

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 8: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday, March 9: Dn 3:25,34-43; Mt: 18:21-35
Wednesday, March 10: Dt 4:1,5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday, March 11: Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
Friday, March 12: Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday, March 13: Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14
Sun, March 14: 4th Sunday of Lent
 1st Reading - 2 Chronicles 36:14-17,19-23
 2nd Reading - Ephesians 2:4-10
 Gospel - John 3:14-21



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

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 8 - John of God
 8:30 Healing for Fr. Mike by Parishioners
Tuesday, March 9 - Frances of Rome
 8:30 Special Intentions of Jackie Rankin by Debra Gural
Wednesday, March 10 - Lenten Weekday
 8:30 Special Intentions of Anne & Jules Baldassari on their 70th Anniversary by Fran Phillips
Thursday, March 11 - Lenten Weekday
 8:30 Dennis Fritz by Outreach & SVDP
Friday, March 12 - Lenten Weekday
 8:30 Healing for Sue Budzik by Outreach
Saturday, March 13 - Lenten Weekday
 4:30 Special Intentions of Fr. Mike on his 37th Anniversary of Ordination by Bill & Dottie Poole
Sunday, March 14 - 4th Sunday of Lent
 9:00 Thomas Camann by Judy Walters Sears
 *11:00 Donald Posch by Elizabeth Giacco

*(Please note revised 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 13
 4:30 p.m. Pat Smith
Sunday, March 14
 9:00 a.m. Jane Holdaway, Jane Leone (choir)
 11:30 a.m. Helen Wagner

CANTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 13
 4:30 p.m. Bob Hull
Sunday, March 14
 9:00 a.m. Bob Hull

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 13
 4:30 p.m. Jim Hardy
Sunday, March 14
 9:00 a.m. Tom Joyce
 11:30 a.m. Jim Jaskowiak

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 10

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

Thursday, March 11

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

Friday, March 12

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

Saturday, March 13

3-4 p.m. Confessions - Chapel

Sunday, March 14 - 4th Sunday of Lent

All weekend Masses will be live-streamed from the Church - go to stfrancistonawanda.org then click on the button to watch Mass live.

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 Lorch, 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, 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, Jeffrey Frazier, Barbara Steves, John Long. **Please notify the rectory when their names can be removed!**

Differences Between Priests & Brothers

Question:

What’s the difference between priests and brothers, friars, etc.?

Answer:

The distinctions titles and categories used for priests and the male members of religious communities can be confusing, especially since the categories can sometimes be intertwined as a man can be both a priest and a monk, or a brother and a friar. So, to help to piece the puzzle together, it’s important to begin by noting some basic distinctions: The distinction between priests (who are ordained for sacramental ministry) and brothers (who are non-ordained members of religious communities and who are committed to lives of prayer and service).

Priests: A priest is a man who has been ordained for sacramental ministry and these fall into two categories: A) Diocesan (or Secular) Priests can either be attached to a diocese and who serve under a bishop. Their ministry is usually oriented toward pastoral service. B) Religious Priests are members of religious communities (like the Franciscans, Jesuits, Salvatorians, or Carmelites) and their lives are guided by the special mission and charism of their community. While both kinds of priest practice sacramental ministry, their spirituality and how they live out their priesthood can be very different.

Brothers: Brothers are non-ordained members of religious communities (such as those mentioned above) who live lives committed to prayer and service. Religious priests and brothers serve together in their communities and their ministries include much more than the care of parishes.

Monks, Friars, and Canons: These are broad categories that include religious priests and brothers, and each of these is connected to specific ways of life and spiritualities.



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

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 Danielle 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,

March has arrived as a lamb and maybe a little like a lion. I can't wait to see the grass and flower buds and know that Spring is on the way. I love seeing the children's work decorate the halls with flowers and shamrocks! I always feel so blessed living here because we can experience all of the beautiful seasons and the colors God provides us! Noticing the blessings of creations daily will always give you something to be thankful for, and I am.

I am very thankful to Father Mike and our Parish Family, we appreciate your love and support. Our Early Childhood Center is doing well. Please share our website or let someone know we are accepting registrations for September 2021. We have had many calls and inquiries. We love to share our information.

Please be safe and enjoy the coming of Spring and all its glory.

Take care and wear your mask!

Love & peace,
Sally Babcock ~ ECC Director



LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION

- Lent is a time for growing. The word "Lent" means Spring. This time last year, we had no idea what was going to happen in our world in a few days. Now, almost 1 year later, we have all been changed. How have you grown? As it says in Ecclesiastes, "There is nothing new under the sun...". What's new is our hearts and minds, not our circumstances. The world has seen pandemics. God is the same yesterday, today and forever. As we continue our Lenten journey, may we grow- grow closer to God and closer to one another. Come Holy Spirit! Mold us into who you created us to be.

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 deserts, cake mix & frosting, boxed dessert mixes**. 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!



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.

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.**

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!

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.

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.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

When you are hungry, we are hope. Catholic Charities maintains nine good pantry and outreach centers in Western New York. Seven sites are in Erie County (Central, East and South Buffalo, Getzville and Lackawanna) and one each in Alleghany County in Wellsville and in Cattaraugus County in Franklinville. Each location has emergency food pantry service and offers information and referrals to other needed services to those who are food insecure, free of charge. Show your support of our food pantries by donating to Appeal 2021. Call 218-1419 or visit www.ccwny.org/donation. For more information on our pantries, go to <http://www.ccwny.org/services/foodpantries>. With your support, we can continue to be **HOPE for all seasons**.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Parents Just Don’t Understand

Anybody remember the old rap song by the Fresh Prince, aka Will Smith, “Parents Just Don’t Understand?” As we grow up, it is sometimes a struggle for us to imagine that our parents understand us. It can seem impossible that Mom and Dad remember the stress of exam week or peer pressure. We never saw them as children; we never saw their disappointed faces when they weren’t invited to a party, or their dashed hopes at a bad test grade. We never saw them homesick their first week of college or nervous to ask their crush to Homecoming.

We’re often the same way about God. We gripe about what He asks of us. “He doesn’t understand sin — he’s all-good,” we think. “He doesn’t understand temptation — He is perfect.”

In Scripture, God can be very much a father, telling us what we can and cannot do. And yet, in His divine genius, He is sometimes simply a man at a well, asking for a drink. For me, it turns out I didn’t need to tell my parents anything about what I was going through as a kid — they knew already. What I needed was for them to tell me what to do, and how to do it.

Similarly, we don’t need to tell God about human nature. We need God to tell us about His nature. He’s good enough to ask us for a drink, to enter into our humanity. But we have to remember, for our own sakes, to have the humility to ask Him for something, too — the water that will quench our eternal thirst.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

UPCOMING EVENTS
<p>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.</p> <p>Tuition Freeze - Cardinal O’Hara High School announced that it will not increase tuition for the 2021-2022 academic year. Cardinal O’Hara hopes that this plan will reduce the additional burden on people who are sacrificing so much to allow their children to continue to take part in the outstanding, faith-based, educational program at Cardinal O’Hara High School.</p>

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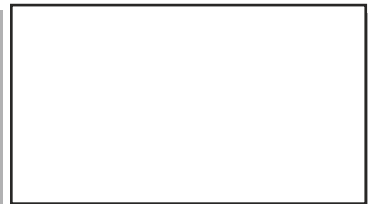
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