

A Catholic Family



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Summon the laborers
and give them their pay,
beginning with the last
and ending with the first.”
- Mt 20:1, 8

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

AT A GLANCE

REFUGEE, IMMIGRANT, MIGRANT, AND MARGINALIZED MINISTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 | 6:00 PM

MSGR. PAA CENTER, NATIVITY BVM, WILLIAMSVILLE

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 | 5:00 – 6:00 PM

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, SWORMVILLE

HANDS OF CHRIST PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 | 8:30 – 11:00 AM

SACRED HEART PARISH CENTER, BOWMANVILLE

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE, FOR INFANTS – AGE 4

BEGINNING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 | 10:00 – 11:00 AM

ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER, SWORMVILLE

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Pg. 5

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Pg. 5

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:6-9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

*The Lord is near to all who call
upon him.*

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16a

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

From our second reading this weekend, we hear St. Paul state, "Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death, for to me life is Christ, and death is gain."

"Life is Christ and death is gain." What an incredible statement. How many of us could or would even make such a statement?

Before we reflect on this statement, we must consider the context of Paul's letter to the Philippians. Paul writes this letter while imprisoned--a situation he faced multiple times. In prison, as he writes this letter, Paul is concerned about his fate. Paul is well aware that proclaiming the gospel will most likely lead to his death.

So, Paul writes his letter to the Philippians from a prison cell, letting people know he is not ashamed of being imprisoned for Christ. In fact, quite the opposite; he sees it as an honor. His imprisonment is a win-win situation.

The cryptic phrase "life in Christ" (also translated as "to live is Christ") suggests that Paul's relationship with Christ changed him so profoundly that his concept of life itself changed. For Paul, living means being in relationship with the Risen Christ. This is a relationship that death does not terminate but only changes. In fact, biological death has become something positive; a door to being in the direct presence of the Risen Lord.

Throughout the rest of the passage we read today, Paul's point is that he wants to live so he can lead others into a relationship with Jesus Christ. Yet, at the same time, he wants to be with the Risen Lord.

Paul's life is no longer about Paul. It is about serving Christ, proclaiming Christ and the salvation of souls.

Paul's conversion experience of Christ left him confident in the fact that not only did Jesus rise from the dead, but he, Paul, would share in the Resurrection of Christ. This makes Paul unafraid of death. Christ is victorious over death, and we will share in that victory.

All of Paul's decisions are based on his relationship with Jesus Christ and his confidence in his share of eternal life in Christ. This brings us to a simple but difficult question: What do we base our decisions on? Do we base them on what is good for us, or for the glory of God?

AMDG,
Fr. Tom



For to me life is Christ, and death is gain.

Philippians 1:21

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

VIGIL, SATURDAY EVENING

4:00 PM | St. Mary's & Sacred Heart of Jesus

4:30 PM | Nativity BVM

SUNDAY MORNING

7:30 AM | St. Mary's

8:00 AM | Nativity BVM

8:30 AM | Sacred Heart of Jesus (9:00 AM beginning October 4)

9:00 AM | St. Mary's

10:00 AM | Nativity BVM

11:00 AM | St. Mary's

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE*

MONDAY

8:00 AM | Nativity BVM & Sacred Heart of Jesus

9:00 AM | St. Mary's

TUESDAY

8:00 AM | Sacred Heart of Jesus

9:00 AM | Nativity BVM & St. Mary's

WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM | Nativity BVM & Sacred Heart of Jesus

9:00 AM | St. Mary's

THURSDAY

8:00 AM | Nativity BVM & Sacred Heart of Jesus

9:00 AM | St. Mary's

FRIDAY

8:00 AM | Nativity BVM & Sacred Heart of Jesus

9:00 AM | St. Mary's

6:30 PM | (First Fridays Only) Sacred Heart

SATURDAY

8:00 AM | Nativity BVM & (First Saturdays Only) Sacred Heart

9:00 AM | St. Mary's

*Our regular Mass schedule is subject to change for Holy Days and Holidays; please check each parish page for such adjustments, including during Advent & Lent.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

