

Church of the ANNUNCIATION



JANUARY 2, 2022 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

LOCATION

7580 Clinton Street
Elma, New York 14059

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Office

p: 683-5254

f: 681-5668

w: annunciation.cc

e: parishoffice.annunciation@gmail.com

Rectory: 683-2077

Faith Formation: 683-5515

Strong Start Pre-K: 681-1327

MASSES

Daily Mass Monday-Friday 9:00am

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday 8:00am, 11:00am and 5:00pm

Holy Day of Obligation

check bulletin for times

RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard each Saturday
at 4:00pm or by appointment.



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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OUR PARISH NAME IS OUR MISSION!

*With Mary, we joyfully announce: "God with us" in Jesus Christ.
Moved by the Holy Spirit, we strive to create a faith community of love and hope, of prayer,
welcome and service where others will discover in and with us that Christ is Life!*

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Eugene P. Ulrich

Pastoral Associate - Administration

Deacon James J. Jaworski

Pastoral Associate - Ministry

Deborah A. Keenan, MDiv

Assisting Clergy

Deacon Dennis W. Kapsiak

Deacon Joseph P. Mercurio

Fr. Gabriel Scarfia, OFM

Parish Secretary

Paulette Bruce

Parish Bookkeeper

Anne Swierat

Director of Family Faith Formation

Melissa Weisenburg

Music Director

Cynthia Napieralski

Strong Start Pre-K Director

Carrie D'Attilio

Parish Trustees

Dottie Austin, Michael Skrip

Finance Committee

Lawrence Zielinski, Chair

Pastoral Council

Wayne Drzymala, President

Allison Smerka, Vice-President

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Newcomers are invited to contact the Parish Office to register. Adult children need to be registered on their own.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Letters of Recommendation are issued to members of our parish who are registered at least three months, regularly attend Mass and receive the sacraments.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office to arrange to take part in the Baptism Preparation Program.

Marriage: Couples who are planning to marry need to contact the Pastor at least one year in advance of their wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: The sacrament is administered after the 5:00pm Mass on the first Saturday of the month. Persons who are homebound, in the hospital, or in nursing homes please contact the Parish Office for the Sacrament of Anointing.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

Anyone who wishes to enter the Church or complete their sacraments please contact the Parish Office.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation are available for students in Kindergarten through Grade 10.

ANNUNCIATION STRONG START PRE-K

Pre-K 3 is a two or three-day program, offered on Tuesday/Thursday or Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday in the morning; Pre-K 4 is Monday-Friday mornings. For more information, contact cdattilio.annunciation@gmail.com

LITURGICAL LIFE

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends in Christ:

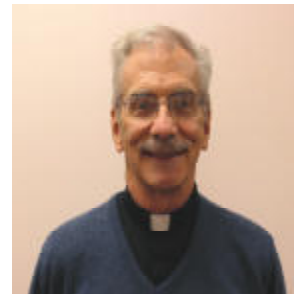
Today is the feast of the **Epiphany of the Lord** when God's glory is revealed. We usually assume the Epiphany refers to the Magi from the East who follow a star that leads them to Bethlehem to pay homage to the new born king of the Jews. Traditionally, there are two other epiphanies associated with January 6th – the Twelfth Day of Christmas: the Baptism of Jesus at the Jordan River and the Wedding Feast at Cana when Jesus changes water into wine. On this Sunday January 2, 2022, as we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, the Deacon proclaims the upcoming feasts of the Liturgical Year starting with Easter. The date of Easter determines the Seasons of Lent and Easter, Ordinary Time and the First Sunday of Advent which begins the New Church Year 2023. The public oral proclamation was an ancient custom necessary before printed church calendars were distributed at Mass. I express our appreciation to **Chris Kloc and Kloc Blossom Chapels, Inc. for providing our parish calendars.**

Bishop Mike Fisher has written a Pastoral Letter on the one year anniversary of his coming to the Diocese of Buffalo. It is entitled, **"Our Road to Renewal: Our Journey Toward Holiness."** It is available at the entrances to church. He reflects on our Synodal Journey, Care and Concern for Those in Need, Eucharistic Revival, and Journey toward Holiness. I share with you his closing words:

"And so my brothers and sisters of our family of faith here in the Diocese of Buffalo, I implore you to seize this unique moment in the life of our Church to engage in the work of renewing and redefining our Catholic faith individually and collectively on the Road to Renewal and by participating in the journey of the universal Synod now underway. No one engaged in this journey travels alone. We support and sustain one another and together will overcome whatever obstacles we encounter along the way. Although the course at times may be unsteady and even uncertain, our destination is clear: Jesus Christ - His way, His truth and His life. So honored as I am and forever grateful to the Lord for the gift to serve you as your pastor and shepherd, I am also your fellow traveler, who wishes to assure you of my commitment to support you, to listen and to learn from you, and to share whatever gifts I may have to complement your own. Evoking the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Hebrews: "... Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God. ... Pursue peace with everyone, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble..." (Hebrews 12: 1-2; 14-15). May God's immense and abiding love inspire us always to seek the good of one another and reveal at every opportunity His Holy Spirit living and working among us!"

