

Infant of Prague

PARISH COMMUNITY

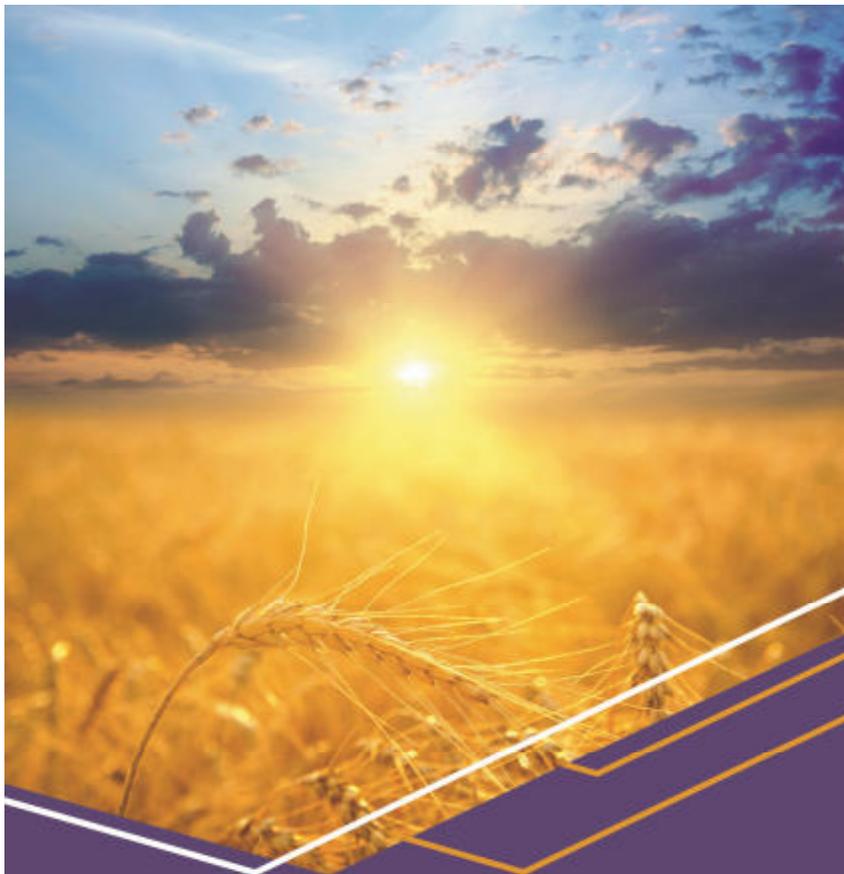
921 Cleveland Drive • Cheektowaga, NY 14225
Parish Center/Rectory: 634-3660 • Fax: 634-3661
Email: infantofpragueparish@gmail.com
Website: www.iopparish.com



Welcome!

You are a stranger but once. You are a child of God, redeemed by Our Savior, Jesus Christ. In God's name, we welcome you. May you find friendship, peace and serenity in our loving and worshipping community. If you are a visitor interested in joining our parish community or the Catholic Faith, please call the parish office. If you are returning after being away...welcome home!

March 21 2021 Fifth Sunday Of Lent



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." - Jn 12:23-24

Mass Schedule

All Masses to be held in Main Church

Saturday Vigil.....	4:00pm
Sunday.....	8:30am
	10:30am
Monday-Wednesday & Friday ...	8:30am
Holy Days	8:30am
	7:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3-3:30pm
and upon request

Morning Prayer

Resume Date to be Determined

Parish Mission Statement

We, the faith community of Infant of Prague Parish, united in the Holy Spirit celebrate the presence of Christ in Word, Sacrament, and each other. We strive to build up the kingdom of God in a spirit of fellowship and service. We welcome all to journey with us as we continue to mature in our faith by our worship of God and our reaching out to our brothers and sisters in need.

March 21, 2021 Fifth Sunday Of Lent



Mass Intentions

Monday March 22 Lenten Weekday

8:30am Parishioners of Infant of Prague

Tuesday March 23 St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

8:30am Linda Blum by husband Michael, Lavern & Alex

Wednesday March 24 Lenten Weekday

8:30am Anthony Bonaventura by family

Thursday March 25 The Annunciation of The Lord

No Mass

Friday March 26 Lenten Weekday

8:30am Dorothy Kopacz ~ Birthday ~
by Ken & Marya Kopacz

Saturday March 27 Lenten Weekday

4pm Kay and Leo Paulus Kathy Paulus Hartrick

Sunday March 28 Palm Sunday Passion of The Lord

8:30am Aloysius Stanton by Karl & Tammy Spencer
10:30am Eric Cummings by Sharon & Laverne Kooken

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

March 13 & 14

Weekly Envelope.....\$ 7,184.00

Online\$ 2,381.00

Thank you for supporting our Parish!



