

June 28, 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, June 29, 2020

8:00 AM All Souls

THURSDAY, July 2, 2020

8:00 AM All Souls

SUNDAY, July 5, 2020

8:15 AM Dolores Bonfeasuto req. by Ray & Jeanette Nola

9:30 AM Toni Cavanaugh req. by Marge Abramo
Carmela Coronado req by Roe & Tom O'Connell



God Is Love. I was recently at a Catholic conference and had a conversation with someone living in the thick of Hollywood culture. He was Catholic and spoke of how hard it was to live out his faith amid tremendous temptation and negativity toward religion. He spoke about how going to daily Mass helped to keep him centered and stay strong in his faith. He was a great witness to living out one's faith in the face of disbelief.

One thing that he told me stood out above all the rest. He spoke of his engagement to his fiancé and how important it was to him that God was a major part of their relationship and their lives as individuals as well. He told me he said something to her like, "If you don't love Jesus more than you love me, this is never going to work." What an amazing and truly moving witness!

Songs and books are written about the intense longing one human being can have for another. We can describe another as meaning everything to us. We speak of wanting to offer our complete selves to our beloved. However, true love is about more than wanting to be with that person. It is about wanting that person to know a love even greater than theirs: the love of God. No love can last without God. My Hollywood friend knew this to be the case. He showed his true love for his wife-to-be by sharing more than himself — he shared the very One who created love.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP

June 21, 2020

Offertory.....	\$3,911.25
Shrines.....	\$ 65.75
Electronic Giving.....	\$ 110.00

Assisting on the Altar July 5, 2019

Eucharistic Ministers:

8:15 Mary Lou Cappellini, Kate Mazzarini

9:30 Need one, 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. Hopefully, we will soon hear of news about the coming school year. Our Religious Education Program schedule relies on the school calendar. Our class sizes are small, with regular-sized classrooms, so we are able to easily have social distancing. When the calendars are ready, we will inform you of next year's classes.

As we do each year, we invite any students entering second and third grades, who attend Catholic schools and are members of Holy Spirit or St. Margaret to call the rectory to let us know that your child will be preparing for First Reconciliation (Grade 2) or First Communion (Grade 3) with the other children of the parishes. **That is the diocesan rule. Children are prepared and celebrate the sacraments in their parish, NOT school. If your child is not already in our program, please call the rectory.**

Let's not forget, if we are able as a family, begin attending Mass on the weekends!

St. Aloysius Gonzaga's Chicken BBQ & Summerfest Raffle. 157 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga, Sunday, June 28th @ 1:00 PM ~ Featuring ~ Hello to Summer Raffle, \$2,500 Total Prizes, BW's Chicken BBQ Dinner, Take out only! \$13.00 each, **Only 300 dinners so come early!** Call 833-1715 for more information

Dash's Store Receipts. We are still accepting Dash's store receipts as a fundraiser for our parish. Donation boxes are located at the parking lot and Hertel Ave. entrances to the Church. Thank you for your support!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting cans of food for our Dining Room on Main St. to help with meals for our guests. We are looking for the restaurant-size cans of fruits, vegetables, coffee or powdered drinks. Mustard, ketchup and 6-inch paper plates are especially needed. There are collection boxes at the parking lot entrance to the church. Our Dining Room serves over 100,000 people a year. Your generosity is always appreciated.



A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

In preparation for the first publicly-celebrated Masses on the weekend of June 13th & 14th, I picked up my missalette and noticed that the page was still marked for March 14th & 15th, which had been the last weekend of public Masses before the governor shut down practically every gathering of people throughout the state as New York was quickly becoming one of the world's largest concentrations of Covid-19 cases. At that moment of staring at a missalette's page from three months earlier I was struck by how much time had gone by already in what has by now become a "new normal," (although it has been anything but "normal").

Not only were stores suddenly closed, bank lobbies off-limits, schools shuttered, sports events cancelled, etc. But, for us as Catholics, there were also no Baptisms, no Marriages, no First Confessions or First Communions, no Confirmations, Funeral Masses permitted only under very limited conditions, and, remarkably, no Holy Week, no Easter Sunday celebrations, and no Pentecost. As I stared at that missalette page dated March 15th, it was as if the three intervening months had simply not existed. I felt as one might feel when awakening from a coma, with no memories of the time that had passed.

