



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

85 Dakota Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14216

July 26, 2020 Seventeenth 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 28

8:00a.m. ~ Communion Service

Wednesday, July 29 St. Martha

6:15p.m. ~ Christopher Brown req, Sibby & Jean Lo Grasso

Friday, July 31 St. Ignatius of Loyola

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

8:00a.m. ~ David Michael Jackson req. Carmela Lunetta

Saturday, August 1

4:00p.m. ~ Josephine Mancuso req. Nieces, AnnMarie Guizzotti & Denise LaFever

Sunday, August 2 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00a.m. ~ Angela Pantano (Anniversary of Death) req. Elsie Pantano

Dayanna Jackson req. Lisa Cammarata

MINISTER OF THE WORD

Saturday, August 1

4:00p.m. ~ Sheila Blum

Sunday, August 2

7:00a.m. ~ Volunteer Needed

11:00a.m. ~ Hedy Auletta

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, August 1

4:00p.m. ~ Rick Amodeo; Tom Loncto

Sunday, August 2

7:00a.m. ~ Mary Senger

11:00a.m. ~ Liz Cook; Bruce Lull



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



PRAY FOR SOMEONE NEW EVERY DAY!

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE WITH GOD.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURY



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

Offertory Collection:\$5,825.00

The same week a year ago: \$3,195.00

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JUL 27- AUG 2

- Monday: Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [9]/Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 [2]/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Thursday: Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab [5a]/Mt 13:47-53
Friday: Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14 [14c]/Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34 [14c]/Mt 14:1-12
Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, July 30

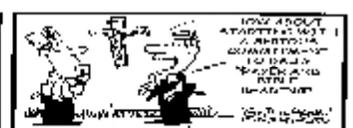
9:00-10:00a.m. ~ Food Pantry

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 Marrietta Scropo (Birthday Remembrance) from Sisters, Diane & Rosalie



LPI'S GOSPEL MEDITATION - July 26, 2020 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



A single mother who has a child with special needs works two jobs and sacrifices much of her own pleasures in order to be available for her son. Being the best mother possible is important to her and brings her joy.

We are willing to make great and often heroic sacrifices for those people and things that matter most to us. Unless there is something of obvious importance to us in our immediate path, we can easily approach life in a more haphazard and chaotic way. We jump from one thing to another, responding to whatever it is that is competing for our attention at that moment. When everything is important, nothing is important.

If we do not wear the right pair of glasses, we can get all too easily caught up in the superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really matter. The kingdom of God is like the pearl of great price that is worth selling everything for so that it can be obtained. Based on where I invest my time and energy each day, I really wonder whether I am serving God's kingdom or my own. Have you ever considered tracking how you spend your time? You may be surprised! We allow our agendas to set the clock of our lives. We forget that joy and a true sense of purpose are not going to be found in following that timepiece. Joy is the expression of the happiness that is discovered when living in the kingdom of God. When our agenda matches God's agenda, not only do we leap for joy but God leaps with delight as well. Our well-being is what matters most to God.

Can you imagine God delighting in you? It is easy to deaden our senses to the whole reality of God and the joy that living the Gospel can bring. The demands of secular life and the agendas competing for our attention can quickly do that. We can get tired and spiritually apathetic. But if we can see our way through all of the conflicting voices and hear the voice of God, we can rediscover our zeal and passion and redirect our efforts. When we begin to see as God sees, we can rise each day and notice what really needs our attention and embrace it with exuberance. Be careful, though. It may not be what we originally had on our list. Responding to it, however, will be worth putting everything else aside.

A PRAYER: *Lord, you set the mountains in place by your strength: you calm the roar of the seas and the noise of the waves: the whole world stands in awe of your deeds, of the great things you have done. Your deeds bring shouts of joy from one end of the earth to the other and every hillside declares your glory.*



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS...How are your listening skills? What is Jesus doing or saying to us this week in the Gospel? Listen hard so that you can talk about the Gospel (for a little bit) on the way home.

Religious Education classes will resume after regular school classes start. Our classrooms and class sizes are large enough, and small enough, to have more than adequate social distancing. If your child attends a Catholic school and will be in Grade 2 or Grade 3 in the fall, don't forget to register him or her for First Reconciliation (Gr.2) or First Communion (Gr.3) classes. We prepare for the celebration of these sacraments in the parish, not in the school. Call the rectory of Holy Spirit or St. Margaret to register. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

CHIAVETTA'S CHICKEN DRIVE-THRU DINNER on July 31 from 4-7 pm at St. John the Baptist School, 1085 Englewood Ave., Kenmore. Pre-sale and day-of tickets available. Contact: 716-877-6401 or 716-873-1122.



