ST. MARY'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH
God First. Loving Others. Making Disciples.

St. Mary's Church

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Dear Friends,

How wonderful it is when new life enters the world, reminding us that God's plan for the human family is still unfolding, one generation after another.

For Catholic families, the process of birth is inseparable from the foundational sacrament of human life: the Sacrament of Baptism. This sacrament opens the door to a life of faith and lays the groundwork to all the other milestones of life lived at the spiritual level.

Some people believe that faith is passed on like a genetic trait would be. But that's not true. The child of American parents is automatically a U.S. citizen, but the child of Catholic parents is not automatically Catholic, even if they are in church every week. Membership in the Catholic Church always requires a decision, and for a child younger than seven, that decision is in the hands of the parents.

Parents of a child approaching Baptism need to prepare themselves to raise a spiritual being by attending a training session led by parents who have already baptized their children and raised them in the Catholic faith.

Does this sound like a Sacrament and a process that speaks to the hopes in your heart as a parent? We hope it does! If so, please call us at 518-792-0989 or email Lisa at lpatton@stmarysglensfalls.org, and let's have a conversation as a way to begin.

Faithfully,

Fr. Scott

Fr. Scott VanDerveer, Pastor