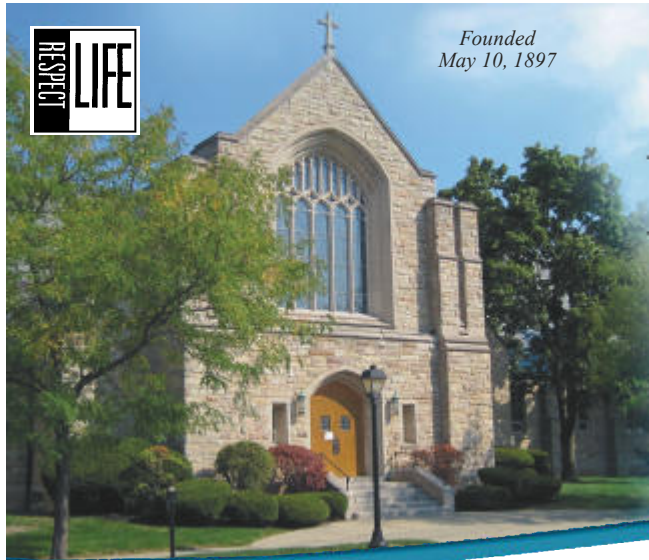




Founded
May 10, 1897



SAINT PAUL

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KENMORE, NY 14217-2380

Website: www.stpaulchurchken.org

Office: 875-2730 Fax: 877-3874 Rel. Ed.: 875-2730, ext.5

Parish Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30a-3:30p
Closed Noon -1 p.m.

December 26, 2021
The Holy Family

PARISH STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Joseph E. Vatter,
jvatter@stpaulchurchken.org

Deacon, Richard W. Parker
hompar65@gmail.com, 876-7199

Parish Business Manager, Carolyn Nye
cnye@stpaulchurchken.org

Pastoral Care Coordinator, Donna Barker

Parish Office Secretary, Pattie Henningson, Jane Merkle
phenningson@stpaulchurchken.org
jmerkle@stpaulchurchken.org

Faith Formation & Children's Liturgy, Michelle Fisher
M.Fisher@stpaulchurchken.org

Director of Music/Organist, Sean Z. Polen
szpolen@yahoo.com

Trustee, Mary Finley-Blosat, 435-9279

Trustee, Mark Della Posta, 873-4074

Bulletin Coordinator, Deena Nye
dnye@stpaulchurchken.org

MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri.: 8 a.m.

Thurs.: 5:30 p.m.

Holy Day: 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. **Holy Day Vigil:** 5 p.m.

CONFESSION: Saturday 4-4:30 p.m. or by
appointment

NOVENA: Wednesday 7:45 a.m.,

Our Mother of Perpetual Help

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN:

At the 11 a.m. Mass, Sept.-June, children are dismissed
to study the Scripture with a parish catechist.

Religious Education: Biweekly. Grades 1-5 Tuesday evenings

6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.; Grades 6-10 Thursday evenings 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

Baptism: Baptismal preparation classes are held on the 3rd
Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. Parents or parents-to-be are
asked to call the parish office. Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd
and 4th Sundays of the month during or immediately following
the 11 a.m. Mass.

Marriage: Parishioners only may be married here, and must be active
parishioners for 9 months prior to scheduling a wedding. Contact the
parish priest at least 6 months prior to the ceremony to make
arrangements. Weddings are celebrated on Friday evenings;
Saturdays at 12 noon & 2:30 p.m.

