

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 the rectory 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 (693-1150).

R.C.I.A.

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

STAFF

Parish Administrator Deacon Gary Hoover
Permanent Deacon Deacon Paul Bork
Priest Moderator in Pastoral Care Father Jim Croglia
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 PersonsMrs. 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

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, April 19: Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday, April 20: Acts 7:51--8:1a; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday, April 21: Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday, April 22: Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51
Friday, April 23: Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59
Saturday, April 24: Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday, April 25: Fourth Sunday of Easter
 1st Reading - Acts 4:8-12
 2nd Reading - 1 John 3:1-2
 Gospel - Luke 24:35-48



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

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, April 19 - Easter Weekday
 8:30 Healing for Fr. Mike by Parishioners

Tuesday, April 20 - Easter Weekday
 8:30 George Willis by Family

Wednesday, April 21 - Anselm, Bishop
 8:30 Special Intentions of Carmelite Sisters Little Flower Monastery by Oblates

Thursday, April 22 - Easter Weekday
 8:30 Yolanda Chirgwin Hogan by Faculty & Staff of ECC

Friday, April 23 - George, Martyr & Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr
 8:30 Anthony Leone (Birthday) by Family

Saturday, April 24 - Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr
 4:30 Ruth & Leo Smith by Daughter, Patricia

Sunday, April 25 - 4th Sunday of Easter
 9:00 Healing for Kathy Mallery by Family
 11:00 Charles Lennon by Lynette Cummings

2021 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES

April - June Church Offering envelopes (and Special Collection envelopes for online giving) are available in the Church vestibule, table in the Chapel and the rectory. We ask that you provide your ID# on each envelope. If you don't know that number, call the rectory (693-1150) for that information. **Please call the rectory if you can't find them.**

**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, April 24
 4:30 p.m. Shelley Colwell

Sunday, April 25
 9:00 a.m. Fran Phillips, Jane Leone (choir)
 11:30 a.m. Rita Alviti

CANTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 24
 4:30 p.m. Cecelia Driscoll

Sunday, April 25
 9:00 a.m. Cecelia Driscoll

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 24
 4:30 p.m. Jim Hardy

Sunday, April 25
 9:00 a.m. Tom Joyce
 11:30 a.m. Jim Jaskowiak

SOCIAL DISTANCING FOR LITURGIES

Thank you for your cooperation during this difficult time. In order to accommodate growing Mass participation, please note the following: Families may continue to sit together in the same pew. Others must remain socially distant. If you come to church alone, or with one other person, please move to the middle of the pew to make room for others to be seated. Also, be sure to sign the contact-tracing forms at the doors of the Church, and work with the ushers to find safe and socially distant seating. We all need to cooperate at this time to make sure that everyone can come to church and worship safely. Please remember to wear a mask at all liturgies. If you don't have one, there is a supply of masks in the vestibule, along with hand sanitizer.

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

Monday, April 19

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 21

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

Thursday, April 22

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

Saturday, April 24

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. 1st Eucharist Retreat
3:00 p.m. Confessions - Chapel

Sunday, April 25 - 4th Sunday of Easter

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

7-9 p.m. Confirmation Class

THOUGHTS FROM DEACON GARY

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, the Apostles still have doubt on their minds. Jesus shows them his wounds to verify who he is and that he is really in their midst. Which leads me to reflect and remember that Jesus is really in our midst, he is present in the Blessed Sacrament at Mass. We receive his body when we receive Communion. He is Present in the Tabernacle while the Blessed Sacrament is reposed there. He is always present in the people we meet; St. Teresa of Calcutta stated, "I see God in every human being. When I wash the leper's wounds, I feel I am nursing the Lord himself. Is it not a beautiful experience?" St. Teresa also stated, "Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing". So, keep smiling.

Peace,
Deacon Gary

PLEASE SUPPORT THE LOCAL BUSINESSES WHO ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN.

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, 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, Mike Koslowski, Dominic Cristelli, Mike O'Connor, Frank Corbett, Fr. Dennis Cleary, Tracey Everette, Oliver Laub, Norm & Kathy Kirisits, Linda Allen, Jim McNeill, George Mallory, Joyce Cassata, Mary Slauson, Renee Sylvies, Christian Licata, Vinny Frattura, Fr. Mike, Debbie Sepielli, Madonna Whitus, Jennifer Nicken, Derek Cline, David Hamp, Sherry Dominesey, Cynthia & Vanessa O'Connor, Donna Kovac, Lenore Sheehan, Derek Cline, Angelo DellaValle, Gerry Dickey, Jeffrey Frazier, Barbara Steves, John Long, Oliver Laub, Daniel Brown, Mary Barnes. **Please notify the rectory when their names can be removed!**

SOUL OF CHRIST, SANCTIFY ME!

