



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

85 Dakota Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14216

July 12, 2020 Fifteenth 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 8:15 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: 7:00 a.m. (Holy Spirit)
..... 8:15 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, July 14 Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

8:00a.m. ~ Communion Service

Wednesday, July 15

6:15p.m. ~ Rita Daigler req. Sister, Eleanor

Friday, July 17

7:30a.m. ~ Eucharistic Adoration ~ Church

8:00a.m. ~ Alvin Caverly req. Eleanor Daigler

Saturday, July 18

4:00p.m. ~ Carmela & Vito Cavaliere : In Thanksgiving
(60th Wedding Anniversary) req. Family
Robert Pelosi req. Donna Martiny

Sunday, July 19 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00a.m. ~ For All Parishioners' Intentions

11:00a.m.~ John Ebeling (Birthday Remembrance)
req. Daughter, Julie & Family
Mary Auletta req. Chuck & Laurie Carra

MINISTER OF THE WORD

Saturday, July 18

4:00p.m. ~ Mike Martin

Sunday, July 19

7:00a.m. ~ Volunteer Needed

11:00a.m. ~ Dan Wolf

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, July 18

4:00p.m. ~ Edward Giannino; Eric Winegarden

Sunday, July 19

7:00a.m. ~ Andrea Graziano

11:00a.m.~ Rita Riley; Ricky Warnes

“Word on Fire”

Daily Mass online @ www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

Act of Spiritual Communion



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



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURY



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

Offertory Collection:\$3,698.00

The same week a year ago: \$4,140.00

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JUL 13- JUL 19

Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 9d]/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21 [20b]/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 [12b]/Mt 12:14-21

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, July 16

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

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

FREE SPIRITS NEWS...Please check our website @ www.holyspiritchurchbuffalo.com for the latest information on future meetings and events.



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory of Lina Battaglia from Family



LPI'S GOSPEL MEDITATION - July 12, 2020
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Using the best seeds doesn't always guarantee the best plants. An older Italian gentleman straight from Italy gave me these amazing tomato seeds that he claimed produced the best tomatoes ever grown. Without doubt, the fruit he shared with me was a testament to that fact.

These tomatoes were amazing! I couldn't wait until the next growing season to plant these seeds and harvest my own tomatoes. The whole experiment ended up a failure. I did everything the gentleman said, but my fruit didn't even come close. What happened? At first I was perplexed, then some years later the light dawned. The problem wasn't the seeds, it was the soil!

You cannot sow seeds in any old place and in a haphazard way and expect them to be at their best. It doesn't work that way. Planting the seeds is the easiest part. Preparing the soil is the challenge. Tilling, mulching, enriching, and building up the nutrients are all required for good fruit. Then after the seeds are planted, more care is required in order to maintain that healthy, nutrient-rich environment for those seeds to sprout, grow, and flourish. God happily sows the seeds of his Word. What do we do with them?

If we expect to be a passive bystander and have good fruit magically grow, we are mistaken. Bearing the good fruit of God's Word requires preparation and work. We have to cultivate the soil of our lives so that those seeds can find a proper home. This one thing alone takes a great deal of patience, time, and effort. What kind of preparation have we put into our lives so that we can be a recipient of God's seed? It takes a great deal of soul-searching and ego-checking to properly prepare. God is the ever faithful and persistent sower. If the seeds do not bear fruit the first time, God will come back time and time again, giving it another try.

If we have created a suitable bed for sowing, then once the seed is sown, we must properly maintain them. What is our maintenance plan for the seeds of God's Word? We need not only a source for water but a watering schedule. We need to weed, aerate the soil, nurture the young plants, protect them, and provide proper nutrients. What does our spiritual maintenance plan look like? If we have done all things well, imagine what the seeds of God's Word could produce in us!

BIBLE STUDY...No classes being held until further notice, due to the coronavirus precautions.



A prayer: *“Eternal God, the refuge of all your children, in our weakness, you are our strength, in our darkness, you are our light, in our sorrow, you are our comfort and peace. May we always live in your presence, and serve you in our daily lives.” St. Boniface*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS...Are your children participating at Mass, or have they forgotten why we are here? If we still can't use missalettes this week, try to get your child (ren) to respond to the dialogue that Fr. Joe begins all through the Mass. For example, by your speaking up loudly “And with your spirit”, or any of the other responses. Remind them to carefully make the sign of the cross; to carefully cross themselves before the Gospel on their forehead, lips, and heart, and to stand up tall to hear the Gospel. They will be listening then with their whole body, and so will we if we model all these for them!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES...Catholic Charities is doing everything possible to continue to serve our neighbors in need at this time. We are operating every service we safely can and especially those most vital at this time such as basic emergency assistance, including our food pantries (all nine are up and running, assisted by CC staff from other departments) and counseling and mental health services. We are here to help! Many of our staff are working remotely and returning office calls daily. For the Appeal, our office at 741 Delaware Ave. is closed to visitors. Parishes (and even individual parishioners) are asked to mail donations to our office, 741 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209, Attn: Appeal Department. We also encourage online donations: www.ccwny.org/donation when possible. Appeal staff are working remotely and returning office calls daily. Please call Clara Moran, 716-713-4410, with questions or concerns. Thank you!

