

Infant of Prague

PARISH COMMUNITY

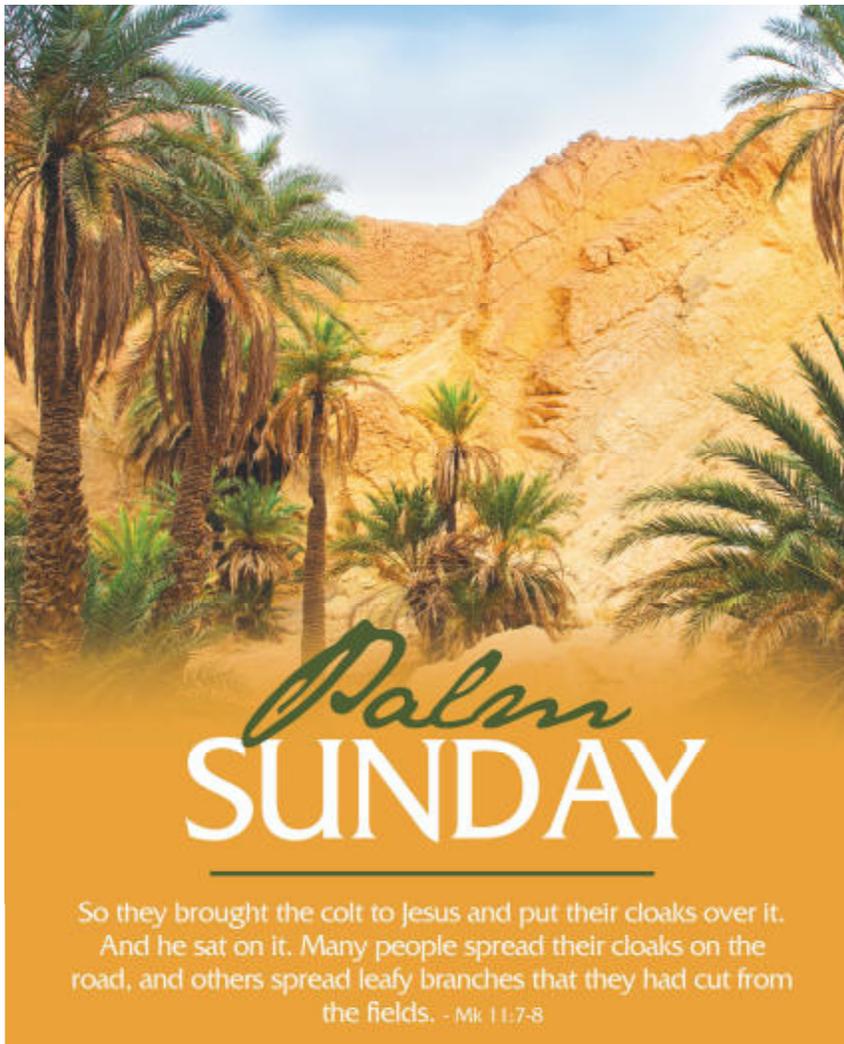
921 Cleveland Drive • Cheektowaga, NY 14225
Parish Center/Rectory: 634-3660 • Fax: 634-3661
Email: infantofpragueparish@gmail.com
Website: www.iopparish.com



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 28 Palm Sunday Passion Of The Lord



Palm SUNDAY

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it.
And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the
road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from
the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

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 28, 2021 Palm Sunday Passion of The Lord



Mass Intentions

Monday March 29 Monday of Holy Week
8:30am Madonna Hartzell by Marilyn Lang
Parishioners of Infant of Prague

Tuesday March 30 Tuesday of Holy Week
8:30am Robert and Charlene Staniszewski
by Camille Boczar

Wednesday March 31 Wednesday of Holy Week
8:30am Helen Vollmer by Brownsey Family
Jerry Klosterman by family

Thursday April 1 Holy Thursday
7pm Deacon Dan Mackowiak by grandkids

Friday April 2 Good Friday
No Mass Intention

Saturday April 3 Holy Saturday
7pm Deacon Dan Mackowiak by grandkids

Sunday April 4 The Resurrection of The Lord
8:30am Melvin Perry by Francine & Christopher Carvello
10:30am Robert and Irma Vosburgh by
Gretchen Chudyk & family



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 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.

Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary

March 20 & 21

Weekly Envelope.....\$ 3,073.00
Online\$ 505.00

Thank you for supporting our Parish!





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



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!

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...

All who have died

Upcoming Diocesan Collections

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

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

What an ironic twist of events. Jesus is hailed with palm branches as he comes down a street one minute and faces agonizing suffering and death on a cross the next. Does any of this make any sense? They shouted, "hosanna to our King," out of one side of their mouths and, "crucify him," out of the other. At first glance it seems like such hypocrisy. Yet, when we step back there may be more truth to the story than we care to admit. We struggle with Jesus. We hail him in our churches but struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. We are fine when we hear pious renderings of his messages and preaching but wince when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct business and becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor and marginalized. We invoke God's name when we want victory and keep silence when it comes to global solidarity. We talk out of both sides of our mouths too, looking only to what works or suits us at the time and leaving the rest. There exists in each one of us a person who hails our King with hosannas and a person who is all too willing to choose Jesus over Barabbas for the cross. Something to think about this Holy Week!

