

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 • 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Calendar of Events

Saturday, September 10

9:00 am....Parish Council Meeting, rectory Sunday, September 11

10:30 am....Faith Formation Parent/ Student Meeting, Grades 9-10, Church Hall

Monday, September 12

1:00 pm.....Grief Support, school 6:00 pm.....St. Joseph Church Day of Community Service planning meeting, Church Hall

Tuesday, September 13

10:15 am.....Mass at Gowanda Nursing Home

6:30 pm.....Al-Anon meeting, school Wednesday, September 14

9:00 am.....Bible Study, school Sunday, September 18

9:30 am Mass.....Catechist Commissioning 10:30 am....Faith Formation for all grades except Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, school

10:30 am.....Adult Faith Formation, school Tuesday, September 20

1:00 pm.....Prayer Group, school 6:30 pm....Al-Anon Meeting, school Wednesday, September 21

9:00 am.....Bible Study, school Sunday, September 25

10:30 am....Faith Formation classes and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, school 10:30 am....Adult Faith Formation, school

The Rosary is recited every week day before Mass starting at 8:10 am.

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.



- Lk 15:10

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.



"I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents." -Lk 15:10 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of **Clayton**, **Adelyne**, **and Kenneth Herman** as requested by *Frank and Anita Kusiowski*.

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: Lynn Kaczmarowski, Cindy Burroughs, Joel Halloran, Mike Sladich, Dan Sion, Chris Marrocco, Jay Bowers, Mary Stelley, Joan Cain, Leo Gassman, Colt William Matz, Mike Gernatt, Melissa Moulton Peglowski, Peter Johnson, Donald Swanson, and Mike Wesley. For those who have died...

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep." God rejoices when people turn back to Him, but so many wander in darkness. Who will go out and seek the lost? If this is your calling, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Please join us on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6pm in the Church Hall for an organizational/ planning meeting for a St. Joseph Church Day of Community Service which will take place in October 2022 here in the Gowanda area. All are welcome!

ANNIVERSARY MASS

Our Tri-County Vicariate will be celebrating its Diocesan 175th Anniversary Mass on October 16, 2022. The Mass will be held at 3:00 pm, in St. Aloysius Church in Springville. Bishop Michael Fisher will preside.

I sincerely urge as many of my parishioners as possible to attend this Mass. *Father Innocent*

ST. JOSEPH DIRECTORY

Office, Connie/Sandy/Jenny 532-5100
Parish Emailrectory@stjoesgowanda.com
Parish Fax
Pastor Fr. Innocent Diala532-5100
Emailfrdiala@stjoesgowanda.com
Deacon Wally Samick
Emaildeaconwally2020@gmail.com
FAITH FORMATION
Wilma Parry
Emailreled@stjoesgowanda.com DIOCESE OF BUFFALO
DIOCESE OF BUFFALO
Website: www.buffalodiocese.org
Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, You Tube

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Collection information was unavailable due to the early submission deadline of this bulletin.

Your gifts allow us to continue the mission of Christ, here at St. Joes. Thank you for your continued generosity and may the Lord bless you always. Amen!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Rise, and Go to Your Father

"If you pull into my driveway and honk, you better be dropping off a package, because you're sure not picking anything up."

I first read these words in the pages of W. Bruce Cameron's "8 Simple Rules for Dating my Teenage Daughter," (that's Rule No. 5, by the way).

There's a certain respect that is shown by someone who takes the time to come to the door, ring the bell and wait to be greeted. Being willing to go through the niceties for the sake of appearances is a small act of deference on the part of the person doing the picking-up, even if it's not for a date. Without it, the whole scenario becomes entitled.

I want you to think of something that you want or need, but do not have. Is it peace? Is it financial stability? Is it strength? Is it friendship?

The brother of the prodigal son had a lot of unexpressed desires. He sees his brother heaped with gifts and favors, feasting on the fattened calf, and he is enraged. *I haven't been given half of that,* he thinks, *and I've worked so hard.*

But for all his faithfulness, one has to wonder — did this son ever simply ask for what he needed? Did he get out of the car, so to speak, and ring the bell? Or did he sit in the driveway leaning on the horn?