6919 Transit Rd, Swormville, NY 14051

(716) 688-9380

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM



**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE ON
THURSDAY 10 DAYS PRIOR TO THE
SUNDAY OF PUBLICATION.
SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:**

**BULLETIN@
TOGETHERINCHRISTFAMILY.ORG**

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PRAYERS FOR OUR PEOPLE

DEVOTIONAL SCHEDULE

CONFESSION

- **St. Mary's** | Every Saturday 2:30–3:30 PM; First Saturdays after 9 AM Mass
- **Nativity BVM** | Every Saturday 3:00–4:00 PM
- **Sacred Heart of Jesus** | Every Saturday 3:00–3:45 PM

ROSARY

- **St. Mary's** | Monday–Saturday 8:30 AM; & Wednesday 7 PM in the Chapel
- **Nativity BVM** | Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday after 8 AM Mass; Tuesday after 9 AM Mass
- **Sacred Heart of Jesus** | Monday–Friday after 8 AM Mass; First Fridays Devotion after 8 AM Mass; First Saturdays Devotion after 8 AM Mass

ADORATION

- **Nativity BVM** | Wednesdays 7:30–8:30 PM with Divine Mercy Chaplet
- **Sacred Heart of Jesus** | First Friday after 8 AM Mass, with Closing Benediction at 4 PM

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY – COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Parishioners can request to receive the Holy Eucharist at home. Contact your Parish Office for details and to be added to the visitation list.

AFTER HOURS SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCY: CALL (716) 688-9380 x 5

Leave a message with your contact information. A priest will reach out to you for further information about Anointing of the Sick. *During office hours, call your parish directly.*

WEEKLY READINGS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13
Psalm 19:2-3, 4-5
Matthew 9:9-13

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13
Psalm 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44
Luke 8:19-21

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Proverbs 30:5-9
Psalm 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163
Luke 9:1-6

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Ecclesiastes 1:2-11
Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17bc
Luke 9:7-9

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11
Psalm 114:1b and 2abc, 3-4
Luke 9:18-22

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Ecclesiastes 11:9--12:8
Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17
Luke 9:43b-45

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Nativity BVM

Nancy & Paul Alden
Bruce Babiarz
Caden
Darrell Coffield
Eric Coffield
Anna Daigler
Tom Downing
AnnMarie G.
Timothy Gallivan
Dick Gehring
Judy Gehring
Joyce Habermehl
Michael Hartman
Deanne Hutchinson Pinto
Mary Alice Marx
Tom McGovern
Arlene Mendrysa
Barbara Mullins
Diane Petroff
Timothy Pollack

Nativity (cont.)

James Powers
Susan Rogers
John & Karen Schaller
Silas Schneider
William & Maria Tupay
Christian Vinci
Gerry & Eileen Walsh
Joanne Welchoff
Matthew Whiteman
Teresa Workman
Robert Zak

St. Mary's

Rick Bean
Yvonne Bullard
Rosario Castiglia
Janelle Coker
Bill Conwall
Don & Patricia Cummings
Tim D.

St. Mary's (cont.)

Bob Ensminger
Adrienne Graber
Doris H.
Joanne Harmon
Reed Hausrath
James Ingham
Jeff
Kathy Kent
Elizabeth Lafferty
Debbie Lentini
Franco Licata
Michael Lort
Matthew Lyskawa
Rita & Don Manno
Stephanie Miller
Elizabeth Moleski
Diane Monnat
Richard Nella
Kristen O'Sullivan
Kathy Pease

St. Mary's (cont.)

Bethann Roehling Flynn
Charlie Roessler
Deborah Roill
Art Stroh
Majorie A. Stroke
Dominic Trigilio
Allie Urbanski
Charlie Walls
Deacon Ed Zablocki
Michael Ziegler
Joyce Zoerb

Sacred Heart of Jesus

Katie Brooks
Marianne Hereth
Brian Holmes
Majorie Lukas
Cliff Saxer

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Refugee, Immigrant, Migrant, and Marginalized Ministry

(RIMMM) invites you to join us for our upcoming meeting on **Tuesday, September 22, at 6:00 PM**, in the Paa Center at Nativity church.