The Stillness of Holy Saturday

Holy Thursday brings us the Last Supper. On Good Friday, we exalt the cross and commemorate the death of Jesus. On Easter Sunday, we celebrate! But what about the day in between? Between death and life, the time holds its breath. For the first disciples, Holy Saturday was a day of silence, sorrow, and waiting. But redemption is already beginning! Jesus descends to the dead and frees righteous souls awaiting eternal life. On our own Holy Saturdays, we too wait in silence. But it is not the silence of disappointment and confusion. It is the silence of anticipation. Soon and very soon, dawn will alight on the horizon, and the stone will be rolled back. Until then, we wait in stillness.



Good Friday and the Blessed Sacrament Exposition

The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed in a safe place outside of the parish church on Good Friday; therefore there will be **no Eucharistic Adoration on Friday April 2, 2021**

March 28, 2021 Palm Sunday Passion of The Lord

Easter Tridium

The liturgies during Holy Week are unique and rich in symbolism. The Mass for Palm Sunday follows the pattern of the day 2,000 years ago when Jesus entered Jerusalem. It includes a Gospel reading outside the church building and the entrance of the priest into the sanctuary while the congregation waves palms.

The Holy Thursday Mass also follows the rhythm of the ancient Last Supper. The presider washes the feet of members of the congregation, like Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. After Mass, all remaining hosts are taken to an altar of repose, where adoration of the Blessed Sacrament occurs late into the night.

Parishioners can remain like the disciples in Gethsemane, asked to "watch and pray."

On Good Friday, we celebrate another special liturgical service. Following the Liturgy of the Word, there is a communal reverencing of the cross. The intercessions are solemn and include prayers for many different groups of people, reminding us that Jesus' passion is for the whole world. There is no Liturgy of the Eucharist. Hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday are distributed, after which the tabernacle is empty. The tabernacle remains empty through Holy Saturday — just as Jesus departed from this earthly world in death — and we wait in hope for Easter Sunday!

Good Friday Prayer

My Most Glorious and Suffering Lord, it is Your Hour. It is the Hour by which You conquered sin and death. It is the Hour for which You came into this world, taking on flesh so as to offer

Your precious life for the salvation of the world.

May I be with You, dear Lord, in these moments of suffering and death. May I, like Your Mother, John and Mary Magdalene, stand at the foot of the Cross, gazing upon the perfect Gift of Love.

My suffering Lord, may I see in Your Cross the most perfect act ever known in this world. May I see Love in its most pure form. May my eyes and soul look beyond the blood and pain and see Your Divine Heart, pouring forth Mercy upon me and upon the whole world.

Today I kneel in silent adoration of You, my God. I sit quietly, beholding the great mystery of our faith. I behold God, beaten, bruised, mocked, tortured and killed. But in this act, I see all grace and Mercy flowing from Your wounded Heart. Bathe the world in Your Mercy, dear Lord. Cover us with Your grace and draw us to new life through Your death. I love You, dear Lord. I love You with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You.



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 28, 2021 Palm Sunday Passion of The Lord

First Reading: Is 50:4-7

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)

Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; (Phil 2:7)

Gospel: Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

They clothed him in purple and, weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. (Mk 15:17-19)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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Adults: When have you felt you betrayed the confidence of another, as Peter did when he denied Jesus?

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

Looking Forward Readings for April 4, 2021

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Second Reading: Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8

Gospel: Jn 20:1-9

Gospel Mediations ~ March 28, 2021

Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete.

After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves we can do better?

*"My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"
Psalm 22*



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.

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• **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 to view the many streaming options available

• **Radio**

- ◊ WLOF 101.7 FM – Buffalo's Catholic Radio

• **Web**

- ◊ www.FORMED.org
Use access code W24ZGG to register



Around the Buffalo Diocese

- St. Aloysius Regional School is holding a Virtual Daily Theme Basket Raffle for the month of April. Tickets are on sale through March 31 with each ticket entered to win a daily theme basket. Starting April 1 a daily ticket will be drawn for the day's basket. Each ticket is entered to win each day even if you already win a basket. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://staloyusregional.com/events/basket-raffle-daily-drawing/> or by calling the school at 716-592-7002. Winners will be notified via phone, text, or email
- Carrubba's Drive-thru Chicken BBQ on Sunday, April 11 starting at 11 am at St. Andrew rectory parking lot, Crocker & Gierlach Sts., Sloan. Dinner includes ½ chicken, buttered spuds, coleslaw, dinner roll and garlic butter dipping sauce. Tickets available by calling St. Andrew at 716-892-0425. You can also check out St. Andrew Sloan Facebook page for other payment options. Please support this yummy parish fundraiser.
- Drive-thru Polish Dinner on Sunday, April 11 from 11:30 am until sold out at Our Lady of Pompeii, 129 Laverack Ave., Lancaster. Pre-sale tickets sold at the Parish Office. All pre-sale dinners must be picked up by 1:30 pm. For more information, call 716-683-6522.
- 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.



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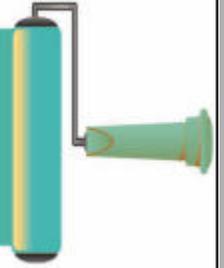
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