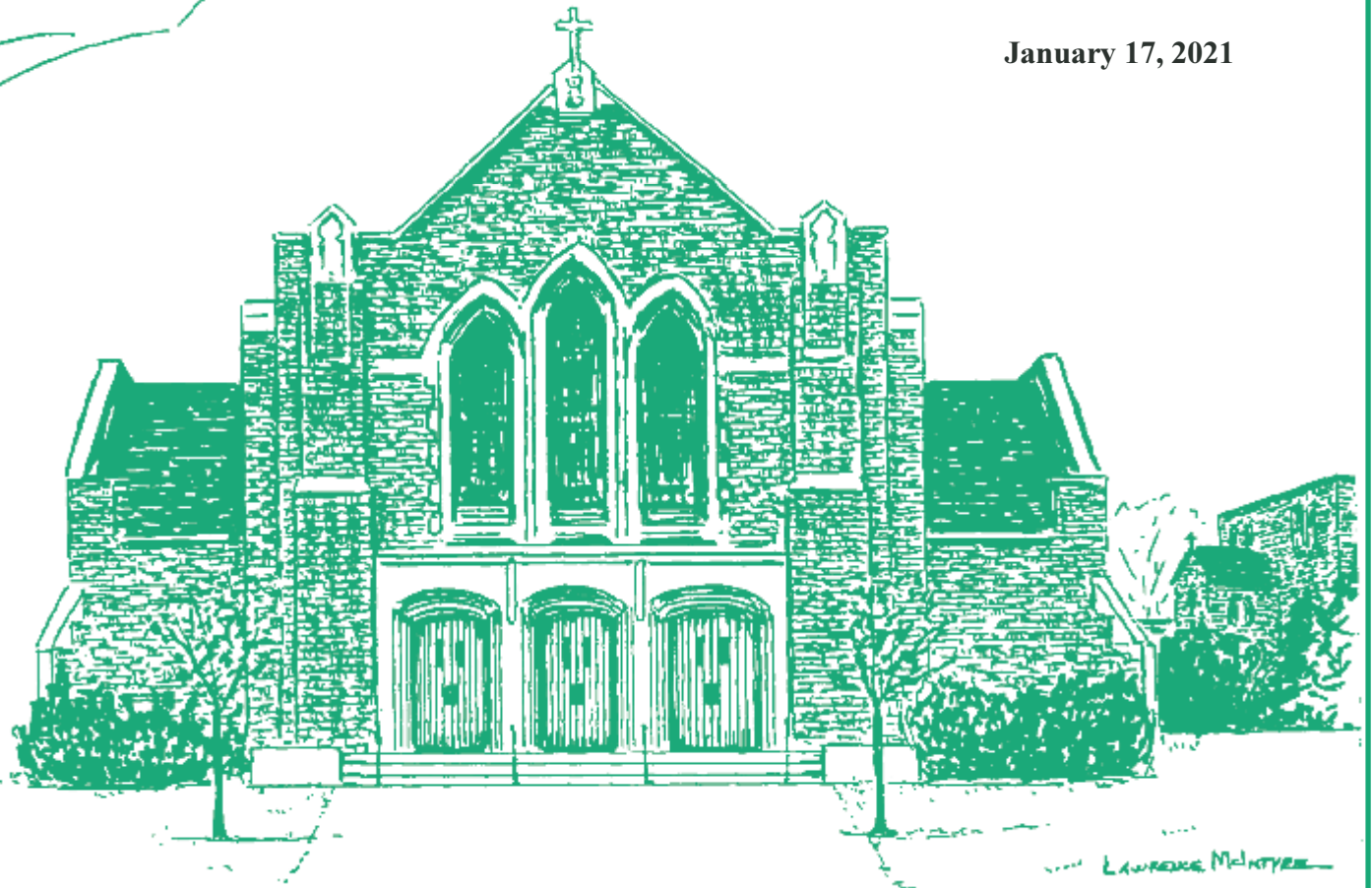


January 17, 2021



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:

(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



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, January 18, 2021

8:00 AM All Souls

THURSDAY, January 21, 2021

8:00 AM All Souls

SUNDAY, January 24, 2021

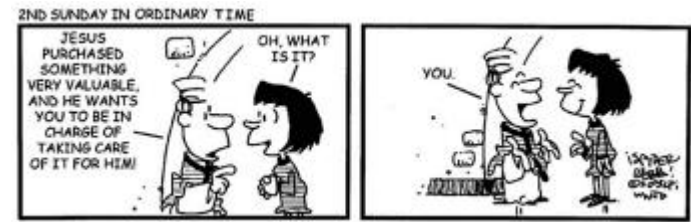
8:15 AM For All Parishioners

9:30 AM Vincent Lorigo req. by The O'Connell Family
Carol Maggio req. by Joe & Toni Marie DiLeo

Community Parish Outreach Ministry. Thank you to all who have supported our personal care collection during the past challenging year. The agencies that have been recipients of your donations were very grateful. They include Gerard Place, Response to Love Center, and Catholic Charities. Wishing you health and happiness in the coming year.

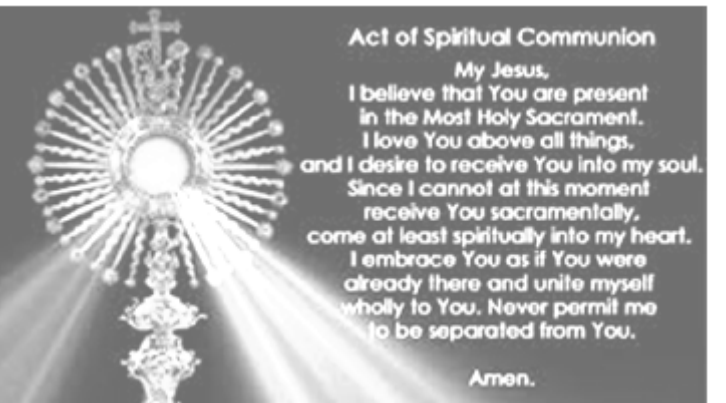
Religious Education News. There are no Religious Education classes this week due to the Martin Luther King Holiday. It is typically a day of service. Is there something you and your family can do in your neighborhood?

Next week, Jan. 24, is the Parent Meeting for Listening and Caring, Chapters 3 and 4 for First Communion.



Help For Your Marriage. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times. For more information call (716) 474-371 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org. The next weekend is February 26-28, 2021. All calls are confidential and pre-registration is required. Space is limited.

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.



The Rectory will be closed Monday, January 18 in honor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Giving Tree. Our efforts this year proved to be an overwhelming success and once again we wish to thank you, the generous parishioners of St. Margaret Parish, for making it so.



We began this year's program with 100 envelopes on our tree. A total of 106 gift cards were donated, as well as some cash which we used to purchase additional cards. The value of gifts initially received from our parishioners was \$2,790. As of the date of this writing, additional cards and cash have been received resulting in a grand total of approximately \$3,000!!

We just can't thank you enough for helping to make this year's program such a huge success, and are truly humbled by your generosity. The leadership of the St. Gianna Pregnancy Outreach program was amazed by the gift we were able to present and expressed their overwhelming gratitude on behalf of their clientele which includes women of all ages and their babies and young children. The clients of the V.A. program will benefit by your gifts now and into the coming months, and will be grateful to be thought of in such a generous way.

We wish all of you a healthy and Happy New Year!

FAITH IN STEWARDSHIP January 10, 2021

- Offertory \$2,382.00
- Shrines \$ 167.81
- Electronic Giving \$ 60.00

Assisting on the Altar January 24, 2021

- Lector: **8:15** Bob Esposito
- 9:30** Rosemary O'Connell
- Eucharistic Ministers:
- 8:15** Larry Brooks, Kate Mazzarini
- 9:30** Paul Shea, Sr. Karen Marie

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

As Roman Catholics, we believe that there are four distinct avenues by which we journey home to God. These are known as “vocations.” The word itself, “vocation,” comes from the Latin word, “voco, vocare,” that is, “to call.” Approximately 60% of our English vocabulary comes from the Latin language, thanks to the many years that the Latins, that is, the Roman Empire, occupied Britain after having conquered it. And so it is that a “vocation” is a “calling.” Or, more precisely, a vocation is the response to a call. Looked at in such a basic way, life suddenly is seen, beautifully, as infused with the Spirit of God. It is God who calls us; and it is we who respond to God’s call.