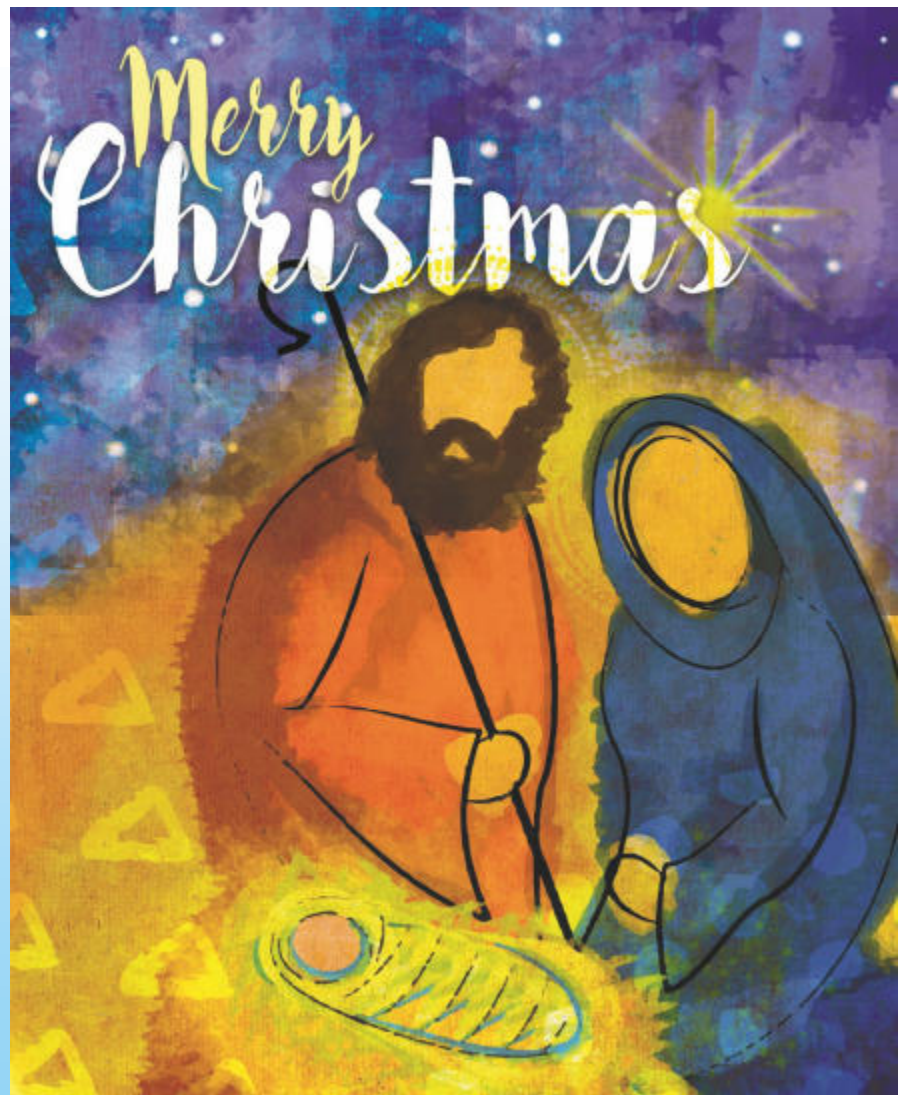
Ministry to the Sick & Homebound: Call the parish office to
make arrangements for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
or to have Holy Communion brought to the home. Please notify
the office of sick parishioners who are in the hospital.

RCIA: This process is designed for adults who are: 1) interested
in becoming a Catholic; or 2) are baptized Catholics wishing to
complete their initiation process by receiving the sacraments of
Confirmation and/or Eucharist. Interested individuals should
contact the parish office.

Letters of Recommendation: A Letter of Recommendation to
serve as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism and/or
Confirmation can be given only to registered members of the
parish who are confirmed, attend Mass and receive the sacraments
regularly. If the requesting person is married, the marriage must
have taken place in conformity with the laws of the Church.

New Parishioners: We warmly welcome you to our parish
community. Please call the office to register.

PLEASE REMEMBER ST. PAUL'S IN YOUR WILL



MISSION STATEMENT

St. Paul's Parish is a Eucharistic community of baptized followers of Jesus Christ in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Faith. We promote spiritual and personal growth by challenging all to ongoing conversion. Led by the Spirit, we celebrate the presence of Christ in our lives by proclaiming the gospel, providing Sacramental life, and striving to discover the use of our gifts in loving service.

St. Paul's is a Respect Life Parish.



