



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

85 Dakota Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14216

February 9, 2020 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Mission of the Holy Spirit Parish Community

As the family of the Holy Spirit Parish Community, we welcome all to our home, Christ's home. Our journey in Faith brings us together through prayer, Eucharistic celebration, support, love and caring. We commit to give generously of ourselves, our time, and talent to one another, and to all in our neighborhood.

May the Holy Spirit guide and comfort us in our never ending journey for peace and strength as witnesses for God's goodness.

PASTOR
Rev. Joseph D. Wolf

DIRECTOR OF LAY MINISTRIES
Sr. Katherine Marie Bogner, SSMN

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Karen Adamski

PARISH SECRETARY
Karen Cheman

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
Rasa Stalygiene
(716) 773-3858

PARISH CENTER/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
(716) 875 - 9478

RECTORY
91 Dakota Street

Phone: (716) 875-8102/Fax: 875-4186
Email: holyspirit.northbuffalo@verizon.net
Web site: www.holyspiritchurchbuffalo.com

NOVENA: Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Followed by Mass at 6:15p.m.

CONFESSIONS: Every Saturday beginning at 3:15p.m.(Holy Spirit Church)

Every Sunday following 8:00 a.m. Mass. (St. Margaret Church)

SICK CALLS: Phone rectory immediately in case of serious illness or accident. Also please let us know if you are confined at home and would like Communion brought to you.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance at the rectory. Attendance at Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter is required.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: If you are asked to be a Godparent, please call the rectory for your letter of recommendation, which attests that you are Baptized, Confirmed, and, if married, married in the Church. Of course your weekly presence at Mass here is vital to being a good role model as Godparent.

BAPTISMS: Please call the rectory to schedule your pre-Baptismal Class. Baptisms are normally celebrated on Sundays at 12:15pm, or during one of the weekend Masses.

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome all newcomers to our parish family and invite you to register as a member of the parish. Please stop by the rectory and introduce yourself!

OLD PARISHIONERS: If you are moving out of the parish, please notify the rectory by phone as soon as possible.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays: 4:00 p.m. (Holy Spirit)
Sundays: 8:00 a.m. (St. Margaret)
..... 9:30 a.m. (St. Margaret)
..... 11:00 a.m. (Holy Spirit)
Holy Day Masses: Consult the bulletin.
Weekdays: Mon., & Thurs., 8:00 a.m.
(St. Margaret)
..... Wed., 6:15 p.m. (Holy Spirit)
..... Fri., 8:00 a.m. (Holy Spirit)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 a.m. ~ 4:00 p.m. Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. ~ 5:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, February 11 Our Lady of Lourdes

8:00a.m. ~ Communion Service (Sr. Katherine Marie)

Wednesday, February 12

6:15p.m. ~ Deceased members of Provenzano Family req. Joan Grieco

Friday, February 14 Sts. Cyril, Monk, & Methodius

7:30a.m. ~ Eucharistic Adoration ~ Church
8:00a.m. ~ Rose & Daniel Adamski req. Family

Saturday, February 15

4:00p.m. ~ Frank Bogner req. Daughter, Sr. Katherine Marie Bogner
Anna Marie Sandino req. Laurie Leffler

Sunday, February 16 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11:00a.m. ~ Joseph Panasiewicz (Birthday Remembrance) req. Brothers & Sisters
Cosimo & Sanda Bonfante req. Daughter, Josephine Cicero

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, February 15

4:00p.m. ~ Rosie Kieffer

Sunday, February 16

11:00a.m. ~ Sienna & Ava Ridout

MINISTER OF THE WORD

Saturday, February 15

4:00p.m. ~ Rebecca Donoghue

Sunday, February 16

11:00a.m. ~ Dan Wolf

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, February 15

4:00p.m. ~ Carm Cavalieri; Rosemary Cordaro; Tom Lonco

Sunday, February 16

11:00a.m. ~ Angela Bocchino; Carmela Lunetta; Rita Riley; Zach Schwartzott; Rick Mendolera



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory of Carmine & Maria Manzella from Family

FREE SPIRITS NEWS

Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 13th @ 12noon in Church Hall. Doors open at 11:30am. Join us for Lunch/50/50/bingo.

