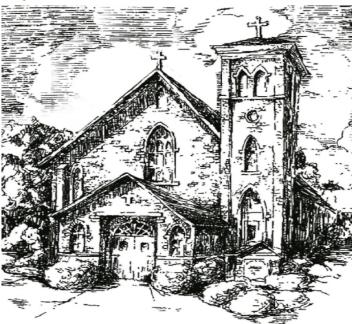
THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF FREDONIA, NY

JANUARY 16, 2022





ST. JOSEPH 145 E. Main Street Fredonia, NY 14063 716-679-4116

ST. ANTHONY of PADUA 66 Cushing Street Fredonia, NY 14063 716-679-4096



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

010

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." - Jn 2:1-3

PRAYER AT THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC

Lord Jesus, Who promised to remain with us always, When information overwhelms us and fear overtakes us, speak to us again those comforting words, "Peace be with you."

Though we cannot be physically close to others, give us the ability and courage to love as well as we can, since "perfect love casts out all fear."

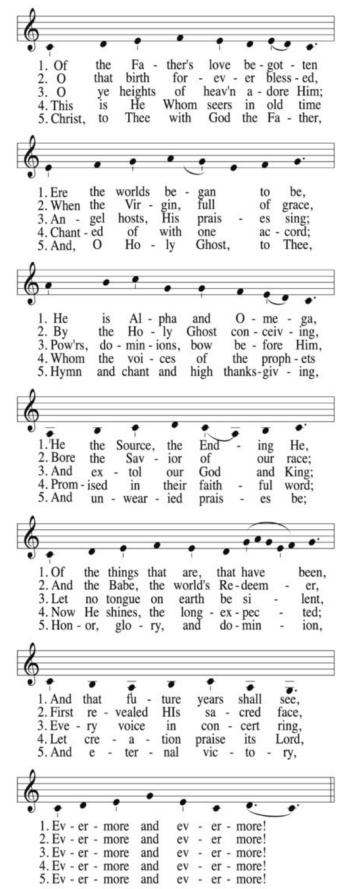
Direct your caring gaze on doctors, nurses, researchers and safety personnel; Come to strengthen the sick, the vulnerable, and comfort those who are grief stricken.

And when the pandemic has passed, and this frightening crisis is resolved, teach us to know You more certainly as our dearest Friend and our only Hope.

You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen



OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN



A TRUE "LIFE" STORY

My Dear Brother and Sister in the Faith,

One of our parishioners sent me a touching story of a man named Ryan Bomberger. He's chief creative officer and cofounder of and organization called The Radiance Foundation, which is a faith-based 501c3 educational nonprofit organization. Ian a special way, Mr. Bomberger appreciates the sacredness of human life at every stage of its development. His message and personal perspective represent a "take" that's not often heard in today's media for whatever reason. However, I think it really deserves attention.

First off, I should mention that the month of January is National Sanctity of Human Life Month. It offers an opportunity for us to reflect on how valuable human beings are. It comes right after our Christmas celebrations, when we see that God Himself finds human life so precious that He became one of us in order to redeem us.

Okay. Back to Ryan Bomberger. Ryan Bomberger is adopted. He sings the praises of his adoptive parents who welcomed him into their home many years ago, embraced him as their own, and made their home his, too. "My mom and my dad are the most amazing people I've known," he said. Well, enough people have that experience.

However, Bomberger went on to say that his "birth mom experienced the horror and violence of rape." He referred to himself as the "product of that rape." And, he said that he's grateful, so very, very grateful to have been given the opportunity to live, and to have been welcomed into a family that was compassionate and loved him so much. That family includes twelve sisters and brothers, nine of whom were adopted, having come from situations that were abusive, impoverished, or neglectful.

Within those challenges, Bomberger attested, "None of us would've been better off dead. We're better off loved."

And love is exactly what he and his siblings received.

Then-president Ronald Reagan issued a first proclamation marking the third Sunday of January as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. He noted that our right to life "the first of our unalienable rights" and that it is one with which we are "endowed by our Creator," In so doing, the President chose the anniversary of the travesty of the Roe V. Wade decision — Jan. 22, 1973 — to recognize the sacredness of life at all stages.

