



GOD FROM GOD LIGHT FROM LIGHT

In the Heart of South Buffalo

Whether you're an angel or a shepherd, you have a place at our table. Whether you journey from afar or tend to your flock right around the corner, please make yourself at home. Whether you're looking to warm your heart or just get out of the cold, you're welcome either way. We are Our Lady of Charity Parish. **And you are always welcome here.**

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 18/19, 2021

"Let us see your face..."

In Orthodox Judaism, it's considered a sin to speak the name of God. In fact, it's believed to be completely unpronounceable. So for the psalmist this week (an Orthodox Jew) to say, "Lord, make us turn to you; Let us see your face and we shall be saved," that's a pretty big deal. It kind of makes saying God seem like a drop in the bucket when this person wants to actually **see** God. Apparently, the burning bush just wasn't cutting it anymore.

Fast forwarding hundreds of years, Jesus is born and God is made man. People finally can put a face with a name in a precious baby boy. But as we all know, the story goes from the wood

of the cradle to the wood of the cross, and since people weren't snapping selfies with their iPhones yet, the world was just left with artwork portraying Jesus in his various stages of life.

However, our Christian theology teaches us to 'see the face of Christ revealed in every person standing by our side.' Someone might not look like a cute baby in a manger or a bearded man with a sheep on his shoulders, but it is *still* Jesus. It is still **God**.

As we enter our Christmas season, let's treat each other as we would treat Jesus. Imagine if God said, "Say it to my face!" ... Because at the end of the day (and our life): **We do**.

OUR LADY OF CHARITY PARISH

260 OKELL + 1901 SOUTH PARK

BUFFALO, NY 14220

(716) 822-5962 + OURLADYOFCHARITYPARISH.COM

FROM FR. STEVE...

Dear Family,

This weekend we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent. We are now just six days away from Christmas Day! The excitement is building! Parties are going on. Baking and cooking are taking place. Gifts are being wrapped. School is almost out! But amidst all this activity, we need to step back and contemplate what we celebrate. I often wonder why Jesus chose to come among us as He did. I have numerous Nativity sets of different varieties and I gaze upon the scene in wonder. I have come through my prayer to some understanding of it. He could have chosen to just speak out of the clouds again as the Father did for the people of the Old Testament. But Jesus wanted a personal encounter with us. He wanted to become one of us! As I was yet again thinking about this, along comes an email with a summary of a talk Pope Francis just gave to young people in Greece on December 6th. He really hits this point home by talking about our own relationships with one another. Pope Francis said: "That is new, even revolutionary. Going out of ourselves to encounter others. For if you live imprisoned within yourself, you will never encounter others, you will never know what it means to serve. Service is the noblest kind of act, greater than an individual: serving others. Many people today are constantly using social media, but are not themselves very social: they are caught up in themselves, prisoners of the cell phone in their hand. What appears on the screen is not the reality of other persons: their eyes, their breath and their hands. The screen can easily become a mirror, where you think you are looking at the world, but in reality you are all alone before a virtual world full of appearances, of photos dressed up to look always beautiful and acceptable. Yet how beautiful it is simply to be together with other people, to discover the newness of others! Speak with others, cultivate the mystique of togetherness, the joy of sharing, the enthusiasm of serving!" (Pope Francis, Address to Young People of Greece, 12/6/21) Jesus came to serve. He came to encounter and He calls His followers to do the same. We cannot do that staring at a screen! Maybe we should all make a true effort to put the phones and tablets away for most of our day. Maybe we will rediscover what true relationships are all about! If we cannot connect with one another, how can we ever expect to connect with our God?

I pray that you and your families have a most holy and peaceful Christmas Season!!!
Praised Be Our Newborn King...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, exchange gifts, hostess gifts, etc.!

