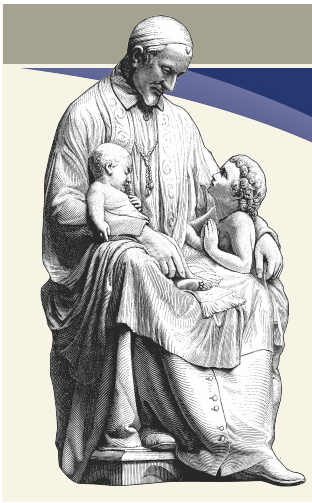

ST. VINCENT de PAUL PARISH

St. Vincent de Paul Parish is a welcoming, caring Catholic family guided by the Holy Spirit. We are nourished by Word, Sacrament and each other. Our members strive to be faithful stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to us. We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by supporting the lifelong spiritual growth of our parish family and by reaching out to serve the needy in the spirit of our patron saint".

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ST. LEO WORSHIP SITE
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RECTORY OFFICE: 1040 CAYUGA DRIVE, NF NY 14304
283-2715 (Mon./Thurs. 9am-3pm)
Parish Website: www.svdparish.org
Facebook: St. Vincent de Paul Parish— Niagara Falls

PASTOR

Very Reverend Robert S. Hughson, VF
Parochial Vicar...Reverend Mario Racho
Deacon David Augustyniak
Deacon Christopher Privitera

Office Manager
(Bulletin/Hall Rental)
Caroline Privitera.....**283-2715 x 200**
(carepc@roadrunner.com)

Bookkeeper: Susan Kobel.....283-2715 x 206

Director of Faith Formation
Sr. Joanne Suranni .....297-5010 x 202
Faith Formation Office Manager
Maxine Menshon .....297-5010 x 200
RCIA/BAPTISM
Call the Rectory ……..……..283-2715 x 200
Director of Music Ministry
Jeffrey Jeckovich 283-3618
Maintenance:
St. Leo Site: Mark Chudy: 297-5010
Prince of Peace Site: Bill Kline 283-1455x 206

Faith Formation Office/Ministry Center Office
2748 Military Road • 297-5010 • Fax: 297-4648

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Emergency Food/Assistance 957-7146

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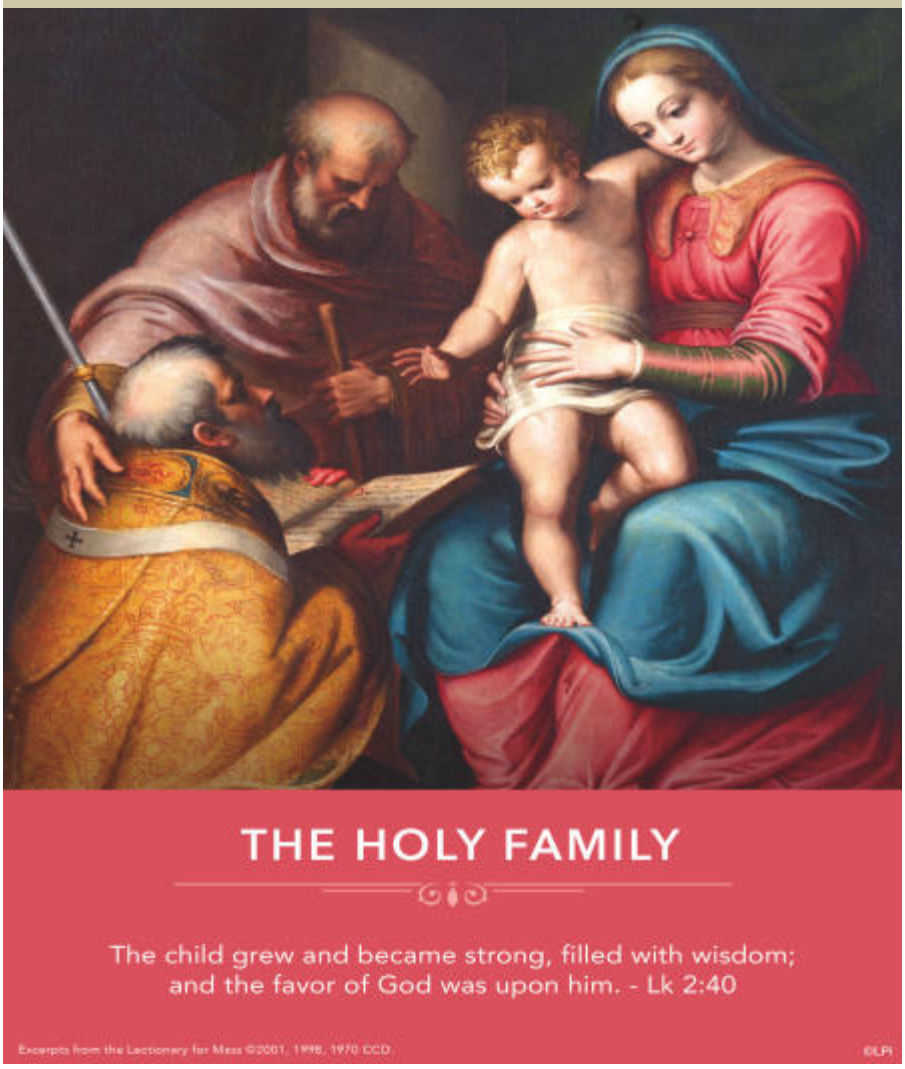

Letters of Recommendations: To receive a letter of recommendation to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation, it will be gladly given to *registered* parishioners **(for at least 3 months)**, who are active, supporting members of our parish who regularly attend Sunday Mass and have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, and if married, has done so in conformity with the laws of the Church.

