“Up, South Buffalo!”

There’s something to be said about really dynamic and energetic speakers. Whether it’s a sporting event, a wedding reception, or even a political rally, they can get us pumped up, excited, and inspired. They stir an emotion in us that makes us want say with great enthusiasm and conviction, “Yes! I’m with you!”

All of our readings this weekend serve as an energetic rally cry for Jesus, the Messiah. They’re like the opening act to get us ready and excited for the main event: ‘Up, Jerusalem! Stand upon the heights!’ ... ‘Prepare the way of the Lord!’ We also begin the narrative of John the Baptist, the herald of Christ’s public ministry, and we sing ‘Maranatha’ during Advent, which is Aramaic for ‘the Lord is coming!’

So in our real day-to-day lives outside of Mass, how are we continuing to herald and proclaim the first and second comings of Jesus? How are we letting people know that something really, really special and awesome is on the way? How are we being dynamic proclaimers of the Messiah?

As we continue our Advent journey towards Christmas, let’s not get stuck in the rut this time of year can bring. Let’s not lose our steam and exhaust ourselves. Instead, let’s be joyful and excited. Let’s keep our heads raised and stand upon the heights with hope and joy.
Dear Family,

“Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever...”. These words of the prophet Baruch are a message of hope that was being given to a people in exile. Baruch was pointing God’s people to a time when the exile would be over and the glory of Jerusalem would be restored. His words are reflected also in our Gospel reading today in the referenced quote from Isaiah. Baruch’s and Isaiah’s prophecies are fulfilled in the mission of John the Baptist as he calls all people to repentance and points the way to the Messiah, Jesus, the true glory of Jerusalem! This Second Sunday of Advent, the Church turns our attention back to the First Coming of Jesus at His Nativity. John the Baptist was His herald then and we are called to be Jesus’ herald today! How can we do that? As I have been driving around town this past week, I already see a number of houses lit up with lights. The beautiful lights shimmer and attract our attention. But what are these lights pointing too? Often it is a snowman, Santa, a reindeer, Grinch, you name it. Only rarely do we see a manger scene among the lights! All those other things are fun and there is nothing wrong with any of them in their proper context. But when they are our sole focus of the Christmas season we have lost the true meaning of what we are celebrating. So maybe when we set up our lights this Advent season, we should find a way to proclaim the true meaning of the season. Maybe we can become the Advent heralds of Jesus and point those who pass by our decorated houses to the true meaning of the coming season!

AN IMPORTANT UPDATE!
On November 30th I received confirmation that our South Buffalo Family of Parishes has been selected to be one of the pilot parishes for the Road to Renewal. That means that we will begin the process in January. I hope to have more information to share in next week’s bulletin...

A Blessed Advent to all!
Praised Be Jesus Christ...Now and Forever!!!
Father Steve

Pot O’ Gold Is Back!

Saturday, March 12, 2022 (Party Info TBD)

Top Prize: $10,000
(10) $500 Prizes

Early Bird Drawings:
New Year Drawing (Jan. 3): $200
Sweetheart Drawing (Feb. 14): $250

Tickets are $30 each or (2) for $50 - (Each ticket admits one to the party drawing.)
Tickets on sale after all Masses, at the parish office (260 Okell Street), or mail in ticket requests.
Please make sure name, address, and phone number are included. Please send to Our Lady of Charity Parish • 260 Okell Street • Buffalo, NY 14220. Adding a self-addressed stamped envelope will get you entered into a mystery drawing! If you are interested in selling tickets, please see one of the ticket sellers or pick some up at the office.
Tickets make great Christmas gifts, stocking stuffers, exhange gifts, hostess gifts, etc.
Disciples Stay Active

What’s Happening?

