

Epiphany of Our Lord Church

10893 SISSON HWY.
NORTH COLLINS, NY 14111



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 27TH AND 28TH

337-2686 • Fax: 337-0028

www.epiphanyofourlordrc.com

Email: epiphanyparish@gmail.com

Facebook: Epiphany of Our Lord R.C. Parish Community

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9am-12pm

Tuesdays and Thursday: 9am-12pm and 2pm-4pm

Please call the office if you need to make an appointment outside of Office Hours.

Saturday Vigil Mass- 4:00pm

Sunday Masses— 8:30am & 11:00am

Daily Mass: 8:30am

Monday-Friday and First Saturdays

(All Masses are Live-Streamed on our Facebook Page as well)

CONFESSIONS

Every Day after each Mass and by appointment (703-4066).

Please speak with Father if you would like to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

To listen to Mass on the Radio from the Church Parking Lot:
88.5FM

PARISH STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Mitch Byeck (703-4066)
DeaconRoy Dibb
Parish Business ManagerSarah Jo Schmitt
Faith Formation Coord.Tracy Tremblay
Music Director.....Amelia Wroblewski
Cantor/Leader of Song.....Anna Fera
Facility Coord. (Volunteer) Mary Ann Gabel
Maintenance (Volunteer) Roger Powenski

PARISH LAY TRUSTEES..Daniel Gabel • Bonnie Hohman

PASTORAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

Chairperson Roger Powenski
Secretary Bonnie Hohman
Vicariate Council Representative Marty Ptak
Vicariate Council Representative Mary Richmond

PARISH MINISTRIES

Baptismal Prep FormationTina Kron
Finance Committee Robin Hohman
Liturgy Committee..... Annette Noto

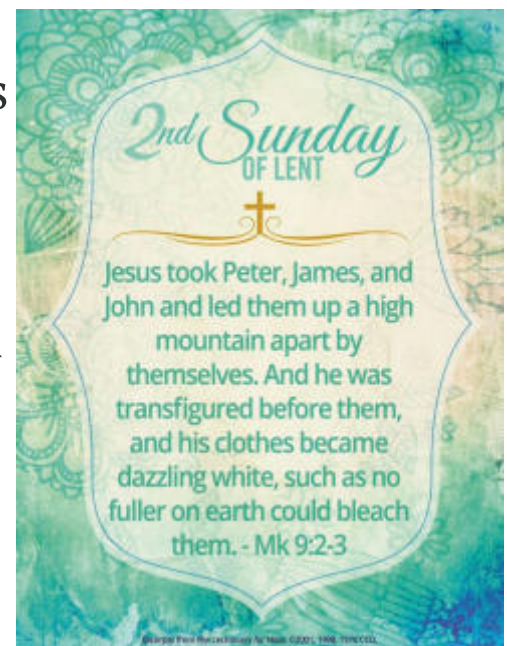
OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Compassion Ministry..... Anne Schmitz
Bereavement Contact Parish Office, 337-2686

PARISH HALL RENTAL: To reserve the hall for a function, please contact the Parish Office 716-337-2686 .

For Information on Baptisms, Weddings, Faith Formation, Parish Registration, and other Church Activities, please call the Parish Office.

On the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus is revealed to his disciples as God's *beloved Son*. In our Scriptures today, Jesus is revealed as God's *beloved Son*, and Paul writes that the risen Jesus will *indeed intercede for us*. What gifts we are given! Let us, then, act in the world as God's children and be his instruments for building the Kingdom on earth.



**Mass Intentions
For the Week of February 28th
(C) Church**

Sat., Feb. 27th: Vigil of Second Sunday of Lent
4:00pm (C) +Bob McCormick
By Peg and Charles Siegle

Sun, Feb 28th: Second Sunday of Lent
8:30am (C) +August Militello
By Mary Gattie
11:00am (C) +Rita Gabel
By Dave Winter and Joyce Schmitz

Monday, March 1st: Lenten Weekday
8:30am (C) +All Souls
By Parish All Souls Intentions

Tues, March 2nd: Lenten Weekday
8:30am (C) All Epiphany of Our Lord Parishioners
By Fr. Mitch Byeck

Wed, March 3rd: Lenten Weekday
8:30am (C) +Deceased Priests of the Diocese of Buffalo
By Fr. Mitch Byeck

Thur. March 4th: Lenten Weekday
8:30am (C) +Marion & Kenneth Brown
By The Great Grandchildren

Friday, March 5th: Lenten Weekday
8:30am (C) For All Parents and Children
By Fr. Mitch Byeck

