

St. Francis of Assisi



150 BROAD STREET • TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150

We welcome you to all Liturgies.

MASSES

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00–4:00 p.m.
(In Chapel Sacristy or by appointment)

BAPTISMS

Please call Fr. Mike at 693-1150
to arrange your child's Baptism.

CONFIRMATION

Student preparation is handled through
the Faith Formation Office (909-7110).
Adult preparation is handled through
the R.C.I.A. program (693-1150).

MARRIAGES

Arrangements should be made at least
6 months in advance with Fr. Mike.

R.C.I.A.

Adult: The Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults (RCIA).
Any person interested in becoming
Catholic, contact the rectory.

STAFF

Pastor Rev. Michael G. Uebler, 909-1751 (cell)
Weekend Assistant Rev. Joseph T. Nguyen
Permanent Deacon Deacon Paul Bork
Business Manager Mrs. Carolyn Gorski
Secretary Mrs. Jane Leone
Trustees Mrs. Linda Carlson, Mr. David Sharp
Organist Mr. Robert Hull, 471-1256
Advocate for Disabled Persons Mrs. Cecelia Sharp, 957-3768

RECTORY OFFICE - 73 ADAM STREET • 716-693-1150

Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m.–1:00p.m.

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

Coordinators Michael & Sue Ann Saltarelli 909-7110 (cell)

PARISH OUTREACH • 693-6247 -

Located in rear of St. Clare Center
Rita Alviti, Karen Szafran & Deacon Gary Hoover

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER • 70 ADAM STREET 692-7886

Director Mrs. Sally Babcock
Email Babcock@stfrancistonawanda.org
Website www.stfrancistonawanda.org

NEW PARISHIONERS

We warmly welcome you to our Parish Community.

Bulletin available on the Internet: <http://www.ParishesOnline.com>

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 1: Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday, March 2: Is 1:10,16-20; Mt: 23:1-12
Wednesday, March 3: Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday, March 4: Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
Friday, March 5: Gn 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43,45-46
Saturday, March 6: Mi 7:14-15,18-20; Lk 15:1-3,11-32
Sun, March 7: 3rd Sunday of Lent
 1st Reading - Exodus 17:3-7
 2nd Reading - Romans 5:1-2,5-8
 Gospel - John 4:5-42



(Parking is available on Adam Street in School and Rectory parking lots.)

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 1 - Lenten Weekday
 8:30 Healing for Kathy Mallery by Family

Tuesday, March 2 - Lenten Weekday
 8:30 Janet Holler (Birthday) by Family

Wednesday, March 3 - Katharine Drexel
 8:30 Dean Mann by Fran Phillips

Thursday, March 4 - Casimir
 8:30 Special Intentions of Ronald Kubiak, Jr. by Debra Gural

Friday, March 5 - Lenten Weekday
 8:30 Frances Sliwa (Birthday) by Family

Saturday, March 6 - Lenten Weekday
 4:30 Special Intentions of David & Joyce Hogenkamp by Outreach

Sunday, March 7 - 3rd Sunday of Lent
 9:00 Jean Graf by Elizabeth Giacco
 *11:00 Ronald Zaccagnino by Lynette Cummings

*(Please note new Mass time: 11:00 a.m.)

PLEASE SUPPORT THE LOCAL
 BUSINESSES WHO ADVERTISE
 IN OUR BULLETIN.

HELP US TO CONTINUE GOD'S WORK!
 REMEMBER IN YOUR WILL:
 ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
 OR THE ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
 ENDOWMENT FUND

CHAPEL HOURS AND INFORMATION

Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Parish contributions may be mailed to the rectory or dropped in the secure safe inside the front entrance of the Chapel. Donations may also be put in the drop box at the top of the stairs of the front entrance to the rectory. Our Chapel is under video surveillance 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 6
 4:30 p.m. Michelle Randel

Sunday, March 7
 9:00 a.m. Grace Amanda Patterson, Linda Szmanda (choir)
 11:30 a.m. Judy Maugans

CANTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 6
 4:30 p.m. Deb Jasinski

Sunday, March 7
 9:00 a.m. Bob Hull

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 6
 4:30 p.m. Shelley Colwell

Sunday, March 7
 9:00 a.m. Fred Hamp
 11:30 a.m. Rita Alviti

2020 Donation Statements

Anyone wishing to receive a donation statement for 2020 should drop a self addressed, stamped, business-size envelope into the collection basket or at the rectory office and your statement will be mailed to you. Thank you!

