



HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

85 Dakota Avenue • Buffalo, NY 14216

March 14, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

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, March 16

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

Wednesday, March 17 St. Patrick

6:15p.m. ~ Bob Brocklehurst (Anniversary of Death)
req. Wife, Rachel & Family



Friday, March 19 St. Joseph

7:30a.m. ~ Eucharistic Adoration ~ Church
8:00a.m. ~ Giuseppe Genco req. Concetta Genco & Family
6:00p.m. ~ Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 20

4:00p.m. ~ Daniel S. Adamski Jr. req. Family
Joseph & Nancy Caci req. Sister, Angelica Caci - Mroz

Sunday, March 21 Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:00a.m. ~ Joseph A. Rizzo req. Joe & Patty Rizzo
11:00a.m. ~ John Panasiewicz (Anniversary of Death)
req. Brothers & Sisters
Giuseppe Genco req. Cosima & Angela Piraino

MINISTER OF THE WORD

Saturday, March 20

4:00p.m. ~ Karen Adamski

Sunday, March 21

7:00a.m. ~ Sheila Blum
11:00a.m. ~ Sue Zbrzezny



EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, March 20

4:00p.m. ~ Carmen Manzella; Eric Winegarden

Sunday, March 21

7:00a.m. ~ Rita Riley
11:00a.m. ~ Mary Senger; 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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURY

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

Offertory Collection: 3/7/21..... \$4,019.00
The same week a year ago: \$4,274.00

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MAR 15- MAR 21

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 14

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



Thursday, March 18

9:00-10:00a.m. ~ Food Pantry
5:00-6:00p.m. ~ Food Pantry

Friday, March 19

6:00p.m. ~ Stations of the Cross ~ Church



Saturday, March 20

9:00a.m. - 12noon ~ First Communion Retreat ~ Church Hall

Sunday, March 21

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



CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL: Seventh grade students can prepare for the high school entrance exam by taking a practice version of the exam for FREE. The practice exam will be offered at Canisius High School on April 24. Sign up for either date at canisiushigh.org/practiceexam

Beginning in 2015, The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y., Inc. (“Foundation”) began soliciting donations to its “Upon this Rock” (“UTR”) capital and endowment campaign. The UTR campaign raised funds for many purposes, including soliciting funds for making essential upgrades to classroom facilities and technology of Christ the King Seminary (“CKS”), expanding CKS’s role as a center of retreat and religious celebration, and establishing an endowment fund for CKS. Unfortunately, in early 2020, CKS’s Board of Trustees determined that CKS would close at the end of the 2020-2021 academic year. CKS’s closure will make it impossible for the Foundation to use the UTR funds raised for CKS for their original intended purposes. However, under New York law, when the original purposes for which funds are donated become impossible to achieve, those purposes can be modified in a manner consistent with original intent by the New York State courts. For many years, CKS provided education and formation for ordained and lay ecclesial ministers in the Diocese of Buffalo and beyond. Accordingly, the Foundation has asked the New York State Supreme Court for the County of Erie to approve a modification of the purposes of UTR funds raised for CKS so that those funds can be used to support the education and formation for ordained and lay ecclesial ministry in the Diocese of Buffalo, as determined in the discretion of the Foundation’s Board.

If you have donated to UTR and would like to be heard regarding this requested modification, you may send a letter to: The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y., Inc., attention Executive Director, 795 Main Street, Buffalo, N.Y. 14203 or an email to donor.info@frcdb.org. Copies of letters or email received by the Foundation will be provided to the Court. You may also make a formal filing in the legal proceeding entitled *Matter of the Modification of Endowment Funds of The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo N.Y., Inc.*, Erie County Index No. 814747/2020. In order for your submission to be available for the Court’s consideration, please be sure to send any letter or email, or make any filing, no later than Friday, April 9, 2021.

PRAYER FOR LENT:

Lord, where shall I find you? High and hidden is your place? And where shall I not find you? The world is full of your glory. I have sought your nearness, with all my heart I called you, and going out to meet you, I found you coming toward me.



March 14- This is the week when we actually celebrate our two March Saints: St. Patrick (the 17th) and St. Joseph (the 19th). Look up the prayer “The Breastplate of St. Patrick.” Pray it for yourself and your family, and ask St. Joseph to protect and guard our diocese and the universal church. He is also the patron of a happy death.