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

coffee; crackers; mac & cheese

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

Team IIIA: Sr. Katherine Marie; Joan Grieco; Tom Loncto; Michael McGee work 7/16/20 9am - 10am.

Team IIIB: Carol Kimmerle; Stephanie Rufino; Marty Eckert; Tony Losi work 7/16/20 5pm - 6pm

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

When was the last time you planted something? And when was the last time you planted something from seed? The Gospel passage at Mass this weekend comes from a time when society was primarily based on agriculture. Imagery of sowing seed, watering the plant, observing the growth and harvesting the crop would have been much more central to the consciousness of the first hearers of the Gospel than it may be to us. Much of what we eat may have traveled hundreds (or thousands) of miles before reaching our kitchen tables. Yet there is something about growing our own food that may open our eyes – and souls – to the message of Jesus today.

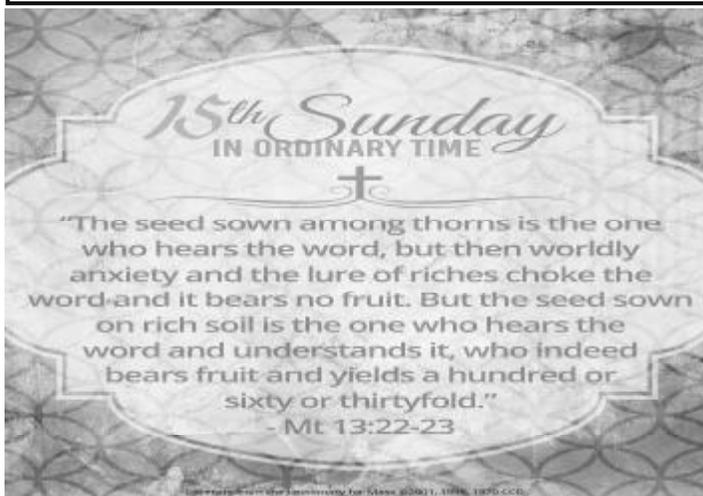
When I had first arrived in North Buffalo, a phone call came in asking if I could bring Communion to a parishioner of Holy Spirit who was homebound. Her daughter had heard that I spoke Italian and thought that this would be helpful for her mother. So it was that I began to visit Leonilda and Mario Costanzo in their home for several years until each was called home to God. There developed a routine that I have missed since their passing. Upon arrival, I would be met at the door by Mario, and the three of us would visit for a little while. Before long I would begin the prayers with Leonilda, who by that point would have already sent Mario into their kitchen to get the espresso coffee started. After giving her Communion, we would join Mario in their kitchen for an ‘caffè’ and some cookies. And – to get to the point of all this in relationship to the Gospel today – Mario would then invite me outside to his backyard garden...

It was a little slice of paradise. He had truly transplanted a little bit of “the old country” into their new home here. Every inch of his small backyard was a product of his loving toil. The grapevines that grew overhead provided a bit of shade over the driveway. The beans grew to tremendous heights. There were tomatoes, eggplant, basil... The fig trees were also his pride and joy. He had worked that soil for years, and tended it so faithfully and so lovingly each spring, summer and fall. And he tended even more lovingly and faithfully to the needs of his wife of over 60 years.

Planting a seed in rich soil carries with it a sense of the miracle of creation. To watch a garden grow is both exciting and fulfilling. And, of course, to pick one's own vegetables as part of lunch or supper is incomparably superior to eating that poor tomato which had to traverse several states (or countries) first.

If we can so delight in witnessing the seed planted in rich soil bearing abundant fruit, we can begin to appreciate how the Lord must delight in His seed of faith growing within us. The joys – and especially, the sorrows – of life are enriching the “soil” or our souls. All of us have known those whose very lives yield the “hundred, or sixty or thirtyfold.” And this is our vocation, our calling, too.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe



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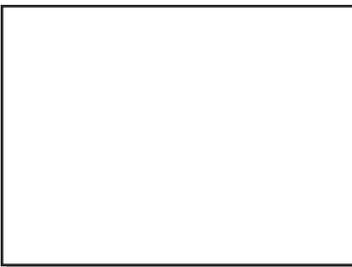
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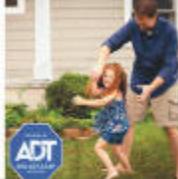


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