It can seem in our secularized world that so many seek recognition for themselves alone, craving the credit for this achievement, that idea, etc. What happens within us when we realize that what we are doing – who we are becoming – is *rather* in response to God’s idea for each of us? It is not merely by chance, by accident, by coincidence that one is married, another is single, this one is a priest, or that one is a sister. These four vocations – married life, single life, priesthood, religious life – are sacred avenues leading us home to the Lord. Each of the vocations builds up the Church as a community of believers.

The Scripture readings at Mass this weekend highlight the role that others play in helping us to discover our God-given vocation, and then to follow it. There is the beautifully human (and divine) story of the young Samuel, sleeping in the temple, who hears his name being called. Naturally, he assumes it is Eli who is calling him. But Eli, being older and more familiar with the Lord’s ways, comes to understand that it is the Lord who is calling Samuel. The Lord is calling Samuel, but his call of Samuel invites the guidance, faith, and gentle wisdom of Eli also. In the Gospel reading, the call to follow Jesus comes to Andrew first through John the Baptist, and then through Andrew to his own brother, Simon Peter. Faith seems to assure us that nothing comes out of the blue, but is rather all part and parcel of God’s loving plan of salvation. Eli was there for Samuel, John the Baptist for Andrew, Andrew for Simon Peter...

In your vocation, or better, in your *response* to your vocation, who has played a gracious, vital, and essential role? Looking back, do we see more clearly how God’s call came to us through the loving, hopeful and faithful presence of those in our lives who were/are the equivalent of Eli for Samuel, or Andrew for Simon Peter? And, always through the lens of faith, how is God graciously using us as guides for others’ vocations today? Where would Samuel have been without Eli? What if each of us has a role to play in God’s plan of salvation, a role that may be entrusted to no one else?

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe



Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi”—which translated means Teacher— “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” - Jn 1:38-39a

January 22



A VOCATION VIEW. Today’s First Reading is the perfect Vocation Story. Is it the Lord who is calling you in the night? Will you answer, “Speak Lord, Your servant is listening”? If God is calling you to the commitment of being a priest or a religious brother or sister, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org

Christ Is Anything but Ordinary. We’re about to dive headlong into week two of Ordinary Time, and we need to admit, after the hustle and bustle of the holidays, things are indeed looking more ... ordinary, at least in our spiritual lives.

The transcendent highs of the Christmas season are flatlining a bit and the vivid imagery of the Nativity scene has faded. The solemn anticipation of the Advent season is by now a distant memory.

Are you bored yet?

Here’s a secret: I think that Ordinary Time can actually be quite extraordinary, if we’re really living out our baptismal call.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus point-blank asks Andrew, who is following him after hearing John the Baptist’s testimony: “What are you looking for?” He’s asking us the same question.

What are you looking for? Why are you following me? Is it for the Christmas cookies and the Advent carols? Is it for the King’s Cake on the Epiphany? Is it for the feeling we get on Christmas when we just know God has done a wondrous thing?

None of those things are bad, but they are not what Andrew was looking for, and they were not what Christ promised him when he said, “Come, and you will see.” Andrew was looking for the Messiah — the One who makes even Ordinary Time extraordinary. The One who can sanctify the longest and dullest of to-do lists, on the longest and dullest of days. The One whose peace can reign in our homes on January 25, not just December 25.

Remember what you are looking for. Come, and you will see.
Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Readings for the week of January 17, 2021

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c [5]/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [8a and 9a]/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [11a]/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Mk 3:20-21

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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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