

OUR MISSION

St. John de LaSalle is a welcoming Roman Catholic community that seeks to live the Gospel message of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We embrace our faith and support our members through: prayer, worship, evangelization, loving service and fellowship, life-long education and responsible stewardship. We are grounded in the Sacraments and we place the worship of Christ in the Eucharist at the center of our parish life. In gratitude for our many gifts, talents and blessings, we respond with compassion to the spiritual and corporal needs of all.

BAPTISMS

Parents should call the Pastoral Care Office soon after the birth of the child to arrange to attend the baptism preparation class, held on the last Wednesday of each month. Baptisms are scheduled for the first and third weekend of the month after the 11:15 or 4:30 Mass, or they can be done during the 11:15 or 4:30 Mass.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Please call the PCO during regular office hours to determine if you are eligible to receive a letter of recommendation. Letters of recommendation (to act as a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation) may be issued to currently registered parishioners who attend Mass, are confirmed and married in the Church.

MARRIAGES

Couples should begin planning with the parish at least six months prior to the wedding date. A marriage program is an essential part of the planning process.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Please contact the Pastoral Care Office to arrange for pastoral visits for hospitalized or homebound parishioners.

**Together in Faith
Since 1907
December 5, 2021**

**Second Sunday
Of Advent**



**PASTORAL CARE OFFICE
716-283-2238 EXT. 302/301**

Monday through Thursday:
9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Closed On Friday

Pastor. Ext. 308
Emergency Only 579-4949
Office Ext. 302/301
Faith Formation 283-5140
Ext. 306
Community Care / Food Pantry -
Mrs. Lynn Siegfried 622-5880

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8:45am, 11:15am
Weekdays: 8:00 am (Monday thru Friday)
Tuesday: 6:30 pm St. Jude Novena
Followed By Mass at 7:00 pm. Anointing Of The Sick On The First Tuesday Of Each Month.
Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 8:45 -
Midnight!

Non Gluten Eucharist Available On Request

*Restroom w/changing table located near daily chapel;
there is another restroom in the west foyer.*

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Rev. Slawomir Siok, SAC
Office Mrs. Cynthia Tripoli
Mrs. Debbie Burns
Faith Formation: Mrs. Marybeth Simoneit
Music Leaders: Mrs. Christy Murty
Mr. Jeff Paterson
Trustees: Miss Janet Furlong
Mr. Michael Casale
Parish Council: Mr. Andrew Touma

**SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

**A VOICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT:
"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,
MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.
EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED
AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW."**

—LUKE 3:4-5

Parish Center: 716-283-7916 • Fax: 716-283-7973

Email: stjohndelasalle@juno.com • Website: www.stjohndelasalle.org

8477 Buffalo Avenue • Niagara Falls, New York 14304

December 5, 2021
Second Sunday Of Advent
Liturgy of the Hours—Seasonal Proper

**First Saturday, December 4, Saint John Damascene,
 Priest And Doctor Of The Church**

8:00 am All Souls
 3:45 pm—4:15 pm Confessions
 4:30 pm Deceased Members Of The Rosary Altar
 Society

**Sunday, December 5, SECOND SUNDAY OF
 ADVENT**

8:45 am Gary Hill by Judy & Children
 11:15 am Patsy & Eugenia Giancola by Children

Monday, December 6, Saint Nicholas, Bishop

8:00 am People Of The Parish

**Tuesday, December 7, Saint Ambrose, Bishop And
 Doctor Of The Church**

8:00 am Dorothy Hanks by Family
 6:30 pm St. Jude Novena
 7:00 pm Mother's Day Intentions

**Wednesday, December 8, THE IMMACULATE
 CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED
 VIRGIN MARY**

8:00 am Deceased Members Of The Kaumeyer Family
 by Linda Kaumeyer

**Thursday, December 9, Saint Juan Diego
 Cuauhtlatotzin**

8:00 am Brian O'Laughlin by Family
 8:45 am—Midnight Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, December 10, Advent Weekday

8:00 am Father's Day Intentions

Saturday, December 11, Saint Damasus I, Pope

8:00 am All Souls
 3:45 pm—4:15 am Confessions
 4:30 pm Richard Touma (2 year anniversary) by Mar-
 garet Touma & Family

Sunday, December 12, THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:45 am Estelle Rosso by Stan & Rosemary Klejdys
 11:15 am Marjean Leissile by Family

