesis, personal prayer, communal worship, sacramental preparation and community-building activities, such as Family Catechesis, will be provided. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, this experience will ultimately lead to a transformation into the fullness of life in Christ and His Church.

### **Student Registration for Our Faith Formation Program**

Faith Formation at Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha begins in first grade and runs through the beginning of ninth grade. Currently registered families receive re-registration forms in March and are expected to return their completed forms and tuition prior to the conclusion of the academic year. In late May a registration day is held for all *new* families. New parishioners should check the Faith Formation News portion of the church bulletin a few weeks in advance or call 227-1710 x3 for specific information. Parents of entering first graders should bring Baptismal Certificates on the day of registration. Parents who have older students (generally those who have just moved into the area) should bring not only Baptismal Certificates, but also proof of prior faith formation in other parishes. Families who move into the area after May can register until the office closes in late June or on a late registration day held at the end of summer.

All classes are ninety minutes long, take place during the week and run for thirty weeks. We are gradually introducing some weekend and special activities for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in lieu of some traditional classes. Currently our students prepare for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in second grade. Make-up classes and First Reconciliation and First Communion Prep classes are offered to students in grades 3-8 who missed a year or so of formal religious education. Confirmation takes place in the fall of 9<sup>th</sup> grade. After completing their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, students electing to receive Confirmation will enroll in a 4 week Confirmation Prep at the beginning of 9<sup>th</sup> grade to ensure a fuller understanding of this final Sacrament of Initiation immediately prior to receiving it. Finally, the program also provides an RCIT (Rite of Christian Initiation for Teens) Program for 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders who have not yet completed their Sacraments of Initiation. Mary Biasotti (845) 227-1710 ext3

## **Family Catechesis**

Family Catechesis is an integral part of our Faith Formation program. It consists of five hours a year beyond the traditional classroom setting and involves the entire family with interactive faith-filled activities. Pat Atkinson (845) 227-1710 ext3

## **Family Promises**

Family Promises provide shelter, meals and support to Families without homes.

## **Fund-Raising**

Our goal is to plan activities that not only can be enjoyable for our Parish Family but will make it possible for us to raise money toward our budget. Anthony Cirone (845) 677-6498

## **Gardening/ Landscaping**

We look to maintain the plantings, beds, Rosary Garden, Stations of the Cross, and the Gazebo. This includes planting flowers after Monsignor or landscape designer reviews the feasibility of the planting. Regarding maintenance, we will designate areas for volunteers to maintain so as not to overwhelm anyone or duplicate efforts. We have access to various tools on the property in storage. We prune trees on an as needed basis. A lawn service maintains the general lawn. John C. Gunn (845) 489-0956

## **High School Teens Loving Christ - TLC**

In 2009 the three parishes of Saint Columba, Saint Denis and Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha decided to join forces and develop one high school teen group, TLC – Teens Loving Christ. TLC is designed to offer our teens growth in their faith and spirituality, ways to put that faith in action through Christian Service and social opportunities to have fun events with their peers.

We are associated with CYFM, Capuchin Youth and Family Ministry in Garrison, NY. As a result, many of our teens get involved in their retreat program, D.D.A., leadership training and service activities.

We regularly meet in the Blessed Kateri Meeting Room following the Sunday 5:30 pm Mass. Please come and bring a friend!!  
Msgr. Desmond O'Connor (845) 227-1710

## **Holy Spirit Prayer Group**

Spirit Wind Holy Spirit Prayer Group is dedicated to the support of the Holy Spirit Renewal as a grace for the whole Catholic Church through expression of the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit, as detailed in the Bible. All are welcome to attend the Holy Spirit Healing Mass on the first Tuesday of the month in the Chapel. Music at 7 pm, Mass, 7:30. A Holy Spirit Prayer Meeting is held all other Tuesdays in the Chapel at 7:30. Prayer teams for individual healing prayer are available after each event.  
Pat Mackey (845) 440-3519

## **Hospital/Homebound Visitors**

This group's mission is to bring God's healing presence to all the sick and dying by assisting Deacon John Barone in visiting those hospitalized or homebound.  
Deacon John Barone (845) 223-8410

