



ALL ARE WELCOME!

# ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

26 Erie Avenue • Gowanda, NY 14070

DECEMBER 26, 2021 • THE HOLY FAMILY

## Calendar of Events

### Saturday, December 25—Christmas Day

9:30 am.....Mass at St Joseph Church

**Note: No 4:30 pm Mass at St. Joseph**

8:00 pm.....AA Meeting, Church basement

### Tuesday, December 28

6:30 pm.....Al-Anon Meeting, school

### Wednesday, December 29

9am.....Bible Study, school

### Friday, December 31

8:30 am.....Mass at St. Joseph Church

5:00 pm.....Vigil Mass at St. Mary's

### Saturday, January 1— Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:30 am.....Mass at St. Joseph Church

4:30 pm.....Mass at St. Joseph Church

8:00 pm.....AA Meeting, Church basement

### Tuesday, January 4

6:30 pm.....Al-Anon Meeting, school

### Wednesday, January 5

9:00 am.....Bible Study, school

### Friday, January 7—First Friday

8:30 am..... Mass

9:00 am..... Anointing of the Sick

9:00 am to 12 Noon.....Adoration

### Saturday, January 8

8:00 pm.....AA Meeting, Church basement

### Sunday, January 9

9:30 am.....Youth Mass

10:30-11:30 am.....All Faith Formation Classes, school

10:30-11:30 am....Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Class, school

10:30-11:30 am.....Adult Faith Formation, school

**Rectory:** 26 Erie Ave. • 532-5100 • **Fax:** 532-4096 • **Hours:** M-F 9 am to 2 pm

**Email:** rectory@stjoesgowanda.com • **Website:** www.sjcgowanda.org

**Faith Formation:** Wilma Parry 532-2520, reled@stjoesgowanda.com

**Rev. Innocent Diala, Pastor**

**Deacon Wally Samick**

### MASS SCHEDULE

**St. Joseph Church:** Saturday 4:30 p.m. • Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

Weekdays: 8:30 a.m.



## THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Recreated from the Lectionary for Mass ©2021, 1998, 1970 ©CEC

**SICK CALLS:** Anytime. Call the rectory as soon as possible.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday at 3:45 p.m. or by appointment.

**RCIA:** Please contact the rectory.

**BAPTISMS:** Upon request; pre-baptismal instruction is required. Please contact the rectory.


**PRE-CANA:** Classes can be scheduled by calling the rectory.

**MARRIAGES:** Arrangements should be made at least 6 months in advance at the rectory.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Please register at the rectory as soon as possible after you have moved into the Parish. Registration as a member of the parish requires the completion of an application available at the rectory.



Not finding [Jesus], they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. - Lk 2:45-47 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week for *All Parishioners.*

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

For all those serving in our **Armed Forces** here and around the world. For those who are suffering from pain and illness, especially: **Patricia Leonard, Mary Stelley, Carol Regan, Joan Cain, Leo Gassman, Colt William Matz, Mark Smith, Mike Gernatt, Kiley Denea, Melissa Moulton Peglowski, Peter Johnson, Justin Regan, Beatrice and Donald Swanson, Sister Lucina Stang, Mary Vanderbosch, and Mike Wesley.** For those who have died...*Dale Koch.*

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, all had to make sacrifices to accomplish the Will of God. Let's all be open to the idea that our children or grandchildren may be called to serve the Church as a priest or religious sister. Let us not stand in the way of those whom God has called. For help in discerning God's will, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).



**ST. JOSEPH DIRECTORY  
RECTORY**

Office, Connie/Sandy/Jenny .....532-5100  
 Parish Email.....rectory@stjoesgowanda.com  
 Parish Fax .....532-4096  
 Pastor Fr. Innocent Diala .....532-5100  
 Email.....frdiala@stjoesgowanda.com  
 Deacon Wally Samick.....532-5100  
 Email.....deaconwally2020@gmail.com

**FAITH FORMATION**

Wilma Parry .....532-2520  
 Email.....reled@stjoesgowanda.com

**DIocese OF BUFFALO**  
 Website: [www.buffalodiocese.org](http://www.buffalodiocese.org)

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**Sunday, December 12**

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$3531.00
Loose Money.....	\$433.00
Maintenance and Repair Fund.....	\$285.00
Immaculate Conception.....	\$641.00
Flowers.....	\$30.00
Christmas.....	\$95.00
Religious Retirement Fund.....	\$1592.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$6607.00</b>

*Collection information for December 19th was unavailable due to the early submission deadline of this bulletin.*

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

**All in the Family**

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi*

**MEN'S MINISTRY**

The "Men of the Challenge", a ministry of men from St. Aloysius, Epiphany & St. Joseph Gowanda parishes, invites the men of our parish to gather on the 2nd Saturday of each month to EAT, to LEARN more about our faith, & to be CHALLENGED to live as men of God each day. Join them for their upcoming gatherings: Jan. 8th, and Feb. 12th from 8 am to 9:15 am at Epiphany of Our Lord Parish Hall—10893 Route 75 Langford. Please call or text your RSVP to Deacon Jeff at 716-432-8717.

## HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Schedule:

*New Year's Eve, Friday, December 31st:*

8:30 a. m. Mass at St. Joseph Church

5:00 p.m. St. Mary's—Cattaraugus

*New Year's Day, Saturday, January 1st:*

9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church

4:30 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church

## MARCH FOR LIFE 2022

The Diocese of Buffalo has canceled their trip to the March for Life for the year 2022 in Washington, DC. They will have specific scheduled activities in the diocese to continue their support on a local level.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

Mask Mandate Reinstated for All Counties December 13, 2021 *On December 10, 2021, New York State announced a mask mandate for all indoor venues effective December 13, 2021 which will be reviewed January 15, 2022.*

### Mask Mandate

At this time, masks are mandated for all participants in liturgies held in Catholic churches and worship spaces located in the Diocese of Buffalo regardless of vaccination status. Parishes in the diocese are not authorized to screen for vaccinations, and so this mandate will apply to all who enter our worship spaces. As in the past, the only exception given to this will be for clergy and other liturgical ministers when they are fulfilling a significant speaking role. (They should maintain at least six feet of physical distance from others during these limited occasions.) This guidance will be revisited as the state reviews its policy on or about January 15, 2022 or if subsequent directives are issued by the diocese.

## SOLEMNITY OF MARY

For centuries, Mary has been praised because she believed. She is Mother of God because of her faith in God. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, celebrates Mary's faith and trust in God alone. The Church wants us to imitate her faith. The Church celebrates this feast on January 1st.

©Loyola Press



## GOSPEL MEDITATIONS



### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of

which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too. ©LPi

## VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Love Inc. is unable to meet all the requests for transportation to medical appointments, because they do not have enough drivers. Please consider volunteering to drive. Call them at 716-532-3541. Thank You!



# Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, December 25—The Nativity of Our Lord**

9:30 p.m. John and Lillian Sharkey † by Estate

*No 4:30 p.m. Mass*

**Sunday, December 26—The Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary and Joseph**

8:00 a.m. John and Lillian Sharkey † by Estate

9:30 a.m. Werner Stang † by Joanne Sisti and Family

11:15 a.m. St. Mary's—Cattaraugus

**Monday, December 27—Saint John**

8:30 a.m. Dale Koch † by the Comstock Family

**Tuesday, December 28—The Holy Innocents**

8:30 a.m. All Souls

**Wednesday, December 29**

8:30 a.m. John and Lillian Sharkey † by Estate

**Thursday, December 30**

8:30 a.m. For the Parishioners

**Friday, December 31**

8:30 a.m. For the Special Intentions of the Tornado  
Victims by Pat Herman

5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass at St. Mary's—Cattaraugus

**Saturday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary**

9:30 a.m. John and Lillian Sharkey † by Estate

4:30 p.m. Dorothy Selan † by Rose Kokel

**Sunday, January 2**

8:00 a.m. John and Lillian Sharkey † by Estate

9:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Bourgoine and  
Washy Families † by Family

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

**January 1/2**

**New Years Day –Saturday, Jan. 1**

**9:30 AM**

Altar Server: Any Available Server

Lector: Mary O'Leary

Eucharistic Minister: Don Maziar

**4:30 PM**

Altar Server: Any Available Server

Lector: Logan Lukonaitis

Eucharistic Minister: Clergy

**Sunday, January 2**

**8:00 AM**

Altar Server: Any Available Server

Lector: Max Comstock

Eucharistic Minister: Clergy

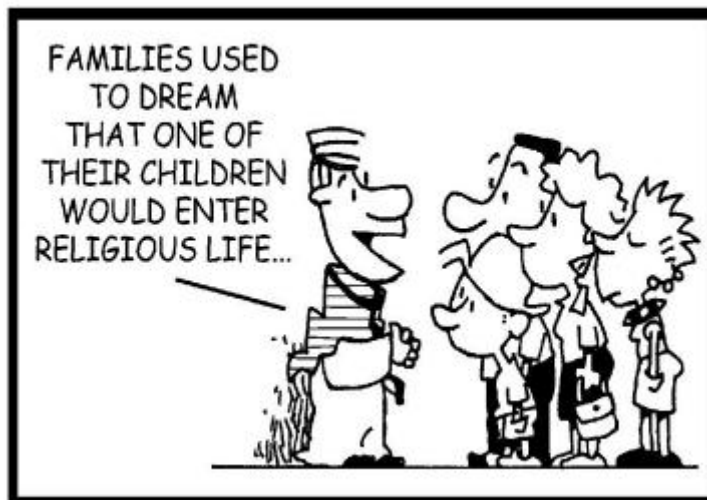
**9:30 AM**

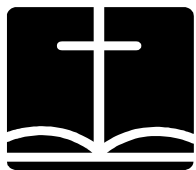
Altar Server: Weston Bolen

Lector: Monica Reid

Eucharistic Minister: John Reid

### HOLY FAMILY





<input type="checkbox"/> New Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address
<input type="checkbox"/> Want Envelopes	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