2021 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2021 Church Offering envelopes are available in the Church vestibule and the table in the Chapel. This year we have a 3-month supply of offering envelopes. We ask that you provide your envelope ID# on each offering envelope. If you don't know your envelope ID#, call the rectory (693-1150) to leave a message and someone will get back to you. Packets for April - June, will be available by the end of March.

CURRENT PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ronald Snyder ...692-0228
 Mary Ellen Roche ...531-0368
 James Jaskowiak ...694-9492 (h) or 807-9419 (cell/text)
 Thomas Smyers ...692-6976
 Kelly Oldenburg ...874-4516
 David Sharp ...957-3768 or dhsharp@verizon.net
 Linda Carlson ...694-0652

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, March 3

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - SVDP Food Pantry, Outreach, Family Clothes Closet & Hospitality

Thursday, March 4

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - SVDP Food Pantry, Outreach, Family Clothes Closet & Hospitality

Friday, March 5

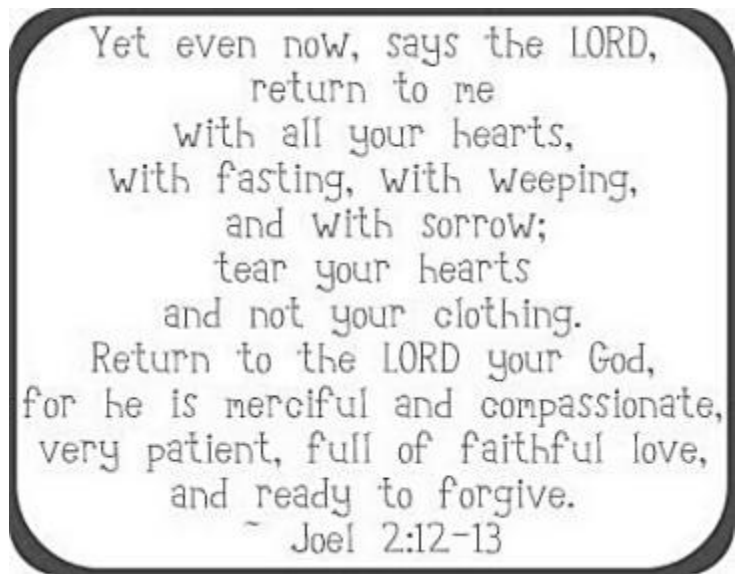
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross - Chapel

Saturday, March 6

3-4 p.m. Confessions - Chapel

Sunday, March 7 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

All weekend Masses will be live-streamed from the Church (please note the 11:30 Mass has been changed to 11:00 a.m.!) - go to stfrancistonawanda.org then click on the button to watch Mass live.



ST. FRANCIS SVDP FOOD PANTRY

We have a non-denominational food pantry in the St. Clare Center. Anyone living in our area is welcome to come monthly to the pantry. The pantry is open Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to noon and Thursday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Please use the side entrance ramp to the Church to begin your food pantry assistance.

Our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is in need of paper & plastic bags, as well as your **Lenten Offering of canned fruit & veggies and coffee & tea bags**. Please place your donation in the Barrel by the Chapel front doors. St. Vincent DePaul Society thanks you for your generosity to help us serve the needy!

