

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 26: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday, April 27: Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday, April 28: Acts 12:24--13:5a; Jn 12:44-50
Thursday, April 29: Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20
Friday, April 30: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday, May 1: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14
Sunday, May 2: Fifth Sunday of Easter
 1st Reading - Acts 9:26-31
 2nd Reading - 1 John 3:18-24
 Gospel - John 15:1-8



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

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, April 26 - Easter Weekday
 8:30 Barbara Ciszewski by Family

Tuesday, April 27 - Easter Weekday
 8:30 Lois Ebner by Judy & Don Maugans

Wednesday, April 28 - Peter Chanel, Martyr; Louis Grignion de Montfort
 8:30 Special Intentions of Carmelite Sisters Little Flower Monastery by Oblates

Thursday, April 29 - Catherine of Siena
 8:30 Souls in Purgatory by Fran Phillips

Friday, April 30 - Pius V, Pope
 8:30 Souls in Purgatory by Fran Phillips

Saturday, May 1 - Joseph the Worker
 4:30 Fr. Mike Uebler by Parishioners

Sunday, May 2 - 5th Sunday of Easter
 9:00 Special Intentions of Mother Miriam of Jesus by Fran Phillips
 11:00 Loretta Lenyo by Family

THANK YOU FROM FR. MIKE'S FAMILY!

Thank you from Fr. Mike's family for all the Mass cards and donations in memory of Fr. Mike. There were some donations without addresses, so the family was unable to send out thank you cards to some of you. But, please be assured that all donations were greatly appreciated by the family and St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

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, May 1**

4:30 p.m. Tammy Oswald

Sunday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Ceil Sharp, Linda Szmanda (choir)

11:30 a.m. Jeff Becker

CANTOR SCHEDULE**Saturday, May 1**

4:30 p.m. Deb Jasinski

Sunday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Dan Deyell

LECTOR SCHEDULE**Saturday, May 1**

4:30 p.m. Shelley Colwell

Sunday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Fred Hamp

11:30 a.m. Rita Alviti

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. 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

PLEASE SUPPORT THE LOCAL
 BUSINESSES WHO ADVERTISE
 IN OUR BULLETIN.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, April 28

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - SVDP Food Pantry, Outreach,
Family Clothes Closet & Hospitality
6:30 p.m. 1st Eucharist rehearsal - Church

Thursday, April 29

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

Saturday, May 1

11:00 a.m. 1st Eucharist - Church
3:00 p.m. Confessions - Chapel

Sunday, May 2 - 5th 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.**

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

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 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 McMahan, 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, 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!**

THOUGHTS FROM DEACON GARY

A couple of week ago, Father Mike took his last breath on earth before he went home to see the glory of our risen Lord. There are many times I have talked to people who were afraid to die. It's easy to say, I'm not afraid, but when we are about to die we become terrified of what is going to happen. Where do we go when we die? In the Gospel of John this week, Jesus reassures us that He will never leave us. If we believe in Jesus, we will live with Jesus.

I'm sure many of us will miss Father Mike, but one day when we enter the gates of paradise, we shall see him again, as well as old friends and family members who have gone before us.

It's important to remember that those who are in heaven are saints, they can pray for us. Ask Father Mike to pray for us, he is closer to God than we are.

Keep smiling,
Deacon Gary

2021 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES

April - June Church Offering envelopes (& 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).

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, PVT1C Willard Bruce, MP Bobby Kindred, SGT James Retzer, PVT Jeffrey Alexander, PVT1C 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.

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

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Greetings,

As I looked back at all my bulletins for these past 7 seven years, there is always one common statement in each one. "Thank you Father Mike for your support and love". So now I am at a loss for words.

There have been many things written about Father Mike on social media, I have spoken to many people, families from past and present but I still don't know what to say. Maybe someday the words will come to me and then again, maybe they won't. All I can say right now is Father Mike meant the world to me. His love and dedication to our Center and his faith in me can never be measured. He fought a long hard battle and I am glad he is at peace. The last day I saw him, he smiled that beautiful smile at me as if to say "it's ok Sally". I never would disagree with him but I am sorry to say it's going to be a long time before "it's ok".

I pray Father Mike watches over our Center and continues to support us and love us. I truly believe he will.

Please be safe and wear a mask.

Peace and love,
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.

**Whenever you want to talk,
God is there to listen.
God can live anywhere
in the Universe,
and God chose your heart.**



LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION

- We are navigating our journey ahead without Fr. Mike. As I reflect, I'm so grateful for the wonderful foundation that our beloved pastor has laid for our parish community. Fr. Mike was passionate about the sacraments and making them available to all who desired them. He was passionate about the children - getting to know them and making them feel that St. Francis is their home. And he was passionate about his Lord. As Fr. Mike's mind began to fail, his spirit and his prayer only became more in tune with God, praying the most beautiful prayers I'd ever heard:)). Our God is good. He loves Fr. Mike and he loves us. Let us honor God and Fr. Mike by immersing ourselves even more in our faith! Fr. Mike, pray for us!

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.**

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!

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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

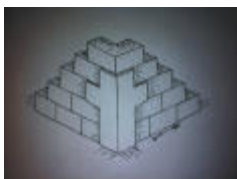
4th Sunday of Easter

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures.

©LPi



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Confidence in Princes

Have you ever confided your problems to a friend, only to get the answer, "have you prayed about it as much as you've talked about it?"

Like all good advice, it can really irritate the recipient at first. Here I am, vulnerable and wounded, unloading my problems, and this joker tries to load them right back up and ship them off to Someone with a higher pay grade.

But again, like all good and irritating advice, it rings true if you sit and think about it.

Sure, venting is helpful. We all need that friend or family member who can listen to our problems. But if we ever start to think that person can solve them, it's a good sign that we're losing perspective.

Are you looking to the world for an answer? Are you looking in the mirror, expecting to find a solution to your problems? Are you expecting happiness, peace, contentment or justice to come from any place other than God?

"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes," the Psalms tell us. Well, I've never put much confidence in princes. But when it comes to problems, I often find myself telling God to take a step back — "I've got this."

It's tough to pray about any problem as much as you talk about it. We want so badly to tackle the issue ourselves. But I'll let you in on a secret: it doesn't matter what the question is, we don't have the answer. Take it to the One who does.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi


UPCOMING EVENTS

12th Annual Basket Raffle - will take place at Catholic Academy of Niagara Falls, 1055 North Military Rd. on Friday, April 30th from 1-7 p.m. and Saturday, May 1st from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Live-streamed drawings begin at 7:00 p.m. Over 200 baskets and growing...\$500 cash raffle; Prize Wheel/Plinko; Salvatore's Overnight Stay & Dining Package; a 7-day stay at a private lake house in the town of Kendell, NY. For more information contact (716) 283-1455 ext. 200.

Craft Show - will be held on Saturday, May 1 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Cardinal O'Hara High School. Admission is \$2 with proceeds from the fair to support Junior Class activities. For more information, call 695-2600, ext. 301 or go to www.cardinalohara.com.

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



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