As your pastor, I express my appreciation for your continuing support of the church and our parish mission. I thank you for your kindness to me. As the Bishop says above, I am your fellow traveler. May we enter this new calendar year 2022 with hope and confidence of knowing God is true to his promises and always with us in Jesus Christ. I end with the blessing of Aaron in the Book of Numbers, *"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace."* (Numbers 6:22-27)

Fr. Gene Ulrich



THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

- 9:30am Respect Life Rosary (Chapel)
- 12:30pm Pinochle Club (Community Room)
- 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 325 (Gym)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

- 6:00pm Holy Name Pickle Ball (Gym)
- 7:00pm Holy Name Member Meeting (Society Room)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

- 7:00pm Men's Faith Sharing (Society Room)
- Boy Scout Troop 325 Committee Meeting (Community Room)
- Boy Scout Troop 325 PLC Meeting

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

- 9:00am St. Joseph Workers (Langley Hall)
- 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Meeting Room)
- Ladies Faith Sharing (Church Library)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

- 12:00am Nocturnal Adoration (Chapel)
- 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 325 - Set up (Gym)
- 8:00pm Nocturnal Adoration (Chapel)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

- 8:00am Cub Scout Pinewood Derby (Gym)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

- 8:00am Holy Name Society Mass/Breakfast (Selbert Hall)
- 10:00am Family Faith Formation (Virtual)
- 5:00pm Y-Disciples A & B Enrollment Mass (Church)



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 1

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

- 9:00am Casimera (Cass) Ketten
by Christine Ryngwalski
- 5:00pm Alice Daniel
by Husband

Sunday, January 2

The Epiphany of the Lord

- 8:00am Marie O'Mara
by Christine Ryngwalski
- 11:00am John H. Niziol
by Robert & Maura Niziol &
Family
- 5:00pm Dorothy Rupp
by Mary Kay Schaub

Monday, January 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

- 9:00am Victor Filipski
by Deanna Filipski

Tuesday, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

- 9:00am Mary Fitzgerald
by John, Mary Ellen and
Jamie

Wednesday, January 5

St. John Neumann, Bishop

- 9:00am Harold Renaud
by Jeff & Eileen Stone

Thursday, January 6

St. Andre Bessette, Religious

- 9:00am Intentions of Annunciation
Parishioners

Friday, January 7

St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

- 9:00am Happy Anniversary Bob
and Julie

Saturday, January 8

- 5:00pm Marie O'Mara
by Len & Rose Ciesla

Sunday, January 9

The Baptism of the Lord

- 8:00am Deceased Members of
Annunciation Holy Name
Society
by Holy Name Society
- 11:00am Stanley Walczak
by Bill & Fran Suszka
- 5:00pm Hank & Edward Kwandrans
by Kathleen & John Monin

STEWARDSHIP

DATE	12.19.21
Collection	10,572.00
Electronic Giving	3,233.00
Preservation Fund	4,140.00
Picnic	1,485.00
Memorial Fund	1,000.00
Bequests/Wills	0.00
Youth Big Board	2,900.00
Total	23,330.00



Susan Alessandra, Judy Augustyn, Myrna Blizniak, Betsy Brown, Dawn Marie Buono, Eugene Burry, Carol Bus, Ron Bus, Greg Chatham, Janea Clark, Rose Marie Courtney, Stella (Barb) Craig, Ken Drzymala, Lauren Forsys, Erica Friscaro-Pawlowski, A.C. Furtney, Eric G., Irene Garvey, Lucas Gryzbowski, Aurelia Hartloff, Carol Hasselback, Marilyn Kinmartin, Barb Komendat, Daniel Kubik, Patricia O'Brien, Bella Pellittieri, Dave Pellittieri, Bob Pickup, Jeffrey Pieczynski, Judy Schaubel, Art Schmidt, Jim Schultz, Kathy & Marty Solecki, Donna Suidak, Helene & Theodore Urban, Avery VanNortwick, Rachelle & Edson Walker, Ron Wenzel, Lillian Williams, Gina Williams, Mark Williams, Thad Woronowicz, John Young III, and Shirley Ziegler. **The safety of and quick return of those serving in the Armed Forces.**

