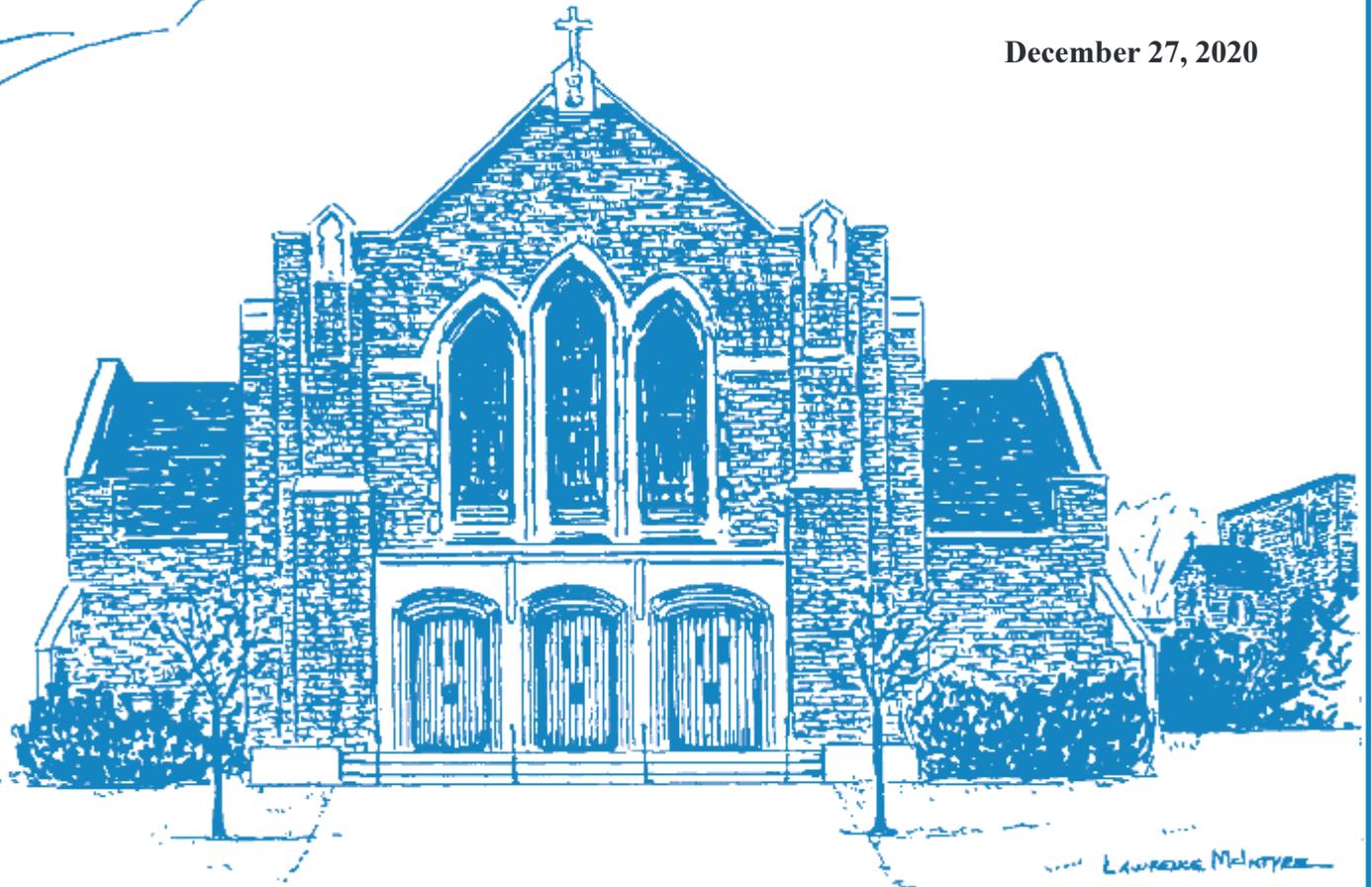


December 27, 2020



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 - (7:00 am at Holy Spirit) 8:15 and 9:30
am at St. Margaret (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: 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 parishioners 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 28, 2020

8:00 AM Sr. Susan Kam, S.S.S. req. by Sisters of Social Service

THURSDAY, December 31, 2020

8:00 AM All Souls

FRIDAY, January 1, 2021 - Happy New Year!

9:00 AM All Souls

SUNDAY, January 3, 2021

8:15 AM Serina Picone req. by Daughters, Mary & Mili

9:30 AM Nina Brucato req. by Jerry & Pam Casillo



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. There will be no Religious Education classes until further notice.

30th Annual Festival of Lights at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, 1023 Swann Rd., Youngstown from November 21 through January 3, 2021 with a modified schedule due to Covid 19. Lights will be on from 5-9 pm December 18 - January 3. See 15 acres of spectacular Christmas lights, including a 9-foot tall outdoor illuminated Nativity scene and a life-size Fontanini Nativity scene in the Basilica. Climb to the top of the Basilica and get an angel's eye view of the Avenue of Saints and the Spirit of Christmas. New this year is an exhibit of over 300 International Nativity Sets on display in Fatima Hall when the lights are on. Admission and parking are free. Groups welcome; reservations appreciated. For scheduled hours of the Office, Gift Shop and Cafeteria, call 716-754-7489 or email office@fatimashrine.com.



The Rectory will be closed Friday, New Year's Day. Have a very Happy New Year & celebrate safely!

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.