During this gathering, we will discuss our ongoing efforts to support refugee, immigrant, migrant, and marginalized families in our community through the collection and distribution of furniture and household items.

Whether you are already involved or simply interested in learning more, we welcome you to attend. Come discover how we are making a difference together and explore ways you can help serve our neighbors in need.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Sunday, September 27
8:30 – 11 AM**

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Center

Sponsored by the Sacred Heart of Jesus Hands of Christ Ministry and benefiting Sacred Heart projects. **All you can eat pancakes, sausage, fruit cup, and beverages. Join us for breakfast!**

Adults \$9 / Kids 5-12 \$5 / 4 & under Free!



“Mommy & Me” style class for infants through 4-year-olds & their parents, grandparents, or caregivers. A no-cost time for music, Bible stories, rhythm instruments, socialization, and fun!

Monday mornings **beginning September 21** and running through May (excluding school holidays), **10:00 – 11:00 am.**

St. Mary's Parish Center, Enter at Door B1 (parish center entrance). All adults attending, please bring an ID.

No sign-up necessary; please join us! Contact the Catholic Education Office with questions: catholiceducation@togetherinchristfamily.org or (716) 688-0599



Altar Server Training

Training for 2026-27 is **Tuesday, September 22, from 5 to 6 PM at St. Mary's church.** Boys and girls in Grade 4 and up who have received their First Communion are eligible to participate. *Limited number of spaces available.* Please contact Janice O'Brien with questions:

(716) 688-9380 ext. 127 or
liturgy@togetherinchristfamily.org

To sign up, scan the QR code or visit:
tinyurl.com/TrainingAltarServers



Please Note: Mass Time Change at Sacred Heart

Beginning Sunday, October 4, Sacred Heart of Jesus will celebrate Sunday Mass at 9:00 AM.

Rosary will be recited at 8:30 AM. Sacred Heart's Saturday Vigil Mass at 4 PM will remain the same.

FAMILY NEWS & EVENTS

Nativity BVM Handmaids of the Lord

Join us for **MASS** and a **TOUR** of
**OUR LADY OF VICTORY
NATIONAL SHRINE
& BASILICA**

767 Ridge Rd, Lackawanna, NY 14218



Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2026



**Celebrate the
Feast of the Archangels
with a Pilgrimage to the
breathtaking OLV Basilica!**

Mass – 12:10 PM

Tour – 12:45 PM (following Mass, meet at the front entrance)

Join us for a guided tour of the beautiful interior of the Basilica, including the Main Altar, Grotto Shrine, Father Baker's tomb, baptistry, the Father Baker Museum, and more!

Tours are free of charge. Donations gratefully accepted to support the Shrine.

Meet us at the OLV Basilica OR contact Catherine Friedman by 9/25 to carpool from the Nativity parking lot, departing at 11:15 AM: (716) 908-4665.

Veneration of Relics at Sacred Heart



Sacred Heart of Jesus welcomes you to come and venerate the relics of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church; St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church; St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop; Sts. Simon & Jude, Apostles on **Saturday, October 3, from 9 AM until Noon.**

This special time for veneration is immediately following the 8:00 AM First Saturday Mass, as requested by Our Blessed Mother of Sr. Lucia to practice the 5 First Saturdays in reparation for sins committed against her Immaculate Heart.

Hope & Healing Connections Grief Support Group

**Share. Listen. Connect.
You are not alone.**

Experiencing loss: relationships, death of a loved one, divorce, miscarriage? All are welcome.



