

November 29, 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, November 30, 2020

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Catani Family req. by Mary Lou Cappellini

## THURSDAY, December 3, 2020

8:00 AM All Souls

## SUNDAY, December 6, 2020

8:15 AM Michael Kirwan req. by Mary Lou Cappellini  
Santo Aiello req. by Connie & Joe Genco

9:30 AM Carmela Picone req. by Daughters, Mary & Mili  
Joseph & Jessie Sole req. by Bill & Carol Maggio

**Basket Fest** Rev. Peter Popadick and the Parish Community of St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church invite all to the 77th Annual Family Christmas **BASKET** Fest on Saturday, December 5, 2020, from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Parish Hall, 157 Cleveland Drive in Cheektowaga. Preview night for Early Birds is Friday, 12/4/20 from 5:00 to 8:00pm.

The Christmas Basket Fest includes a Grand Prize Drawing, our famous Humongous Theme Baskets, and some delightful side raffles. A take-out Spaghetti Dinner compliments of the Knights of Columbus will be available, as well as Mike's Homemade Chili.

For more information call the St. Aloysius Rectory at 833-1715.



### 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!

### FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP

#### November 15, 2020

Offertory .....	\$1,945.31
Fuel .....	\$ 725.00
Summer Missions .....	\$ 690.00
Electronic Giving.....	\$ 90.00

November 22, 2020 figures will be reported in the December 6th bulletin.

### Assisting on the Altar December 6, 2020

Lector: 8:15 Mary Lou Cappellini  
9:30 Anne Simon

Eucharistic Ministers:

8:15 Larry Brooks, Dan Szyklinski



**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 First Sunday of Advent. There are no classes, but you and your family can surely begin your preparation for Christmas using the Advent materials we sent home last week.



**Giving Tree** – This year, due to the pandemic, our Giving Tree will be a little different. Rather than specific items, we are requesting the purchase of gift cards for Walmart and/or Target. Our efforts will benefit the St. Gianna Outreach Center and the VA Hospital. Representatives from each agency will use our donated cards to purchase needed items on behalf of their clients.

Our tree is up and decorated. This year, the tree is decorated with empty envelopes, indicating the two agency names and the two stores from which a gift card can be purchased in an amount comfortable for you. Take an envelope (or multiple if you wish) and indicate the agency and store you chose by marking the appropriate areas on the envelope. All envelopes, with gift card inside, should be returned no later than Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Please deposit your envelope(s) in the large gift-wrapped box under the tree. In the event you haven't yet returned to church and wish to participate, please telephone our church secretary, Diane at 876-5318 for instructions.

The St. Gianna Outreach Center and the Veteran's Hospital are so very grateful for our past and continued support and truly appreciate our consideration and generosity on behalf of their clients. Thank you. We wish you and yours a Merry Christmas!



**An Act of Spiritual Communion** by St. Alphonsus Liguori. My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

As I have mentioned periodically before, since the company which publishes our church bulletin (and the bulletins of many other churches throughout our diocese and other dioceses as well) is located out of state, they require extra lead time whenever public holidays impact their printing schedule. In light of the recent Veterans Day holiday and Thanksgiving Day holiday, we have had to send them our bulletin drafts in advance. So, although you may be reading this on the weekend after Thanksgiving, I am in fact writing this when Thanksgiving has not yet come. Such a time-lapse experience can seem either surreal or a cause for reflection. I find myself opting for the latter. Looking "back" at Thanksgiving when it has in fact not yet come, makes me more aware of the deeper significance of this national holiday, and, for that matter, of a stance of gratitude – of giving thanks – as people of faith in the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. All that being said, and aware that you are reading this on the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend *after* Thanksgiving, I do hope that your Thanksgiving was a day of celebration and of reflection, despite and because of the marked change of circumstances brought on by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