"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love." Hamilton Wright Mabie



This morning's second collection is the usual monthly offering for repairs and maintenance of our church and property. We appreciate your continued support.

FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP

Figures for December 20, 2020 will be reported in the January 3, 2021 bulletin.

December 13, 2020

Offertory	\$2,152.31
Religious Retirement ..	\$ 617.84
Electronic Giving	\$ 515.00

Assisting on the Altar January 3, 2021

Lector: 8:15 Mary Lou Cappellini
9:30 Rosemary O'Connell
Eucharistic Ministers:
8:15 Bob Esposito, Kate Mazzarini
9:30 Anne Simon, Sr. Karen Marie

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. "One is rich in God in the measure that one is poor in the love of worldly things." St. Marguerite d'Youville. St. Marguerite challenges us to look beyond the things of this world, and to be "rich in God" instead. These wise words were born from the many losses she suffered; and which she endured by remaining ever faithful to her relationship with God. May our resolutions for the New Year include being faithful each day to our relationship with God.

Wishing you peace and good health in the New Year. Learn more about St. Marguerite d'Youville and the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart: www.GreyNun.org

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

This weekend we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Our Scripture readings at Mass this year may inspire each of us to ponder and prayerfully consider, "What does it mean to be 'holy'?" Each of us probably has a preconceived notion of what holiness looks like or consists of. Maybe we imagine haloes, or silent awe, or hymns sung by angelic choirs, or, at the very least, a clarity of vision concerning God's plan? Then we read today's Scriptures! And we see the old man, Abram, questioning God's promises in light of the fact that he and his wife, Sarah, were childless. We hear of God and Abram looking up at a star-filled sky, and Abram trusting God's promise of more descendants than the stars Abram could see. And, against all odds, Abram believed. THAT is holiness!

Or we hear in Luke's Gospel today about this couple who journeyed up to Jerusalem to present their child – God's Child – to God! And the only fanfare for such a momentous, historic event is to be found in the old man, Simeon, and the old woman, Anna, each of whom is ready that day only because they had been ready every day. And to be ready every day, to be always prepared, through perhaps decades of years of waiting, THAT is holiness!

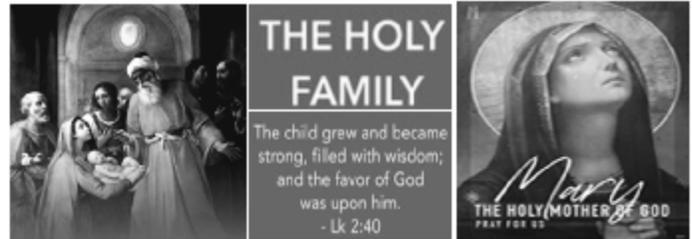
And this year of 2020, replete with pandemic, and its consequent near-total disruption of the routine of life as we had always known it, may have provided each of us with genuine opportunities to experience growth in holiness, if only because we had to depend on God's Presence in our lives with some measure of the trust of Abram and Sarah, of Mary and Joseph, and of Simeon and Anna. The holiness of our imagination may be in fact impossible; but the holiness that is actually available to us in the reality of our lives is well within reach, with God's grace. I hope that despite, or perhaps because of, all the disruptions of this past year, Christmas found our eyes and ears open to God's Presence, and us, like Abram stargazing, or Anna giving thanks, experiencing firsthand the joy and peace that holiness brings.

This Friday, January 1st, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. There are two Masses, one at each parish, to celebrate this Feast. The Vigil Mass is this Thursday, New Year's Eve, at Holy Spirit at 4:00pm. The Mass on Friday, New Year's Day, is at St. Margaret at 9:00am. Both parish offices will be closed on Friday in observance of the holiday, but if you have an emergency and need a priest, just call and you will find me.

The 2021 parish calendars have arrived at Holy Spirit and are at the church entrances for you to take home. I am grateful to Lombardo Funeral Homes for the donation of these calendars. The St. Margaret parish calendars are a gift of the John Roberts Funeral Home and should be arriving any day now for you to take home. Similarly, while as of this writing the St. Margaret church envelopes have not arrived yet, they also should be here any day. The Holy Spirit envelopes actually arrived a bit earlier than normal and are arranged alphabetically behind the last pew at Holy Spirit.

Worship
the Lord
in the
Beauty
of Holiness

A Blessed and Happy New Year,
Father Joe



A VOCATION VIEW. The Three Magi worshipped Jesus and then "departed by a different way." Is Jesus asking you to live your life in a new and different way for the Kingdom of God? If God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org

Kids are Funny! My family and I were at my grandson's school Nativity play. When the innkeeper opened the curtain to show Mary and Joseph the stable, my 3-year-old granddaughter sitting beside me piped up, "Grandma, where's their TV?" *A.R. Bayonne, NJ in Woman's World Magazine*

**World Day of Peace -
Friday, January 1, 2021**



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!

Readings for the week of December 27, 2020

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
[7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12,
17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]
Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/
Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/
Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/
Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/
Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/

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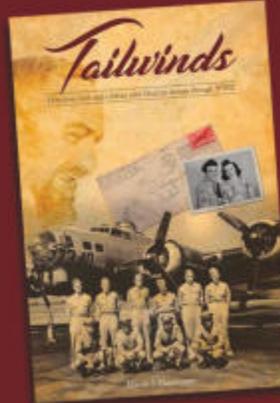
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Local soldier meets Padre Pio!



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

Contact mjhaumesser@verizon.net for more information.

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