Parish Donations ~ Go Green!

- Help yourself...
 - ◊ "Set-it and forget it" - no need to remember to bring envelopes, wallet, cash
 - ◊ Automated—works even when you are away and or on vacation
- Help our Parish...
 - ◊ Our Parish receives donation consistency
 - ◊ Reduces Parish costs

Contact the Parish Office to see how easy it is to sign up for Electronic Giving!

Upcoming Diocesan Collections

- April 2
 - ◊ Holy Land
- April 24-25
 - ◊ Catholic Home Mission Appeal

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, Renee Hager, Rick Cummings, Maurice Sigman, Leodina Bauer

... 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...

Doris Becker, Monsignor Michael E. Del Vecchio
and all who have died

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 contact information.

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

- Send an email to infantofpragueparish@gmail.com with "Contribution Statement Request" in the Subject line. Please include your contact information.



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

Face Masks Do's and Don'ts



A Worthwhile Smile



Inspiration For The Week

How do we convince people that God's law is written upon their hearts? God is wedded to God's people. This is a simple and fundamental fact of life. Yet, many ignore this truth and carry on as if they, or humanity as a whole, are the center of the universe. As a grain of wheat has to fall to the ground and die in order to become what it really is, we too must die to our secular images and ideas of ourselves so that we can become who God really made us to be. If all of us kept our focus on God's deep bonded love with human beings, indeed with our very self, then there would be no need to teach others this fundamental life lesson. They would simply know this truth, as Jeremiah tells us. Somehow, perhaps through original and personal sin, we have lost sight of this reality. We have lost our way and our axis.

It is time to find our way back, to learn the virtue of obedience, to pay attention to what God is saying and become aware of the Divine Love that is the reason for all creation. Then, even in our darkest hour when all may seem to be lost, we can say as did Jesus, the model of obedience, "Father, glorify your name." By this perseverance, people can come to know the Lord and what God has done.



The Annunciation of the Lord

Thursday March 25, 2021

"When the angel appeared to Mary, God was announcing this love for the new humanity. It was the beginning of a new earth, and Mary became 'a flesh-girt Paradise to be gardened by the new Adam.' As in the first garden Eve brought destruction, so in the garden of her womb, Mary would now bring Redemption." – Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

*O Holy Virgin Mary,
we ask your intercession to make us as generous as
you in accepting the will of God in our lives,
especially when that will is expressed
in mysterious ways.
May you be our example of a generous response to
what God desires of us.*



March 21, 2021 Fifth Sunday Of Lent

Lent 2021

Stations of the Cross at IOP

Join us to "Journey with Jesus"
Fridays during Lent except for Good Friday:

7pm in the Main Church

Please remember your masks and social distancing



Easter Plant Memorial

Remember in love those closest to you. Celebrate their life, let their memory shine brightly in our Church home during the upcoming Easter holiday through IOP Easter Plant Memorial.
Order yours today!

- ✘ Complete order form on page 6 of this week's bulletin and enclose your payment with the order. Orders due by Sunday March 28, 2021
- ✘ Orders may be placed in the Parish Office vestibule drop box or in the Offertory basket
- ✘ Cost is \$10.00 per Memorial. Please make checks payable to Infant of Prague Church

Lenten Almsgiving Opportunities

As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is "a work of justice pleasing to God." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2462).

Here are some ways to offer your time, talent and treasure to others who may be experiencing food insecurities or are unable to provide for themselves and loved ones:

- IOP St. Vincent DePaul
 - ◊ This IOP ministry serves our local community by recognizing its needs, both material and spiritual, and providing assistance in a respectful manner
 - ◊ Thank you for all who donated to the Easter Drive
 - ◊ Call Al at 833-5408 with any questions or to make a donation
- CRS rice bowls
 - ◊ Through CRS rice bowls, brothers and sisters across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition
 - ◊ Rice bowls are located at Church entrances
 - ◊ Sponsored by and benefits Catholic Relief

2021 IOP Holy Week Schedule

Saturday March 27 Palm Sunday Vigil

- ✘ 4pm: Palm Sunday Vigil Mass in the Main Church

Sunday March 28 Palm Sunday

- ✘ 8:30am: Palm Sunday Mass in the Main Church
- ✘ 10:30am: Palm Sunday Mass in the Main Church