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

We pray for God's healing and comforting presence for all of our sick and homebound parishioners, caregivers, family members and friends, especially: Kathy Kosiak, Vincent Polanowski, Sabine Miskey, Florence Donato, Trudie Lotz, Isaiah Sheehan, Jeanette Diegelman, Rich Petronio, Mara Moore, James Pasek, Jon Graefser, Reed Lesmeister, Patricia Shamber, Julie Kuciewski, Gene Graves, Judith Zielinski, Lydia Cannon, Trisha Cole, Art Francis, Vince Dominesey, Ashley McLearn, Kim Vaillancourt, Monica Shields, Christopher James Slauson, Rose LoGrasso, William & Patricia Blair, Tim Ellis, Jeanne Lauzonis, Ken Luckman, Daniel Paolucci, Kathy Mallery, Gerry Hess, Salvatore Scolla, Richard Murphy, June Brusino, Melissa Michael, Ayden Miller, Chris Golda, Lisa Kelly, Connor Radley, Robert McCormick, Teresa Meyer, Andrew Keleman, Nancy Lorich, Kyle Inman, John & Gerianne Ference, Patrick Roche, Angel Greenawalt, Kelli McDaniel, Duane Pietras, Liz Kobialka, David Hogenkamp, Jessica Cameron, Sandy Englert, Michael Moore, Ruth Tarasek, Charlie Insalaco, Judy McMahon, Neil Burrows, Meghan Wright, Beverly Overton, Donna Bene, Heather Hamilton, Virginia Quinn, Jon Graefser, Mary Barnes, Mike Koslowski, Dominic Cristelli, Mike O'Connor, Frank Corbett, Fr. Dennis Cleary, Tracey Everette, Oliver Laub, Kathy Kirisits, Linda Allen, Jim McNeill, George Mallory, Joyce Cassata, Mary Slauson, Renee Sylvies, Annabelle Frescholtz, Christian Licata, Vinny Frattura, Fr. Mike, Forrest Griffin, Debbie Sepielli, Madonna Whitus, Jennifer Nicken, Derek Cline, David Hamp, Sherry Dominesey, Cynthia & Vanessa O'Connor, Donna Kovac, Lenore Sheehan, Derek Cline, Paul Overton, Angelo DellaValle, Gerry Dickey. **Please notify the rectory when their names can be removed!**



**Happy Birthday
Father Mike!
(February 28th)**

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES



We pray for the safety of those serving in the Armed Forces, especially: SSGT Stephen J. Stanko, III, MSGT Richard Ball, MSGT Ryan J. Snyder, PVTIC Willard Bruce, MP Bobby Kindred, SGT James Retzer, PVT Jeffrey Alexander, PVTIC Rory Bruce, SGT Andy Sulski, M/SGT Christian Roeske, S/SG Michael Shilen, Timothy Juliano, PVT Jeffrey Seal, SrA Jacob Choate, Vincent J. Bartolomeo, SFC Daniella Sales, CPL Michael Girard, SR Andrew D. Potter, PFC Nicholas Kaiser, CPT Devin M. Finn, SGT Thomas Will, Jr., Jacob Gagnon, PVT Nicolas Paul, CPT Grant Peehler, Ryan Barnard, 1LT Jordan Zajac, Matthew Seal.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Greetings,

I am sure we all know today, Sunday Feb. 28th is Father Mike's birthday. And I want to be the first to wish him all the happiness and blessings in the world. He truly deserves it all. I know I say this all the time (sorry if I've written this before) but I am here because of him. I do my best for him and I feel blessed by knowing him. So I will say Happy Birthday Father Mike and thank you for all you do. We look forward to the day when you make your rounds at the Center again (hopefully in the nicer weather). I know the teachers and children love when you visit! You are a blessing from God and I for one feel honored to know you and work with you. Happiest of birthdays and all my love is what I wish for you today.

Peace & love and please wear your mask!

Sally Babcock ~ ECC Director



SCRIP GIFT CARDS

Scrip gift cards are still available, even though we are all in quarantine! Tops, Budwey/Market in the Square, and more are still in stock, and orders can be placed by emailing program coordinator Kathy Deyell at KDeyell@juno.com. She will make arrangements with you regarding payment and delivery. And don't forget, you can always order online at ShopWithScrip.com (contact Kathy if you need the enrollment code). Many vendors, such as Amazon and Walmart, have e-gift cards which are available almost immediately when you pay electronically with PrestoPay or a credit card, and physical gift cards can be ordered as well. Help support St. Francis of Assisi Parish even as we must remain physically distant from each other.