God wants us to come before Him. He wants us to ask. He wants us to be like Moses — sure enough of our Father's indulgence to boldly ask for it. Think again about what you need but do not have, and ask yourself: Have I approached the door and rung the bell? — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS* ©LPi

ST. JOSEPH'S MEAT RAFFLE

Saturday, October 15th in our Church Hall. Doors open at 5:30 pm. First spin starts at 6:30 pm. Win an assortment of meats, seafood, breakfast foods and more! Don't miss out on the ST. JOSEPH'S BONUS ROUND valued at over \$200! Be sure to take chances on themed baskets. There will be pizza and beverages for sale. Bring plenty of \$1.00 (singles), your own snacks and a cooler for your winnings! This will be a fun night for all!

UPON THIS ROCK

We just received another deposit of \$5,364.45 from the Upon This Rock campaign. In addition, we have already received \$211,372.75 for a total of \$216,737.20. This money will be used to offset our deficits on the elevator project for which the Upon This Rock disbursements were designated. Thank you for your generous support and your fulfillment of your pledge, without which these reimbursements would never be possible. Thank you very much. Please keep it going. *Father Innocent*

The Faith Formation Program needs a catechist. Who is interested in sharing their faith with 7th and 8th graders beginning September 18th? Please call the rectory or Wilma Parry, Faith Formation Coordinator at 716/229-2043 immediately to learn more. This year's program will run IN-PERSON SESSIONS the SECOND & FOURTH SUNDAY of every month and a whole family gathering called GENERATIONS OF FAITH the third Sunday of EVERY OTHER month. Registration packets have been mailed. Please call the rectory, 716/532-5100 if you didn't receive one!

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

St. Joseph/St. Mary's Parishes offer this program for 3-6 year old's at St. Joseph's on the SECOND & FOURTH SUNDAY'S of every month beginning September 25^{th} , 10:30-11:30 am. Mrs. Jenny Comstock, the Catechist, is <u>in</u> need of an assistant this semester. This beautiful program is an opportunity for an adult, parent, or post-Confirmation student to deepen their own spiritual life as they share their love for Jesus with the children! Please call the Rectory, 716/532-5100 for more information and/or to request a registration packet for your 3 to 6 year old. For more information about CGS visit www.CGSUSA.org.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES CAN HELP

Costs keep rising and we know for many, it can feel nearly impossible to keep up. If you or your family is facing a crisis situation with food, utilities, toiletries, being able to afford vital medication or more, **Catholic Charities can help.** Please call 716-856-4494 if you reside in Erie County, or your local Catholic Charities office if you reside outside of Erie County.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH FUNDRAISER

St. Joseph Church has Buffalo Bisons Flex tickets for sale! Prices are: 1 Flex ticket for \$15 or 10 or more Flex tickets for \$13 each. Flex tickets can be used for any 2022 Buffalo Bisons regular season home game excluding Monday, July 4th. Tickets must be exchanged at the Sahlen Field Box Office for actual game tickets. This can be done in advance of game day or on the game day, based on availability (tickets for June 11—Star Wars Night and August 27— Marcel Night should be done ASAP). Children under 3 are FREE. A portion of every ticket sold goes back to support St. Joseph Church. For tickets call St. Joseph Rectory at 716-532-5100, call/text Lisa Rebmann at 716-560-9154 or McCormack's Hardware at 716-532-2216.

RAFFLE SPONSORS AND THEME BASKETS NEEDED

Any parishioner who would like to sponsor a round at the meat raffle, volunteer, or would love to donate a creative theme basket, please contact Carolyn Rebmann at 716-913-8061. Arrangements for pick up of any donation, please contact Carolyn or drop off at St. Joes during rectory hours, weekdays 9am to 2 pm. Thank you!

GOSPEL MEDITATIONS



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Since God created human beings, we have struggled to keep our focus on God. We wrestle with the question of "who is God" and

foolishly believe some of God's job description can be better completed by us. We wander in different directions, lose our way, think that happiness can be found elsewhere and even construct golden calves to worship. Are we simply too independent or just blatantly stubborn? It's a good question to ask. Even with all of our silliness and distractions, God compassionately and patiently waits. He lets us assert our wills and knows that perhaps one day we will actually wake up and realize how lost we are.

"Since happiness is nothing other than the enjoyment of the highest good and since the highest good is above, no one can be made happy unless he rises above himself, not by an ascent of the body but of the heart. But we cannot rise above ourselves unless a higher power lifts us up ... Divine aid is available to those who seek it from their hearts, humbly and devoutly; and this means to sigh for it in this valley of tears, through fervent prayer (St. Bonaveture)." One of the biggest human struggles is discerning what, exactly, is the highest good. We are ordered to achieve it but if we pursue it with clouded vision, we will never truly find it.