Sat, March 6th: First Saturday Devotions
8:30am (C) For All Who Uphold the Sanctity of Life
By Fr. Mitch Byeck

Sat, March 6th: Vigil of Third Sunday of Lent
4:00pm (C) +Robert Kirst
By Mary Gattie

Sun, March 7th: Third Sunday of Lent
8:30am (C) +Donna Motak
By The Family
11:00am (C) +Theresa Butzer
By Harold Butzer

*The Sanctuary Candle in Church is lit this week for The Kozub Family as requested by MaryAnne Kozub.
The Sanctuary Candle in the Rectory Chapel is lit this week for the Meyer's Family.*

Readings for the Week of February 28th

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/
Mk 9:2-10
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 7:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday: Ex 20:1-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25



Weekly Collection (02/21): \$2,042.00
Collection Total for this Fiscal Year:
\$58,605.60

We must continue to sanitize the pews, door handles, bathrooms, and other areas of the Church after every Mass. We are in need of volunteers to help us accomplish these tasks. All supplies are in the first pew, with instructions on what needs to be done.

Compassion Ministry

To place someone on the prayer list, please complete and return a card available at the entrances of the church, or call the rectory. Individuals will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless the rectory is notified otherwise. *If you have a loved one on our list and they pass away, please let the parish office know.*

Vicky (Achtly) Alessi, Tony Andolina, Lena Anzalone, Cindy Gabel Amacher, Tony Andolina, Ann Andzel, Elaine Bauer, Romie Lee Bettinger, Ernest Bracikowski, Christine Brown, Mary Jane Butzer, Joey Crocker, Paula Czora, Esther Dittenhofer, Norie Donhauser, John Duggan, Otto Duggan, Anne Edwards, Jason Galloway, Mary Gattie, Art Gernatt, Mike Gernatt, Norm Grapes, Patrick Grapes, Sylvia Grapes, Mark Grugel, Ashley Haettich, Bob Holbrook, Robert Hogan, Jeanne Hutchings, Jane Johnson, Daniel Kozub, Rose Kohn, Mark Kozub, Jean Luno, Irma Martin, Sara Mackey Dunn, Andrew Marconi, Lou Marconi, Diane May, Bob Mc Nerney, Millie Muehlbauer, Marty Niefergold, Jean Ott, Holly Pearce, Bonnie Redding, Andrew Remero, Pat Ricotta, Levi Rothfuss, Wesley Schmitt, Kathy Smith, Sr. Lucina Stang, Danielle Stark, Lorraine Stark, Donelle Thomas, Trisha Weiss, Ed Urban, Gary Wentland, Mike Winter.

Beginning in 2015, The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y. ("Foundation") began soliciting donations to its "Upon this Rock" ("UTR") capital and endowment campaign. The UTR campaign raised funds for many purposes, including soliciting funds for making essential upgrades to classroom facilities and technology of Christ the King Seminary ("CKS"), expanding CKS's role as a center of retreat and religious celebration, and establishing an endowment fund for CKS. Unfortunately, in early 2020, CKS's Board of Trustees determined that CKS would close at the end of the 2020-2021 academic year. CKS's closure will make it impossible for the Foundation to use the UTR funds raised for CKS for their original intended purposes. However, under New York law, when the original purposes for which funds are donated become impossible to achieve, those purposes can be modified in a manner consistent with original intent by the New York State courts. For many years, CKS provided education and formation for ordained and lay ecclesial ministers in the Diocese of Buffalo and beyond. Accordingly, the Foundation has asked the New York State Supreme Court for the County of Erie to approve a modification of the purposes of UTR funds raised for CKS so that those funds can be used to support the education and formation for ordained and lay ecclesial ministry in the Diocese of Buffalo, as determined in the discretion of the Foundation's Board.

If you have donated to UTR and would like to be heard regarding this requested modification, you may send a letter to: The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y., Inc., attention Executive Director, 795 Main Street, Buffalo, N.Y. 14203 or an email to donor.info@frcdb.org. Copies of letters or email received by the Foundation will be provided to the Court. You may also make a formal filing in the legal proceeding entitled *Matter of the Modification of Endowment Funds of The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo N.Y., Inc.*, Erie County Index No. 814747/2020. In order for your submission to be available for the Court's consideration, please be sure to send any letter or email, or make any filing, no later than Friday, April 9, 2021.

Easter Flower Sale



Memorial Flower Envelopes can be found in the back of Church, at the side door, and from the Rectory. Memorials are \$10 each.