Monday, October 5 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM

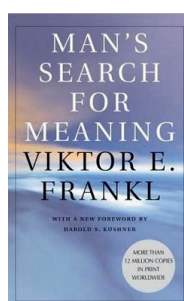
St. Mary's Parish Center, Room 105

Life Chain



This year, **Life Chain** for our *Together in Christ* Family of Parishes will be held at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

*Please join the Respect Life Committee for a public, silent, prayerful, and peaceful stand for Life. Everyone is welcome to stand and pray with us on **Sunday, October 4, from 11:00 AM until 12-Noon** (following 10:00 AM Mass), in front of Nativity BVM Church, on Main St./Harris Hill.*



Women of our *Together in Christ* Family of parishes, please join Daughters of Mary for a gathering on **Monday, October 5, 7:00 - 8:30 PM.** in **Room 110/111 at St. Mary's.** We will discuss the book, "Man's Search for Meaning," by Viktor E. Frankl. This book is

under 200 pages and a captivating read. If you don't have time to read, no worries - come join in the discussion on finding significance in the very act of living, in spite of all obstacles.

A sweet treat will be served. Bring a friend! To join our email list, contact Elizabeth Forman at 716-691-6554, or daughtersofmary815@gmail.com.



FAMILY NEWS & EVENTS

Catholic Scripture Study

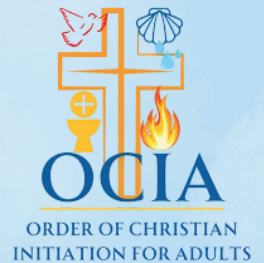
at Nativity BVM

Our study on the Gospel of John begins again next month with John Chapter 12!



Join us on **Wednesday, Oct. 14**, with John chapter 12. All are welcome to join. We meet most 2nd & 4th Wednesdays in the **Msgr. Paa Room at Nativity, 7 - 9 PM**. Scan the QR code to find our meetings on the Nativity calendar.. No prior Bible knowledge required, just a thirst to learn more about Jesus. For questions or more info, contact Dave or Loretta Schabel at (716) 440-3020. You are welcome to just show up at our next gathering!

We welcome unbaptized or baptized non-Catholic adults interested in joining or learning more about the Catholic Church, and Catholic adults seeking to complete their sacraments.



It's never too late to take the first or next step on your faith journey. Let us walk with you.

Call our Sacrament Office at (716) 632-8838 ext. 405, or visit the **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)** page at www.TogetherInChristFamily.org.

Sacred Heart of Jesus

Semi-Annual Flea Market

5337 Genesee St,
Bowmansville



Saturday, October 24
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Dozens of vendors!
Refreshments available.
For table rental, contact
Dave Will (716) 903-4139.



The Respect Life Office
Diocese of Buffalo



Please join us for Respect Life
Sunday / Respect Life Coordinator
Commissioning Mass &
Pro-Vita Awards

Sunday, October 4, 2026
10:30 am

St. Joseph Cathedral
50 Franklin St, Buffalo, NY

Principal Celebrant: Most Rev. Michael Fisher

- Commissioning of new Respect Life Coordinators
- Re-commissioning of current Coordinators
- Pro-Vita Awards awarded at Mass

For more information, call (716) 847-2205



Prayer Shawls Available

Members of the Heart to Hands ministry of Sacred Heart of Jesus have handmade prayer shawls available for anyone who needs comfort, healing, or encouragement. These shawls are a gift for parishioners, friends, or family members going through a difficult time.

Please call the Sacred Heart of Jesus Office or stop in during business hours to pick one out. The shawls make a very thoughtful gift and can be seen as a symbolic hug from God. (See page 11 for Sacred Heart Office contact info & hours.)



MINISTRIES & MORE

VOCATION VIEW – FOR SEPT. 20, 2026

The vineyard is ripe with souls, but we need more laborers for the harvest! Join us in ordained and consecrated ministries for the diocese. Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"You cannot have God for your Father if you do not have the Church for your mother."

St. Cyprian

KoC Council 13661 - Go to KofC.org to join.

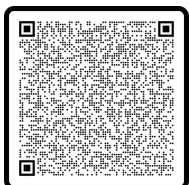
Catholic + Trivia

What was originally painted on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel before Michelangelo's fresco?
(Answer on pg. 12)



ONLINE GIVING

Only through your continued support can our Church thrive. Your gifts are vital in helping us maintain and expand our ministries, educational programs, and spiritual programs, and supporting day-to-day operations. Your parish depends on and deeply appreciates your support. Scan the QR code to visit your parish's online giving platform.



