



December 6, 2020

Nativity of Our Lord R.C. Church

26 Thorn Avenue

Orchard Park, New York 14127

www.nativityofourlordop.com

662-9339 fax 662-2195

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Masses
4:30pm & 7pm

Sunday Masses
7:30am, 9am, 10:30am
12pm

Weekday Masses
Mon-Thur 7am and 9am
Friday 7am and 8:30am
Saturday 8am

Holy Days
Vigil Mass 4:30pm
Holy Day 7am, 9am, 7pm

First Friday Devotion
First Friday of every month
(unless otherwise noted)
in church at 6pm and live stream

Other Fridays of the month the
Rosary is prayed in the church at
6pm.

BAPTISMS
Usually the 2nd & 4th Sundays at
1:00pm. New parents must be
registered and attend a class prior
to Baptism.

CONFESSION
Confessions are scheduled on
Saturday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30
p.m. in the lower sacristy room at
the front of the church (side near
the Blessed Mother Statue, down
the stairs). Please wear a face
mask and follow the signs when
you enter the Church to direct
you to this room.

MARRIAGE
Arrangements should be made at
least six months ahead of time
with our priest. A Marriage
Preparation program is required.

SECOND SUNDAY of Advent





Tuesday, December 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

From the Pastor's Desk...

A few thoughts...

I am very pleased to announce that Mr. Carmen A. D'Alessandro Jr. has joined our staff as full time Facilities Supervisor. In this position, his responsibilities include overseeing the operation and maintenance of the buildings of our parish and school, including performing routine maintenance and repairs, preparing designated rooms for scheduled activities, and engaging outside contractors for specific needs and major projects. Carmen comes to us with a rather extensive background in maintenance procedures and considerable experience working with churches. I am confident that his knowledge of maintenance matters, work experience, and congenial personality will be wonderful gifts to our parish and school. Please join me in welcoming Carmen to Nativity!

With the recent Supreme Court decision regarding the state's ability to restrict capacity in houses of worship, we are **back to our regular schedule of weekend Masses in the church**. In keeping with our commitment to safety, we will continue to limit the size of our congregation to approximately 25% of our total capacity (about 100 people), and require that masks be worn during the entire time while in church. In addition, all in attendance need to maintain six feet social distance, and are encouraged to use hand sanitizer before receiving Communion. Please note that the dispensation from the obligation of Catholics to attend Mass on Sunday and on other Holy Days of Obligation remains in effect. Also, we continue to **livestream (through the parish website: nativityofourlordop.com) the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday and the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday.**

Tuesday of this week, **December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. While the obligation to attend Mass is dispensed at this time, we will celebrate **Masses at 4:30 p.m. on Monday evening, and 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday**, for those who wish to join us for this Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America.

It is with great joy that we welcome the announcement that our **Holy Father, Pope Francis has appointed the Most Reverend Michael William Fisher as the 15th Bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo**. Bishop Fisher currently is an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. He will be installed as the Bishop of Buffalo on January 15, 2021 at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Buffalo.

As always **thank you** for your support and prayers during these challenging times. If you are not in a position to attend Mass in person, please mail your contribution envelopes to the Parish Office or make your donations on-line (see our website or contact our business manager, Tim Redinger, for more information). Your **ongoing generosity** to our parish is **much appreciated!**

May **God bless** you and all of your family and keep you in His special care!

Fr. Jim

Recently, registered parishioners should have received in the mail a copy of the Pastoral Letter prepared by our Diocesan Apostolic Administrator, Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger. The purpose of the Pastoral Letter is to provide the spiritual foundation for our Diocesan Road to Renewal Initiative. Everyone is strongly encouraged to read the Pastoral Letter and to reflect upon it as we go forward in the pastoral renewal of our diocesan family. Copies of the letter may also be obtained here in our parish church. Thank you!

Fr. Jim



MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER!

Scan the QR code with a tablet or smartphone and make your weekly or monthly contribution electronically.

REMINDER: MASKS MUST BE WORN THE ENTIRE TIME YOU ARE IN CHURCH. THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS AFTER YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FROM THE PRIEST AND HAVE STEPPED TO THE SIDE TO CONSUME.

