

August 30, 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, August 31, 2020

8:00 AM Lucia Garozzo - 2nd Anniversary of Death req. by Daughter & Family

THURSDAY, September 3, 2020

8:00 AM All Souls

SUNDAY, September 6, 2020

8:15 AM Lee Scalisi, Birthday Remembrance req. by Family

Mildred Waligorski & Lena Frije, Birthday Remembrance req. by Daughter/Godchild

9:30 AM Deceased Members of the Joseph Guerra Family req. by Family

Valerie Ambeau req. by Carmen Manzella

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!

The Sisters of St. Joseph Oktoberfest

German homemade dinner - Drive-thru
SUNDAY, September 27, 2020 1:00pm – 3:00pm - St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church - 157 Cleveland Drive, Cheektowaga, NY (corner of Cleveland Dr. & Century) Call 759-6454 x 200 for tickets and more information.



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

FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP

August 23, 2020

Offertory \$2,416.00
Electronic Giving \$ 20.00

Assisting on the Altar September 6, 2020

Lector: 8:15 Dan Szyklinski
9:30 Rosemary O'Connell

Eucharistic Ministers:

8:15 Larry Brooks, Cheri Frank
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. Soon we will be getting ready for our Faith Formation/ Religious Education classes to begin in a safe, person-to-person environment. Our opening classes will be on Sunday, September 20 from 9:30 to 10:45. We look forward to seeing our many students again. It has been a long time.



If you feel that your children will be safe, we encourage you to start bringing them to Mass and to classes. If you have not received our opening letter and your registration form, please call either rectory and we will get them to you. Thank you for your patience and the wonderful faith life that you share with your children and all of us.

The Vision of Stewardship. I love the original movie *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. All the way through while I watch the film I still laugh and feel like a child. It is only the last line with which I have an issue. Wonka by now has chosen Charlie to succeed him as head of the chocolate factory. They board an elevator that proceeds to crash through the roof and begins to fly. Wonka then asks Charlie if he ever heard of what happened to the boy who got everything he ever wanted. After Charlie says no, Wonka explains, "He lived happily ever after." As I get older, I can say I have met several people who got all or most of all they have ever wanted, but unlike Charlie, it did not lead to endless bliss. In fact, as a Christian I know that that statement of Wonka's is a lie. The secret to living happily ever after lies in not getting all you ever wanted, but instead in giving all you ever wanted away.

A person can't have any sense of that reality until they begin to see his or her life transformed by Jesus. When we have accepted the challenge placed before us and made a choice to live a certain way daily, we can find ourselves transformed. Following Jesus is not easy, but it is the only true way to find authentic joy. When we have emptied ourselves and allowed him to fill the open spaces in us, we become different. We are transformed and, if enough of us in a parish community experience the same journey, our parish is transformed as well. Then we begin to transform the world around us. Don't be fooled: A flying elevator is cool, but it pales in comparison to what can happen when we find a new life in Jesus Christ. *Tracy Earl Welliver*

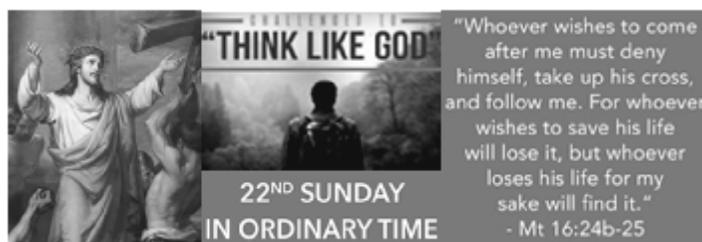
A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

This past Friday, August 28th, we celebrated the feast of St. Augustine of Hippo. Fittingly, the day prior, on August 27th, was the feast day of his mother, St. Monica. For decades she had prayed for the conversion of her husband, as well as for their son. It only seems right that we would celebrate her feast day before we celebrate his. Augustine lived in the 4th and 5th centuries. His early life was marked by a relentless searching for truth; and he was eventually baptized by St. Ambrose in Milan, Italy. He wrote extensively, and continues to influence our Church through the witness of his life and the timelessness of his written word. When teaching about the Eucharist, Augustine once said, "Become what you receive." This is much more profound and beautiful than our saying in English, "You are what you eat." After all, there is a difference between what we are, and what we are becoming. Someone once commented that, instead of calling ourselves "human beings," we would be better named as "becoming humans." The first sounds rather static, the second more like a work in progress and a source of hope for a new world about to be revealed.

When I was 16 years old I transferred from West Seneca East High School and left home to begin studying for the Redemptorist Fathers at St. Mary's High School Seminary in North East, Pennsylvania. When I would come home for summer vacation after my junior and senior years, I attended daily Mass at my home parish, Fourteen Holy Helpers, in Gardenville. I was the youngest person at weekday Mass, as I recall. But what struck me was the oldest person who was at daily Mass there. His name was Bernie. He was blind, and always sat in the front pew. One day, the priest invited all of us at the end of Mass to join in singing "Happy Birthday" to Bernie, who, in his nineties, was the oldest parishioner there. Just 17 or 18 at the time, I was impressed by Bernie's faithfulness to Eucharist. He lived in an apartment alone, and, other than walking to Mass, I don't think he went anywhere else. And, in fact, as I started to visit him at his apartment, I realized that he was, as St. Augustine had taught, becoming more and more like the Jesus he was receiving in Eucharist.

A priest shared with me this past week how troubled he is that many of his parishioners seem willing to settle for the "live-streaming" of Mass. In his words, he said, "They don't seem to hunger for Eucharist." Of course, none of us know the underlying medical conditions or the fearfulness that others may be experiencing right now, but this coronavirus pandemic has made me aware of how deeply I appreciate your faithfulness to Mass. Last weekend our attendance at the 5 Masses was quite good, while certainly still respecting both the capacity limits and the sanitizing requirements mandated by the state. I do continue to remind everyone to wear face masks properly, covering both nose and mouth. And I am trying to keep my homily shorter, given both summer heat and facial masks. But, all-in-all, given the reality of a worldwide pandemic, I believe we are doing as well as we can. And I thank you for your faithfulness to Eucharist. I thank you for the work of evangelization that you are doing as you invite fellow parishioners to come back to Eucharist. You are for me the evidence of St. Augustine's insight. You are becoming what you receive.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe



A Vocation View. Discipleship of Christ requires dying to self, and making of ourselves living sacrifices to Him. How are you called to offer yourself? Are you being called to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister? Humbly ask the Lord. If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 847-5535.

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.

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.

Avoid Food Waste. If you are either a gardener with homegrown produce to spare or someone in need of fresh vegetables or fruit, check out this site: AmpleHarvest.org. This is a nationwide directory of food banks that accept donations of fresh produce to distribute to their clients. Imagine sharing the abundance of your garden without covert zucchini drop-offs on your neighbor's doorstep!



Readings for the week of August 30, 2020

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/
Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102
[97]/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab,
13cd-14 [17]/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21 [12]/
Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [1]/
Lk 5:1-11

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/
Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21 [18]/
Lk 6:1-5

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