MASS INTENTIONS

IN THE CHURCH, PLEASE SIT ONLY WHERE THERE IS BLUE TAPE, WHICH IS THE REQUIRED 6 FEET APART.

- **All Weekend Masses are held in POP Church**
- **8:30am Weekday Masses are held in POP Church—Streamed online**
- **Confessions are heard at Prince of Peace Church site on Saturday's, from 3:15pm/3:45pm.**

Saturday, December 26—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
4:00 PM (P) Jerry Peuquet by Wife and Family
5:30 PM (P) Joseph G. Marks, Jr., Love Mom, Dad and Family

Sunday, December 27—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
9:00 AM (P) Deceased Members of the Aramini/Bruno Families by Fam.
11:30 AM (P) Catherine & Jan Kwiatkowski, Theresa and Edward Johnson, Robert Belin, Sr., Carol & Bill Stolz, Virginia DeLuca & Daughter Charlotte Castile by Family

Monday, December 28—The Holy Innocents
8:30 AM (Church) Michael Long by Theresa Meranto
12:15 PM (Chapel) David Rinker by Family

Tuesday, December 29—Fifth Day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30 AM (Church) Rosemary Bettino (B-Day Remb) by Family
12:15 PM (Chapel) All Soul's Intentions

Wednesday, December 30—Sixth Day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30 AM (Church) John Porreca by Theresa Meranto
12:15 PM (Chapel) All Father's Living and Deceased

Thursday, December 31—Seventh Day in the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30 AM (Church) Valentine & Wanda Marks by Daughter Jane
12:15 PM (Chapel) All Father's Living and Deceased

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
4:00 PM (POP) All Soul's Intentions

Friday, January 1, 2021—Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God —New Year's Day
10:00 AM (POP) Personal Intentions by Kathy (Live Streamed)
12:15 PM (LEOS) Deceased Members of the Kirk Family by Gruarin Family

Saturday, January 2—The Epiphany of the Lord
8:30 AM (P) First Saturday Mass: Privitera and Rizzuto Families
4:00 PM (P) Katherine Janiszewski by Family
5:30 PM (P) Louis Szukala (51st Anniv) by Daughter Blanche

Sunday, January 3—The Epiphany of the Lord
9:00 AM (P) Suzanne Mundy by Children
11:30 AM (P) Sally Baker by Marguerite Kirk

THIS WEEK'S TABERNCLE CANDLES BURN FOR

POP Church Candle:
SVDP PARISH FAMILY

POP Chapel Candle:
SVDP Parish Family

St. Leo Site Candle:
SVDP PARISH FAMILY

Parish Groups (Due to Covid, some groups may not be meeting. Call for more info.)

Baptism Sessions:
Rectory: 283-2715 x 200

Bereavement Meals:
Rectory: 283-2715 x 200

Bereavement/Grief Support:
Maria Stevenson: 297-1816

Catholic Men's Group:
Bob LaBarbera: 297-1057

Legion of Mary:
Fred Curcione: 297-2489

Parish Events:
Vicky C.: 417-5109 / Dorothy S.: 297-5927

Prayer Chain:
Pat Stanley: 297-2224

Pre-Cana—Marriage Prep:
Deacon Chris and Caroline Privitera
283-2715 x 200

Pro-Life:
Barb Skowronski: 731-9072

Spiritual Life:
Maria Stevenson: 297-1816
(Parish Nurse Health Care Ministry)

Ushers:
Rectory: 283-2715 x 200

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Your continuing generosity is greatly appreciated. It is because of your support that our St. Vincent de Paul Society food pantry is able to continue to feed the many needy families in our area. We would appreciate donations of the following non-perishable foods:

Ramen Noodles, Soups, and Cereals

If you know of anyone in need of food, please call our pantry at 957-7146. ***Monetary donations are always gratefully accepted***. Please mail to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Society, attn: Treasurer, 1040 Cayuga Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14304, and our food barrels are located at both parish sites for non-perishable food donations. GOD BLESS YOU for all you do to help these families.

(The Poor Box is the Bread Box for the Poor)

Attention to Catholic adults that have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For by the sacrament of Confirmation, (the baptized) are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed".

If you received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Eucharist, are 18 years of age or older and a registered participating member at St. Vincent dePaul Parish, however, have never completed the Sacraments of Initiation by the reception of Confirmation, you are invited to attend Adult Confirmation sessions.

Now is the time to register. Sessions are held in the Ministry Center at the St. Leo Site, 6:30-8:00pm each Wednesday beginning, February 10, 2021 for eight consecutive weeks.

