

February 2, 2020



st. margaret's parish news

1395 HERTEL AVENUE BUFFALO, NEW YORK

REV. JOSEPH D. WOLF, Pastor
www.stmargaret-parish.com

Rectory 876-5318

Fax 875-9068

Sr. Karen Marie, GNSH, Pastoral Associate (Phone 331-8846).

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday - 8:00 am (Communion Service)

(Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm at Holy Spirit)

Sunday - 8:00 and 9:30 am at St. Margaret's
(11:00 am at Holy Spirit)

HOLY DAY MASSES:

Please see Mass schedule in Bulletin

DAILY MASSES: Mon. & Thurs. 8:00 am

Wed. 6:15 pm Holy Spirit

Fri. 8:00 am Holy Spirit

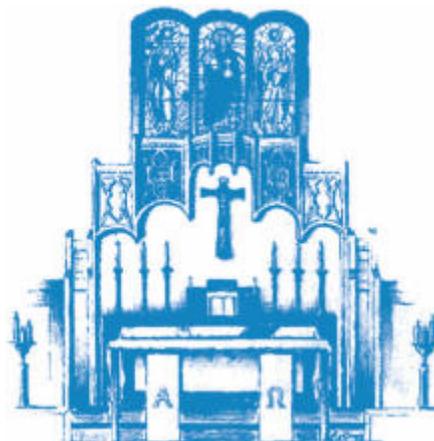
RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm;

Wed. 2:00 - 6:00 pm

NOVENA: Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Saturday - after 8:00 am Communion Service.



CONFESSIONS: Saturday 3:15 pm at Holy Spirit.
Sunday following 8:00 am Mass at St. Margaret's.
Please call the rectory for individual appointments
or for Pastoral counseling appointments.

BAPTISMS: By prior appointment. Preparation
course required.

MARRIAGES: Make arrangements well in
advance of date by contacting your parish priest
at St. Margaret's.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Grades 1-10 at Holy
Spirit, Sunday 9:30 - 10:45 am.
Miss Karen Adamski (Phone: 876-5318).

ST. MARGARET'S CREDIT UNION: All parish-
ioners and their families can join the Crossroads
Community Credit Union located at 971 Kenmore
Ave. Buffalo, NY 14217 (874-7284).

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY, February 3, 2020

8:00 AM All Souls

THURSDAY, February 6, 2020

8:00 AM Mildred Waligorski req. by Daughter, Diane

SATURDAY, February 8, 2020

8:00 AM Communion Service (Sister Karen Marie)
(followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help)

SUNDAY, February 9, 2020

8:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Scalisi & Marie Starck
req. by Family

9:30 AM John Alaimo req. by Bill & Carol Maggio
Raimonda Ragusa req. by Galante Family

Eucharist for Homebound Parishioners. If you or someone you know from the parish is in a nursing home (or is a shut-in in their own home) and would like Communion brought to them, please call Fr. Joe (876-5318) or Sister Karen Marie (331-8846) and we will be happy to bring Communion to you. Please leave a name and contact phone number.



Second Sunday Social. Please join us in the Rectory next Sunday, February 9, for coffee, pastries and fellowship following the 9:30 Mass. All are welcome!

*"Creativity is intelligence having fun,"
Albert Einstein*

This morning's **second collection** will be the usual monthly offering for maintenance and repairs of our church and property. We thank you for your continued generosity.

FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP

January 26, 2020

Offertory.....	\$3,037.46
Catholic Relief Services.....	\$ 478.00
Shrines	\$ 72.54
Electronic Giving.....	\$ 20.00

Assisting on the Altar February 9, 2019

Altar Servers: 8:00 - Jack O'Rourke, William O'Rourke
9:30 - Jeffrey Coleman

Lector: 8:00 - Bob Esposito
9:30 - Rosemary O'Connell

Eucharistic Ministers:

8:00 Larry Brooks, Mary Lou Cappellini, Jim Devlin,
Cheri Frank, Kate Mazzarini
9:30 Joanne Cavalieri, Tom O'Connell, Paul Shea, Anne
Simon, Sister Karen Marie

Parish Outreach Ministry. Our personal care donation ministry is ongoing and we continue to be thankful for the generosity of St. Margaret parishioners. As a reminder, items that are requested are all new, unopened, personal care items (personal hygiene for adults, children and infants); baby diapers and wipes are always appreciated. If you are aware of any agencies that could benefit by the generous donations of our parishioners, please let us know by calling the rectory office (876-5318). Once again, thank you for your continued generosity!



Religious Education News. Today is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. It is also called "Candlemas Day" because the Church blesses candles as a reminder that Jesus was recognized by Simeon and Anna as the One that they were waiting for, the true light of the world. Light helps us to see more clearly, to recognize what is before us. Light candles at home today, or any day, at dinner to help us recognize the beauty of family and ordinary and special times. Light candles in times of fear or loneliness. Light candles to recognize Christ's presence among us, day in and day out.

Today is the 4th lesson for our children who will soon be celebrating Reconciliation for the first time. However we have responded to God's love, He continues to offer us His gifts of forgiveness and mercy. The First Communion Parent Meeting is at 10:15 in the Winter Chapel. The theme is "Giving Thanks for Creation." In the Eucharistic Liturgy we are reminded of all God's gifts given to us: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received..." We will bring up their collages of thanks at the Offertory.