## **Hospitality**

The purpose of the Hospitality Group is to prepare for church related social functions, as we strive to make our church a welcoming and sustaining place. The function of the group is to assist in the set-up and clean-up of parish functions, as requested. We also act as "in house" party planners.  
Andrea Cirone (845) 677-6496

## **International Dinners**

International Dinners are held in the church meeting room on the third Saturday of the month starting in September and ending in June. We feature a different country each month. Volunteers to head a dinner, prepare food for the evening, help in setting up and clean up and decorating the room are always needed. It is a lot of fun and a way to get to know your fellow parishioners. There will be a notice in the bulletin about a month before each dinner telling you who to contact to help for that event. Msgr. usually has a yearly organizational meeting in August which will also be announced in the bulletin. Until then Bon Appetite!

## **Junior High Club**

The Junior High Club is for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8th grade students, to experience God in our play, in our prayer and in each other. The group meets at St Denis once a month at 6 pm on the first Sunday of the month. Larry Ryan c/o St. Denis (845) 227-8382

## **Knights of Columbus**

LaGrange Knights of Columbus council #13378 is a Catholic family fraternity organization. Our number one priority is charity work.  
Grand Knight Christian Jones (845) 705-6098

## **Lector**

As readers of the Word, we proclaim the Word of God to all his people. Deacon John Barone (845) 223-8410

## **Liturgy & Spiritual life**

The mission of the Liturgy/Spiritual Life Committee is to enhance the parish liturgies and offer ways to develop and intensify the spiritual lives of our parishioners. Of special concern are days of prayer/retreat for different groups of parishioners, and planning liturgies for special occasions.

Msgr. Desmond (845) 227-1710

## **Marriage Encounter**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter's mission of renewal in the Church and change in the world is to assist couples and priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships by providing them with a Catholic "experience" and ongoing community support for such a lifestyle.

Anne Anderson (845) 223-5661

## **Men's Group**

The mission of the men's group is to meet socially and spiritually on a regular basis. Discussions on many different subjects and invited guest speakers are planned to increase spirituality.

Dave Borges (845) 223-3658

## **Military Families Support**

The mission of the Military Support Group is to support the troops (all military branches) and their families of the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, in conjunction with Semper Fi Parents of the Hudson Valley. The primary function of the committee is to send care packages to deployed troops and to the wounded in military hospitals and to support their families when needed.

Ruth Recchia (preferred) [ruth.recchia@yahoo.com](mailto:ruth.recchia@yahoo.com) or (845)242-2230.

## **Music Ministry**

Our mission is to engage the gathered assembly in the full and active participation of the Mass by encouraging sung prayer and offering music that might lift their hearts and unite their minds with God.

Our aim is to reflect the excitement and passion of the Church, people and programs, adding to the attractiveness of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Roman Catholic Church as a place of worship and beauty. Our musical offerings are to reflect the best of our traditional and modern resources within our heritage and send forth its people to be effective witnesses to the love and truth of the Gospel.

The Music Ministry at Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, consisting of a Youth Choir, Contemporary Ensemble, Adult Choir and Cantors, is dedicated to the promotion of assembly song, accomplished through the congregation's participation in various hymns, songs, acclamations and psalms with special attention directed toward the preservation of our rich musical heritage through the singing of anthems, both ancient and new. The combination of these elements is an expression of our assembly's sung prayer in union with the entire Catholic Church.

Our purpose is to have adults, youth and children participate, recognizing that liturgical music is an important part of many people's spiritual and worship life. Nina Ricci (845) 227-3643

## **Pancake Breakfast**

The Pancake Breakfast is a fundraiser for the teen group, TLC. They are held on the first Sunday of the month after the 9:00 and 10:30 Masses.

We welcome any adult that would like to help out with providing supplies or a donation. Bob & Ellen Newhard (845) 223-5951

## **Parent/Child Connection**

Parent-Child Connection is a parenting support and educational group for mothers, fathers, or other caretakers of young children, as well as a playgroup for the children. We meet with our infants, toddlers and preschoolers to discuss topics that will enrich our understanding of infant/early childhood development. We also want to affirm and strengthen healthy families by sharing ideas about raising children, and passing on traditions and Catholic values. Kristin Degregorio (914) 275-2637

## **Parish Activities**

Our mission is to provide a variety of diverse events and activities that will include our entire Parish Family. In this way, we can foster an atmosphere of friendship and community as we meet and interact with one another.