Thursday April 1 Holy Thursday

- ✘ 8:30am: Morning Prayer Service in the Main Church
- ✘ 9am – 2pm: Chapel Open for private prayer
- ✘ 7pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper in the Main Church
- ✘ 8pm – Midnight: Altar of the Repose

Friday April 2 Good Friday

- ✘ 8:30am: Morning Prayer Service in the Main Church
- ✘ 9am – 2pm: Chapel open for private prayer
- ✘ 3pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion in the Main Church

Saturday April 3 Holy Saturday

- ✘ 8:30am: Morning Prayer Service in the Main Church
- ✘ 1pm: Blessing of Baskets in the Main Church



2021 IOP Easter Mass Schedule

Easter Vigil

Saturday April 3

7pm in the Main Church



Easter Sunday April 4

8:30am & 10:30am
in the Main Church



March 21, 2021 Fifth Sunday Of Lent

First Reading: Jer 31:31-34

All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more. (Jer 31:34)

Second Reading: Heb 5:7-9

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; (Heb 5:8)

Gospel: Jn 12:20-33

Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. (Jn 20:24)

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

Adults: When and in what way have you seen life come from death?

Kids: When have you let someone down who trusted you? How did you feel?

Looking Forward Readings for March 28, 2021

First Reading: Is 50:4-7

Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Gospel: Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Gospel Mediations ~ March 21 , 2021

Any good teacher or parent will tell you that once a lesson is really learned it doesn't need to be taught again. When we internalize things we have learned, they become a part of who we are and influence how we perceive and interact with our world. The same is true for the law God has written upon our hearts. Once humanity learns this lesson, we will simply know it to be true and act accordingly. Sometimes, it is hard to get people to learn the lessons they need to learn. They are often distracted, disinterested, conflicted, misdirected, or just too stubborn and unable or unwilling to see what is right before their eyes. Understanding that God is in a loving and committed relationship with those fashioned and formed in God's own image, seems like such a simple lesson to learn. But history and experience has proven that it is not.

We struggle with faith, especially when that faith asks us to learn something very particular about ourselves. We must, like a grain of wheat, fall to the ground and die. Because God's DNA is at the very core of who we are, there are specific pearls of wisdom that must be acquired before we can live a full life. One very powerful lesson is that it is not the task of the world to tell us who we are and what has meaning, but God. For many, death is not an opportunity for greater life but a permanent ending to the life they have known. Jesus knew every dimension to what it means to be fully human because he was! He knows the joys, limitations, sorrows, frustrations, wonders, suffering, opportunities, and joys of the human experience. Jesus can teach us a wealth of knowledge and life's lessons from his example, especially obedience.

When we accept the law God has placed in our hearts and gain wisdom from it, then when we suffer we learn to listen more attentively to the Voice behind that law. We naturally flee to our Creator for inspiration, consolation, hope, direction, and comfort as we navigate through this time of darkness. We will not need to run from it, subdue it, fight it, or be overcome by it because we will know, having internalized this profound lesson before, that God will bring new life. God's law is love and love never fails. Even in the moments of Jesus' deepest despair, he glorified the name of his Father. What he learned allowed him to put everything in perspective and be obedient to the tender, loving Voice that echoed within. As Lent quickly winds down, may we learn the same! Then, may we gain the fortitude and wisdom to help others see what is right before their eyes.

"Create a clean heart in me, O God"
Psalm 51



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.



Around the Buffalo Diocese

Beginning in 2015, The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y. (“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.



Infant of Prague’s Easter Memorial Plant Order



Order yours today! Complete form and enclose your payment with the order. Orders may be placed in the Offertory collection at Mass or the Parish Office vestibule drop box. Please **PRINT** the names of your loved ones and your name for clarity purposes. Orders due by Sunday March 28, 2021.

Cost is \$10.00 per Memorial plant. Please make checks payable to Infant of Prague Church

In Memory of: _____ From: _____

In Memory of: _____ From: _____

In Memory of: _____ From: _____

If you have more than three memorials, please attach to another piece of paper.

Call Peggy @ 634-3660 with any questions



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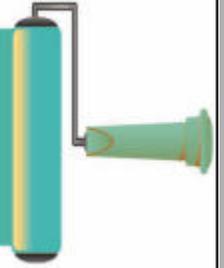
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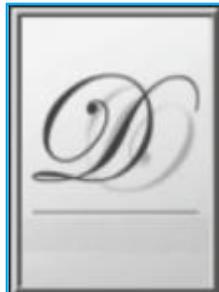
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