One of the greatest obstacles to God's power and love is a stubborn, closed heart of stone. When we are fiercely determined to set our sights elsewhere for happiness or simply ride the popular currents of the day, we will never satisfy the deep ache and longing within. We know that ache well. It is precisely why we scurry all over the place, attempting to find the next best thing to take away its pain. Nothing in the created world ever can or will. We continue our journey. One day, people may wake up and realize that they are grazing in the wrong pasture and putting themselves in harm's way. When this awakening occurs, it will be a most joyous day as we will see God's wide-open arms waiting to receive us. "Lead me, Lord, in your path, and I will enter in your truth. Let my heart rejoice that it may fear your name (St. Bonaventure)." ©LPi

PORK CHOP DINNER

Take out Pork Chop Dinner Sunday, September 18th 11 am until sold out Epiphany of Our Lord Parish Hall 10893 Sisson Hwy., N. Collins, NY 14111 \$15 per dinner Dinner includes: Breaded Pork Chop, glazed carrots, salt

potatoes, applesauce, roll with butter, and homemade cookies. Tickets available at the door or by calling 716-337-2686.



4:30 p.m. Cindy Johnson † by Friends Sunday, September 11-Twenty-Fourth Sunday in **Ordinary Time** 8:00 a.m. Edmund Mende † by the Mende Children 9:30 a.m. Betty Jo Johengen † by Pat Rebmann and Family 11:15 a.m. St. Mary's-Cattaraugus Monday, September 12 8:30 a.m. Karen Fedick † by the Soul of Karen Fedick Tuesday, September 13—Saint John Chrysostom 8:30 a.m. Tony Hoppa † by Doug, and Val Sager and Family 10:15 a.m. John and Lillian Sharkey † by Estate Wednesday, September 14-The Exaltation of the Cross 8:30 a.m. For the Parishioners Thursday, September 15—Our Lady of Sorrows 8:30 a.m. Dan and Cindy Johnson † by the Comstock Family Friday, September 16—Saints Cornelius and Cyprian 8:30 a.m. All Souls † Saturday, September 17 4:30 p.m. Betty Jo Johengen † by Frank and Carol Shattuck Sunday, September 18—Twenty-Fifth Sunday in **Ordinary** Time 8:00 a.m. Christopher Family † by Ed and Sue Christopher 9:30 a.m. Betty Jo Johengen † by Irma Thomas 11:15 a.m. St. Mary's-Cattaraugus Please remember that all Masses are subject to change.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE September 24/25

4:30 PM

Altar Server: Any Available Server <u>Lector</u>: Pat Volk <u>Eucharistic Minister</u>: Aimee McCann and Any Available Server

8:00 AM

<u>Altar Server</u>: Any Available Server <u>Lector</u>: Mary O'Leary <u>Eucharistic Minister</u>: Ed Christopher and Any Available Server

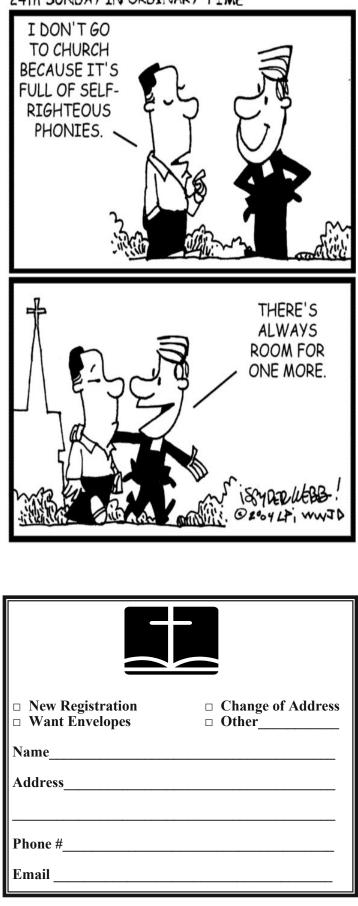
<u>9:30 AM</u>

<u>Altar Server</u>: Chase Bolen <u>Lector</u>: Wendy Samick <u>Eucharistic Minister</u>: Lisa Rebmann and Bill Rebmann

Please call a substitute if you are unable to serve

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Page Five





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