Sunday, December 5th

Holy Family Site
Faith Formation Grades 1-8, 6:30pm, Basement Hall

Monday, December 6th

St. Ambrose Site
Yoga, 6:00pm, Parish Center

Tuesday, December 7th

Holy Family Site
Cub Scouts, 6:00pm, Basement Hall

St. Ambrose Site
Parish Council, 7:00pm, Parish Center

Wednesday, December 8th

Holy Family Site
Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Church

Thursday, December 9th

Holy Family Site
Yoga, 6:00pm, Hall

St. Ambrose Site
Boy Scouts Troop 256, 6:00pm, Parish Center

Friday, December 10th

Holy Family Site
Community Dinner, 4:30pm, Hall

Saturday, December 11th

St. Ambrose Site
Confessions, 3:15pm, Church

Weekly Collections
Weekend of November 27th & 28th
Collection: $5,306.25
Renovation: $175.00
Thanksgiving: $1,152.00

Thank you for financially supporting Our Lady of Charity Parish!

Religious Retirement Appeal

Next weekend, December 11 – 12, the Diocese of Buffalo is encouraging support of the national Retirement Fund for the Religious Appeal. Proceeds from this annual appeal are used to assist in the health care and maintenance expenses of retired religious order nuns, brothers and priests. These retired religious women and men typically served in education, health care or social services roles. In their years of sacrificing and serving others, they did not provide for themselves. Members of religious congregations, many in the twilight of their years, do not receive financial support, health care or retirement benefits from the Diocese of Buffalo.

Faith Formation Schedule

December 6th, 6:30pm - 7:45pm, Holy Family Hall
Faith Formation Grades 1-8

December 13th, 6:00pm - 7:30pm, St. Ambrose Site
Confirmation Class Grades 9-10

Keep Up to Date With Catholic Charities

Despite a joyful time for many, we know the holidays can bring out feelings of sadness, grief and anxiety. If you experience any of these emotions and think talking to someone could help, please turn to Catholic Charities. We are a beacon of HOPE. Our agency offers several types of counseling including: comprehensive assessment and counseling for children, adults and families, marriage counseling, substance use treatment, Diocesan counseling for church ministers. To get connected, call our Helpline at (716) 218-1419. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit ccwny.org. Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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Don’t forget:
Don’t forget to wear rose (pink) next weekend as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. ‘Gaudete’ is Latin for ‘Rejoice,’ and we are rejoicing that we are halfway to Christmas.

Save the Dates

• The Giving Tree •
ENDS THIS WEEKEND!
All gifts must be UNWRAPPED this year. (See inside cover for more info.)

• Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM •
Tuesday, December 7th: 5:30pm (Holy Family Site)
Wednesday, December 8th: 8:00am (St. Ambrose Site)
12:15pm (Holy Family Site)
Food Items Needed

Dear Parish Family,

The Bishop Kmiec Food Pantry and the So. Bflo Community Table are in need of some food items this winter. Supply is low or unavailable through the Food Bank so if you just put a few items in the grocery carts each week, we’ll make sure they get them. Thank you for your generosity and God bless!

- Grape/Strawberry Jam
- Cream of mushroom, etc. soup
- Chicken and beef broth
- Canned fruits
- Disposable salt & pepper shakers

Community Dinners

If you are interested or would like some more information please contact the parish office at 822-5962 or Mary Anne at 822-1837. Thank you!

Sponsors for the coming weeks include:

December 10: St. Vincent de Paul Society
December 17: MAK & Friends
December 24: NO COMMUNITY DINNER
December 31: NO COMMUNITY DINNER
January 7: DuBois-Delano Family
January 14: Cub Scouts
January 21: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Christmas Decorating

It takes many hands so if you have some time to help, it would be greatly appreciated!

Friday, Dec. 17 – 6pm @ HF – to put up trees + washing pews
Saturday, Dec. 18 – 9am @ SA – put up trees + washing pews
Tuesday, Dec. 21 – 6pm @ HF - Nativity scene, flowers, etc.
Tuesday, Dec. 21 – 7pm @ SA – Nativity scene, flowers, etc.

Catholic Daughters

Catholic Daughter of the Americas, Court Msgr. Baker #1043 wishes to thank everyone who patronized our drive-thru roast beef dinner last month. We were more successful than anticipated and appreciate all the support. And no surprise to court members, Fr. Romulus, our chaplain, won the lottery wreath. Our next meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 13th. All Catholic women 18+ are invited to attend.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday
4:00pm (St. Ambrose Site)

Sunday
8:30am (Holy Family Site)
10:00am (St. Ambrose Site)
11:30am (Holy Family Site)

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
(Office will be closed 12:00pm - 12:30pm for lunch)
Friday, closed

(716) 822-5962

Please consider remembering our parish community in your will.
The 2nd Sunday of Advent

First Reading  Bar 5:1-9
Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God’s worship. Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you; but God will bring them back to you borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones. For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God’s command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company. The word of the Lord.  R/. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm  Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6
R/. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing.  R/.