Live Concerts: The Cardinal O'Hara High School Alumni Association will present the Strictly Hip concert at 8pm Feb. 21 at Cardinal O'Hara. Tickets are \$5. A cash bar will be available. Tickets may be purchased online at www.cardinalohara.com or call 695-2600, ext. 311. Proceeds benefit the continuing restoration of the Performing Arts Center and the alumni scholarship fund.

Marian Consecration, "33 Days to Morning Glory," on Facebook LIVE at "Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels Olean" daily at 7pm through February 2. Fr. David Tourville leads us in prayer and adoration as we continue the Marian Consecration, "33 Days to Morning Glory." What a gift of healing and grace! It's never too late to jump in and complete this beautiful retreat. It will change your life!

Msgr. David LiPuma, Pastor & Rector, Our Lady of Victory National Shrine and Basilica presents: "The Venerable Nelson Baker: The True Story Behind the Life & Legacy of Father Baker." Monday, February 10 from 7-8PM at Our Lady of Pompeii Parish, 129 Laverack Ave, Lancaster. All are welcome! Refreshments to follow! www.olpparish.com 683-6522

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

On the Church's worldwide calendar, today's Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is one of only a few Feast days that takes precedence over the normal Sunday readings whenever the Presentation falls on a Sunday. What image do you have of Simeon, this man who "was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel" or of Anna, who "never left the temple"? And what is the liturgy trying to tell us by making this event of the Presentation of the child Jesus in the temple so pronounced? Put simply, can we also rejoice along with Simeon, for, "our eyes have seen God's salvation...a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for God's people Israel"? Simeon is aware that Jesus is the Father's answer to the longing of Jew and Gentile alike, that Jesus is our peace, our light of reconciliation with God and neighbor.

I was grocery shopping earlier today, the first day that plastic bags were no longer available. The cashier recognized me, as she had previously always greeted me with a smile. I grumbled that I did not think using the reusable bag I had just bought was going to save the world. Her smile instantly vanished and she said we were filling the ocean with single-use plastic bags. I responded that for me they had never been only a "single-use" bag, since I found many uses for them at home, and they could also be returned to the store for recycling. She said I may have been responsible with the plastic bags, but many were not. I said that the key is for all of us to act more responsibly. She did not seem to think people could change. What sadly did change was her demeanor, as she clearly did not appreciate my comments.

That brief, uncomfortable encounter made me think of how vital it is that all of us strive to be responsible, both in our care for one another and in our tending of God's gift of creation. Many may take comfort in banning plastic bags, and not realize that other aspects of our lifestyle may in fact be far more toxic than we realize. What legacy do we leave our children when we discard well-working, complex electronic devices simply because a newer model has arrived? How often do we toss into our trash bins items that we know are meant to be recycled, or other items which can be dangerous in normal landfills? Like the serpent in the Garden of Eden, the value of convenience unconsciously alters our better judgment. We live in a "throw away" society, and worse, a society (including churches), which discards individuals and whole groups of people in a way that is anything but Christ-like. I will use the reusable bag when I shop, but I'm not expecting that will save the world. When we join Simeon and Anna in beholding Jesus as God's gift of light and reconciliation, when we accept that we are responsible for one another and for the earth itself...THAT is when I expect we will sense new life for our weary world.

Just a reminder that the St. Margaret 2020 envelopes are on the tables in the back of the church, behind the last pews. We ordered a total of 424 boxes of envelopes back in July, and as of this past Monday, I counted a total of 200 boxes of envelopes that still have not been claimed. Some of these may belong to parishioners who have died since last year, or who have since become confined to nursing homes. But if you are reading this today and have not yet picked up your box of envelopes, please try to do so today. We can mail them, but the expense is considerable. Thank you for your support of St. Margaret's.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel." - Lk 2:34a

A Vocation View. St. Paul reminds us that of all of the gifts that God gives to us, love is the greatest. How can we best show our appreciation of what God has given to us? If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 847-5535.

Tuition Assistance for Private Grammar Schools.

The BISON Children's Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance to economically eligible children entering Kindergarten - 8th grade throughout the eight counties of Western New York. The BISON Fund's scholarship pre-application is now available for NEW families for the 2020-21 school year. If selected, the scholarships can be used at any private grammar school in WNY. The deadline to apply is February 28. You can apply online at www.bisonfund.com/our-scholarships/. For more information, visit our website at www.bisonfund.com or call 854-0869.

Americana-themed Wine Tasting & Craft Beer Tasting

on Friday, February 7 from 6-9pm at Assumption Church, 435 Amherst St., Buffalo. Wines crafted by O-Neh-Da and Eagle Crest Vineyards and Craft Beer from Try-It Distributing. Includes unlimited tasting and new American themed food pairings. Pull out your red, white and blue and join us for some fun and games of chance as well. Call 875-7626 for tickets and more information.



Readings for the week of February 2, 2020

Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [10b]/Heb 2:14-18/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
[8a]/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:
Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1a]/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [cf. 5c]/
Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab,
11d-12a, 12bcd [12b]/Mk 6:7-13 this is correct

Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51 [cf. 47b]/
Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 [12b]/
Mk 6:30-34

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