

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF FREDONIA, NY

JANUARY 2, 2022



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THE EPIPHANY *of the Lord*

"Since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel." Mt. 2:6

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SILENT NIGHT

(Entrance Hymn for the Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God)

1.
Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin Mother and Child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace.
2.
Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!
3.
Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth!

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

(Final Hymn for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)

1.

What child is this
Who lay to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping

This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary

2.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh.
Come peasant, king to own him
The King of Kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone him

Raise, raise a song on high
The Virgin sings a lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born
The Babe, the son of Mary

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

(Final Hymn for the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord)

1.

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

REFRAIN

Oh, star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light

2.

Glorious now behold Him arise,
King, and God, and Sacrifice;
Heav'n sings "Alleluia!" "Alle-
-luia!" the earth replies.

[Refrain]

JOY TO THE WORLD

1.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing!

2.

Joy to the World, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy!

3.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His Love,
And wonders of His Love,
And wonders, and wonders of His Love!

DEBBIE LOMBARDO, NEW DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC AT ST. ANTHONY AND ST. JOSEPH PARISHES: A LITTLE "GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

I've asked our new music director for St. Joseph and St. Anthony Parishes, Debbie Lombardo, to write a bio so that the people of the parish could get to know her a little better as well as her history and experience in music and, more specifically, in the ministry of sacred music. Being a humble person, she was a bit reticent about "blowing her own horn," but I assured her that the parishioners would be interested. So, here it is. I rather suspect that you'll enjoy reading it with as much keen interest as I did.

Fr. Joe

* * *

Born and raised in Western NY, I attended St. Christopher's Grade School and Cardinal O'Hara High School. I started singing in the choir at age 9, at 14 I traveled with the Children's Community Chorus Of the Niagara Frontier on a five-week "Goodwill Ambassador" trip to Europe where we sang in eight countries over a five-week period. I attended SUNY Fredonia, at the same time as Mary Jane Hens, where I earned my BA in Music Education with a concentration in voice. I was an active member of the opera department as well as the drama and theater groups. Performed in 3 or more shows a year in both major and minor roles.

In my twenties and thirties, I studied voice with Genya Las, a world-renowned opera singer; performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus for four years; was the featured soloist at the Polish Singing Society's Gala and was a soprano in the Art Park Opera Chorus. By this time I had two sons and joined *Opera Sacra* where I was cast as the alto soloist in the premiere performance of "The Pilgrim." We then had 2 more children a daughter and a son. I returned to performing but this time with Anthony Kalinowski who directed a George Gershwin review, an Irving Berlin review as well as *It's a Wonderful Life* at the Lancaster Opera House.

At the age of 39 I applied for the Master degree program at SUNY Buffalo and was awarded the Baird Opera

Scholarship. I performed as the Contessa in the Marriage of Figaro and Gretel in the opera Hansel and Gretel and a chorus member in Samson and Delilah. I earned my MHA in music, theater and dance. Five years later we moved to southwest Florida. I auditioned for Opera Naples and became the lead soprano for the chorus. We performed *Trial by Jury* and *H. M. S. Pinafore* (both by Gilbert and Sullivan), *Madame Butterfly*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and an *Opera Under the Stars Festival*.

Through all these years, I taught music full- and part-time, for 27 years. My greatest joy was directing seven full-length Broadway musicals with junior high and high school aged children. I never stopped singing in my church choirs, eventually moving into the cantor position. And in every church I belonged to, I became the children's choir director. I love traditional church music and my goal is to start a *scola* children's choir and an adult choir!

God has blessed me with my ability to sing and my great love of music. My greatest joy is to be able to share these with my church family and to give *Glory to God* for all He's given to me!!

Deborah Lombardo
"Do small things with great love."
-Mother Theresa

THIS AND THAT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Faith,

I'm a little bit all over the place in this week's article. There are a few items which I've been meaning to mention, none of which makes for a full bulletin article. So, it'll be a smorgasbord this week.

First of all, in case some of you didn't hear it at Christmas Mass, THANK YOU to everyone who helped prepare the Church and the Liturgies (and the Parish!) for the Christmas Season that we are now celebrating: staff and volunteers—those who decorated our church and other environments, lectors, servers, music ministers, ushers, and those who do countless other hidden tasks (like cleaning and outreach projects) to help us celebrate the Lord's Incarnation in a manner as worthily as we can. God bless you for your kindness. There's no way a parish can function without such good people! Thank you many times over.