REST IN PEACE

Santino Terio
Kevin Pieczynski

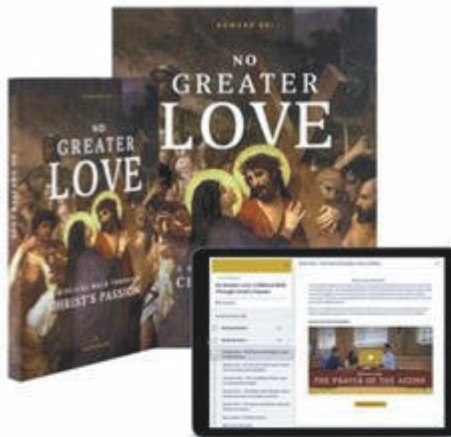


FAITH FORMATION

FAMILY CONNECTION

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say. Conclude by singing together "We Three Kings."



WILL YOU WALK WITH JESUS TO CALVARY?

- Filmed in the Holy Land at each of the sites of Jesus' Passion.
- Take a five week pilgrimage with fellow parishioners. Sessions include a 30 minute video, prayer and table discussion.
- Understand the Passion as you never have before.

IN SELBERT HALL
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS FROM 9:30AM TO 11:00AM
JAN. 19, 26, FEB. 2, 9 AND 16
THURSDAY EVENINGS FROM 7PM TO 9PM
JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10 AND 17

Please detach form here - save the dates for your refrigerator!

NO GREATER LOVE Study Program Registration

One half of the cost of this program is underwritten by the parish for parishioners
Please complete this form and return it to the Parish Offices (by mail or in the collection basket) along with your check.

Parishioner rate - \$12.50 registration fee Non-Parishioner rate - \$25.00
Register by Jan. 13, 2022 - Please register early so that materials will be ready for you.

I wish to register for (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE): **WEDNESDAY MORNING** or **THURSDAY EVENING**

Name _____ Parish ID Envelope # _____

Address _____

City _____ Preferred phone number: _____

Email address: _____

NEWS & EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

In coordination with the Office of Worship of the Diocese of Buffalo, there will be a training session for individuals who wish to become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on Saturday, January 15 at 9 AM at Annunciation (Selbert Hall), 7580 Clinton St., Elma. Please first discuss the possibility with your pastor/parish administrator. Once your pastor approves, complete an application form (available from your parish office or the Office of Worship) and present it to your parish office for final approval, pastor's signature and parish seal. Forms should then be sent to the Office of Worship, 795 Main St., Buffalo, NY 41203 no later than 7 days prior to the training. When attending a formation session, please bring your personal Bible and a means of taking notes. You may bring a snack or brown bag lunch. For more information, email worship@buffalodiocese.org or call 716-847-5545.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

So many families, elderly shut-ins, children and parents are grateful for the help you provided with your gifts to the Stars of Bethlehem program. We received well over 300 gift cards, and though they are not as personal as shopping for an individual gift, it makes the task of distributing to those in need much easier for the coordinators. It also allows the parents to choose an appropriate gift for their own children. You also donated \$1200 to Our Lady of Hope in checks for Ron to use to distribute gift certificates from the local food market in the neighborhood and parish. Be assured that your gifts are put to good use. It is a joy to be able to share your generosity with so many people in our area. May Our Lord and Savior, Jesus visit your homes with His peace this Christmas as you so willingly share peace with those whose lives are anything but. So once again: thank you, thank you, thank you! On a closing note, if you included a check for "Response to Love" please give me a call to clarify. Mary Kay Schaub 716-937-6791.

PINOCHLE CLUB

Why not start the New Year off with a bang. Put a little excitement into your life, form new friends. Join the Pinochle Club. We meet most Mondays at 12:45 PM in the Community Room in the school. For more information, call Bob or Karen at 716-652-2393.

RURAL TRANSIT SERVICE is looking for Volunteers and Riders

Rural Transit Service, a not-for-profit transportation service, is looking for volunteers to service seniors, disabled and low-income residents in rural Southern Erie County. Volunteer drivers need no special license to drive the RTS van and transport clients to medical appointments, grocery stores, senior centers and more. Dispatchers answer a one-line phone while scheduling appointments. RTS is open Monday - Friday; dispatch hours are 9 AM - 1 PM and van hours are 8 AM - 4 PM. Volunteers can choose a 4-hour shift, one day per week, or join as seasonal or back-up help. If you are an eligible resident who resides in the towns of Aurora, Brant, Boston, Colden, Collins, Concord, Eden, Elma, Evans, Holland, Marilla, Orchard Park, North Collins, Sardinia, Wales and would like free transportation, please call us today! Please call 716-472-6065 to volunteer or register for service.



Don't forget to like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/annunciationelma to be updated on all the latest news and events associated with our Parish.

QR Code for the Parish Website



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