On Ash Wednesday we listened to the song “Ashes”. The words say “we offer you our failures. Our attempts gifts not fully given, dreams not fully dreamt. Our stumblings, give direction, our visions wider view, an offering of ashes, an offering to you.” With this in mind- our offerings, however complete or great or small, are the object of our “Works of Mercy Tree” upstairs in the school. Each week we have been asking the students to take a card home to complete one work of mercy as a family or individual during the week. Then we asked them to bring it back to place in our “offering basket” to bring up at the Offertory of Mass at the end of Lent. *Congratulations to the following children who are celebrating Reconciliation for the first time: Monica Gracie, Connie Hoffman, Ava King, and Giavanna Richardson.* Pope Francis recently said, *“The center of confession is not the sins we declare, but the divine love we receive, of which we are always in need.”* *****This coming Saturday is our First Communion Retreat in the church hall. It runs from 9AM to 12noon.**

FREE SPIRITS: Our next meeting is **April 8th at 12noon** in the Church Hall. As per NY state guidelines social distancing and masks are required! Watch for your postcard in the mail with more information. We look forward to seeing you there!

HEAVENLY PENNIES & MORE...our Religious Education Program will be collecting pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters etc. during Lent for Catholic Charities. Your wonderful support and the students’ great enthusiasm has helped us reach or surpass our goal every year! It really is like “pennies from heaven!” When put together these pennies are helping everyone, everywhere. Thank you for your support! Penny jars are at the doors of the Church.

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!

FOOD PANTRY... Can you help stock our shelves with the following items: coffee

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 3/18/21 9am - 10am.

Team IIIB: Carol Kimmerle; Stephanie Ruffino; Marty Eckert; Tony Losi work 3/18/21 5pm - 6pm

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

We recently received from the Diocese a 12-page instruction regarding the rubrics for this year’s celebration of Holy Week, with adaptations to be observed during the coronavirus pandemic. What I found reassuring in this document is the degree to which Holy Week will in fact be allowed to be celebrated. For sure, there will still be the required use of facial masks by all age two and over, as well as the observance of a six-foot social distancing between non-household members. But we have been following these safety protocols faithfully ever since churches were allowed to reopen last June. And it seems certain that such public health measures will continue to be required until such time as the pandemic is determined to have ended.

There are some relatively minor adaptations noted in the instructions. For example, the palms on Palm Sunday are to be distributed by gloved volunteers at the church entrances, instead of being left on a table. This is meant to reduce the amount of handling of the palms before you receive them. The Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday is to be observed by a simple bow before the Cross, instead of the more traditional kissing of the Cross. This would come as no surprise in a time of pandemic. Since the Gospel on both Palm Sunday and Good Friday involves congregational participation, I would recommend that you bring your missalette with you. For those who have not yet taken a missalette to be their own this year, I will be sure that a quantity of the new, never yet used, missalettes will be available for you to take with you.

But what I would like to point out is something that is not specifically stated in the above-mentioned 12-page instruction. And that is the vast difference between Holy Week this year and Holy Week last year. You will recall that last year, as we were then at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, all liturgies had been cancelled throughout New York State as of mid-March 2020. Holy Week as such did not exist last year. I do not remember there being any public observance of Palm Sunday, Holy Week or Easter anywhere in the world last year, including Vatican City State. That being said, there is much for which to be grateful this year. Thanks to our volunteers who continue to sanitize the church after each Mass (weekends and weekdays), and thanks to you for your proper wearing of face masks and observance of social distancing, we are able to worship God together while doing our utmost to maintain public health and safety.

I am encouraged by all who have come back to church, and am hopeful that more and more will continue to join us at the Lord’s Altar as their circumstances allow. I am grateful for your continued prayerful and financial support of the parishes during this past year, a year which has been unlike any that we have seen before. When I consider those three long months of mid-March to mid-June 2020, when we were not allowed to have any Masses together, then I realize just how far we have come, and how extraordinary it is that we can realistically plan for Holy Week this year. Since it could not be celebrated at all in 2020, Holy Week 2021 may indeed be all the more reason to give God thanks.



Sincerely in Christ,
Father Joe

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