In mid-December, the Diocese of Buffalo altered its mask-wearing guidelines. At that time Bishop Fisher stated that those attending Mass should wear masks while in church. Exceptions were made for those times when individuals whose ministry would be impeded by mask-wearing (e.g. lectors) would be exempt from wearing masks while performing those services. I've posted signage to that effect but, in an effort to keep it brief (which has never been my strong suit) I didn't mention that the notice from the Diocese promised that this guideline would be reviewed again on January 15.

With that, I'm continuing to refrain from inviting an exchange of the Sign of Peace at mass. It makes sense to me that if we're wearing masks because of concerns about communicating germs, that it would also be appropriate to avoid something even riskier—shaking hands and other physical contact, especially for those who are most vulnerable. I'm not saying that "I'm right" and that priests who continue to invite people to exchange the Sign of Peace are wrong; I'm simply saying that it makes sense to me that, if we're wearing masks to avoid exchanging contagions, that it's also sensible to avoid something even "germier".

Some say that we could exchange the Sign of Peace by other non-contagious means—like a "nod" of peace or a "wave" of

peace, or by holding up two fingers in the shape of a "V"—that famous "peace" gesture from the 60s. Well, yes, we could. But, the Sign of Peace isn't merely a social gesture; it's a liturgical one and, therefore, is owed greater reverence than something we might do more or less in passing. I'm concerned that more trivial gestures could lead away from reverence at the Sign of Peace rather than enhance that reverence. Maybe it's be a little like serving the Most Precious Blood in styrofoam or plastic cups. *Because* it's so important and deserving of respect, we avoid trivializing it.

With that, I might note that the Sign of Peace is a TOTALLY OPTIONAL part of the liturgy. In my experience, this surprises many people. But, it's true. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) states that the celebrant asks the congregation to exchange the sign of peace "when appropriate" (GIRM 154). When the GIRM describes a Mass with a deacon (181), it repeats this language by stating the deacon asks the congregation to exchange the sign of peace "if it is appropriate." It is therefore at the discretion of the celebrant whether it is appropriate at a particular Mass to exchange the sign of peace.

The Sign of Peace isn't a casual matter, but should be carried out (at risk of belaboring the word) with reverence, one might even say with appropriate "gravitas." I remember one time when I omitted the Sign of Peace for a time during the Swine Flu epidemic, one good and holy friend of mine lamented, "But, we don't get to say 'hello' to one another." This was a person who was a daily communicant, but spoke of the Sign of Peace as if it were "saying hello to one another."

Yikes!

That encounter suggests to me that we need to do a little catechesis when we resume the Sign of Peace, for it really can be—and *is*—a meaningful and beautiful liturgical action. Like any other liturgical action, however, we need to enter it in a manner that is mindful of what we're about. Once again, I don't claim infallibility on this; I just thought you might appreciate knowing my rationale.

Finally, may your New Year be blessed—you and your loved ones. It's a great thing to begin another year "A.D."—the "Year of our Lord"—in the midst of our celebration of His Incarnation, of the Word becoming enfleshed, of His "pitching his tent in our midst" as it says quite literally in the Gospel of John. May 2022 be a year when we all grow more deeply in love with God. I can't hope for anything better than that for you and for myself.

Devotedly in the Lord,
Fr. Joe

PARISH CALENDARS AVAILABLE; GRATITUDE FOR SPONSORSHIP

St. Anthony and St. Joseph Parishes are grateful to David Dengler and the Larson-Timko Funeral Home for their generosity in sponsoring the parish calendars this year. Having an ecclesial calendar in the home can be a help for tracking faith-related events that other calendars overlook, and the parishioners of St. Anthony and St. Joseph are blessed that Mr. Dengler and the people of Larson-Timko have provided them. These calendars are available at or near the entrances to the church buildings.

It's also helpful if parishioners show their appreciation by supporting the businesses who advertise in the weekly bulletin, and by letting them know that their support is appreciated.