- => Bake Sale next weekend Feb. 15th & 16th.
=> Mar. 22nd - Lancaster Opera House Matinee performance of Nunsensations "The Nonsense Vegas Revue" payment deadline Feb. 13th. \$38
=> Jun. 2nd Rescheduled Best of Buffalo Double Decker Bus Tour - Payment deadline May 2nd. \$48

FOOD PANTRY... Can you help stock our shelves with the following items: canned vegetables; cereal;

pork & beans; BROWN PAPER BAGS

Whatever you do for one of my least brothers or sisters, you do for me" (Jesus)

Team IA: Sr. Katherine Marie; Norm Matuszewski; Rita Riley; Laura Zeitler work 2/13/20 9am - 10am.

Team IB: Sheila Blum; Mary Burger; Teresita Morales; Jamie Ridout work 2/13/20 5pm - 6pm

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 9

9:30-10:45am ~ Religious Education Classes ~ Parish Ctr.

Monday, February 10

8:45a.m. ~ Spiritual Book Club Mtg. ~ Winter Chapel

Thursday, February 13

9:00 - 10:00a.m. ~ Food Pantry

5:00 - 6:00p.m. ~ Food Pantry

6:00p.m. ~ Adult Choir practice ~ Church



Saturday, Feb. 15th & Sunday 16th
FREE SPIRITS BAKE SALE AFTER BOTH WEEKEND MASSES

Sunday, February 16

No Religious Education Classes today due to the Presidents Day holiday

SEEKING GOD IN ALL THINGS



GOSPEL MEDITATION—What does it mean to be salt and light? If we listen carefully to Jesus' words, we gain some direction. To be salt means to bring taste, zest, and joy to life. We are asked to liven things up a bit by allowing the joy of our faith to

spill over into the lives of others. Only a sincere and deep relationship with God can freshen up humanity and set it on proper course. To be light means that our faith must translate into action so that we can be Christ for others and extend the same arm of mercy and compassion that Christ did. Our acts of piety, then, cannot be directed solely at ourselves. Prayer is never about self-benefit but must always be directed toward union with God, deepening our relationships with one another and learning how to be effective stewards of the beautiful universe God has entrusted to our care.

The Master gives us wise direction in terms of how we can best become the salt and light he desires. Listen carefully to the Beatitudes. Think about the oppression and alienation that exists in our world, the violence and prejudice, the anger and the hatred, the fear and the shame. All of these things require action. The poor need food, housing, and clothes. Hatred must be replaced by love. Retaliation and violence by forgiveness. Our thoughts and speech can become more like Christ. We can change and continue to change. Saint John Henry Cardinal Newman said, "To live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often."

But it doesn't end with just offering the bandages needed to heal wounds. It must go deeper. We must ask ourselves what has happened that we have found ourselves in this place with these wounds and divisions. What are their causes? Together we must address these systemic problems, politically and spiritually, and face the truth. Only then will we truly be salt and light. But then again, we may not like what the light shows us.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURY

Hebrews 13:16: "Do not neglect good deeds and generosity. God is pleased with sacrifices of that kind."

Offertory Collection: \$4,262.00
The same week a year ago: \$4,583.00



BIBLE STUDY... Our Bible Study group will not meet this week.

RCIA...A prayer for Valentines Day:

"May the world continue to surprise us, love continue to astonish us, life continue to captivate us, faith continue to sustain us, and may God go with us always, now and forevermore."

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS....Today is the 5th lesson for our First Reconciliation class. We are reminded that the Beatitudes are guides to how we are to be happy (Beatitude.) **There are no classes next week, Feb. 16th, due to the Presidents Day holiday and break.**

HOLY SPIRIT ASH WEDNESDAY FISH FRY...Wed., Feb. 26 from 4:00-8:00pm, in the Church Hall. Tickets are \$12 and are now available after both weekend Masses or at the rectory during business hours. Once again we are asking for volunteers for a Fish Fry Committee. Please call Karen at 875-8102 if you are interested in helping. Thank you!



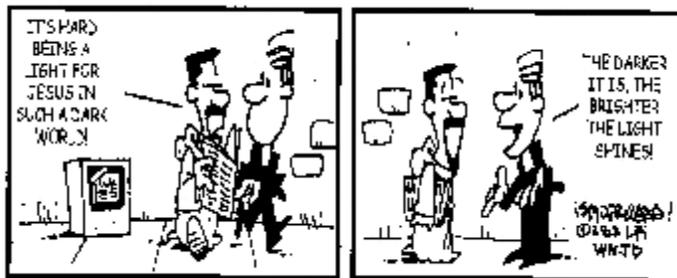
ST. JOSEPH TABLE 2020...will be held here at Holy Spirit Church Saturday, **March 21st** at 5:00pm. Tickets are now available after both weekend Masses and will be available at the rectory during business hours. **Ticket price is \$15.**This is a very popular event and sells out very quickly. If you are interested in helping with the planning and preparing of this event please call Karen at (875-8102).



