



Catholic Charities: A Wonderful Gift in our Diocese

The first thing the case manager noticed was the floor moved. Stepping into the apartment, the cockroaches raced away from his foot, over piles of food, dirty clothing, broken furniture, wet and filled diapers, and leaves that had blown in through the missing window. This is a reflection of a Case Manager for Catholic Charities Community Services in the HIV / AIDS Services Department. In the 70's and 80's he worked in the inner-city Quad Parishes. He was a liturgist and youth minister at that time. In those days, in those parishes, every ministry was social justice ministry.

The Case Managers go into people's homes. They work with the poorest of the poor. Their clients have HIV / AIDS and they often have severe mental health problems, most have substance abuse problems, some have other health problems that make the HIV seem trivial by comparison; all are overwhelmed and drowning in the chaos of their lives.

The Case Manager gathers the children and their mother. The 15-year-old daughter is pregnant. He calls Child Protective Service. Then he moves the family to a shelter. Over the next few weeks they will bring in a multitude of Family Services: housing to fix the apartment, mental health and counseling for the family, medical for mom and prenatal for the daughter. They bring in experts to observe the family and teach parenting skills. The Case Manager takes the family by the hand, and sometimes they pick them up and carry them.

That was years ago; this family is doing well. All are stable, healthy, in a clean apartment, and functioning well. The daughter's baby is a nonstop blur of motion and began a Headstart Program this fall.

It takes **hope** to do work like this. There are many other skills and attributes needed as well, but mainly, it is hope that allows these Case Managers to endure. You may hear many stories about people that have been helped through the Catholic Charities. This is a reflection that the Case Manager wanted us to know that it was the gift of hope that he learned as a teenager, working in the inner city, which allowed him to endure, and to help others to endure. It was your gifts to Catholic Charities and social ministries that allowed those ministries to endure, that allow the families he now assists to endure.

Another example is La Casa which is a temporary housing place for migrant farm workers. If a migrant suffered an accident or became ill and could not recuperate in the hospital, or if they had nowhere to stay, they could find shelter and would be welcomed at La Casa. There was a family of 5 who arrived in our area, hoping to pick apples, but when speaking with the grower they were told that the apples had not ripened sufficiently, and they wouldn't be able to live in his housing until the crop was ripe. The family: mom, dad and three young children proceeded to drive down a back road and live in their car for 12 days until the apples were ready to be picked. The migrant community took them food but there wasn't much else that they could do for them. LaCasa became their temporary home, until their own housing was ready. La Casa would never have been possible without the support of Catholic Charities, as well as the generosity of countless Catholics in our diocese, and hundreds of people who pick our fruits and vegetables would be suffering severe hardship without it.

Continued on page 3

WEEKEND OF: Nov. 13-14, 2021

Parish Mission Statement:

**“St. Mark’s Roman Catholic
Church . . .
Called by God’s love to live the
life of Jesus in our world.”**

MASS TIMES

Monday Through Friday: Rosary begins at
7:30 am; Mass at 8:00 am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday at 5:00 pm

Sunday at 8:30 am & 11:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:30 pm till 4:30 pm

CHURCH ADDRESS

St. Mark’s Church

54 Kuhn Road, Rochester, New York 14612

CONTACT INFO

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Website: www.stmarksgreece.com

Parish Email: rstmarkc@dor.org

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Reverend Louis Sirianni, Parochial Vicar,
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Kristine Burgio, Faith Formation/Youth Ministry
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Marisa Stieve Finance Director,
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Joan Wania, Parish Secretary,
ext. 201, **Email:** joan.wania@dor.org

Stewardship Corner

Recurring Gift Match Promotion:

For every first gift from a new recurring donor that is added between November 1 and December 31, 2021, WeShare will match that first gift, up to \$50, with a maximum match of \$1,000 per organization. To be eligible for the matching gift, more than one installment must be set-up and the first recurring gift must be processed through WeShare by 12/31/21

Secure Online Giving at:

<https://stmarksgreece.weshareonline.org>



Giving Until it Hurts

In the time of Christ, sacrifice was nothing new to the Jewish people. The Israelites were experts at sacrifice. So, after centuries of every kind of offering imaginable, what was so special about Christ’s? What made it so different from the sacrifices offered by the Levitical priests for centuries before his death?

Well, to adequately answer that question would consume whole volumes. And, of course, the first and most important reason is that Christ was the son of God and the savior of the world, not a random (if “unblemished”) lamb offering. It was only by the blood of Christ that we could be redeemed.

But another answer is this: Christ’s sacrifice cost him. In fact, it cost him everything. The offerings made by the Israelites through their priests cost them too, of course. They gave of their flocks, of their household stores, of their wealth. But Christ gave differently. He gave of himself. He gave until it was all gone.

Such is the highest form of stewardship: the gift of self to the point of discomfort. It can take a multitude of forms and I am not saying we are all called to be nailed to the cross. In fact, for most of us, our gifts will not involve physical discomfort at all. But certainly, stewardship demands discomfort. It demands that we go against our human nature of putting ourselves first, of thinking primarily of our own needs and desires. And most of all, it demands love. For that, above all else, distinguished the gift Christ gave us.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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The Family Zone

To enter the Family Zone, please visit our website at www.stmarksgreece.com.