Make a saint of me. Show me how to rid myself of traits of character that annoy others; that make the lives of those about me miserable.

Help me to break the hardened shell within which selfishness hides, and which renders me insensible to the needs of others.

May I become great enough to be the servant of both rich and poor.

May I grow strong in virtue, so as to sustain the weak and encourage the weary.

May my heart increase its power to love, so as to be able to minister kindness to the timid and mercy to the wayward.

May I have the honor to bring cheer to all my fellow men on the long and sometimes rugged road of life.

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!

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,

Our Center is accepting registrations for September 2021 for PreK 3 and PreK 4. Children must be 3 by December 1st, or 4 by December 1st. Families do not need to live in the City of Tonawanda, however, the City of Tonawanda's Universal Pre K 4 (UPK) program does require you live in the City of Tonawanda. We are one of the designated sites for the UPK. We have information about all those programs. Please call our office at 692-7886 or email me - babcock@stfrancistonawanda.org - we will be happy to send you a registration and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for all the support and prayers from our wonderful St. Francis Parish.

Love and peace by with you always.

Wear your mask and stay safe.

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://amazonmile.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

- He is Risen Indeed!! We are a RESURRECTION PEOPLE! It's what sets Christians apart in our crazy world. When trouble comes (not if, but when), we hang on to the hope of the resurrection - We are people of HOPE! As we continue our walk through the Easter season, may others notice that we are different. We have hope. The Joy of the Lord is our strength! Happy Easter! We are in the midst of the Easter Season! I think I'll go color some eggs!

- The 2nd season of The Chosen is slowly being released episode by episode! If you have now watched Season 1, check that out first. Get The Chosen app on your device, then you can stream it to your TV! Or it's available on YouTube. It's an amazing inspired work of God!

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

Additional donations for Easter Flowers were made in memory of: Murial & Edward Dierdorf, Peter L. Bognar, M/M Donald Gallagher, Paul Steinig, Dorothy Mallory and deceased members of the Marohn family.

The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty.

- Francis

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 paper towels. Please place your donation in the Barrel by the Chapel or Church front doors. St. Vincent DePaul Society thanks you for your generosity to help us serve the needy!

ST. FRANCIS FAMILY CLOTHES CLOSET

The Clothes Closet is in need of gently used, laundered toddler and children's clothing, **but we are no longer accepting adult clothes of any kind until further notice.** Also, the only diapers needed are sizes 4, 5 and 6 (pull-ups). Thank you for your donations and your help at this time. **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. **Please drop off your donations during regular hours.**

GOSPEL MEDITATION

3rd Sunday of Easter

We often act out of ignorance. Armed with the best of intentions, we think we are seeing clearly and correctly, but we are not. We don't always understand the full meaning of things and only perceive part of the truth. Hence, our judgments and actions can be impaired by myopic, incomplete or erroneous perceptions. The meaning of life, understanding of human experience, and negotiating life's challenges can all become skewed without proper understanding and vision. The resurrection of Christ is the corrective to our incomplete and limited view of life. Looking at things with the eyes of faith brings a depth of clarity and understanding to how we see God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Even the disciples struggled with their limited understanding and ignorant perceptions. It was only when Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures that their eyes were opened. It was their "aha" moment when everything clicked. We all want the substance of our lives to come together, make sense, and have meaning. This is easier to achieve when things are going positively, and life is good. It is when suffering, disappointment, death, hardship, and injustice enter the picture that things can become unsettled and disoriented. Our faith in the goodness and love of God is tested. We tend to shift our focus on these difficult and challenging moments and do not see them within the greater picture of how God intends life to unfold. We can gain, from the passion and resurrection of Christ, the clear vision we need in order to move away from ignorance to enlightenment.

We need our "aha" moment when everything comes together and clicks. It can come in a fleeting instant when we feel totally connected with God, where we find ourselves, others and all of creation. It is a moment when all is right and good, regardless of how difficult our journey. Our "aha" moment assures us that God is here, right with us, in us and around us bringing us a gift and blessing we can receive nowhere else: peace. In those brief sacramental encounters when we are lifted up out of ourselves and centered, we can hear God say, "peace be with you," and we feel secure. It's all okay. The resurrected Christ has the power to bring this gift to us. Some people, as they are facing their deaths, remark about this peace. When looking into the window of eternity, they experience a depth of joy and are amazed at God's goodness and closeness. We are called to be witnesses to this Good News.

©LPi

**God never closes one door
without opening another.**



THANK YOU!

