



## February 7, 2021 Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time



### Mass Intentions

**Monday February 8 St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita**  
8:30am Chuck Speakman by Camille Boczar

**Tuesday February 9 Weekday**  
8:30am Eric Cummings by Ginny Greenan

**Wednesday February 10 St. Scholastica**  
8:30am Jean Samer by HIAS  
Parishioners of Infant of Prague

**Thursday February 11 Our Lady of Lourdes**  
No Mass

**Friday February 12 Weekday**  
8:30am Capt. Michael and Joseph Moran Jr. by family  
Herbert Orzol ~ Birthday ~ by family

**Saturday February 13 Weekday**  
4pm Mike Brady by Ron & Anne Ziaronowski

**Sunday February 14 Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time**  
8:30am Alfred Phillips by Anna Marie DiQuarto  
10:30am Patricia Wright by Ceil Shattuck

Schedule a remembrance for a loved one

Contact Parish Office for Mass Intention requests. The stipend per Mass is \$15.00. If a specific date is desired, please schedule as far in advance as possible.

### Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

January 30 & 31

Weekly Envelope.....\$ 5,042.50  
Online .....\$ 3,390.00

Thank you for supporting our Parish!



### Parish Office

Parish Office closed President's Day  
Monday, February 15, 2021



### Chapel Hours Update

IOP Chapel open for private prayer:  
Monday ~ Friday 9am to 2pm  
Masks and social distancing required

### Diocesan Collections

- February 6 & 7
  - ◊ Church in Eastern Europe & Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland
- February 20 & 21
  - ◊ Black & Native Missions

### Parish Ministerial Staff

**Administrator** ..... Rev. Thomas Mahoney  
FrTomIOP@gmail.com

**Deacon/Pastoral Associate.** Brian C. Walkowiak

**Director of Faith Formation** Fran Mackowiak  
infantofpraguedre@gmail.com

**Director of Music** ..... Elijah Simon

**Parish Trustees**..... To be determined  
Michael Maute

**Parish Council President** .... Mary Montero

**Parish Nurse** ..... Lisa Nemmer  
iopparishrn@yahoo.com

**Parish Office** ..... 716-634-3660  
Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm  
infantofpragueparish@gmail.com

Please keep our community safe. Most Parish Office requests can be handled via phone, email or using the "contact us" request on our parish website. If a visit to the Parish Center is required please call ahead so we can make arrangements for your visit.



### Stay Connected

IOP has a variety of ways we can stay connected...

- Parish website ~ Visit our iopparish.com for Parish Information, On-line form registration, links to FORMED and parish bulletin .. and much more
- Facebook ~ follow us on Facebook at "Infant of Prague Roman Catholic Church Cheektowaga" for Parish Information, inspirational quotes, links to our bulletin... and much more
- Bulletin ~ take one on your way out of the Church, pick one up in the Parish Center vestibule or visit our website iopparish.com where the bulletin is just a click away

### IOP Prays for the Following

Helen Sikorski, Sister M. Antonita Sikorski CSSF,  
Peter DiGiacomo, Arline Stoeckl

... and all parishioners in nursing homes, homebound and our military service men and women.

Names will be listed four consecutive weeks. We will be happy to add a name to the prayer list upon immediate family request and permission

Contact Parish Office for prayer requests

**Please remember in your prayers...**

Robert Zon, Monica M. Mazurkiewicz and all who have died

**Ash Wednesday February 17, 2021**



8:30am & 7pm Mass  
in the Main Church

Noon Service  
in the Main Church

*Lent comes providentially to  
reawaken us, to shake us from our  
lethargy*

Pope Francis

**Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day  
Thursday, February 11, 2021**

*Hail Mary, poor and humble Woman, Blessed by  
the Most High! Virgin of hope, dawn of a new era;  
We join in your song of praise, to celebrate the  
Lord's mercy, to proclaim the coming of the  
Kingdom and the full liberation of humanity.*

*Hail Mary, lowly handmaid of the Lord, Glorious  
Mother of Christ! Faithful  
Virgin, holy dwelling-place of  
the Word, Teach us to  
persevere in listening to the  
Word, and to be docile to the  
voice of the Spirit, attentive to  
his promptings in the depths of  
our conscience and to his  
manifestations in the events of  
history.*



*Hail Mary, Woman of sorrows,  
Mother of the living! Virgin  
spouse beneath the Cross, the  
new Eve, Be our guide along the paths of the  
world. Teach us to experience and to spread the  
love of Christ, to stand with you before the  
innumerable crosses on which your Son is still  
crucified.*

*Hail Mary, woman of faith, First of the disciples!  
Virgin Mother of the Church, help us always to  
account for the hope that is in us, with trust in  
human goodness and the Father's love. Teach us  
to build up the world beginning from within: in the  
depths of silence and prayer, in the joy of fraternal  
love, in the unique fruitfulness of the Cross.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of believers, Our Lady of  
Lourdes, pray for us.*



**Faith Formation**  
**"LENTen Walk With Jesus"**

Grace and peace to you as we soon embark on our  
"Lenten Walk with Jesus."