AMAZON SMILE

If you order things from Amazon, did you know that you can, at no cost to you, support a charity of your choice? Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of your purchase to St. Francis. It doesn't sound like a lot, but St. Francis has received \$290.46 from Amazon Smile already! (\$290.46 may not sound like much, but you can help that amount grow!) To sign up for Amazon Smile, go to <https://amazonsmile.com> and follow the simple directions. St. Francis of Assisi Church, Tonawanda NY is on their list of charities. Please sign up and help St. Francis as you shop. And if you are already registered, thanks!



LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION

- The more I contemplate the the first reading from Genesis this weekend, where God commands Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, the more beauty I see in this exchange. I've been listening to "Bible in a Year" podcast from Ascension by Fr. Mike Schmitz and he brought to our attention the fact that Isaac never resisted Abraham and in turn God. The trust that those two had was so great. It is something I aspire to in my life - and especially as I journey through Lent. We say 3 times in the Divine Mercy Chaplet, "Jesus I trust in you." Help us to have supernatural, illogical, radical and relentless trust in you this Lent and always, dear Lord!

- Formed.org - I recently watched "Padre Pio Between Heaven and Earth". This is a great movie to watch for Lent! His ability to endure suffering and his love for our Lord is inspiring! The other Padre Pio movie : Miracle Man is also very good!

THANK YOU!

Recently, we had to take some vestments to North East Cleaners on Niagara Street. The owner took care of all the cleaning free of charge. What a welcome surprise! It's heartwarming to know that we have such a generous business here, in the City of Tonawanda. May God bless him abundantly for his kindness.

ST. FRANCIS FAMILY CLOTHES CLOSET

A Clothes Closet for infants, children and adults is available in the St. Francis of Assisi Church basement (use entrance by the ramp). All clothing is free. Hours are Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. - noon and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. COVID rules are in place. Call the Outreach office at 693-6247 if you have any questions. **Donations of gently used, laundered children's and adult clothing are appreciated. Please drop off your donations during regular hours.**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

If you are feeling overwhelmed trying to keep up with your child's medical care and physical, dental and/or mental health appointment, Catholic Charities can help. **When you are in need, we are hope.** Through our Health Home Care Management program, children and their families in Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties are given access to a network of providers, health plans and community-based organizations that work to ensure the child's needs are met. These needs may include physical, dental, mental health or simple support. To learn more about the program and eligibility requirements, visit <http://www.carecoordination@ccwny.org> or call Helpline at 218-1419. **HOPE for all seasons.**

UPON THIS ROCK

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.

A visit to a lonely person makes two people happy.

REMINDER

The parking lot next to the St. Clare Center is owned by a company on Seymour St. They graciously allow us to use the lot after 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday and at any time on the weekend. The need the parking spaces during business hours 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please be a good neighbor and do not park in this lot during business hours.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. “We’re ready, God!” our hearts cry out. “Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!”

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties — they’ve joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It’s not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It’s the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there’s that nagging voice in our minds saying: go ahead, God doesn’t really mind.

It’s a week when we all need a shock to the system — and wouldn’t you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried “Ready!” when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, “Ready!” when we hear the call of God?

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grief Support Meeting - will take place at Our Lady of Pompeii Parish Ministry Center, 129 Laverack Ave., Lancaster on Wednesday, March 3 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. **The topic will be “Stuck”** - how to prevent getting stuck in grief. Contact Sister Joyce to register, 683-6522, ext. 103.

Two-day Parish Mission - will take place on March 8 & 9, 2021 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Mary of the Assumption Church, 2 St. Mary’s Hill, Lancaster, NY 14086. The topic will be “Be Loved: Who You Are...Who You Are Called To Be”, will be presented by Deacon Greg Feary. Please RSVP at 683-6445 so we have enough materials.

Virtual Meat Raffle - will take place at Cardinal O’Hara High School on Facebook on Friday, March 12. The event begins at 7 p.m. and at 7:15 p.m. the first spin will start. Tickets are \$45, which includes entry into each of the 15 rounds and the grand finale. Only 250 spots available. A 50/50 raffle and a freezer bag raffle with a \$100 gift certificate to fill your freezer will also be featured. Payment options include Venmo, check, cash or drop off payment at the school office. For tickets or information, email Renee Orr at rorr@cardinalohara.com.

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