If you plan on attending you will need to submit a "New" copy of your Baptismal Certificate with the place and date of your First Eucharist listed. You do this by calling the Church of Baptism to issue. Call to make an appointment with Fr. Mario Racho 283-2715 ext. 202. God Bless You.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK ***In re The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y*** **Case No. 20-10322**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, On February 28, 2020, The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y., ("Diocese") filed For protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"). **The Bankruptcy Court has established August 14, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "Bar Date").**

If you have a claim against the Diocese, including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date. Please visit https://case.stretto.com/dioceseofbuffalo or call (855) 292-7696 for more information on how to file your proof of claim. **IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.**

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Will be held on **Friday, January 1st after the 10am Mass until 2pm at the Prince of Peace Church site.** '*Never feel inadequate about being an adorer, even if you have not developed a spirit of devotion, are numb, down and out, or weakened by life. The all important factor is that you are before the Lord. Before Him who knows you inside and out.' He loves you immensely.*' Please join us.

Solemnity of Mary—
The Holy Mother of God

Thursday, December 31st
4:00pm POP

Friday, January 1, 2021—New Years Day
10:00am POP
12:15pm St. Leo

PLEASE NOTE:
As a reminder, the **dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass remains in effect**, and individuals should always exercise cautious personal judgment.

PLEASE follow our website, Facebook and our phone message for any changes and cancellations of masses.

Website: svdparish.org
Facebook:
St. Vincent de Paul Parish-Niagara Falls
Phone: 283-2715x 200

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

While families come in all shapes and sizes and no two are the same, they all need a common focus and grounding. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with a proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. In additional to all of these things, the axis of every family has to be centered on faith. It is here that we can learn about the virtues and discover the windows to God Himself in His gifts of faith, hope, and love.

We can learn, modeling our experience after the Holy Family, how to use these as anchors in our lives so that we can live out the other virtues with greater integrity. Because our human families struggle with weakness and sin, we have to come back to the Holy Family often for inspiration and guidance. In the bond of love that they shared, they clung to the anchor of God Himself and endured challenges far greater than many we will ever face.

©LPi

The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, "people need people."

When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn't important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?
As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of Fr. Mario and myself, we extend to each and everyone of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy, Blessed New Year! This time of year always reminds us of our call and opportunity to be generous and compassionate, especially to those who struggle. A special thanks for your patience during these trying times of Covid-19 restrictions.

We thank those who sent cards, gifts or baked goods. Thanks to all who were able help the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry and Angel Giving Tree. Our personal thanks to our awesome parish staff: ***Deacon Dave and Deacon Chris, Sr. Joanne, Maxine, Caroline, Pat, Jeff, Mark, Bill, Sue*** and all who work so faithfully to keep us moving forward in faith, especially during these difficult days. Thank you to those who were able to serve in person as a Lector, Minister of Holy Communion, Usher, Server, Sacristan, Church Decorator, Cleaner, Sunday Money Counter or Faith Formation Catechist to continue the mission of our parish life.

May the Peace, Joy and Blessings of the Christmas Season be with you all as we (happily) enter a new year and discover the signs of God's love and presence to our lives.

Merry Christmas! Happy New year! Fr. Bob, Fr. Mario

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE
December 27, 2020
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God! Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!
©LPi

Lifelong Faith Formation

Celebrate Family Life!

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. The Christian family has been called the "domestic church" since ancient times. Jesus Christ became one of us, and he was born into a human family. This was not incidental or accidental, but rather a part of God's plan from the beginning of time. Families are the place where we begin our journey toward holiness. Families are the place where Jesus is truly present, teaching us the way of love and forgiveness. Because Jesus Christ entered into human history in a human family, families are forever transformed by his life. In what ways do you experience Christ's presence in your own home and family?

Faith Formation Schedule

Due to COVID-19 protocols and the onset of the flu season, Faith Formation will be ***completely digital and remote*** until Sunday, February 21, 2021. Parents, guardians and grandparents are asked to be attentive to your e-mails as digital instruction will continue throughout this time. Videos for family faith formation with activities and prayers will be sent out regularly. If you do not receive them or have questions, please contact Sr. Joanne.

Digital Assignments Requested

All families who completed the fall semester completely remote and digital are asked to send your completed activities to Sr. Joanne at sisterjoanne@yahoo.com. Those who have not completed them will be contacted to send them in. Thank you to all who have sent their children's assignments and thanks in advance for your attention to this.

Parent Meetings for Sacraments

If you have a student in Grades 2, 3 or 10, parent participation to help your child prepare to celebrate is required. After much thought and careful planning, Sr. Joanne has decided to send videos of the necessary planning to parents and guardians. Each video will require you to e-mail something back to Sr. Joanne which will let her know that you have completed the video. Please be attentive to your e-mails and if you don't hear from faith formation, contact Sr. Joanne. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Returnable Bottles and Cans

Returnable bottles and cans are still being collected by Faith Formation. You may bring your clean, rinsed and bagged bottles to church or faith formation at any time and we will return them. The proceeds help fund programs such as our middle school "EDGE" program. God bless you for your generosity.

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the whole world,
go home and love your family."
Mother Teresa

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