CALLING ALL MALE CHEFS OF THE PARISH...Our annual Men's Cook off will be Sunday, March 8th at 1:30p.m., downstairs in the Church Hall. All men of the parish who would like to enter the competition are asked to please call Mike Cheman at (716)238-3669 to register by March 2nd.

"Those who request weekend Masses & would like to bring up the offertory gifts, please inform an Usher before Mass."

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FEB 10 - FEB 16

- Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 [2]/Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 [4a]/Mk 7:24-30
- Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/ Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 [4a]/ Mk 8:1-10
- Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 [1b]/1 Cor 2:6-10/ Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

I would imagine that many of us have notes or pictures or refrigerator magnets that are attached to the door of our refrigerator. There may be family photos from years gone by, or souvenirs from a vacation, or quotes that remind us of timeless truths. On mine there are family photos, images of masterpieces of Renaissance art, and reminders of a certain Black Labrador Retriever. What items adorn your refrigerator, and how often do you notice them? In Stella Corcoran's kitchen there were – in addition to mementos of Holy Spirit Church – various little magnets of dogs, rabbits and any number of God's little creatures. Stella had a fondness for God's creatures that reminded me of St. Francis of Assisi. She also had posted there this quote from Mahatma Gandhi, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Since I had never previously encountered that quote, I found it striking and insightful. I still do.

But it also got me to thinking about how a parish's greatness and spiritual progress might be judged? Granted, that there are many different avenues to approach this question: prayerfulness, mutual respect, acts of Christ-like compassion, charitable works, etc. But I would propose that yet another criterion for a parish's greatness and spiritual progress is to be found in the quantity and selflessness of its volunteers. And last weekend's Holy Spirit Parish Volunteer Workers Appreciation Dinner reminded me in a powerful way of how richly blessed we are with the generous sharing of time and talents by our army of parishioners who volunteer here throughout the year, and in such a variety of ways! As your priest, I am struck by your goodness, warmth, and living faith which shows itself in your genuine concern for one another. I do believe that a parish's greatness and spiritual progress become evident through the ministry of its volunteers.

The dinner was catered by Amici Ristorante, who sent to us for the evening their chef (and our very own parishioner), Nino Aljoe, along with John, both of whom did the final preparations for the meal, as well as served the meal for us. Needless to say, it was delicious. I am grateful to Ace, owner of Amici's, and a friend of mine as well as a friend of Holy Spirit, for all that he does for our parish. Vincenzo Battaglia and Romano's Bakery also provided delicious cannoli and sfingi, which everyone enjoyed.

This year's recipient of the Holy Spirit Parish Volunteer of the Year Award is Sister Katherine Marie Bogner, SSMN. Sister Katherine Marie goes above and beyond in her service of God and neighbor here at Holy Spirit. She is integral to our Liturgy Committee, Bible Study, RCIA, Adult Faith Formation, Food Pantry, Free Spirits Seniors Group, Good Samaritans, Parish Council and Grief Support Group, as well as bringing the Lord's Eucharistic Presence to many of our shut-ins in their homes and in nursing homes throughout Western New York. She first came to serve at Holy Spirit School back in 1963 (I did mention that I was three years old at the time), when she taught a 7th grade class made up entirely of boys. She then returned in 1982 as Director of Religious Education. And then I asked her early in my term to return to serve as Director of Lay Ministries. I have always found in Sister Katherine Marie a true model of the vocation of Religious Life. To all whom she serves and works with she brings a genuine spirituality, deep faith, as well as a warm and generous kindness that speaks powerfully of Jesus to all of us. I, and all of us here, are blessed with Sister Katherine Marie's presence and ministry. I know you will join me in congratulating her as this year's Volunteer of the Year.

Just a reminder that our Fish Fry is quickly approaching (on Ash Wednesday, February 26th), as is also our March 21st St. Joseph's Table, which sells out quickly. Why not get your tickets for both events after Mass today?

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe

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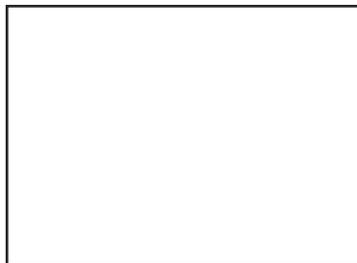
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