As I write this – again, some ten days or so before you will be reading it – the governor and county executive yesterday (November 18<sup>th</sup>) announced that much of Erie County was being moved into the "Orange Zone." There are many immediate implications for all schools, all churches, and many businesses that are within an orange zone. We in the City of Buffalo, as well as many other towns and cities, are now in this designated orange zone. The practical implication for us as a church is that beginning on Friday November 20<sup>th</sup> we became subject to a limit of 25 people at Mass. Before this we had been allowed to have 33% capacity, which was over 100 people at Mass in each of our two parishes. Now, however, even churches with a remarkably large capacity – think of Our Lady of Victory Basilica, for example, or St. Louis Church – are limited to 25 people at a Mass. This is a slight improvement over the total ban on public celebrations which was in effect from mid-March to mid-June, but 25 is still a very small number of people. We had been slowly re-building our attendance, as people became aware of our safety protocols and social-distancing and mask-wearing compliance and began to return to the celebration of Eucharist, which is the heart and soul of our Catholic Faith. Weekend Mass attendance at Holy Spirit had begun to reach 250; and weekend Mass attendance at St. Margaret had begun to reach 150. And both of these numbers were well within the allowed 33%

Now, however, much of Erie County is in the orange zone, and our limit is reduced to a total of 25 people at Mass. This leaves me with only two options – either to stop the public celebration of Mass, or to continue the public celebration of Mass while respecting the limit of 25 people at a time. I am choosing the latter option. Mass will continue to be celebrated publicly at the normal times (Saturday at 4:00pm at Holy Spirit, and Sundays at 7:00am at Holy Spirit, 8:15 and 9:30am at St. Margaret, and 11:00am at Holy Spirit), but each can have only 25 people at a time. The only practical way to do this is to require you to call each rectory office to reserve your spot at Mass. Please call on Monday or Tuesday each week to reserve your seat for the following weekend or to see if spots are still available. I trust that you will be considerate of others who want to attend but are not able to when the list is already filled up, and that you will give them the opportunity even if it means that you must sacrifice your own opportunity.

I do not like this any more than you do. Yet is not a matter of what I like, but of obeying health safety measures that are mandated by government authorities. In the meantime, pray for one another, and for all engaged in the development of safe and effective vaccines. Perhaps this time of "social distancing" will ultimately make us more aware of the treasure of Catholic community that had always been ours, and which shall be yet again, Good Lord Willing.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Father Joe



### 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.



**Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP)** is a national charitable organization that builds and delivers beds to kids in need at no cost. Too many children in the Buffalo area lack basic necessities that so many of us take for granted. We recently organized a chapter locally, determined to give kids (ages 3-17) a safe and comfortable place to lay their heads. SHP-Buffalo is an entirely volunteer venture. Dedicated volunteers build the beds, deliver them to homes and set them up fully outfitted with new mattresses and bedding. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity, we rely on donations to purchase tools, materials, mattresses, and bedding. To learn more about our mission and how you can help or volunteer, visit <http://www.shpbeds.org> or contact Jerry Sheldon, President of SHP-Buffalo, at 716-570-3449 or [jerry.sheldon@shpbeds.org](mailto:jerry.sheldon@shpbeds.org).

*"All that we behold is full of blessings."  
William Wordsworth*



### Readings for the week of November 29, 2020

**Sunday:** Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

**Monday:** Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/ Mt 4:18-22

**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/ Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/ Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

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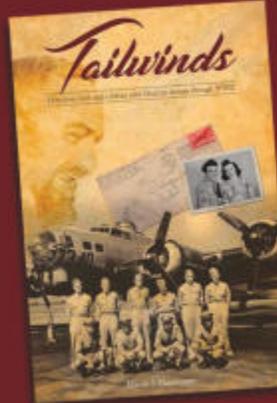
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# Local soldier meets Padre Pio!



*Tailwinds*, a new book by local author Martin J. Haumesser, tells the story of his father's World War II experiences including several encounters with Padre Pio - St. Pio of Pietrelcina.

• Now available on Amazon. Search "Tailwinds" in Books.

• More details at [facebook.com/martinhaumesser](http://facebook.com/martinhaumesser)

Contact [mjhaumesser@verizon.net](mailto:mjhaumesser@verizon.net) for more information.

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