As a volunteer group, we encourage the ideas and energies of all those who choose to get involved.

Laura & Ed Leahy at (845) 677-4783

## **Parish Picnic**

The parish picnic is an annual event. Information will be posted in the bulletin.

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Our ministry offers a warm, soft hand-knit or crocheted shawl to those who are sick in body or in spirit. The shawls are made by members and friends of the parish and blessed at anytime. They are a way of surrounding the recipient with prayer and loving comfort. If you are interested in joining this worthwhile ministry, please join us at the St. Cecilia Room in the Faith Formation Building every fourth Tuesday evening of the month. *Donations of yarn and time are welcomed.*

Vivian LaColla (845) 223-5001

## **Right to Life Group**

Our Lady of Life – Respect Life is designed to promote the sacredness of life from conception to natural death. Through prayer, the intercession of our Blessed Mother and advocacy, it is the commitment of this group to educate and promote the culture of life in our society.

Anne Whitton [siestasix@frontiernet.net](mailto:siestasix@frontiernet.net)

## **Single Parent Support**

This group will interact for support and share experiences, challenges and resolutions to focus on the family unit. Issues may include time management and scheduling.

Marie Nazzaro [mamie13383@aol.com](mailto:mamie13383@aol.com)

### **St. Vincent De Paul Society**

The Society of St. Vincent DePaul is an international Catholic organization of lay persons who wish to live their faith by loving and serving as Jesus did. We do not ask about the family's race, religion, nationality, etc. The only requirement to receive help is to have a genuine need and to live within the geographic boundaries of St. Denis, St. Columba, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parishes. To learn more about the Society, please come to a meeting on the second Wednesday of the month (except July & August) at 7pm in the St. Columba Convent Meeting Room. Carol Grafer SVDP Hot Line (845) 227-7863

### **Sunday Children's Liturgy**

The Children's Liturgy is for preschoolers (3 and 4 year olds) through third grade to listen and live the word of God through age-appropriate gospel readings and related activities during the first 30 minutes of 9:00 Mass. Nancy Vaughn (845) 226-4053

### **Usher/Greeter**

Our mission is to welcome people as they come into Church and hand out bulletins. When necessary they help find seats for incoming parishioners. Taking up the collections is a very important job, as is greeting people, so that they have a warm, welcome feeling when they come to church. Anthony Cirone (845) 677-6496

### **Vacation Bible School**

Our mission is to hand down the Catholic Faith received from Jesus and the Apostles. The Holy Spirit is our ever present guide, as we prayerfully impart the Catholic faith, with it's rich tradition.

Our Vacation Bible School will help the children to grow in the Catholic faith, develop a relationship with Christ and have a lot of fun. Judy Horton [jdh846@aol.com](mailto:jdh846@aol.com)

# COUNCILS

## **Parish Council**

The Parish Council is a consultative body with several tasks including the following but not limited to

- to cooperate with the Pastor for the good of the Parish
- to identify the needs of the parishioners and community
- to formulate goals and objectives along with the Pastor and to help reach them
- to be a Christian community and model for organizations

The Council is bound to observe norms of the Catholic Church and the Archdiocese of New York. Any registered member of the Parish, eighteen years or older is eligible to serve as an adult member. Any registered member of the Parish, in their junior or senior year of high school is eligible to serve as “teen” member. The Council consists of (12) members, (11) adult and (1) teen. The term for Parish Council members is three years and for “teen” members one year. Any parishioner age sixteen or older can nominate themselves or another registered parishioner to serve on the Parish Council. Selections are made on the first Sunday in June (Selection Sunday) by a random drawing.

## **Ex-Officio Members**

Ex-Officio members of the Council include the Pastor, Parochial Vicars, Deacons, Director of Faith Formation and two (2) Parish Trustees. They are non-voting members.

## **Finance Council**

Finance Council consists of at least five (5) members. They are appointed by the Pastor. They assist him in matters of finance and in making up the yearly budget.