Please pray for our ill and hospitalized: Dot Swift, Jill Dombrowski, Stacey, Matthew II, Mary Ann Bergquest, Baby Jack, Sharon, Baby Gregory, Shannon, Uncle Gary, JoAnn Spears, Michelle Foster, Deirdre Raduns, Donna Cutwa, Preston Montroy, Alfreda Gautreau, Kaia Foster, Z, Helga, Philip Buffone, Pat Hahn, Lynette & Family, Daniel P., Anne-Marie S., Chris Nelson, Ron, Michele Promowicz Newman, Gail Jakubowski, Cathy D'Angelo, Ryan Welsh, Amelia Morganti, Bob & Christine Belkota, Kevin White, J. White, Little J., MCL, Doug, Matthew Smith, Dave De-Luke, Suzanne DeLuke, John C., Emilia Kobus, Brad Ludwig, Gabrielle Wittkop, Rosemary, Vikki H, Hank Buchalski, Barb Anthony, Inez, John Butler, Joanne I. Philbrick, Violet Iadicicco, Joel Rivera, Alex, Jim & Denise Clapps, Kristy, Lynn Kowalski, Ken Shebelle, Monica Pietras, Richard, Anastasia Rafter, Carrie Wheeler, Baby Sammy, Rose Muto, Olivia P., Kim Z., Jude Holka, Kelly Metzinger, Joe Ceretto, Linda Marino, Tricia Papke; Shirley Kostoff, Chester Bradley, Kellianne Laughing, Jean De-Marco, Norma Genovese, Paul Hogan, Sharon Costanzo, Joel Rivera, Jessica McDowel, Todd Littlewood, Andrew Mrzygut

***The Sanctuary Light Burns With Unceasing
 Prayer In Front Of The Blessed Sacrament For
 The Month Of December For The Hansen &
 Burden Families By Sharon!***

HEAR THE VOICE OF THE LORD

2nd Sunday of Advent—Seek God In The Silence

We live in an age of hashtags, sound bites, and blogs and in a world of competing viewpoints and clamoring voices. It can sometimes be difficult to discern what is really worthy of our attention. This is especially true in days when partisan politics dominates our newsfeeds, and we try to make sense of senseless acts of violence and terror on so many fronts. It's easy to place blame, make excuses, and dig into our ideological trenches, all too often losing sight of the many goods — and lives — that are sacrificed on the altars of partisanship and policy.

There is a real danger in all of this: if we settle for the mediocrity of sound bites and half-truths, without seeking to discern what is truly important, we run the risk of losing sight of the hopes and promises that can only find fulfillment in a life committed to Christ.

While we may not often think of it in this way, Advent is a season of discernment. We're reminded of this in the second reading for this Sunday as we hear St. Paul's words to the Philippians: "This is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ" (Phil 1:9-10).

Building on this theme, the words of the prophet Baruch and the clarion call of John the Baptist that we hear this Sunday remind us of what it is we are called to be and do. The Baptist's cry to "prepare the way for the Lord" is a charge to discern the Lord's voice calling out to us in the midst of the noise and clamor that fills our daily lives and to persevere in the way of faith. This truth prompted the priest Origen to ask: "Is it not a way within ourselves that we have to prepare for the Lord? Is it not a straight and level highway in our hearts that we are to make ready? Surely this is the way by which the Word of God enters ... Prepare a way for the Lord by living a good life and guard that way by good works. Let the Word of God move in you unhindered and give you a knowledge of his coming and of his mysteries."

Hearing the voice of the Lord in the distance demands action, but this isn't only an invitation to turn away from personal choices and sins that may limit or even prevent God's coming among us. John is also calling us to turn toward God's mercy. And this turning — conversion — isn't only about what we give up, it is really about accepting the gift that we are being offered. This is why Pope Francis has reflected, "Let us ask ourselves: is it true that in the various situations and circumstances of life, we have within us the same feelings that Jesus has? Is it true that we feel as Christ feels ... We must always convert and have the sentiments that Jesus had."

In the liturgy for this Second Sunday of Advent, we are being reminded that these days of Advent demand our attention and intentionality. It is only by seeking the stillness and quiet — leaving behind the hashtags and sound bites — that we can discern the distant voice of the Coming One who brings the mercy and peace which our world so desperately needs.

Br. Silas Henderson, S.D.S.

PRAYER!

*May the splendor of your glory dawn in our hearts, we pray, almighty God, that all shadows of the night may be scattered and we may be shown to be children of light by the advent of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
 Amen.*

Every Week We Need \$5500.00 To Cover Our Weekly Expenses!

Regular Collection For December 5, 2021: \$2929.00
Monthly Collection: \$70.00, **Utilities:** \$76.00, **Mail:** \$330.00, **Debt Reduction:** \$1190.00, **Community Care:** \$4160.00, **Christmas Flowers:** \$776.00, **Catholic Campaign For Human Development:** \$21.00.
Online Giving: 11/22/2021—11/28/2021: Total: \$710.00.