R/. Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.  R/. Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves.  R/.  

Second Reading  Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. The word of the Lord.  R/. Thanks be to God.

Gospel  Lk 3:1-6
In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”
The Gospel of the Lord.  R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
**Disciples Pray Together**

**Please Pray For Our Sick**

“Master, the one you love is ill.” (John 11:1-2)

Edna Albert, Irene Andrzejewski, Irene Barrett, Louise Beamish, Teresa Beamish, Lillian Beyers, Ann Alvira-Buchnowski, Patricia Cajak, Maureen Canney, Cheryl Clontz, Patricia Colern, Caroline Dominesey, MaryAnn Forsyth, Vara Jones, Madisyn Ledder, Janet Murray, Karen O’Neill, Mary Pilon, Maryann Rigby, Sandy Riley, Jane Rozek, Mary Sands, June Stebbins, Ruth White


May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**Please Pray For Our Dead**

Let us remember all those who have gone before us:

+Teresa Evaldi, +Dennis McNaughton,
+Peter Deubell, +Jorge Vives.

May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

+ Order of Mass +

**Processional:** On Jordan’s Bank (#418)

**Readings and Responsorial Psalm:** #996

**Offertory:** A Voice Cries Out (#416)

**Mass Parts:** Community Mass (#370, #373, #372)

**Communion:** Warm the Time of Winter (#417)

**Recessional:** People, Look East! (#409)

**Sactuary Lamps**

Holy Family Site: Dec. 5 - Dec. 11

Geri Gayhart *(req. by her husband)*

**Immaculate Conception**

Please note that the Solomnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM is a Holy Day of Obligation.

- **Tuesday, Dec. 7:** 5:30pm (Holy Family)
- **Wednesday, Dec. 8:** 8:00am (St. Ambrose), 12:15pm (Holy Family)

**Mass Intentions**

**Sat./Sun., Dec. 4/5 - 2nd Sunday of Advent**

SA • 4:00pm

John Schieber *(Birth. Rem., req. by his family)*

HF • 8:30am

Geri Gayhart *(req. by her husband)*

SA • 10:00am

Bridget & George Nowaldy *(req. by their family)*

HF • 11:30am

Norman Waterhouse *(Anniv. Rem., req. by his family)*

**Mon., Dec. 6 - Weekday in Advent**

SA • 8:00am – People of the Parish *(req. by Fr. Steve)*

**Tues., Dec. 7 - St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor**

SA • 8:00am - All Souls Intentions

HF • 5:30pm - Jerry Holtz *(Wedding Rem., req. by his loving wife, Bobbie)*

**Wed., Dec. 8 - Sol. of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

SA • 8:00am - Mothers Day Intentions

HF • 12:15pm - Jim Coughlin, Sr. *(req. by Audrey Kunz)*

**Thurs., Dec. 9 - Weekday in Advent**

SA • 8:00am - Fathers Day Intentions

**Fri., Dec. 10 - Weekday in Advent**

SA • 8:00am - Homewood Baco Family *(Estate Mass)*

**Sat./Sun., Dec. 11/12 - 3rd Sunday of Advent**

SA • 4:00pm

Regina “Rita” Hodge *(1st Anniv. Rem., req. by the OLCP family)*

HF • 8:30am

Molly Bociek *(Birth. Rem., req. by her mom and dad)*

SA • 10:00am

Ed McGlynn *(req. by his wife, Helen)*

HF • 11:30am

José Lopez *(2nd. Anniv. Rem., req. by his family)*

**Christmas Masses**

**Christmas Eve (Friday, December 24th)**

4:00pm - St. Ambrose Site

6:00pm - Holy Family Site

**Christmas Day (Saturday, December 25th)**

Midnight - Holy Family Site

10:00am - St. Ambrose Site

11:30am - Holy Family Site
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