Easter Flowers for Home can be ordered by contacting the Parish Office (716-337-2686 or epiphanyparish@gmail.com) All flowers for home are \$10 each.
Orders must be in by Thursday March 18th in order to insure delivery for Palm Sunday.

6" Single Blook Lily
3 per pot Hyacinth
6" Yellow Daffodil

The Season of Lent

The forty days of Lent run from Ash Wednesday up to but excluding the Mass of the Lord's Supper. From the beginning of Lent until the Paschal Vigil, the *Alleluia* is not said.

Abstinence: All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on the following days: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Fasting: All Catholics between their 18th and 59th birthdays are also bound to observe the Law of Fast on the following days: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions in the course of the day.

Easter Duty: After they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, all the faithful are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year. This obligation may be fulfilled between February 21, 2021 (First Sunday of Lent) and May 30, 2021 (Trinity Sunday).

Parish Lenten Schedule:

Stations of the Cross:

Held in the Church each Friday of Lent (excluding Good Friday) following the 8:30am Daily Mass.
Wednesdays at 7pm in the Church starting February 24th.

Private Confessions:

Wednesdays from 7-8pm in the Hall starting March 10th.

Thursdays from 12-1pm in the Church starting March 11th.

Private Confessions are available after each daily and Weekend Mass. Please see Father Mitch after Mass if you would like him to hear your Confession.

Private Confessions can also be scheduled by contacting the Office.

Lenten Penance Service:

Wednesday, March 24th at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Stations of the Cross will also be held in the Hall this evening during the Penance Service.



As a Parish Community, we pray for and offer our support to the Meyer's Family in wake of their barn collapsing on February 21st.



2021 Grand Raffle

Our 13th Annual Grand Raffle will take place on Tuesday, March 23rd 2021. Each ticket is \$20; there will be 30 winners and the prizes are:

1st Prize: \$4,000

2nd Prize: \$1,000 3rd Prize: \$1,000

4th-6th Prizes: \$500 7th-10th Prizes: \$250

11th-20th Prizes: \$100 21st-30th Prizes: \$50

Our goal is to sell 1,000 tickets to make the Grand Raffle a success. If you need more tickets, they are available at Church or in the Rectory.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we will draw the tickets with a small audience, and all winners will be posted in the parish bulletin as well as on our Parish Facebook Page.

So Far 624 Have been sold!

Roger Powenski was the winner of the Early Bird Drawing

Second Sunday of Lent

Take your son Isaac... whom you love... (and) offer him up as a holocaust. These are shocking words to us, but would not necessarily have been so for Abraham.

Child sacrifice was an accepted practice in Abraham's time among the polytheistic religions. But our God does not desire human sacrifice. Thus— and what is even more shocking in this story— God stops him! No pagan deity— the false gods of the polytheists— would ever have stopped a sacrifice. God was putting Abraham to the test, and for his faithfulness he was granted righteousness and became the father of a great nation, through whom, *all the nations of the earth shall find blessing.*

Christ is a descendant of Abraham, and theologians point out the parallels between this episode and the crucifixion. Just as Jesus carried his cross, Isaac carried the wood for the sacrifice. Abraham was *willing* to sacrifice his beloved son for God. God *did* sacrifice his Son for us.

God's sacrifice of his Son for us is at the heart of Saint Paul's message to the Romans today. *If God is for us, he says, who can be against us?* God loves us, and this love was made known when God *did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all.* Because of this we have reason to hope, since *Jesus intercedes for us.*

This hope is brought to light in today's Gospel account of the transfiguration of Jesus. Accompanied by three of his disciples, Jesus goes up a mountain. While they were there, Jesus was *transfigured before them.* Then Moses and Elijah appeared, and *they were conversing with Jesus.*

Overshadowed by a cloud, the disciples hear a voice declaring, *This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.* And suddenly they were once again alone with Jesus.

The transfiguration of Jesus demonstrated his divine nature and manifested the glory he had always possessed, and would return to upon leaving his earthly human body. It is also a prefiguring of the glory we shall one day obtain in our resurrected bodies. If we live and die with Christ— if we do in fact *listen to him*, for he *intercedes for us*— then we shall take our place among our ancestors, as Christ showed on that mountain.

When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. "We're ready God!" our hearts cry out. "Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!"

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties—they've joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It's not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It's the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there's that nagging voice in our minds saying: *go ahead, God doesn't really mind.*

It's a week when we all need a shock to the system— and wouldn't you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried "Ready!" when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, "Ready!" when we hear the call of God?

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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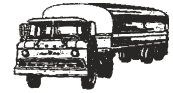
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