Saturday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord
 10:00 a.m. Sara Cina, by her Estate

Sunday, December 26: The Holy Family
 8:00 a.m. Sadie Cina, by her Estate
 11:00 a.m. Stephan Murphy, by Harry and Donna Barker

Monday, December 27: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
 No Mass/ Office will be open

Tuesday, November 28: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
 8:00 a.m. All Souls

Wednesday, December 29: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
 7:45 a.m. Novena
 8:00 a.m. Barbara, Henry And Leo Kreutter, by their Estate

Thursday, December 30: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
 5:30 p.m. The Parishioners of St. Paul's Parish

Friday, December 31: Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:00 a.m. All Souls

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

December 26 — January 01

Sunday 26:
Monday 27:
Tuesday 28:
Wednesday 29: 7p.m.—8:30p.m. RCIA in Parish Hall
 7p.m.—Ensemble Practice in Church
Thursday 30:
Friday 31:
Saturday 01: HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

IN YOUR CHARITY...



Please pray for the sick of the parish, especially Juanita Irene, Mike Lorenzo, Anne Schmitt, Tony Manzella, Joseph Phillips, Stephanie Merenda, Louis Mang, Katherine Limardi, Michael Raichel Sr., Michael Hanavan, Sister Maria Lugosi, Susan Czajkowski, Dolores Quagliana, Lenny Reco, Mellie Zuccaro, Angie Davide, Jeanine Gilligan, Don Osborne, Frieih Family, Eric Glinski, Frances Simmons, Pam Coniglio, Diane Lapp, Elaine Klee, Bert Cross, Frank Lucca and for the deceased. Also for the men and women in the service, for the peace in the world and for the vocations. *(Kindly notify the rectory when a name should be removed our list).*



SANCTUARY LAMP

...burns this week in loving memory of Clifford Lapp, by wife Diane



STEWARDSHIP IN FAITH

DECEMBER 12, 2021

Regular Collection.....	\$5,688.00
Maintenance	\$65.00
# of Envelope Users.....	206

DECEMBER 13, 2020

Regular Collection.....	\$6,758.25
Maintenance	\$160.00
# of Envelope Users.....	

Income needed weekly to meet obligations \$8,500.00



My Dear Friends

I wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year as we begin our 125th anniversary year!

Father Joe

An extract from the “St. Paul’s Roman Catholic Church: Centennial of Faith and Service”

The first fund-raising event was a picnic in the orchard. Father Nelles recruited the help of one of his Canisius Colleagues, Mr. Schmidt, the drawing teacher. Mr. Schmidt designed and helped construct booths and games for the event. The picnic was so successful that Father Nelles was able to purchase enough lumber for the construction of a two-story building. Originally only one story had been planned. It was hoped that the second floor would soon be used as a high school.

The school was completed on January 6, 1899, less than a year after the church was dedicated.

Father Nelles then tried to secure the teaching services of a few local religious orders but was unsuccessful initially, and so a lay teacher was hired. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Miss Bielefeld also played the organ at church.



BUSINESS OFFICE

2021 tax statements will be sent out by the end of January 2022, so please, no calls to the office requesting one is necessary. Also as a reminder that all donations have to be in the business office by December 31, 2021 to go on the 2021 tax statement. If received after that date they will go on the 2022 form.

Thank you for all your support, Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

Carolyn Nye



January 01 & 02

LECTORS

5 PM Sandy Geary
 8 AM Steve Bovino
 11 AM Ryan Nye

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

5 PM Dolores Jedrzejek
 8 AM Deacon Parker
 11 AM Mary Ellen Carver



Readings for the Week

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/ Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

HOLY NAME & WOMEN'S SODALITY

January 2022 Raffle Tickets now available through December 31,2021

Looking for a great stocking stuffer or just feeling Lucky. Holy Name and the Women's sodality are now selling their raffle tickets. \$5.00 dollars a ticket is all you need to get you entered into January 2022 drawing. Tickets will be mailed out and will also be available for purchase in the parish office. Please support the Holy Name/Women's Sodality organization



WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question:

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

©LPi

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

"...love one another just as He commanded us." 1 John 3. By placing monetary contributions in the poor box you manifest love for others in need among us. Have a healthy and happy New Year!