## **Trustees**

We have two trustees appointed by the Pastor. Their term is three years. Meetings are open to all parishioners. Non-members who wish to speak at a meeting must first be recognized by the President.

## D I R E C T O R Y

Adopt –A-Night	(845) 223-5001	Vivian LaColla
Adult Faith Formation	223-3658	Julie Borges
Altar Linens	227-2807	Gerri Natale
Altar Rosary Society	454-1840	Betty Perrino
Altar Servers	227-1710	Fr. Brian Graebe
Baking	221-2741	Lorraine Travia
Baptismal Program	226-8987	Deacon Bob
Bereavement Group	221-2741	Lorraine Travia
Blood Drives	221-0203	Ed Hogarty
Catechist	227-1710	Mary Biasotti
Chapel/Church Cleaners	223-5650	Mary Covucci
Charismatic Prayer Group	440-3519	Pat Mackey
Church Decorators	227-1529	Cathy Varano
Cursillo	226-5207	Tony Martino
Discovering Christ	223-3658	Julie Borges
Ecumenical Group	223-3658	Dave Borges
Eucharistic Adoration	223-3658	Dave Borges
Eucharistic Ministers	592-8088	Deacon Ted
Family Catechesis	453-7873	Pat Atkinson
Fund Raising	677-6496	Anthony Cirone
Gardening/Landscaping	489-0956	John Gunn
Hospital/Homebound Visits	223-8410	Deacon John
Hospitality	677-6496	Andrea Cirone
International Dinners	227-1710	Msgr. Desmond
Knights of Columbus	705-6098	Christian Jones
Lectors	223-8410	Deacon John
Liturgical Minister Schedule	227-1710	Denise Casey
Junior High Club	227-8382	Larry Ryan St. Denis
Marriage Encounter	223-5661	Anne Anderson
Men's Group	223-3658	Dave Borges
Midnight Runs/Nights	227-1710	Msgr. Desmond
Music Ministry	227-3643	Nina Ricci
Youth Choir, Contemporary Ensemble, Adult Choir and Cantors		
Pancake Breakfast	223-5951	Bob & Ellen Newhard
Parent-Child Connection	(914)275-2637	Kristin DeGregorio
Parish Activities		Ed & Laura Leahy
		<a href="mailto:bksocialcomm@yahoo.com">bksocialcomm@yahoo.com</a>
Prayer Shawl Ministry	223-5001	Vivian LaColla
R.C.I.A./R.C.I.T. Programs	227-1710	Msgr. Desmond
Right To Life Committee		Anne Whitton
		<a href="mailto:siestasix@frontiernet.net">siestasix@frontiernet.net</a>
Single Parent Support		Marie Nazzaro
		<a href="mailto:mamie13383@aol.com">mamie13383@aol.com</a>
Spiritual Life	227-1710	Msgr. Desmond
St. Vincent de Paul	227-7863	Carol Grafer
Sunday's Children's Liturgy	226-4053	Nancy Vaughn
Support for Military Families	635-3623	John & Ruth Recchia
Teen Group - TLC	227-1710	Msgr. Desmond
Ushers/Greeters	677-6496	Anthony Cirone
Vacation Bible School	226-8987	Judy Horton

# NOTES



## Prayer to Kateri Tekakwitha

KATERI, favored child and Lily of the Mohawks, I come to seek your intercession in my present need: (mention it). I admire the virtues which adorned your soul: love of God and neighbor, humility, obedience, patience, purity and the spirit of sacrifice. Help me to imitate your example in my state of life. Through the goodness and mercy of God, Who has blessed you with so many graces which led you to the true faith and to a high degree of holiness, pray to God for me and help me. Obtain for me a very fervent devotion to the Holy Eucharist so that I may love Holy Mass as you did and receive Holy Communion as often as I can. Teach me also to be devoted to my crucified Savior as you were, that I may cheerfully bear my daily crosses for love of Him Who suffered so much for love of me. Most of all I beg you to pray for me that I may avoid sin, lead a holy life and save my soul. Amen.

*Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha*  
Lily of the Mohawks



1656-1680  
Memorial - 14 July



## Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Roman Catholic Church

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[www.blessedkateriparish.com](http://www.blessedkateriparish.com)