Is your child age 12-17 displaying chronic negative behaviors such as: noncompliance, verbal and/or physical aggression, truancy, school failure, curfew violations, running away, illegal substance abuse and/or criminal activity? Our

Multisystemic Therapy Program in Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties can help. MST is an intensive, family-focused intervention program that is facilitated in the youth's natural environment. Think MST might be a good fit for you and your child? Call 716-204-0555 ext. 5025 or visit www.ccwny.org. In other WNY counties, office-based counseling is always available to families. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit www.ccwny.org. Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

The Gospel readings at Mass on recent weekends give us examples of Jesus teaching the crowds and his own disciples. A recurring phrase that Jesus uses is, "The kingdom of heaven is like..." Last Sunday, Jesus likened the kingdom of heaven to a farmer sowing seed on soil of various conditions. This weekend, Jesus likens the kingdom of heaven first to a treasure buried in a field, then to a pearl of great price, and lastly to a net cast into the sea which collects fish both good and bad. What do these comparisons mean to us today, in a world in the grips of the first major pandemic in 100 years?

Like any good teacher, Jesus used examples familiar to his listeners, examples drawn from their daily lives in the Holy Land of 2,000 years ago. We may be able to relate to some of these examples more easily than to others. I would venture to guess that most of us have planted a seed at some point in our lives. Perhaps we remember being a child and participating in a Mother's Day project of planting flower seeds in a paper cup in school on a March or April day long ago. Maybe some of us have had the experience of casting our fishing line into a pond, lake or stream.

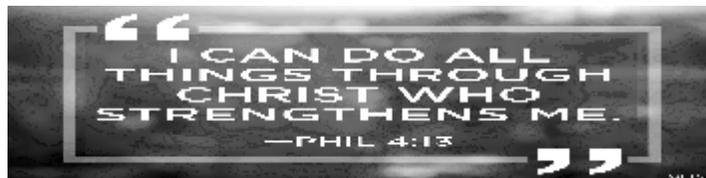
When I received my very first fishing pole at the age of 8 or 9, I excitedly threaded the fishing line through the pole, attached a lead sinker, wound back the pole and with all the energy I could muster, and let out my pole for my very first cast...Of course, being rather enthusiastic, I had done all of this while still in the house. For this reason, I remember my very first "catch": the ceiling glass lamp cover came down instantly all around me when hit by the lead sinker. You may have similarly memorable experiences of planting, fishing, treasure-hunting, etc.

Were Jesus to teach about the kingdom of heaven to crowds or disciples today, what kinds of examples from our daily lives might he employ? Might he make reference to technology, or to a Google search, or to the myriad parts of a car's engine, for example?

In other words, what is Jesus – come down to earth from heaven – trying to teach us about the kingdom of heaven? At the very least, he was trying to convey something of the hidden, mysterious, remarkable growth of the kingdom of heaven, as evidenced by the analogy of a seed's germination, growth and bearing fruit. Jesus, divine and human, was touching upon our human experiences of discovery, beauty and priceless value to help us begin to grasp the divine experiences which await us in God's plan of salvation. In Greek, there are two words for our one English word, "time." One is "chronos", the other is "kairos". Chronos is what we typically mean when we refer to time, as it means time being measured (seconds, minutes, years, etc.). But kairos is sort of like those moments when time seems to stand still, when we experience an insight that is timeless, as if time itself is being fulfilled.

Currently, all of us await a return to "normal" times when the pandemic passes. But there are special moments that were delayed by the pandemic – First Communions and Confirmations, for example – which are soon to be rescheduled. We are awaiting guidance from Albany regarding the re-opening of schools, an announcement which will be soon forthcoming. If schools locally are deemed ready to re-open, then at that point our Religious Education classes will resume as well, with the same required face masks and social distancing which will be in place in all schools. In this scenario, First Communions and Confirmations would then take place in our two parishes in September. Perhaps the unusual circumstances of these months may make each of us more open to the meaning of the kingdom of heaven as these milestones of First Eucharist and Confirmation are celebrated. In other words, the pandemic may open for us the mystery of kairos that is always present within chronos, though it is a mystery which can otherwise be so easily – and unfortunately – taken for granted.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe



FOOD PANTRY... Can you help stock our shelves with the following items: **spaghetti sauce; spaghetti**
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 7/30/20 9am - 10am.
Team IB: Sheila Blum; Mary Burger; Jamie Ridout; Teresita Morales work 7/30/20 5pm - 6pm

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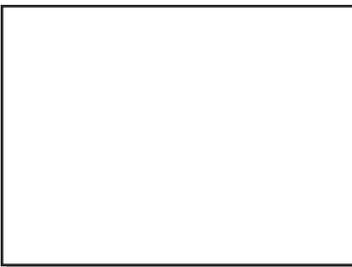
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