

August 23, 2020



# st. margaret's parish news

1395 HERTEL AVENUE

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

REV. JOSEPH D. WOLF, Pastor  
[www.stmargaret-parish.com](http://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, August 24, 2020

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

## THURSDAY, August 27, 2020

8:00 AM All Souls

## SUNDAY, August 30, 2020

8:15 AM For All Parishioners' Intentions

9:30 AM Gabrielle D. Piazza, Birthday Remembrance req. by Family  
Russell Manton req. by 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.



## St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive.

Because of the way the Dining Room is serving guests due to COVID protocols, they especially need "To-Go" items such as juice boxes, fruit cups and individual serving items.



Monetary donations to help offset these costs are also greatly appreciated. Please make any donations payable to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Checks can be mailed to the church or dropped off in the rectory during regular business hours. If you are mailing your donation, please be sure to make note on the envelope and memo line of your check that your donation is for the St. Vincent de Paul dining room. Thank you for your continued support!



Envelopes for the **Altar & Rosary Society** can be placed in any collection during the month of August.

## FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP

### August 16, 2020

Offertory .....	\$2,513.00
Shrines .....	\$ 44.05
Electronic Giving .....	\$ 90.00

## Assisting on the Altar August 30, 2020

Lector: **8:15** Mary Lou Cappellini  
**9:30** Needed

### Eucharistic Ministers:

**8:15** Bob Esposito, Donna Steele  
**9:30** Anne Simon, Sr. 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.** This summer we have read about people of great faith in the Sunday Gospels. Except for Mary, they were all imperfect people. Let us ask the Lord to increase our faith, too.



We are sending home the registration forms for this year's program. Please fill them out and return them through the Sunday collection, or at the Rectory, or in person when the program opens.

Don't forget that if your child attends Catholic or private school and they are in 2nd or 3rd Grade, they must be in the parish religious education program to prepare for the celebration of Reconciliation (Grade 2) or Eucharist (Grade 3). Thank you.

**The Choice of Stewardship.** What does it mean to be a good steward? Does it mean to be an active parishioner, or something more? Are we better stewards because we give more in terms of our money and time to our parish, or are we called to do even more than that?

The truth is that stewardship is a way of life. We are not simply called to be active parishioners, but instead be active disciples all the time. In fact, what we learn to do in our parish should serve as preparation for the mission field of the world. What have we really done if we only act like disciples of Jesus Christ while we are assembled with others who claim to be the same?

The choice before us is to give of ourselves in all aspects of our day and life. The call of Jesus will come in our everyday lives with our co-workers, family, and friends more often than it will within our parish community. First, if we can't become good stewards when we are among those who proclaim Jesus as Lord, how will we be able to do so when we are with those who are non-believers? Second, when our muscles of gratitude, generosity, and graciousness are strengthened within our parish community, we are more able to meet the challenges of this world. However, we do not become good stewards by accident. We must always choose to live this way. What will you choose? *Tracy Earl Welliver*



## A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

In the Gospel (Matthew 16: 13-20) at Mass this weekend is one of the key scriptural texts for our Roman Catholic understanding of the divine nature of the teaching authority and structuring of our Church. Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Personally, I believe he may ask us, constantly, the same question. If so, how do we answer him?

Simon answers him with, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus responds to Simon with, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Jesus sees Peter's answer not as something that Peter can take credit for, but rather as a gift revealed to Peter by the Father. Even Peter's fear and remarkable failure in denying Jesus three times just shortly after the Last Supper could not erase the gift, the charism, given him by Jesus, a gift revealed by the Father and confirmed by the Spirit with the Resurrection of Jesus. It was, and is, a gift, not only to Peter, but to all of us these two thousand years of Christian history.

As you know, my favorite novel of all time is Georges Bernanos' The Diary of a Country Priest. It was an assigned reading for one of my classes at the Alphonsian Academy, which is part of the Lateran University in Rome, Italy. After a difficult, ordinary, unremarkable, unappreciated, faithful life, the priest in the novel utters these last words as he is dying, "Grace is everywhere." Sometimes it has been translated as "All is gift." What if everything in our lives is seen for what it is, that is, as grace, as gift from a loving God? How do we respond with our gifts?

A few years ago, Bishop Malone started a five-year capital campaign, the name of which was taken from today's Gospel: "Upon This Rock." Some parishes are now in the fourth year of this appeal, while others are in the fifth year. The appeal was structured in such a way that 20% of the pledges are returned to the parish. Recently, at the end of July, the semi-annual disbursements were deposited into the bank account of each parish. The Upon This Rock donations are legally separate from the Diocese, and therefore our Upon This Rock donations cannot be used for settlements or legal fees associated with the sex abuse scandal or diocesan bankruptcy. I am grateful to all of you who have been able to continue to support the Upon This Rock. My own pledge reminder just arrived the other day, and I will be writing my check as well. Following are the updated Upon This Rock totals for each of our parishes. St. Margaret received a disbursement of \$2,866.89 on July 31, 2020, bringing St. Margaret's total disbursements received to date to \$34,590.45. Holy Spirit received a disbursement of \$13,721.23 on July 31, 2020, bringing Holy Spirit's total disbursements received to date to \$93,475.36. Your continued support of the Upon This Rock is helping us to continue in our necessary projects of improvements in each parish.

Our Church is built, according to Jesus, on the "rock" of Peter's faith. This was a grace, a gift given to Peter by God. Peter responded, not always perfectly, but ultimately faithfully, himself dying by crucifixion – according to tradition – upside down. All that we have is also grace, is also God's gift. I thank you for your faithfulness and generosity in sharing your gifts with our Church.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Father Joe



21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
"I will give you the keys  
to the kingdom of heaven.  
Whatever you bind on  
earth shall be bound in  
heaven; and whatever you  
loose on earth shall be  
loosed in heaven."  
- Mt 16:19



**A Vocation View.** The Lord is calling people from the East and West and North and South as priests, sisters, brothers, and deacons. Are you one of them? If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 847-5535.

**FISH FRY DINNER:** A fish fry dinner will take place from 4:30 to 7:30pm Friday, Aug. 28 at Cardinal O'Hara High School, 39 O'Hara Road, Town of Tonawanda. Sponsored by the COHS Home School Association, the dinner is take-out only and includes macaroni salad, coleslaw, tartar sauce and bread and butter. A choice of hand-dipped beer battered haddock, breaded shrimp or chicken finger dinners are available. Tickets are \$12 presale, \$14 at the door. For tickets, use Venmo or call the school at 695-2600, ext. 312.



**Doing a Home Refresh?** You can help our St. Vincent de Paul Society by donating your broken watches or small clocks. We repair them and then sell them at the St Vincent de Paul store on Main St. There is a box at the parking lot side of the church to collect these items or unwanted jewelry.

Also, remember the blue bin behind the rectory for used clothing, linens, towels, or blankets. Please put these items in plastic bags. Thank you.

*"There are people who take the heart out of you,  
and there are people who put it back."*

*Elizabeth David*

### Readings for the week of August 23, 2020

**Sunday:** Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/  
Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

**Monday:** Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/  
Jn 1:45-51

**Tuesday:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/  
Mt 23:23-26

**Wednesday:** 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/  
Mt 23:27-32

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/  
Mt 24:42-51

**Friday:** 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/  
Mt 25:1-13

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab  
and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 6:17-29

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