ST. MARY'S

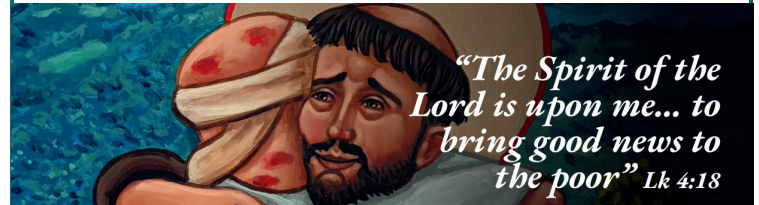


NATIVITY BVM



SACRED HEART

Catechetical Sunday September 20, 2026



Catechetical Sunday is today! Catechists will receive a blessing during all weekend Masses.

Lk 4:18; cf Is 61:1 shows that the Messiah comes not with power or status, but with compassion, restoring dignity, and proclaiming God's mercy. It also becomes a model for the Church, us, which is called to continue Christ's work by sharing the Good News and caring for those most in need.

Thank you to many catechists who serve our *Together in Christ* Family. May God our Father, the Father of Love, fill you with confidence and joy as you proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

WATCH, REFLECT, PRAY

The Chosen - a series that helps bring the Gospels to life! Each week, view an episode together and then share a faith-filled conversation. Come as you are and bring a friend!

St. Mary's Swormville:
Sundays at 10:15 AM,
or Mondays at 10 AM.



← Scan to register, or visit:
tinyurl.com/TheChosen2026

Questions? Contact Dick M.
wnyrich@gmail.com
or 716-221-0046 (voice/text).





ST. MARY'S SWORMVILLE

www.stmaryswormville.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY 9/19 – VIGIL

4:00 PM | Nancy Burkard by Gary & Mary Kay Fowler
and Deanna Donatelli by Family & Friends

SUNDAY 9/20 – 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM | Dan & Mary Ellen Leffler by Gene & Gail Jahreis

9:00 AM | Nancy Burkard by Duane & Pat Burkard
and Edwin Schumacher by Stacy Schumacher

11:00 AM | Frank Leitch by the Family

MONDAY 9/21 – ST. MATTHEW

9:00 AM | Captain Robert Bager by the Family

TUESDAY 9/22

9:00 AM | Carl & June Jenkins and Elizabeth Simmons by Diane & Dan Sutton

WEDNESDAY 9/23 – ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA

9:00 AM | Hope Chavanne [Living] by Marcia McCarrell

THURSDAY 9/24

9:00 AM | Jean Bunk & Dorothy Warczak by their Daughters

FRIDAY 9/25

9:00 AM | Joseph Zoladz by the Family
and Marie Cahill by Gina & Bill Cecere

SATURDAY 9/26

9:00 AM | Max Tyler by St. Mary's Parish Office Staff

SATURDAY 9/26 – VIGIL

4:00 PM | Alexis Ahern [Anniversary of Death] by Lee Santercole
and William Kotanksy by the Family

SUNDAY 9/27 – 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM | Norbert Slowinski by the Slowinski Family

9:00 AM | Nancy Burkard by Carl & Sharon Heim
and Lee Vermeulen [Birthday] by the Family

11:00 AM | Norbert Slowinski by Pamela Slowinski

SANCTUARY CANDLE – CHAPEL

9/18 – 9/25 | In Memory of Barb Meinhold

SANCTUARY CANDLE – CHURCH

9/19 – 9/25 | Deceased Brother & Sisters by Cristina Trinidad-Dabski

CONTACT INFORMATION

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StMaryFormation@TogetherInChristFamily.org

ST. MARY SCHOOL

(716) 689-8424 | Principal: Mrs. Tristan D'Angelo

Office@StMarySchoolSwormville.org

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

StMaryParishCouncil@TogetherInChristFamily.org

Thank You!

The Respect Life Committee thanks St. Mary's Parish for your generous donations to the recent Baby Bottle collection. **We collected and distributed over \$7,200 to St. Gianna's and the Mother Teresa Home;** they were very appreciative! This great collection will support the Pro-Life efforts here in our area and provide vital material, emotional, and spiritual support to families in need during and after pregnancy! Thank you!

