



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

85 Dakota Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14216

January 17, 2021 Second 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, January 19

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

Wednesday, January 20 St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

6:15p.m. ~ James & Margaret Max req. Estate

Friday, January 22

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

8:00a.m. ~ Richard & Marie A. O'Connor req. Estate

Saturday, January 23

4:00p.m. ~ John Mroz req. Wife, Angelica & Family

Sunday, January 24 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00a.m. ~ For All Parishioners

11:00a.m. ~ Alice J. Furman req. Estate

MINISTER OF THE WORD

Saturday, January 23

4:00p.m. ~ Rose Amodeo

Sunday, January 24

7:00a.m. ~ Volunteer Needed

11:00a.m. ~ Ann Nowak

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, January 23

4:00p.m. ~ Carmela Cavalieri; Carmen Manzella

Sunday, January 24

7:00a.m. ~ Marilyn Camp

11:00a.m. ~ Cassandra Smith; Ricky Warnes

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



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in loving memory of Dominic Rossitto From Wife, Delores & Family

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 IIIA: Sr. Katherine Marie; Joan Grieco; Tom Loncto; Edward Giannino work 1/21/21 9am - 10am.

Team IIIB: Carol Kimmerle; Stephanie Ruffino; Marty Eckert; Tony Losi 1/21/21 5pm - 6pm

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JAN 18- JAN 24

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

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 17

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES TODAY DUE TO THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY

Monday, January 18

Rectory office closed due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday

Thursday, January 21

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

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

Sunday, January 24

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

LPI'S GOSPEL MEDITATION - January 17, 2021
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Our faith is not just about ideas. It's really about having an encounter with God and, in particular, the Risen Christ! Once we give ourselves over to the notion of God's presence, we have to train ourselves to listen for God's voice and be attentive to God's call. Having companions on our faith journeys is so incredibly important as they can help us fine-tune our listening skills and discern God's voice from others we may be hearing. Faith is all about having these profound encounters not only with God but with our brothers and sisters, and creation itself. Anyone or anything that is alive with God's presence becomes an occasion for God to speak and call us to deeper graces and experiences. "Come, and you will see."

The example and teaching of Jesus, the lives of the saints, those living among us and those glorified in heaven, and the wonder and beauty of creation can all serve to help us listen more clearly and assist in positioning ourselves for this profound God meeting. It is an encounter that can quickly and easily lead to a friendship and intimate intertwining of our souls to their Maker, making a claim on us like no other. Then, the Word of God moves from being just a body of ideas to something we simply accept and do. The person of Jesus Christ swiftly moves from being just a good prophet in word and deed to the incarnate presence of God Himself, the Lamb of God. The voice leads us to the Person behind it.

The Gospel is hard to follow. We can intellectually debate whether what Jesus said is really what we are asked to do. The Gospel ideas do not always make sense in our practical, secular world. The person of God always does. We can debate the practicality and sense of ideas and doing so often keeps the more difficult ones at a safe distance away from us. Jesus said to love our enemy, but we really don't need to do that, our minds try to convince us. It just doesn't make sense. Yet, if we are truly in love with the God who is behind the voice of those words, they make perfect sense. Our deep and intimate love of this God would even find us laying down our lives for Him if necessary. Speak Lord, your servant is listening.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURY

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

Offertory Collection: 1/10/21..... \$6,798.00
 The same week a year ago: \$4,475.00

LET US PRAY:

“Hold dominion over my heart, O Lord. Keep it as your inheritance. Make your dwelling in me, along with the Father and the Holy Spirit. For you are my God and I will praise you, together with the Eternal Father and your quickening Spirit, now, hence-forth and forever.” —St. John Damascene



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 Zoom Parent Meeting for Listening and Caring, Chapter 3 and 4 for First Communion.

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 dulllest of to-do lists, on the longest and dulllest 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



Our Church Hall is now open for additional seating to attend our weekend Masses. At Communion time Father Joe & Eucharistic Ministers will come downstairs to distribute Communion to all gathered for Mass in the Church Hall. There is plenty of room to follow the social distancing guidelines. Please think of joining us this weekend!

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

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

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