**Honk's Grape & Grain**  
 Fine Wine & Spirits  
 76 Jamestown Street, Gowanda  
 716-532-2260 • honksgrapeandgrain@gmail.com

**Hager's**  
 FLOWERS & GIFTS  
 25 W. Main Street  
 Gowanda, NY 14070-1394  
 PHONE (716) 532-4242  
 www.hagersflowers.com

**SCHINDLER FUNERAL HOME AND MONUMENT COMPANY**  
 Mark A. Schindler  
 A Home for Funerals Serving St. Joseph's Parishioners for 55 Years  
 Pre-Need Counseling at No Charge • We Sell Tombstones Also  
 44 Center Street, Gowanda • Phone (716) 532-4200

**Gernatt**  
 ONE CALL DOES IT ALL  
 ASPHALT PRODUCTS, INC.  
 Main Office - Collins ♦ 532-3371

Are you caregiving for someone 60+ not on Medicaid?  
 Want to be compensated?  
 Call now for info and eligibility

NEW YORK STATE NY Connects of ERIE COUNTY  
 Your Link to Long Term Services and Supports

(800) 342-9871 • (716) 858-8526

**MUSACCHIO & PYLE**  
 Attorneys and Counselors at Law  
 Family Law, Wills & Estate,  
 Personal Injury and Real Estate Law  
 215 West Main Street, Gowanda, New York 14070  
 Office: 716-532-3351  
 JAMES A. MUSACCHIO

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**

**GARDEN GATE GREENHOUSES**  
 Annuals, Perennials,  
 Garden Mums in Season  
 11600 W. PERRYSBURG RD.  
 PERRYSBURG, NY • 532-6282

**FREE AD DESIGN**  
 WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE  
 CALL 800.477.4574

**Towne Chevrolet Buick Cadillac**  
 11208 Gowanda State Rd • North Collins  
 Gregory Sisti, Sales & Leasing Consultant  
 gsisti@towneauto.com  
 716-337-4700 ext. 1220  
 www.towneauto.com

**KEY HOME SERVICES**  
 Kitchens, Baths, Additions, Structural, Electrical, Plumbing, Tile Work, Flooring, Windows, Doors, Carpentry  
 716-392-0741  
 KeyHomeServices.com

**GARDEN GATE GREENHOUSES**  
 Annuals, Perennials,  
 Garden Mums in Season  
 11600 W. PERRYSBURG RD.  
 PERRYSBURG, NY • 532-6282

**FREE AD DESIGN**  
 WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE  
 CALL 800.477.4574

**ST. COLUMBAN'S**  
 On the Lake

Warm, compassionate care for men, women and couples.  
 (716) 934-4515  
 Silver Creek, NY  
 Where the spirit of life is ageless

**WE'RE HIRING**  
 AD SALES EXECUTIVES  
 BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION.  
 WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community
- Paid Training
- Some Travel

Contact us at careers@4lpi.com  
 www.4lpi.com/careers

**Designer POOLS**  
 POOLS • HOT TUBS • PLAYSYSTEMS  
 www.designerpoolsandspas.com  
 10417 Maltbie Rd., Gowanda, NY  
 532-5498  
 Other Locations in Dunkirk & Jamestown

**We've Missed You!**  
 Welcome Back to Mass

**Johnson's Plumbing & Heating Inc.**  
 An Independent LENNOX Dealer  
 57 Commercial Street • Gowanda  
 For Service Call 716-532-4376  
 www.gowandaplumbingandheating.com  
 Laura Valone & Charles Koch

**Johnson's Plumbing & Heating Inc.**  
 An Independent LENNOX Dealer  
 57 Commercial Street • Gowanda  
 For Service Call 716-532-4376  
 www.gowandaplumbingandheating.com  
 Laura Valone & Charles Koch

**We've Missed You!**  
 Welcome Back to Mass

Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

**MENTLEY FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

- Family Owned
- Pre-Arrangements handled at No Charge
- Over 65 Years in service
- Monuments Available

Gowanda • 532-2652 ♦ Little Valley • 938-9159  
 Tim Mentley