

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 19,
2021**

**Fourth 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

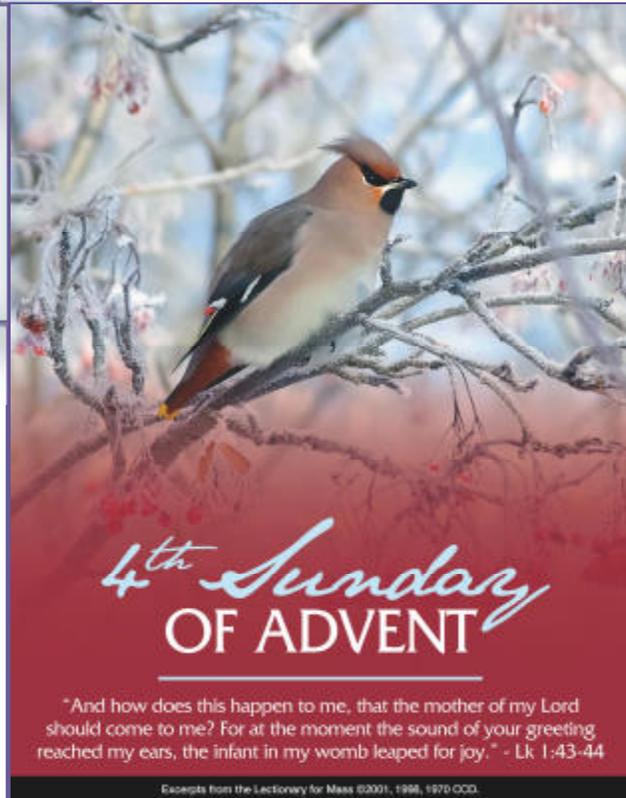
*Restroom w/changing table located near daily chapel;
there is another restroom in the west foyer.*

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



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 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday Of Advent
Liturgy of the Hours—Seasonal Proper

Saturday, December 18, Late Advent Weekday

8:00 am All Souls

3:45 pm—4:15 am Confessions

4:30 pm Stella & Elmer Maurer by Daughter Patricia

Sunday, December 19, FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:45 am John Wayda by Family

11:15 am Stephen Pochatko by Wife & Sons

Monday, December 20, Late Advent Weekday

8:00 am Anthony & Catherine Rydelek

Tuesday, December 21, Saint Peter Canisius, Priest And Doctor Of The Church

8:00 am Patrick Driscoll by Cindy Tripoli

6:30 pm St. Jude Novena

7:00 pm Wilma Foggia by Family

Wednesday, December 22, Late Advent Weekday

8:00 am People of the Parish

Thursday, December 23, Saint John Of Kanty, Priest

8:00 am Mother's Day Intentions

8:45 am—Midnight Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, December 24, Late Advent Weekday

4:00 pm Alice Hansen by Children

11:30 pm Christmas Carols

12:00 am Anna Fahs by Chuck & Lyn Siegfried

Saturday, December 25, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

8:45 am Deceased Members Of The Drozek & Tripoli Families by Peter & Cindy Tripoli

11:15 am Nancy Martinez by Family

Sunday, December 26, THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

8:45 am Patricia Nolan by the Family

11:15 am Diane Scalia by Sisters

The Least Among Us

Perhaps among the most poignant and disgraceful situations in our cities is the condition of the homeless. Each year, the sight seems to become more and more scandalous especially around this time of year: people without a rooted existence; people without respect and hungering for justice; people with nothing except what they've managed to cull from the streets. That's right: people. Just like you and me-human beings. How could all this happen?

Pope Francis prophetic tells us the cause of such social malaise-indifference. The poor and the immigrant will never have a chance because they are simply being overlooked, quite literally, when we step over them on those cold December mornings while they hold out their hands and we are on the way to work, or check our smartphones to pretend we don't see the human anguish in front of us.

St. Benedict tells his monks that guests should always have a place at the monastic table because they take the place of Christ. In serving those in need, we serve the poor Christ, an echo of Matthew 25:31-46.

Our value system, however, sometimes runs the other direction because our very awe of the rich and powerful guarantees that they will not be overlooked. Maybe we like to get close to the powerful because we think something good will rub off on us. Strange.

Such attitudes contrast broadly with the all-powerful God, who has singled out the small tribe of Judah and the city of Bethlehem to shelter the Great Shepherd. A poor and lowly virgin would welcome the living God into her own body, made present because she was to do the will of God. This is the true source of power, God himself, who has chosen to share that divine reality with human flesh.

As the Letter to the Hebrews tells us, "When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me."

Therefore, as we hear in the prayer over the offerings in today's Eucharist: "May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary." Indeed, it is the sanctification of humanity that draws us into the power of God, which no human being, secular or religious, dares to match.

Every person deserves respect and justice because God overlooks no one and sanctifies the world by his presence. On honoring those that society has disdained, we glorify the body of Christ, in whose body we share at the Lord's Supper. We glorify Christ in the flesh in his members, the way that John the Baptist leaped for joy in the presence of Jesus in his mother's womb. It is well for us to recall those who will be neglected the celebration of Christ coming in the flesh. He came from the least but has become the Shepherd of his people - all people.

Please pray for our ill and hospitalized: Richard, 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 DeLuke, 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 DeMarco, 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!

The Second Collection This Sunday, December 19, Is For Utilities!

There is no Second Collection December 26th!

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!

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.

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.

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—St. Sebastian At Silo
(1000-1073) December 20**

As a youth Dominic tended sheep on the foothills of the Pyrenees where he learned to appreciate solitude. He then pursued the quiet life as a monk. Dominic became the prior of his monastery, but was forced to flee by the king of Navarre, who intended to seize the monastery's land. The monastery of **St. Sebastian at Silos** welcomed him. There as prior, Dominic conducted a successful program of spiritual and material renewal. The Dominicans especially honor him. For a century after Dominic's death, Blessed Joan of Aza visited his tomb. There she had a vision promising her that she would have another son. When the child was born she named him Dominic and he became the founder of the Dominican Order.

Blessing Of A Christmas Manger!

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas creche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223. The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time. When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R/. Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**The leader prays with hands joined:
God of every nation and people,
From the very beginning of creation
You have made manifest your love:
When our need for a Savior was great
You sent your Son to be born of the
Virgin Mary.**

**To our lives he brings joy and peace,
Justice, mercy, and love.**

Lord,

**Bless all who look upon this manger;
May it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,
And raise our thoughts to him,
Who is God-with-us and Savior of all,
And who lives and reigns forever and ever.**

R/. Amen

A lot has changed since our founding in 1923, but one thing has remained a constant: **Just as we have for 98 years, Catholic Charities is here and ready to help—now.** If you have an emergency need for food or personal hygiene items, mental health counseling, substance use treatment, and more, reach out to our **Helpline at 716-218-1419**. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit www.ccwny.org. Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Baptism News!!

On Sunday, December 26, 2021, **Emily Margaret Nixon** will receive the Sacrament of Baptism. Her proud parents are, **Russell & Allison Nixon**. Please keep them all in your Prayers! May God Bless The Nixon Family!!

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