Pray the Rosary With Us

The month of October is dedicated to the **Holy Rosary** and includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. Mary made herself known as Our Lady of the Rosary when she appeared at Fatima! She asks us to pray the Rosary for Peace in the World and an end to war. We are offering daily opportunities to pray the Rosary at St. Mary's during October.

- **Weekend Masses:** A 1/2 hour before the start of every Weekend Mass.

- **Mornings:** M-F, 8:30 AM, & Saturday before 9 AM Mass.

- **Weekday Evenings:** M-F, 7 PM in the CHAPEL. Willing to lead the Rosary before a weekend Mass? Find the SignUpGenius in Flocknotes, on our website, or contact Hope C. at (716) 633-9525 or hopemariec2@gmail.com. You don't have to be an "expert," materials provided.

See also: **Altar Server Training**, page 5;
and **Hope & Healing Support Group**, page 6.



NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

www.nativityharrishill.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Hours: Monday - Friday | 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
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NativityOffice@TogetherInChristFamily.org

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

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NBVMFormation@TogetherInChristFamily.org

NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL

(716) 633-7441 | Principal: Mrs. Heather Maier
Office@NativityOfMarySchool.org

PARISH COUNCIL

President - GSentz@TogetherInChristFamily.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY 9/19 - VIGIL

4:30 PM | Thomas Ryan by Carolyn Nenni
and Helen Trivisono by Carolyn Nenni

SUNDAY 9/20 - 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM | Andrew & Santina Calisto by Annette & Wayne Cameron
and Orin & Alice Cameron by Annette & Wayne Cameron

10:00 AM | Robert & Loretta Dailey by Daughter, Barbara, & Family
and Margaret M. Smith by Estate

MONDAY 9/21 - ST. MATTHEW

8:00 AM | Edward J. Clohessy by Peter & Cindy Ludwig

TUESDAY 9/22

9:00 AM | Joseph Pascal by Mary & Mark Crehan & Family

WEDNESDAY 9/23 - ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA

8:00 AM | Katherine J. DiAddario by Estate
and Dominic & Marie Terreri by the Family

THURSDAY 9/24

8:00 AM | Mary Kruszynski by Loving Family
and Bernard by Anonymous

FRIDAY 9/25

8:00 AM | Ellen Harrity by Baker Victory Class of "60"

SATURDAY 9/26

8:00 AM | People of the Parish by Fr. Tom

SATURDAY 9/26 - VIGIL

4:30 PM | Ezio Nenni, Carmel Nenni Acchione, & Daniel Acchione by Carolyn Nenni
and Thomas Thurston by Loving Wife

SUNDAY 9/27 - 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM | Shirley Lowe by Family
and Margaret M. Smith by Estate

10:00 AM | Richard Skomra by Wife, Helen
and Pietro Cercone by the Cercone Family

SANCTUARY CANDLE

9/18 - 9/24 | Susan Gugliuzza - Special Intentions by Family

9/25 - 10/1 | Healing Prayers for Judy Gehring by the Meiler Family



Nativity is on **Instagram!** Follow us @nativitybvm



PARISH FEAST DAY PICNIC 2026

Thank you to all: the organizers, the workers, and the attendees! Your support is treasured and appreciated! A special thank you goes to Susan Riley, for lovingly orchestrating the entire event.