Lent is a 40 day journey of preparation for Jesus'  
Passion, death and resurrection. It is a season  
founded on three Pillars of Faith: Prayer, Fasting and  
Almsgiving. Prayer strengthens our relationship with  
God, fasting puts the focus on what we truly need for  
our Christian discipleship and almsgiving helps us  
practice charity to become more aware of the  
needs of others.

If one takes the Lenten spirit of prayer, fasting and  
almsgiving to heart, you will be blessed by a richer  
faith life and have all the more reason to celebrate  
Christ's resurrection at Easter.

Lenten practices of the Catholic Church join us to the  
Christian community throughout the world. Every  
Lenten practice (personal, parish or universal) should  
raise our awareness and gratitude for the passion,  
death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.  
To assist families to engage in Lenten practices, The  
IOP Faith Formation Department will be mailing a  
Lenten informational packet and activities for families  
enrolled in IOP Faith Formation. Families are  
encouraged to expand on their own Lenten  
"Walk with Jesus."

Contact [infantofpraguedre@gmail.com](mailto:infantofpraguedre@gmail.com) for more information

**A Worthwhile Smile**



### IOP Keeping Our Parishioners Safe As We Worship Together

IOP is committed to the safety of all while we celebrate Mass together. Here are a few ways IOP is helping the faithful stay well:

- Hand sanitizer is available at entrances to the church
- Restricted seating is in place and pews are labelled to help with social distancing
- Shared "Breaking Bread" missals have been removed. If you wish you may bring your own. Please remember to bring these home with you as any left behind will be removed after Mass.
- For those who will not be receiving communion at Mass, we invite you to come up in the communion line to receive a non contact blessing. Please place your arms across your chest as a sign you welcome a blessing.
- All Church pews and touched areas are sanitized after each Mass. While the Church is appropriately sanitized, please be aware there is an assumed risk when attending Mass

### Face Masks Do's and Don'ts



### Keep Our Community Safe

- Check your temperature prior to coming to IOP. If you have a fever, are sick or have symptoms, make an expression of care and stay home to avoid infecting others.
- Social Distancing is required
- Masks required for persons over 2 years old when coming to IOP. Parishioners should bring and be prepared to wear their own masks. Please see an usher prior to entering if you forgot to bring your mask to Mass.
- Most Parish Office requests can be handled via phone, email or using the "contact us" request on our parish website. If a visit to the Parish Center is required please call ahead so we can make arrangements for your visit.

Visit <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/coronavirus> for latest News/ Resources regarding Covid-19

### Inspiration For The Week

Have you ever wondered what life would be like if you could see the future and know how things turn out? While it's intriguing to ponder what life would be like if we possessed this knowledge, actually knowing could easily rob us of the thrill, adventure, and soul-searching graces of our journey. Like Job, life does not always leave us on a happy note. Life experience can bring us face-to-face with our mortality and leave us with a profound sense of helplessness. We do not see the wholeness and fulfillment that will one day come and cannot grasp the certainty that a resolution to our plight will come our way. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet. Living a life of faith means realizing that we are not here to figure out life on our own. In order to drink deeply of what life presents us, we have to wrestle in the depths of our souls, agonize and search, possibly reach the lowest point of desperation, and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. It is no wonder that those who are touched by God's healing power want to then serve others and show them the deeper waters that can be explored. Knowing too much can rob us of joyful surprises.

### 2020 Contribution Statements

IOP provides parishioners 2020 contribution statements for Income Tax purposes.

To request your statement:

⇒ **If you would like it delivered via US Mail:**

- Send or drop-off a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Parish Center vestibule drop box with a note requesting your contribution statement. Please include your contact information.

⇒ **If you would like it delivered via Email:**

- Send an email to [infantofpragueparish@gmail.com](mailto:infantofpragueparish@gmail.com) with "Contribution Statement Request" in the Subject line. Your statement will be emailed to you. Please include your contact information.

## February 7, 2021 Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

*I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. (Jb 7:4)*

**Second Reading:** 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

*I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it. (1 Cor 9:22-23)*

**Gospel:** Mk 1:29-39

*He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. (Mk 1:34)*

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD*

Adults: When have you felt sadness of Job? When have you felt the joy of those who witnessed the healing works of Jesus?

