

December 6, 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, December 7, 2020**

8:00 AM Sr. Anna Balint, S.S.S. req. by the Sisters of Social Service

**TUESDAY, December 8, 2020 -**

**The Immaculate Conception**

8:00 AM Santo Aiello req. by Josephine Tabone & Family

Anthony Figliola req. by Diane Waligorski

**THURSDAY, December 10, 2020**

8:00 AM Michael Kirwan req. by Rick & JoEllen Cronin

**SUNDAY, December 13, 2020**

8:15 AM Patrick Kirwan req. by Mary & Mili Picone  
Jonell de Poto req. by Karen Albanesi and Family

9:30 AM Giuseppe Radosta req. by Angelo Marzullo  
Santo Aiello req. by Concetta Tabone



**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 Second Sunday of Advent, and the feast of St. Nicholas, (Dec. 6) patron of children. He is known for his kind generosity and surprise visits to homes at night. Try to follow the Dutch custom or tradition of putting out a shoe for St. Nicholas to fill. St. Nicholas always finds them there to fill with treats and little reminders of his care. It's a great way to remind us to pass on some kindness to someone else.



The **Sanctuary Light** will glow this week in memory of Kathleen L. Smyth req. by Estate

**Giving Tree.** This year our efforts will benefit clients of the St. Gianna Pregnancy Outreach Center and patients of the Veterans Administration Hospital. Representatives from each agency will use our donated gift cards to purchase needed items on behalf of their clients.

Our tree is decorated with empty envelopes, indicating the agency names and the stores from which a gift card can be purchased. 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 gift-wrapped box next to the tree. In the event you are unable to attend Mass and wish to donate, 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 continued support and truly appreciate our generosity on behalf of their clients. Thank you. We wish you and yours a Merry Christmas!

Today's **second collection** will be taken up for Christmas Flowers to make our Church beautiful for Christmas! Thank you for your generosity.

*Your Christmas Flowers envelopes with the names of your loved ones will be placed on the Altar during the Christmas Season.*

**FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP**

**November 22, 2020**

Offertory .....	\$1,395.38
Human Development...	\$ 235.00
Shrines.....	\$ 163.93
Electronic Giving.....	\$ 20.00

**November 29, 2020**

Offertory.....	\$1,543.15
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**Assisting on the Altar December 13, 2020**

Lector: **8:15** Kate Mazzarini

9:30 Rick Cronin

Eucharistic Ministers:

**8:15** Donna Steele, Dan Szyklinski

9:30 Anne Simon, Sr. Karen Marie



**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul** members would like to wish our fellow parishioners a very Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season. Please remember our neighbors in need as you celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus. Thank you for your continued support.

## A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

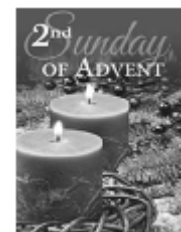
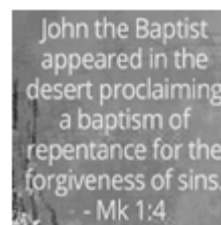
Last weekend's bulletin included the specific directives that the governor had decreed for churches and other "houses of worship" in New York State in the so-called "orange" and "red" zones during the coronavirus pandemic. As you may recall, churches in an area designated as an "orange" zone were to be limited to a total of 25 people in attendance, regardless of the size of the church structure. A cathedral with a capacity of thousands and an oratory with a capacity of only one hundred were both subject to the same limit of 25 under the governor's directive. Many of you, and I also, for that matter, found it difficult to understand the reasoning behind such a measure. Specifically, why would a grocery store be allowed to be jam-packed with people, some not wearing masks and many not social distancing, while a church of whatever size would be limited to just 25 individuals, all wearing masks and all socially distanced from non-household members? While all of us want to help slow or stop the spread of the coronavirus in whatever ways we can, the inconsistency of the "orange zone" treatment of various enterprises was puzzling at best.

Then, late on the night before Thanksgiving, the Supreme Court of the United States weighed in on the issue, and agreed that this inconsistency did in fact raise issues regarding the First Amendment of our United States Constitution regarding the free exercise of religion. Therefore, the case has been sent back to a lower court for further deliberation. In the meantime, the severe limits of 25 people in churches in an orange zone or 10 people in churches in a red zone have been replaced by a limit of 33% of capacity in an orange zone (and 25% of capacity in a red zone). We had in fact in both Holy Spirit and St. Margaret been observing a limit of 33% of capacity for months already, complete with mask wearing, social distancing, and the sanitizing of the church buildings after each Mass. So, what I had written in last weekend's bulletin about the need to call ahead to reserve one of the 25 spots is no longer necessary, thanks to the Supreme Court. Our limit is simply the 33% capacity limit. I do honestly believe that we are doing everything possible to provide a healthy and safe environment to gather and pray during this time of pandemic, when prayer and some experience of community are more

I want to thank all in each parish whose sacrifice made Thanksgiving a special time in the life of the needy of North Buffalo. Holy Spirit's Food Pantry Thanksgiving Drive was a remarkable success, both in terms of the amount of food donated and the number of volunteers who helped with the distribution of the food. And at St. Margaret's, the St. Vincent de Paul Society received a number of monetary donations on Thanksgiving which will assist them in their works of charity in providing furniture, bedding, etc. for the poor of our community. It is gratifying to experience the ways that each parish is a blessing – a cause to give God thanks – during these difficult times.

This Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. This is the Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America. There will be two Masses for the Immaculate Conception. The Vigil Mass will be on Monday December 7<sup>th</sup> at Holy Spirit at 4:00pm. And the Mass on Tuesday December 8<sup>th</sup> will be at St. Margaret at 8:00am.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Father Joe



**A VOCATION VIEW.** We are urged to "prepare the way of the Lord!" God has called some to show others how to prepare through leadership as priests and religious brothers and sisters. If God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).

**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 Moment with St. Marguerite d'Youville.** "I shall never forget the friends from whom I have received so many kindnesses." St. Marguerite d'Youville

As we prepare for Christmas, these words of St. Marguerite remind us that we are sometimes the friend who bestows kindnesses on others. Advent calls us to be mindful of the gifts of time and presence, as we prepare for the birth of Christ. It can be a time to show gratitude to someone else through your presence and to be grateful for all who bless your life with their presence!

Learn more about St. Marguerite d'Youville and the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart: [www.GreyNun.org](http://www.GreyNun.org)



### Readings for the week of December 6, 2020

**Sunday:** Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/  
2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

**Monday:** Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14  
[Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/  
Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11,  
12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:** Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/  
Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/  
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47



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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

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



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