The foundation that Bomberger co-founded shares pro-life articles, digital resources and videos on its website. It s produces a podcast called "Life Has Purpose"—a reality to which Bomberger personally attests from his own experience. The organization also holds numerous events that share the message of life's preciousness in addition to underscoring the profound detriment that failing to provide legal protection inflicts on our culture and society.

"<u>Faith</u> shapes the way that I think and the way I create," Bomberger said. "Instead of joining our culture today in looking through the broken lens of race, the broken lens of class, the broken lens of 'fill-in-the-blank' — as a Christian, I want to look through the breakthrough filter of Christ. ... The circumstances of our conception don't define the condition of our worth." "I am literally the one percent that is used one hundred percent of the time to justify abortion," he said. "I was conceived in rape, but I was adopted in love." The Radiance Foundation spreads hopeful messages on billboards; to date it's created over 500 of them. "With these billboard campaigns, mainstream media can choose to ignore them, but people passing by them will see them. They're exposed to them," he said. "It's one way to circumvent those who control the narrative."

Bomberger's wife, Bethany, co-founded The Radiance Foundation along with him — and experienced dramatic circumstances herself as well. Before the two of them met, she left a relationship that was abusive, only to learn later on that she was pregnant.

At that time, "she felt a sense of shame that, as a teacher in the inner-city Philadelphia schools, she herself was in the [very] place" in which she had hoped her own students would not find themselves, Ryan Bomberger said. But she held firm, persevered thru the pregnancy, and gave birth to a baby girl. "That little girl radically and beautifully changed her life," said Ryan Bomberger. "Her name is Radiance — we call her Rai Rai. We named the foundation after her."

The Bomberger family today includes three other siblings as well, two of whom were adopted.

Bomberger, man of color, went on to say that the mainstream media really "doesn't know what to do with me. I'm brown, adopted, passionately pro-life — and I'm an adoptive father." The family believes in what it says in Scripture in James 1:17: "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

"We all have a God-given purpose," Bomberger said, "and we have inherent worth not given to us by man, woman, or governmental institution. We're called to love one another — and when you love someone, you don't want to see any harm come to them, whether they're in the womb or out of the womb."

"We emphasize love over anything else," he said. "Identity politics are not going to help us regard human dignity any better — but loving one another does."

There's still more story to tell...but that will have to wait till next week. God bless and keep you till then.

Devotedly in the Lord, Fr. Joe

We would like to Welcome CAMERON MICHAEL JAMES MURTAUGH The Son of: Eric & Kathleen (Smith) Murtaugh Baptized on January 8, 2022

PARISH INFORMATION

Personnel

Rev. Joseph Anthony Walter, Pastor Deacon Matthew Hens (St. Joseph) Debbie Lombardo, Director of Sacred Music 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

January 9 St. Joseph \$1,782 + St. Anthony \$3,171.35

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, January 15 4:00PM SA - Mother's Day Intentions SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – January 16

8:00AM SJ - Robert Lucas (Anniversary of Death) -Wife, Children and Grandchildren
**** 8:00 AM Mass is Livestreamed****
9:30AM SA - Marilyn Richmond - JoAnn Catalano
11:15AM SJ - People of St. Joseph & St. Anthony Parishes

MONDAY, January 17 - St. Anthony, Abbot 8:15AM SA - Patricia Kennedy - Doug Smith

TUESDAY, January 18 8:15AM *SA* - Thank You St. Joseph - *S.F.*

WEDNESDAY, January 19 8:15AM SA - Kathleen M. Dempsey (Birthday Remembrance) - Family

THURSDAY, January 20 - St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr 8:15AM SA - Lucia Giambrone - Estate

FRIDAY, January 21 - *St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr* 8:15AM *SA* - Josephine Giambrone - *Estate*

SATURDAY, January 22 4:00PM *SA* - Norma & Charles St. George -

Mary Sladich THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – January 23

8:00AM SJ - People of St. Joseph & St. Anthony Parishes
**** 8:00 AM Mass is Livestreamed****
9:30AM SA - Dennis Abram - Mom & Dad
11:15AM SJ - James Rawcliffe -

Stephen & Donalee Babcock

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, Peter Notaro, Sue Olsen, Pat Schwertfager, 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.