Kids: What could you do this week to comfort someone who is sad?

### Looking Forward Readings for February 14, 2021

First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

### Gospel Mediations ~ February 7, 2021

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.

"Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted"

Psalm 147



### Sacraments

**Baptisms:** Congratulations! Call the parish office four months prior to child’s anticipated arrival to register for Baptismal class held on the Fourth Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics. Non-registered IOP members must have a letter from their own pastor. Sponsors should have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**RCIA-Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** Is the Holy Spirit calling you to become Catholic? Call the Parish Office for more information.

**Marriages:** Best wishes! Couples seeking a Catholic marriage, please contact the Pastor at least six months prior to a planned wedding day. Attendance at a marriage preparation program (Pre-Cana) is required.

**Care of the Sick:** Anyone seriously ill or entering the hospital for surgery may receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

**Letters of Recommendation:** Letters of recommendation are gladly issued to those asked to be a Baptism and/or Confirmation Sponsor, provided the requesting person is registered at IOP, confirmed and regularly attends Mass. If the requesting person is married, the marriage must have taken place in conformity with the laws of the Church. If the requesting person is a parent, their children must be enrolled in Faith Formation.



### Catholic Media for the “masses”

• **Televised Masses**

- ◊ EWTN Channel 10: Daily at 8am, Noon, 7pm, & Midnight - Channel 24 (Spectrum)
- ◊ WNYO Cable 8 & ANT. Ch. 49  
Sunday Mass: 8:30am

• **“Streamed” Masses**

- ◊ Visit [www.buffalodiocese.org/livestreams](http://www.buffalodiocese.org/livestreams) to view the many streaming options available

• **Radio**

- ◊ WLOF 101.7 FM – Buffalo’s Catholic Radio

• **Web**

- ◊ [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org)

### Service and Outreach ~ St. Vincent DePaul

- The IOP Society of St. Vincent DePaul seeks out God’s needy in the IOP Community, providing material and spiritual support. Donations always welcome.
- SVDP “Hall Pantry” open Thursday’s from 9am—noon and is located in the school building next to the Thruway side of the Green Room
- Call Al at 833-5408 for any SVDP questions



### Around the Buffalo Diocese

- Christ the King School Fish Fry February 17, 2021 from 4:30-7pm. Pre-Order only, forms must be submitted by February 8th. Visit [www.givebutter.com/0ruixy](http://www.givebutter.com/0ruixy) to order or call 716-839-1430 for more information.
- Chesterton Academy of Buffalo Open House on Wednesday, February 10th from 5:30-7:30pm. Come and learn more about our classical Catholic curriculum. Call 716-674-8101 or visit [www.buffalochestertonacademy.org](http://www.buffalochestertonacademy.org) for more information
- Take-out Valentine’s Day Dinner on February 14 from 1-3 pm at St. Gregory the Great, Williamsville. Menu: salad, beef tenderloin, twice-baked potato, vegetable and dessert. Dinners will be packaged and tenderloin will be ready to cook, the remaining meal will be fully cooked with reheat instructions. Pick-up at St. Gregory the Great Parish Ministry Center, 100 St. Gregory Ct., Williamsville. Pre-sale tickets only; call 716-688-5678 or order online at <https://givebutter.com/bvAdi2>
- Help For Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times. For more information call 716-474-9371 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org). The next weekend is February 26-28, 2021. All calls are confidential and pre-registration is required. Space is limited
- 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, 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 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/diocesefofbuffalo> 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
- Visit [www.buffalodiocese.org/chancery-bulletin-announcements](http://www.buffalodiocese.org/chancery-bulletin-announcements) for more Diocesan upcoming ongoing ministry and inspirational messages of faith



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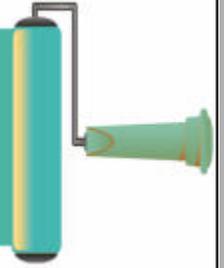
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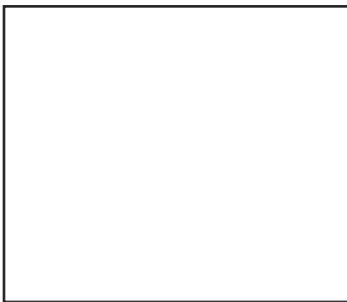
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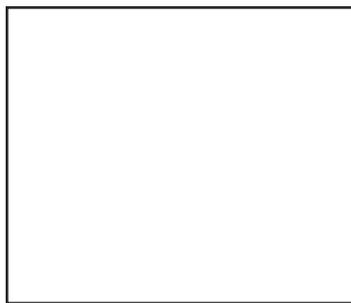
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