SACRED HEART OF JESUS

www.sacredheartshrine.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY 9/19 – VIGIL

4:00 PM | Rita Kotas by Mary Izydorczak

SUNDAY 9/20 – 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 AM | Living & Deceased Members of the Stahr Family by Peter & Patricia

MONDAY 9/21 – ST. MATTHEW

8:00 AM | Edward Bastian Family by Estate of Katherine J. DiAddario

TUESDAY 9/22

8:00 AM | Maxine Basile by Jen Basile

WEDNESDAY 9/23 – ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA

8:00 AM | In Honor of the Birthday of Susan Loniewski by Barbara Mogle

THURSDAY 9/24

8:00 AM | Father's Day Intentions by Parishioners of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

FRIDAY 9/25

8:00 AM | All Souls Day Intentions by Parishioners of Sacred Heart of Jesus

SATURDAY 9/26 – VIGIL

4:00 PM | Helen Malone by Mary & Irv Karwick

SUNDAY 9/27 – 26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

8:30 AM | Anniversary of the Dedication of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church

SANCTUARY LAMP

Sept. 25 | In Memory of Maria & Tommaso Egizii by Alfredo & Lidia Zeolla

CONTACT INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE

5337 Genesee St, Bowmansville, NY 14026

Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri | 9 AM-12 PM & 1-3 PM

Phone: (716) 683-2375

SacredHeartOffice@TogetherinChristFamily.org

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

(716) 632-8838 x 410 | Coordinator: Maria Sugg

NBVMFormation@TogetherInChristFamily.org

Annual September Baked Goods Sale

Cookies, Pies, Cakes, Breads, Muffins, & More!



After all Masses on **Sept. 19 & 20**, outside of the church (rain location: parish center vestibule). Proceeds will promote the ministries of the Altar & Rosary Society. Stop by for a sweet breakfast or dessert treat!



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, September 27

8:30 – 11 AM | Parish Center

Sponsored by our Hands of Christ Ministry and benefiting Sacred Heart. **All you can eat** pancakes, sausage, fruit cup, and beverages.

Adults \$9 / Kids 5-12 \$5 / 4 & under Free!



HEART TO HANDS MINISTRY

Our next meeting is **Monday, Sept. 28**, at **1:30 PM** in the **Parish Center cafeteria**.

New members are always welcome! We knit, crochet, and sew a variety of handmade items and donate them to over 12 community agencies.

Donations of yarn and/or fabric (100% cotton) and other crafting/sewing supplies are always needed and appreciated. Items can be dropped off in the front vestibule of the church Sept. 26-27 & Oct. 3-4.

The Mass Book for 2027 is now open. Call or stop into the Rectory to reserve Masses.



Important Notice: Upcoming Mass Time Change

Beginning Sunday, October 4, 2026, our parish will celebrate Sunday Mass at 9:00 AM. Rosary will be recited at 8:30 AM.

This change allows priests more travel time between churches, and our young families to attend Faith Formation here at Sacred Heart following Mass.

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:00 PM will remain the same.

See also: **Veneration of Relics on October 5**, page 6;
Semi-Annual Flea Market, page 7; and
Prayer Shawls Available - Heart to Hands, page 7.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION



Let's Pray!

Back to School means new beginnings and new routines! Why not start each day with prayer? **What is prayer?**

"For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven; it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." St. Therese of Lisieux

Here are a few patron saints you can turn to for help in your academic success. At any given moment, simply ask them to help you with homework, tests, or assignments.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Theologian & Philosopher

Before studying, St. Thomas prayed to

understand and remember what he learned.



ST. JOHN BOSCO

Patron Saint of School Children & Young Adults



St. John was an Italian priest who educated children. He taught through love, kindness, and joy.



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

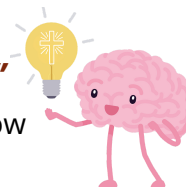
Doctor of the Church & Diplomat

St. Catherine could not read or write for most of her early life. She is an inspiration to students overcoming limitations through faith and wisdom.

Jumpstart your school mornings with a Franciscan prayer for the **Blessing of the Brains:**

"May God bless you and open your mind with wisdom and understanding."

We celebrate many Feast Days in September. Here are a few, with ideas for how you can grow in faith and pray as you celebrate!



The **month of September** is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. Meditate (pray) on the **Seven Sorrows of Mary**. Each day, read one of the Scripture passages that recall Mary's sorrows:

1. The Prophecy of Simeon (Lk 2:34-35)
2. The Flight into Egypt (Mt 2:13-21)
3. The Loss of Jesus for Three Days (Lk 2:41-50)
4. The Carrying of the Cross (Jn 19:17)
5. The Crucifixion of Jesus (Jn 19:18-30)
6. Jesus Taken Down from the Cross (Jn 19:31-40)
7. Jesus Laid in the Tomb (Jn 19:39-42)



September 21 is the **Feast of St. Matthew**, Apostle & evangelist. Read a few verses from the Gospel of Matthew after dinner.