Select the Growing in Faith Tab, and then the Family Zone



INCYC

Ablaze • Enciende el Fuego

We will be igniting in Rochester for NCYC 2021 and setting the world and our faith ablaze!

Kickoff Event	November 14th
Virtual NCYC	November 20th
World Youth Day	November 21st

Social Ministry Food Donations

St. Mark's Social Ministry Committee continues to collect food for those in need in our area served by the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf. There is a bin in the Narthex for you to put any non-perishable food items, paper products or personal care items you wish to donate. **Please make sure foods have not passed their expiration date.**

Food prices are high right now and the need is even more acute. The Food Shelf currently has a special need for canned peaches and chicken noodle soup. They are very thankful for the boxes of cereal you have been donating.

Thank you for your constant generosity to the poor.



Continued from front cover

These are just a few of the many stories of the 250,000 people helped through Catholic Charities, people that are touched in some way by our Diocesan Office of Catholic Charities. We are fortunate to have so many dedicated staff members, and generous volunteers who every day carry out these many acts of mercy and compassion. Although Catholic Charities receives money from many sources, the diocese is an important source of funding, and enables you to be a part of helping the “least of our brothers & sisters” (that have already been mentioned above). We are encouraged to remember the many blessings showered on us by our generous God and that “every life is worth living.” We likewise have the opportunity to express this gratitude, and to reflect that we are willing to move **“FORWARD in FAITH”** by giving generously as we can to this year’s Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA).



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, November 13

10:30 am Gary Zimak Talk; St. Leo's Hilton

Sunday, November 14

9:30 am First Penance Class

11:00 am CLOW

Monday, November 15

Tuesday, November 16

6:15 am That Man is You

7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 17

Thursday, November 18

6:30 pm Knights of Columbus

Friday, November 19

Saturday, November 20

9:00 am Virtual NCYC

Sunday, November 21

9:30 am First Penance Class

11:00 am CLOW



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 13

5:00 pm *Michael Nicolosi by Frank Valenti*

Sunday, November 14 - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am *Shirley Minch by Helen Massar & Leanna Hale*

11:00 am *Stephen Bligh by Joan Guzzetta*

Monday, November 15

8:00 am *Josephine Carvill by Ginger & Joseph Dominick*

Tuesday, November 16

8:00 am *Deacon James Chatterton by Linda Agostinelli*

Wednesday, November 17

8:00 am *Special Intention*

Thursday, November 18

8:00 am *Placido Parrinelli by wife, Linda Parrinelli*

Friday, November 19

8:00 am

Saturday, November 20

5:00 pm *Anthony Colaprete by Grace Tantalo*

Sunday, November 21 - Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

8:30 am *Joseph & Nancy Rizzo by Ed & Marge Boehme*

11:00 am *Mary Grizzanti by Michael & Carol Lamendola*



**American
Red Cross**

**Next Youth Ministry sponsored blood
drive:**

**December 6, 2021
From 1pm - 6pm.**

More information to follow.

Pregnancy Support

**Pregnant and in need of support? We're here
for you!:** optionline.org, Call 1-800-712-4357,
Text: "HELPLINE" to 313131

**Experiencing a prenatal diagnosis? You are
not alone:**

Be Not Afraid: www.benotafraid.net

**Looking for hope and healing after
abortion? Reach out today:**
supportafterabortion.com, call or text: 941-202-
4030, email: help@supportafterabortion.com

*This Week
Sanctuary Lamp:*



Prayer Requests

The following members and extended members of our
Parish Family have had prayer requests made for them:

Gina Bach, Jeff Biss, Amy Brewer, Mary Camiolo

Steve Clar, Mya Colon, Sue Ellyn Coons

Rich Cyganovich, Ann DiStefano

Timothy Glasow,

Ann Gifford, Jane Gunzelmann,

Dawn Lamendola, Cara Mack, Lynne Mikel

Dr. Ronald Penna, Marie Pettrone, Kelly Reilly

Ken & Nathan Schultz, Michele Schulz,

Donna Sindon, Evelyn Tisa,

Emma Webster, Bob Yanus

**The Daily Mass Book for 2022 is
open for intentions from
January 1 - July 31, 2022.**



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PICK OF THE WEEK

WATCH

BLESSED DUNS SCOTUS: DEFENDER OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The inspiring true story of the holy Franciscan priest and theologian who won a famous debate against the Dominicans in the thirteenth century, in which he defended Our Lady's great privilege of her Immaculate Conception. Filmed in beautiful ancient monastery locations in Europe, Scotus is revealed as a humble and courageous apostle of the Faith against the oppressive anti-Catholic government in power.



LEARN

FORMED NOW: CAN GOD HEAL HUMAN DIVISIONS?



A tragic consequence of sin is human division, something we all face in one way or another. In this video, Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn discuss how we can invite Christ into those situations of brokenness.