SAINT OF THE WEEK EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH

St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

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SODALITY

Hope everyone had a Blessed Christmas

As we await the New Year and consider our resolutions here are some thoughts. Do you want to become more involved in the parish? Enrich your spiritual life? Meet more women of the parish? Deepen your devotion to Mary? The Women's Sodality can help you will all of these. We meet in the parish center. Stay tuned to this column for January 24ths program

We would like to those who purchased wreaths and especially the 10th Graders who made our posters

Happy New Year.





Joy TO THE World

GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

©LPi



WE SHARE ON LINE GIVING!

New this year, For any **NEW recurring donors** that sign up for on line giving between **November 1st and December 31st**. Ministry Brand /We Share will match that donation up to \$50.00. As a whole our parish is eligible to receive up to *\$1,000.00 in matched donations*. What better way to consistently help the parish with your donation, even while out of town or unable to attend for some reason. Check it out on our website, www.stpaulchurchken.org



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

Merry Christmas

Upcoming Community Events

Inclusive Christmas Mass on Monday, *December 27* at 7 pm at St. Bernadette, 5930 S. Abbott Rd., Orchard Park. Fr. Bob Owczarczak, celebrant, will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 6 pm; Sr. Conchetta LoPresti, Coordinator of Deaf Ministry, will interpret the Mass in American Sign Language. The Mass will be live-streamed on St. Bernadette's Facebook page. The Mass offers a shorter, less crowded worship setting allowing for freedom of movement as needed. The lighting will be dimmer, the music soothing and low gluten hosts will be available. This event is sponsored by Open Doors Ministry which advocates for the inclusion of people with disabilities into the life of the parish. If you have any questions, contact Sharon Urbaniak at 716-648-1720, ext. 3 or sharonu@saintbopny.org.

"Called to Serve: Reflections on Christian Leadership" on Monday, *January 3* at 7 pm at Our Lady of Pompeii, 129 Laverack Ave., Lancaster; presented by CJ Wild, a Seminarian at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, MD. Explore and come to appreciate the true essence of leadership as service motivated by love and the reality that Christ is love.

St Gregory the Great Parish invites you to join us for "FIAT", our monthly Eucharistic Conference, Saturday, *January 8* at 7 pm, in the church. Open your heart to the Lord and allow Him to make a difference in your life! Our guest speaker will be Fr. Dan Young, Pastor of Good Shepherd Parish, who will share with us the life of Fr. Nelson Baker. Come, for a solid faith filled talk, great music, prayer ministry and most importantly time with our Lord before the Eucharist. All are welcome!

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. In coordination with the Office of Worship of the Diocese of Buffalo, there will be a training session for individuals who wish to become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on Saturday, *January 15* at 9:00 am at Annunciation (Selbert Hall), 7580 Clinton St., Elma. Please first discuss the possibility with your pastor/parish administrator. Once your pastor approves, complete an application form (available from your parish office or the Office of Worship) and present it to your parish office for final approval, pastor's signature and parish seal. Forms should then be sent to the Office of Worship, 795 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14203 no later than 7 days prior to the training. When attending a formation session, please bring your personal Bible and a means of taking notes. You may bring a snack or brown bag lunch. For more information, email worship@buffalodiocese.org or call 716-847-5545.

Kids Corner

GOSPEL

The shepherds in the hills around Bethlehem were the first to find out about the birth of Jesus. They were the first to visit the new baby and his family in the stable. The shepherds of the Lord in your life are people who love God and you very much. They praise God and say wonderful things about God. They tell you how good you are. They protect you from evil and harm.

PRAYER

Father, thank you for the shepherds you sent to love and care for me.

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



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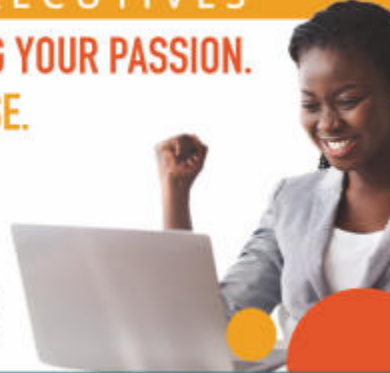
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