The Second Collection This Sunday, December 5, Is For Retirement Fund for Religious!
The Second Collection December 12th, is for Our Monthly Sacrifice!

Also Please Remember To Use Your Debt Reduction Envelopment For December So We May Reach Our \$40,000 Goal By December 26th!

To date we have collected, \$34,754.00, leaving a balance of \$5,246.00 left to raise!

Thank You For Supporting Our Parish!!!

Our Bingo Updates:

We now hold our **St. John de LaSalle BINGO** in our Parish Center on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Please let your family and friends know of our new location. Bingo is one of our highest fundraisers, donating our profits to the Church!

We are in need of floor workers for the first and fourth Tuesday's of each month. Can you give us 3 hours of your time (6:00 pm—9:00 pm) on these Tuesday's. If so, please call Terry at 716-400-4125.

Thank You For All Your Support!

Fr. Slawek is asking for your help. He is in need of Altar Servers to assist at Mass. If you have made your First Holy Communion, you qualify to become an Altar Server. Please call Father and let him know you are interested. Be sure to leave a message if we are unable to answer your call. Thank You! 716-283-2238 ext. 303

Please try to find time to join us for as many masses as you are able. Prepare yourself for the arrival of the Messiah. Remember, if we wish to make Christmas a Joyful time...apart from the gifts and parties.... we need to prepare ourselves spiritually.

Baptism News!

This Sunday, December 5th, we would like to welcome Kingston Lyle J. Hill, who will be receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. Proud parents are Jason Hill and Danielle Dodge! Please keep them all in your Prayers and May God Bless Them!!!

Also This Sunday, December 5, we would like to welcome Roman Matthew Kogut, who will be receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. Proud Parents: Elizabeth Henschel & Tomaz Kogut! Please keep them all in your Prayers and May God Bless You All!

Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers please stop in the sacristy and sign up for your preference to serve at the Christmas Liturgy. Also if you have not yet picked up your workbook and prayer books, they are in the sacristy for pick-up.

Retirement Fund For Religious!

Give in gratitude. A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.

Second Sunday of Advent!

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent. Part of our Advent preparation should be to go to confession. Our parish will host a Penitence Service on Monday, December 13th at 7:00 pm. Parents please come together with your children for this service. You will have a variety of priests to hear your confession.

Sharing the Oplatky!

The sharing of "Oplatky (ohplaht-kee)" is a wonderful Eastern custom, which is celebrated on Christmas Eve during the meal following the Vigil Mass. Sharing the Oplatky there is a forgiveness of all wrongs among the participants and a promise to never return to them. "Oplatky", the Christmas Bread, has been blessed and is available to you in church today.

Rosary Altar Christmas Party!!

*The Rosary Altar Christmas Party is December 9th, at The Bakery Lounge; cash bar 5:30 pm, dinner served at 6:00 pm. If you would like to participate in gift exchange please bring a \$15.00 gift. Also we will be collecting **hats, gloves and scarves for the Giving Tree!** Cost of dinner is \$25.00 and you have a choice of Chicken Marsala or Salmon. Please call Janet—716 754-2261 or Phyllis—716-283-0756!*

St. John de LaSalle Volunteer Appreciation Dinner!!

On Sunday, January 9, 2022, at 12:30 pm, we will be having a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Koban's Restaurant, 3045 Niagara Street, Niagara Falls. If you are interested in attending please call the PCO—716-283-2238 ext. 302, no later than December 30, 2021!

*Meat Choices Are:
 Chicken Parmigiana
 Or*

*Boneless Breaded or Charbroiled Pork Chops
 Included Also;*

Garlic Toast, Salad, Potato, Vegetable, Dessert & Coffee

Feast Day—December 6, Saint Nicholas

From the ninth century in the East and the eleventh century in the West, Nicholas has been one of the most popular saints in Christendom and in Christian art and is the patron of many countries, dioceses, churches, and cities. He was a Greek bishop of Myra in Lycia (now Turkey).

According to folklore, he may have saved three girls from prostitution, restored to life three children who had been killed, and saved three unjustly condemned men from death. While some sources say that he may have been imprisoned during the Diocletian persecution, there is no historical certainty that he suffered persecution for his faith. Likewise, while some sources place him at the Council of Nicaea in 325, it is uncertain if he attended. His charity to the poor is commemorated in modern times by those who follow the tradition of stuffing a boot or a stocking with gifts on his feast day. "Santa Claus" comes from the Dutch form of his name, "Sinterklaas." He is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, and children.

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