



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

85 Dakota Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14216

January 3, 2021 The Epiphany of the Lord

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, January 5 St. John Neumann

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

Wednesday, January 6 St. Andre Bessette

6:15p.m. ~ Deceased of members of the Manzella Family req. The Family

Friday, January 8

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

8:00a.m. ~ Rose M. Fierro & Parents req. Estate

Saturday, January 9

4:00p.m. ~ Annette Daigler req. Daughter, Eleanor Daigler

Sunday, January 10 The Baptism of the Lord

7:00a.m. ~ For All Parishioners

11:00a.m. ~ Severine D. Spampata req. Estate

MINISTER OF THE WORD

Saturday, January 9

4:00p.m. ~ Karen Adamski

Sunday, January 10

7:00a.m. ~ Rebecca Donoghue

11:00a.m. ~ Sue Zbrzezny

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, January 9

4:00p.m. ~ Carmel Cavalieri; Eric Winegarden

Sunday, January 10

7:00a.m. ~ Angela Downey

11:00a.m. ~ Liz Cook; Rick Mendolera

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



FOOD PANTRY... Can you help stock our shelves with the following items: **peanut butter; jelly; mac & cheese**

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 Zeidler work 1/7/21 9am - 10am.

Team IB: Sheila Blum; Mary Burger; Teresita Morales; Jamie Ridout work 1/7/21 5pm - 6pm



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JAN 4- JAN 10

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 3

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

Monday, January 4

6:00p.m. ~ Grief Support Mtg. ~ Church Hall

Thursday, January 7

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

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

Sunday, January 10

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



LPI'S GOSPEL MEDITATION - January 3, 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord



"Where is that thing?" mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. "I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!" Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, "Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear." The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

"And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was." The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God's tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God's salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God's healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!

PRAY FOR THE EPIPHANY:

By the light of a star, O God of the universe, you guided the nations to the light of the world. Until this Redeemer comes again in glory, we, with the Magi, seek the face of the Savior. Summon us with all those who thirst now to the banquet of love. May our hunger be filled and our thirst be quenched with your word of truth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.



Religious Education Classes for Holy Spirit & Saint Margaret begin again this Sunday, January 3, 2021 at 9:30am.

THE SISTERS OF ST. MARY are no longer collecting cancelled stamps. The company that used to take them and give money in return is no longer doing this. We thank you so much for all that you have done for us in the past years...all of the money went to our missions.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURY

Hebrews 13:16: *“Do not neglect good deeds and generosity. God is pleased with sacrifices of that kind.”*
Offertory Collection: 12/20/20.....\$4,496.00
The same week a year ago: \$5,100.00

PLEASE HELP...Our Free Spirit Group collect new and gently used items for the **“Friends of the Night”** a drop-in center located on Buffalo’s West Side - offering a meal or clothing to the needy. Items that are being collected are: Hats, gloves, boots, scarves, sweatpants, sweatshirts, socks, and coats. Please bring all donations the weekend of January 9th & 10th or Monday, January 11 from 9-11am. Donation boxes will be located in the Dakota Street entrance. Thank you!

BLESSED TRINITY RC CHURCH JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Part-time Administrative Assistant Position**
 General secretarial-receptionist responsibilities.
 Weekly church bulletin. Computer competency needed (email, data entry, Microsoft Word, Excel, PDS).
 Organization skills necessary. Record keeping.
 Flexible weekday, daytime hours/days.
 - Part-time General Housekeeping Position**
 General parish rectory housekeeping/cleaning responsibilities. Occasional laundry. 10 -16 hours/month.
 - Part-time Maintenance Position**
 Jack-of-all-trades general maintenance/cleaning.
 Familiarity with light plumbing, electrical, heating.
 Lawn maintenance, weekday snow removal. 1-2 days/week. Flexible hours/days.
- Applications: Blessed Trinity RC Church, 317 Leroy Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214 (716-833-0301)

2020 TAX STATEMENTS

Tax Statements are available. If you need a copy printed for your 2020 tax preparations, please fill out the bottom portion of this box and put it in an envelope in the weekend collection (Attn: Karen) or call the rectory office during regular business hours to request a statement (875-8102).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

All pastors received from the Diocese the following notice that all parishes are legally required to print in the parish bulletins several times in the coming months. Our bulletins are published for us by a company in Ohio, and our deadlines for submitting the bulletins are often days – even weeks – ahead of publication. This is true of this present bulletin, and has been true for each of the last several bulletins, due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Therefore, today’s bulletin is the first one to include it, though it will be included at least seven more times in future bulletins, as is being legally required throughout the Diocese by the Bankruptcy Court:

“UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y. Case No. 20-10322
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, On February 28, 2020, The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y., (“Diocese”) filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”).

The Bankruptcy Court has established August 14, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the “Bar Date”).

If you have a claim against the Diocese, including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date.

Please visit <https://case.stretto.com/diocesefbuffalo> or call (855) 292-7696 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE’S CHAPTER 11 CASE.”

As I mentioned at the beginning of today’s column, this publishing of this notice is a legal requirement. Its inclusion in parish bulletins, while required by law, will certainly provoke varying reactions in each of us. For myself, I will try to see it in light of today’s readings from Isaiah and Matthew:

“See, darkness covers the earth...but upon you the Lord shines”

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”

In our world gripped by pandemic, in our diocese scarred by scandal, and in our own hearts wounded by life’s pains and losses...the only answer I know of is to join the magi in seeking the light, hope and promise of the Christ Child, needed now as much as on that first Epiphany, and perhaps more.

I want to thank all who volunteered their time and talent in decorating our church for Christmas: Karen Adamski; Hedy Auletta; Eileen Cook; Karen, Mike and Joe Cheman; Peter Figlioti; Maryann Hopkins; and Julie, Ray, Gabby and Zach Schwartzott. And I am also grateful to John Cotton, whose dedication and expertise enables us now to broadcast the celebration of Mass in the church simultaneously to the church hall. We are all blessed with Christ’s light as that light continues to shine through one another. In fact, perhaps because of the stresses of this particular time in history, I must say that I have never before experienced such overwhelming goodness as I have seen in all of you. The Giving Tree gifts you donated brought such joy to the poor. And I myself also appreciate your cards, kind words, gifts and cookies. And Rev wanted me to thank you for the goodies you also sent his way: whereas people may “re-gift,” Rev did not.

Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe

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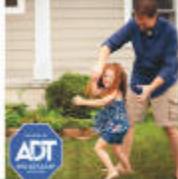
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A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters



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