LISTEN

THE CONFESSIONS OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Actor Leonardo DeFilippis captures the poetry and passion of Saint Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430) in a performance that is accessible and deeply moving. The play is astonishingly relevant for our own times. Augustine struggled with promiscuity, fathered a child out-of-wedlock and dabbled in a "new age" style cult. You'll be amazed by his relentless pursuit of Truth and encouraged by the prayerful perseverance of his faithful mother, Saint Monica.



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MEET OUR NEW SECRETARY - JOAN WANIA

I began providing secretarial support, at St. Mark's Office, on August 2, 2021. At that time, I received this text message from a friend. *"Who knew that the circle of life would have us starting out at Holy Ghost together and coming back around to being in St. Mark's together. The Lord works in strange and wonderful ways!"* The last sentence matched my awareness. I sensed a call to fulfill the role I have accepted. Financially, I needed to seek employment. During prayerful consideration St. Mark's came into focus even before I knew there was a position to be filled. There was a clear and yet mysterious call to be open and ready for something. Then I attended mass at St. Mark's and saw the bulletin announcement indicating the need for a secretary.

I was an infant and toddler when my mother would walk along Buffalo Road to Coldwater Road so that we could visit Jesus in Holy Ghost Church. The habit stayed with me throughout high school, my secretarial career at Sibley's, my entrepreneurial endeavors as a seamstress, a trainer and instructor in varied fields of service, as a facilitator and presenter at The Borromeo Prayer Center, and as a volunteer in various ministries. I retired from Grande'Ville Senior Living and The Mary Regina Special Care Community in August of 2012. Facilitating daily prayer was a privilege. My retirement goal was to provide more care for extended family members versus running myself ragged balancing a career and the escalating needs of those I loved. It has all been blessings granted by God who knows what we need and places inspiration and opportunities in sometimes obvious and other time's obscure places.

Before I began teaching individuals how to sew their own clothing, I had been altering and constructing garments for others. One day while sewing I heard a clear message. It's Sew Easy You Can Make It Yourself. A new business evolved rapidly. I began instructing hundreds ranging in age from 4 to 94. It was my way of providing catholic high school tuitions for our seven children. It was God's direction, guidance, grace, and blessing that made it all possible.

I count St. Mark's Parish among my abundant blessings. I am eager to meet each of you. Please be patient if I need some time to remember your individual names. Yes, the full circle is obvious. It has been my habit to step into churches to visit Jesus. I longed to renew that habit beyond attending weekday masses. In my teens and young adulthood, I would stop into St. Augustine's and St. Joseph's churches before or after fulfilling secretarial responsibilities or during my lunch break. It is an immeasurable joy to do so, before and after work, again! **God knew my fervent desire!**

Throughout my entire lifetime my needs and my abilities have been matched with the needs of others. It is my hope to fulfill the needs of St. Mark's Church in whatever capacity is most vital in accordance with God's plan for us. With joy I join St. Mark's as your office secretary.

Joan Wania

ADVENT GIVING TREE



As you prepare to celebrate this Christmas season with your family and friends, please keep in mind those in need. One way to brighten their holiday is to participate in the annual Advent Giving Tree project sponsored by St. Mark's Social Ministry Committee. This year the Committee will be collecting gifts for the Catholic Family Center

(helping clients from Children and Family Services) and the Women's Care Center (supporting mothers and babies in need).

There will be tables displayed in the Narthex beginning the weekend of November 19th **Please take an ornament tag, choose a gift from the suggestions listed on the tag, attach the tag to the gift and return the gift unwrapped, no later than 12:00 PM Sunday, December 5.** The tag assures that the gift will get to the intended child.

Some teens will request store Gift Cards. If you purchase a Gift Card please put the Gift Card and tag in an envelope marked Advent Giving Tree and put the envelope in the metal collection box in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

May God bless you during this holiday season. If you have any questions, please contact Susan McCoy at 585-441-9194. **THANK YOU!**



HANDS OF CHRIST!

Attention:

High School Seniors and Families:

The "Hands of Christ" recognition is a Diocesan sponsored program that acknowledges **high school seniors** who have actively participated in their faith, and have demonstrated that they have been the "Hands of Christ" in their lives.

The criteria for youth to receive this recognition includes having consistently demonstrated a Christian attitude by word and example; having been actively involved in the parish, as well as, their school or community; having been a positive role model to their peers, younger children and adults; is a practicing Roman Catholic with faithful Mass attendance in a parish in the Diocese of Rochester.

If you are interested in nominating a senior for the "Hands of Christ" recognition, please contact Kris Burgio, no later than November 19th. Thank you!



WEEKLY CONTENT GUIDE

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

"But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever." (Dn 12:3)

Psalm:

You are my inheritance, O Lord! (Ps 16)

Second Reading:

For by one offering he has made perfect forever those who are being consecrated. (Heb 10:14)

Gospel:

"And then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds' with great power and glory, and then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky." (Mk 13:26-27)

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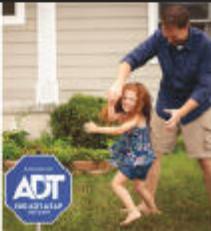
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