PARISH INFORMATION

PERSONNEL

Rev. Joseph Anthony Walter, *Pastor*
Deacon Michael Lemieux (*St. Joseph*)
Deacon Matthew Hens (*St. Joseph*)
Debbie Cosme-Rodriguez, *Administrative Associate*
Mary Jo Kessler, *Bulletin Editor*
Judith Bradley, *Faith Formation (St. Joseph) 672-2647*
JoAnn Catalano, *Faith Formation (St. Anthony) 679-4096*
Steven Pantano, *Trustee (St. Anthony)*
Peter Skurzewski, *Trustee (St. Joseph)*
Janice Stokes, *Trustee (St. Joseph)*
Paul Taddio, *Trustee (St. Anthony)*

CONTACT INFORMATION & OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours: M-W-Th-F (*closed Tuesdays*)
8:30AM - 11:30AM (at St. Joseph Office)
12:30PM - 3:30PM (at St. Anthony Office)

ST. JOSEPH

Phone: (716) 679-4116 / Fax: 679-1352
Email: stjosephfredonia@yahoo.com
Website: www.stjosephfredonia.org

ST. ANTHONY

Phone: (716) 679-4096 / Fax: 672-8576
Email: padua@netsync.net
Pastor's Residence: 679-4050

MASS SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Weekends:

St Anthony: Sat. 4 pm, Sun. 9:30 am
St. Joseph: Sun. 8 am, 11:15 am

Weekdays:

St Anthony: 8:15 am, Monday thru Friday

Holy Days:

Please check bulletin for schedule

CONFESSIONS

By appointment (*until further notice*)

FREQUENTLY-REQUESTED PHONE NUMBERS

St. Anthony Cemetery: 672-6657
St. Joseph Cemetery: 679-7728
Northern Chautauqua Catholic School: 366-0630

COLLECTION TOTAL

December 19
St. Joseph \$2,047 + St. Anthony \$3,668.56

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, January 1 - *Mary, Mother of God*

9:30AM SA - Merry O'Hara Ivory - *Mr. and Mrs. Allan Scarpine*

4:00PM SA - Deceased Pastors of Immaculate

Conception

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – January 2

8:00AM SJ - Mario Serio - *Aunt Mary Wisniewski*

**** 8:00 AM Mass is Livestreamed****

9:30AM SA - Diane L. Brown - *Jeff & Trudy Steger*

11:15AM SJ - People of St. Joseph & St. Anthony
Parishes

MONDAY, January 3 - *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

8:15AM SA - Thank You Blessed Mother - *S.F.*

TUESDAY, January 4 - *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,*

Religious

8:15AM SA - John Dybka Jr. (Anniversary of Death) -

Marianne & Family

WEDNESDAY, January 5 - *St. John Neumann,*

Bishop

8:15AM SA - Roy & Angeline Bruno - *Estate*

THURSDAY, January 6 - *St. Andre Bessette,*

Religious

8:15AM SA - Deceased Members of the Orazio & Carrie
Barone Joy Family - *Estate*

FRIDAY, January 7 - *St. Raymond of Penyafort,*

Priest

8:15AM SA - Josephine Barone & Parents - *Estate*

SATURDAY, January 8

4:00PM SA - D. Ronald Passafaro - *Wife, Marian*

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD– January 9

8:00AM SJ - Ann Burgstrom - *Marianne Serio*

**** 8:00 AM Mass is Livestreamed****

9:30AM SA - Paul LoPresto - *Jeff & Trudy Steger*

11:15AM SJ - Jeanne M. Seybold - *Family*

SA = at St. Anthony Church / SJ = at St. Joseph Church

Mass via Livestream: 1. Go to youtube.com. 2. Search for St. Joseph Fredonia & go there. 3. Click on the icon for the Mass that you desire to view.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please pray for: Erika Abrams, Chester H Ball, Jr., Michael Burley, Chelsea, Peter Eppolito, Jessica, Joe, Barbara Kulig, Phyllis Laurito, Ray Lewandowski, Helen Merrill, Warren Mosier, Sue Olsen, Pat Schwertfager, Beverly Smith, Dawn Ubaney, Ronald Waite, Lisa Waite, Mary Till, Katie Yates, Fr. Charles Zadora, missionaries and military personnel who serve away from home, and all who suffer or are in special need.

Names remain on the list for a period of three months. If one desires to renew that request for subsequent three-month periods, please phone or email the office staff. Requests for sacraments for persons who are sick or homebound may also be referred to the office staff.

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