Years ago, back in 1983, I was sent to Rome to begin my study of theology in the final stage of preparation for becoming a priest. There were forty-one in my class stretching from Maine to California and – one from Canada. We were to arrive in Rome about six weeks before the fall classes would begin at the universities. During those six weeks we took intensive Italian language courses, since some of us (myself included) would be attending a university where the only language spoken would be Italian. Needless to say, it was something akin to a "sink or swim" experience: if one could not learn Italian sufficiently, the prospect of failure loomed large, as all the lectures at that university were taught in Italian. It was an exciting time in my life, rather like a dream come true: to look out the window of my room (#212) and see the Michelangelo-designed dome of St. Peter's every day for over five years, not to mention Rome's fountains, piazzas, antiquities, catacombs, pastas, remarkable bicycle rides to aqueducts and lakes...and the forming of friendships with others from the world over all pursuing the call to priesthood.

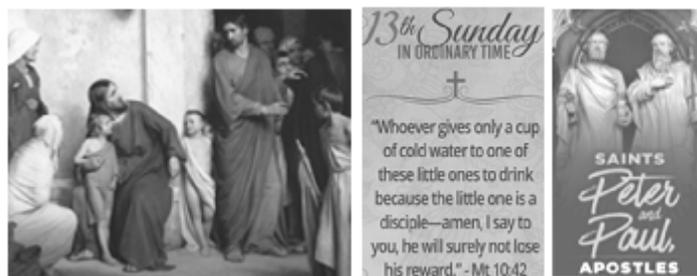
Thousands of miles from all that had been familiar, it was an incredibly challenging time. The only constant in life during those years was Jesus himself. Similarly, in the days and weeks that passed between our last publicly-celebrated Mass on March 15th and the resumption of public Masses on June 13th, the only constant has been Jesus himself. None of the "normal" milestones which mark our lives as Catholics (weekend Mass, Baptisms, First Communions, Easter, etc.) were permitted. There was only our relationship with Jesus (which should govern, of course, our relationships with one another).

"Whoever loves father or mother...son or daughter...more than me is not worthy of me": these are the words of Jesus in the Gospel reading at Mass this weekend. At first, they may sound quite radical. But whenever our "normal" is stripped away – by pandemic, studies in a foreign land, rejection, loss, etc. – who else is there but Jesus himself? I am sure that we all have learned many things during these strange and unusual times in which we are now living. Among these lessons learned, I hope that one is summed up thus: "No Jesus, no peace. Know Jesus, know peace."

I continue to be grateful for the assistance of the volunteers who are helping me to re-open our parishes to public celebrations, knowing that soon we will be rescheduling some of the sacred moments which had been postponed.



Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe



A Vocation View. Jesus still speaks the invitation, "Come, follow Me!" If God is calling you to priesthood or religious life, what is holding you back? If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 847-5535.

VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP: Cardinal O'Hara High School in the Town of Tonawanda is taking its summer camp series virtual. Campers will be able to enjoy camp activities from the comfort and safety of their homes. A variety of camps will be offered, from drama, to creative writing to STEAM, something for everyone. Visit cardinalohara.com to learn more.



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.

We know these times are difficult, but you don't have to struggle with mental health or anxiety. Catholic Charities is here and ready to help. We offer counseling for children, teens, and adults across all eight counties of Western New York. To access our services, please call our COVID-19 Helpline at (716) 218-1419. The helpline is staffed weekdays from 8:45 am to 4:45 pm, but you can leave a message at any time. **Think of Me.**

"A people free to choose will always choose peace."

Ronald Reagan

Readings for the week of June 28, 2020

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17,

18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

Monday: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/

2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 [9a]/

Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11,

12-13, 16bc-17 [23b]/Mt 8:28-34

Mt 9:1-8

Jn 20:24-29

Saturday: Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12,

13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 9:14-17

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