YOU CANNOT REMOVE THE MASK WHILE SEATED.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you help keep the Lord's house clean and beautiful? We are looking for cleaners to join our teams! You would join a team of two others and clean the altar area, as well as the sacristy **not more than once every six weeks.**

If you can help out, please email Melissa at mpotzler@nativityschool.net or call 662-9339 ext 145.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Congratulations to the following children who made their First Reconciliation last month:

Morgan Bielecki, Cameron Brown, Claire Brown, Abigail Burke, Matthew Burkhard, James Cavanaugh, Avery Corrigan, Griffin Corwin, Hannah Cramer, Zane Crangle, Brooke Craumer, Dante Croce, Riley Cutolo, Samuel Dembski, Chiara DePasquale, Joshua Dziurlikowski, Declan Enright, Haley Fabianski, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Ava Flammer, Jacob Giglio, Lauren Gallagher, Annalise Giuliana, Clare Greenway, Harrison Ignatius, Edmund Kaczynski, Brayden Klaich, Joseph Kontrabecki, Paige Krol, Blake Lasker, Devon Loehfelm, Molly Noonan, Amelia Oswald, Brayden Patrone, Oliver Pericak, Lola Phillips, Elyse Riker, Lyla Rydzewski, Gryffin Seibold, Reed Starosielec, Graham Stavisky, Madison Talty, Raegen Vogenauer, Carter Voorhees, Zoe Vranjes, and Francesca Wilcox

Haiti Gift Card Fundraiser

This year, we will again raise funds for our twin parish of St. Michael the Archangel in Coq Chante, Haiti by selling gift cards. The pandemic has greatly affected our lives including our Parish activities. This includes our Haiti fund raising activities for the various projects at our twin parish. The Nativity Haiti Fund will be depleted by the end of 2020. Without sufficient funding, the continued operation of the medical clinic at our twin parish is in jeopardy. For this reason gift cards only for the medical clinic will be offered this year. The medical clinic provides the only available healthcare in Coq Chante and its continued operation is critical for the health of the people. The suggested donation per Healthcare gift card is \$50 but any donation amount per card is most welcome. There are Christmas cards and also blank cards that can be used for any occasion. Please consider stocking up on blank cards to use throughout the year for birthdays, graduations and many other occasions. Gift cards and order forms will be on display in the narthex from November 21 to December 20. A copy of the order form is below and may be used when purchasing gift cards. Thank you for your most generous support!

Drop your gift card form and donation in the weekly collection basket in an envelope marked "Haiti Gifts." **Or mail your gift request form and donation to:** Nativity of Our Lord Church / Attention "Haiti Connection" / 43 Argle Place / Orchard Park, NY 14127

Make **checks payable** to Nativity of Our Lord Church with "Haiti" in the memo line.



100% of your donation is used to support the medical clinic.

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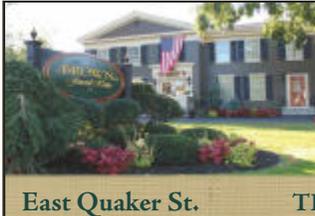
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Mesi Anpil (Many Thanks!)

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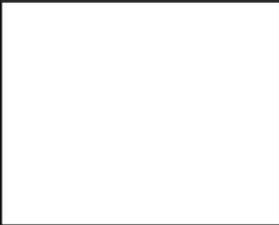
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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 5

8:00 am – Danny DeMarco by Pat Cook and family

4:30 pm – Frank Hruby by Rosemarie Breese

7:00 pm – Edwin Koscielniak by Marilyn Quance

Sunday, December 6

7:30 am – Carmelo and Antina Todoro by their family

9:00 am – Mass for Parishioners

10:30 am – Anne Greenwood by her family

12:00 pm – Dominick and Frances Saraceno by their family

Monday, December 7

7:00 am – Jason Jablonski by his family

9:00 am – Dr. Richard Sheehan by Robert and Linda Brooks

4:30 pm – Concepcion Linde Martin by Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Justicia-Linde