On behalf of the SVDP and the Outreach we would like to thank all those who donated weekly with requested food items to help us fill the Easter Food Bags. We also want to thank all those who gave monetary donations to help purchase food items. Because of your generous support our parish was able to serve 85 households with ingredients for a wonderful dinner along with a gift card, eggs, candy, sides and desserts for a well-rounded Easter meal. This breaks down to 150 adults & 60 children.

Several of our friends who received these commented on how wonderful they were and how much they were appreciated. Everyone who participated in the program left with full arms and smiles of gratitude. You have given help and hope to those having a difficult time making ends meet. We pray that our Resurrected Lord blesses you and your families in abundance for all that you do for those in need.

SUMMER CAMPS

Students in 5th - 8th grades are invited to join the Golden Summer Academy, camps and clinics offered this summer at Cardinal O'Hara High School. Camp offerings include: two theater camps, an HSPT prep course, math, mural making, creative writing, zoology, dance, band, exercise, cheer-leading, boys basketball and football and a unique All Sports class. The cost for most camps is \$100. For more information or a brochure, call Thomas Wilkie at 695-2600, ext. 333 or email twilkie@cardinalohara.com or go to www.cardinalohara.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Virtual Meat Raffle - will take place from Blessed Sacrament Church on April 24 at 7 p.m. on Facebook live@artyparty716. Cost is \$50 for 12 rounds. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. Payment options: paypal at <https://bsacramentchurch.com.give/-hit the donate button> - please indicate meat raffle and/or 50/50 or mail to Blessed Sacrament, 263 Claremont Ave., Buffalo, NY 14223. For more information, call 834-4282.

St. Gregory the Great Catholic Store Anniversary Raffle - You could win \$100 gift card to the Catholic Store, located at 100 St. Gregory Court, Williamsville, NY, phone 276-6920. For every transaction at the store, the purchaser will receive one ticket to enter into our Anniversary Raffle. The more you visit and make a purchase, the more chances to win! Drawing will be held on April 30! Store hours: Tuesday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.; Sunday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Additional Wednesday evening 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Fretthold & Hamp
Cremation & Funeral Services
693-4481

BUFFALO FLOOR MACHINE, INC. 
JANITORIAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES
2333 Military Road
Tonawanda, New York 14150
CHRISTOPHER HULL, Parishioner
694-6222

WAGNER MONUMENTS 
Monuments • Markers • Urns
Vases • Cemetery Lettering
892-5505
2953 Genesee Street
between Harlem and Union

KEVIN'S PLUMBING
Sewer & Drain Cleaning
Hot Water Tanks
Bubblers & Sump Pumps
Sewer Replacements
Call Kevin
716-898-9818 

Lingenfelter's Financial Services
Accounting & Tax Returns
Investments • Insurance
Paul Lingenfelter (Parishioner)
141 Wheeler Street 694-3391

TOM FEZER COLLISION INC.
COLLISION REPAIRS
625 Walck Rd., N. Tonawanda
693-6013

Delbert E. McMaster Agency
ALL KINDS OF INSURANCE
111 Niagara St. 693-9841

Ken Horn & Associates
Tax and Financial Planning
Accounting • Tax Returns
Locally Owned Over 30 Years
190 Delaware Street
Office: 695-7811 • Fax: 695-3772
~ Parishioner ~

UPGRADE TO A
VIBRANT ad
Contact us for details • 800-477-4574

Delbert E. McMaster Agency
ALL KINDS OF INSURANCE
111 Niagara St. 693-9841

SAMER K. RIAD, D.D.S., P.L.L.C.
Quality Dentistry
WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS
491 Delaware Street
Tonawanda
693-1299 

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
• Burglary • Flood Detection
• Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide
 Authorized Provider **SafeStreets**  **1-855-225-4251**

FREE AD DESIGN
WITH PURCHASE
OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.
 Buy a bulletin ad space today!

JOHN O. ROTH FUNERAL HOME INC.
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1945
Jay W. Roth 25 William St., Tonawanda, NY 693-1551

Lombardo Funeral Home
Since 1907
Don't overpay for one of life's necessities.
• **Traditional Funerals starting at \$3,995**
Includes 2 day viewing, 20 gauge metal casket
(Concrete grave liner optional - not required by NYS; may be required by cemetery)
• **Direct Cremation \$899**
885 Niagara Falls Blvd. • (near Eggert Rd. & Sheridan Dr.)
837-7100
"The end of high cost funerals"

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR **BUSINESS HERE**
Contact **James McGee** to place an ad today!
jmcgee@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6429

PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM

\$29.95/MO PLUS SPECIAL OFFER
BILLED QUARTERLY
CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

Too Sick for Mass?
SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!
Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
www.parishesonline.com


Blank space for advertisement