September 23 is the **Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina**, Priest. Ask St. Pio to help you make a good confession.

September 29 is the **Feast of Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael**, Archangels. Ask these angels to guide and protect you.

Come celebrate Mass with the community of believers – it's the finest way to pray!

Pray each day to the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to send you His gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, & fear of the Lord!

a

Trivia Answer: Gold stars on a blue background.

ST. MARY SCHOOL



Help us supplement the supplies in our Montessori classroom!

We're looking for donations of new or gently used items to help round out the materials offered in our Montessori classroom. Scan the QR code below or visit



stmaryschoolswormville.org/wishlist to view the items we're looking for, including small bowls, scoops, manipulatives, bins, utensils, place mats, and more.



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at our

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featuring

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026
5:00PM - 8:00PM

Early Bird Drawing

ONE WINNER OF

\$250



TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 13, 2026
at Mass

TICKETS

\$25 each | 5 FOR \$100 | 20 FOR \$375

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

Healing Mass

September 22, at 7:00 PM,

St. Timothy, 565 E. Park Dr, Tonawanda,
Sponsored by the Friends of St. Peregrine.
Are you or a loved one seeking physical,
emotional, or spiritual healing? The Sacrament
of the Sick will be administered to all seeking
healing graces.



All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast



A.J. Jurek Legion

655 Smith Rd, E. Amherst

September 20, 8 AM – 12 PM

Pancakes, eggs, sausage, beverage.

Adults \$10 – 12/U \$4 – U/5 Free

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*St. Josephine
Bakhita*

**16th Anniversary
Celebration**

Saturday, October 3, at 4:00 PM

Holy Cross Church, 7th & Maryland St, Buffalo
The celebration will include Mass and a
cultural reception. The event is **sponsored by
members of the South Sudanese
Community and ROTA (Reaching Out 2
Africa) Development Group.** For more
information, contact Fr. Ron Sajdak at (716)
510-7036.



Healing Masses

Our Lady of Fatima Shrine,
1023 Swann Rd in Lewiston



October 4 at 6:30 PM,

celebrant: Fr. Dan Young.

November 1 at 6:30 PM,

celebrant: Fr. Bill Quinlivan.

Catholic Charities Can Help



Expecting or have young children? Catholic Charities
WIC program offers nutrition support, access to
healthy food, breastfeeding support, and referrals for
expectant mothers and families with infants and
children under 5. Catholic Charities is a WIC
administrator for Erie, Niagara, and Chautauqua
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www.ccwny.org.



THE CHESTERTON BARREL & BURN

You are invited to the Chesterton Barrel & Burn
– a wonderful evening in support of Chesterton
Academy students! Your ticket includes a BBQ
dinner and tastings of whiskey, beer, and
wine. Featuring live music, entertainment, and
a cigar tent. Enjoy great food, good company,
& support a great cause!

Saturday, October 10, 6:30 PM

Chesterton Academy,

5331 Genesee St, Bowmansville, NY

For tickets: Visit cabuffalo.org

Free Monthly Faith Enrichment Series

Our Lady of Pompeii Church

157 Laverack Ave, Lancaster, NY

www.olpparish.com

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Refreshments follow!



Monday, October 5, 2026

(Mary Palmer)



INSPIRATIONAL CONCERT:

"If Necessary... Use Words."

Celebrating the 800th Anniversary
Year of St. Francis of Assisi's Death.

FRANCISCAN RELICS to venerate:

1st class: SS. Francis & Anthony. 2nd class: SS. Clare & Maximillian Kolbe.

Time correction! The Shred-it Event at St.
Gregory the Great on **Saturday, October 3,** is

9 AM to 12-Noon. Call (716) 688-5678

for more info.



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