Tuesday, December 8 – Immaculate Conception

7:00 am – Charles Croce by the Longboat family

9:00 am – Mass for Parishioners

7:00 pm – Edmund Burke by his family

Wednesday, December 9

7:00 am – Kathy Dijoseph by Sharon Glavey

9:00 am – Molly Bakowski by her sister Irene

Thursday, December 10

7:00 am – Rose and Robert Lally by their estate

9:00 am – Kenneth Lawton by Jo Ann Kraven

Friday, December 11

7:00 am – Special intention of Timothy Sheehan by Sharon Sheehan Glavey

8:30 am – For the intentions of Our Blessed Mother by Glory Ann Cranston

Saturday, December 12

8:00 am – Les and Lester Schupp by their estate

4:30 pm – William J. Masset by his family

7:00 pm – Erika Wilson by Amy Burnett

Sunday, December 13

7:30 am – Edwin and Eleanor Nowakowski by their family

9:00 am – Mary Schichtel by her family

10:30 am – Mass for Parishioners

12:00 pm – Patrick Downing by his family

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Alice Aquila, Desmond Benimoff, Jordan Berkhoudt, Gavin Bomboy, David Borowski, Michelle Bruno, Patrick Byrne, Anna Caserta, Liz Cash, Jeanne Chojnacki, Bernard Daube, Rick Del Regno, Carol Doyle, Liam Dubey, Paul Eberhardt, Josephine Fistola, Robyn Flading, daughters of Lois Fleck, Rev. Richard Florek, Ann Marie Gensler, Barbara Ghirsig, Bill Greene, Rowan Grundtisch, Barbara Harris, James Heron, Marcia Jurkowski, Jim Kalinowski, Gail Koglmeier, Erin Kulesus, Christine Kukla, Amanda L., Virginia Lawton, Nathan Ljungberg, Barbara McPherson, Ann Nenedal, Chet P., Kathy P., Shirley Perrine, Marge and Marvin Prebble, Kay Prusniecki, Joseph Russell, Ellen Schreier, Gilbert Seeger, Jonathan Sentz, Laura Shaw, Luis Shaw, Marie Sokolovic, William Thornton, Jane Tomaszewski, Rev. Michael Uebler, Ann Ulman, Craig Vidal, Dr. Ronald Vidal, Marianne Vidal, Eileen Walsh, Geraldine Wiess, Dennis Wolbert, Dan Zsebehazy.

THANK YOU!

The Health Ministry would like to express a heartfelt thank you to the Nativity of Our Lord parish community for the outpouring generosity of coats donated during the October drive. A special thank you to the Nativity School children for their additional support of charity through the school's coat drive. Over 330 new or gently worn coats of all types and sizes, snow pants, and many hats, scarves, and mittens/gloves were donated in the combined collection. The coats were sorted and delivered to St. Luke's Mission of Mercy and Harvest House (Baby & Children's Ministry). The recipients were beyond grateful for the gift of warmth for so many! God's blessings to all!

"When you give to these my least ones, you have given unto me" Matthew 25:40

VIA FIDEI MINISTRY

Let's make Nativity the best it can be! Join the Via Fidei initiative. Some thoughts to consider: If you enjoy....

- Helping the parish become more effective as a Faith Community
- Considering options for the future and setting direction
- Being part of creating a future that builds off of the past, and looks forward to the future
- Working as a collaborative member of a Leadership/ Guiding team
- Making a difference for the spiritual growth of current and future members of the parish ...

THEN THE NATIVITY VIA FIDEI MINISTRY MIGHT BE FOR YOU!

For more information, please email Melissa at mpotzler@nativityschool.net.

OUR STAFF

Church staff	43 Argyle Place	662-9339
Pastor	Rev. James D. Ciupek	ext 140
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Peter Basse	ext 124
Permanent Deacon	Gary Andelora	
Transitional Deacon	Rev. Mr. John Ojuok	
Advancement Director	Melissa Potzler	ext 145
Music Director	Robert Kiersz	
Youth Minister	Gina Updike	ext 141
Parish Secretary	Sue McDonough	ext 110
Administrative Asst.	Joy Kaminski	

Business Office	43 Argyle Place	662-9339
Business Manager	Timothy Redinger	ext 125
Financial Assistant	Stephanie Carson	ext 131
Maintenance Supervisor	Carmen DAlessandro	ext 117
Maintenance Assistant	Scott Sihler	

School	4414 South Buffalo St.	662-7572
Principal	Christopher Gardon	
School Secretary	Isabelle Carpenter	
Faith Formation		662-2169
Faith Formation	Mary Barone, OCDS	868-6631
Faith Formation Asst.	Joy Kaminski	

ADVENT 2

First Reading - ISAIAH 40: 1-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

Response - PSALM 85

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people.
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,
glory dwelling in our land.

Kindness and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase.
Justice shall walk before him,
and prepare the way of his steps.

Second Reading - 2 PETER 3: 8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,” but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

The Gospel - MARK 1: 1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BEDS FOR KIDS

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is a national charitable organization that builds and delivers beds to kids in need at no cost. Too many children in the Buffalo area lack basic necessities that so many of us take for granted. We recently organized a chapter locally, determined to give kids (ages 3-17) a safe and comfortable place to lay their heads. SHP-Buffalo is an entirely volunteer venture. Dedicated volunteers build the beds, deliver them to homes and set them up fully outfitted with new mattresses and bedding. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity, we rely on donations to purchase tools, materials, mattresses and bedding. To learn more about our mission and how you can help or volunteer, visit <http://www.shpbeds.org> or contact Jerry Sheldon, President of SHP -Buffalo, at 716-570-3449 or jerry.sheldon@shpbeds.org.