DISCIPLES STAY ACTIVE

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Monday, December 20th

Holy Family Site

Faith Formation Grades 1-8, 6:30pm, Parish Hall

St. Ambrose Site

Yoga, 6:00pm, Parish Center

Tuesday, December 21st

Wednesday, December 22nd

Thursday, December 23rd

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Holy Family Site

Yoga, 6:00pm, Hall

St. Ambrose Site

Boy Scouts Troup #256, 6:00pm

Friday, December 24th

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, December 25th

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

December 20th, 6:30pm - 7:45pm, Holy Family Site

Faith Formation Grades 1-8

January 10th, 6:30pm - 7:45pm, Holy Family Site

Faith Formation Grades 1-8

January 24th, 6:00pm - 7:30pm, St. Ambrose Site

Confirmation Class Grades 9-10

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Weekend of December 11th & 12th

Collection: \$5,502

Renovation: \$426.00

Flowers: \$341.00

Immaculate Conception: \$1,230.00

Thank you for financially supporting our parish community!

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE

An 8-Part Bible Study Featuring Jeff Cavins
You're invited to get in touch with our faith.

Our Mother of Good Counsel

3688 South Park, Blasdell

(Parish Activity Center)

Tuesdays: Jan. 4 - Feb. 22

10:30am - 11:45am OR 6:30pm - 7:45pm

Registration is FREE (but required). Workbook is \$25 (recommended, but optional).

For more information and to register, contact Deacon Michael Dulak at (716) 913-0476.

SEASON OF GIVING

The South Buffalo Community Table's "Holiday Canned Good Drive" runs until Thurs., December 23rd. Many drop off locations are all around South Buffalo. Let's help them restock their shelves for Christmas!

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Has your financial situation changed because of the pandemic? If so, you may now qualify for the Women's, Infants & Children (WIC) federal nutrition program. Catholic Charities is the administrator for WIC in Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara and counties, and is ready to assist you and your family. For more information about WIC, including income eligibility, please visit ccwny.org/wic. To connect with WIC, please call (716) 218-1484. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit ccwny.org. Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

CHECK THIS OUT



Want to support Our Lady of Charity Parish while doing your online shopping?

1. Go to Smile.Amazon.com
2. Type in Our Lady of Charity
3. Choose Our Lady of Charity - Buffalo, NY
4. Check the box
5. Start shopping!

A portion of your purchase will go right back to our parish!



DON'T FORGET:

Don't forget to pick up your oplatki (blessed Polish Christmas wafer) this weekend. Break it with your family and friends on Christmas Eve (and you traditionally dip it in honey!)

DISCIPLES STAY IN THE KNOW

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

A VOCATION VIEW

"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." And blessed are you who hear Jesus call to ministry and respond! If you hear this summons, contact Fr. Dave Baker at (716) 847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

WEATHER CLOSINGS

If Buffalo Public Schools are closed – morning Mass at St. Ambrose will be cancelled. Fr. Steve will celebrate Mass at 8:00am for the intention for that day at Holy Family. People are welcomed to the Mass at Holy Family, however please use an abundance of caution when making that decision.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive! We received: 56 boxes of stuffing, 106 food items, 82 pairs of socks, \$135.00 in cash, and \$10.00 in Tops gift cards. A special thank you to everyone who helped count and deliver to the pantries.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Steve Jekielek
Fr.Steve@olcp.org

Administrative Assistant

Diana Deck
d.deck@olcp.org

Deacons

Deacon Tim Maloney
Deacon Steve Schumer

Sacramental Preparation

Maureen Brown
Kathleen Mulqueen

Business Manager

Elaine Williams
E.Williams@olcp.org

Weekend/Weekday Help

Fr. Robert (Bob) Hora

Prayer Link

768-4022
823-2067

Director of Music & Worship

Brian Meyer
music@olcp.org

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 24: NO COMMUNITY DINNER

December 31: NO COMMUNITY DINNER

January 7: DuBois-Delano Family

January 14: Cub Scouts

January 21: Boy Scout Troop #256

January 28: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

February 4: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

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

Tuesday, Dec. 21 – 6pm @ HF - Nativity scene, flowers, etc.

Tuesday, Dec. 21 – 7pm @ SA – Nativity scene, flowers, etc.

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** on Dec. 23rd and 24th. If there is an emergency, please select the emergency line.

GIVING TREE 2021

Still during this pandemic, where people are still in need - Our Lady of Charity – you responded! Thank you, Parish family! The agencies are so grateful for the support they get from us and know that your generosity will help many people. May God continue to bless us and guide us.

– The Liturgy Committee

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 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading

Mi 5:1-4a

Thus says the LORD: You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times. Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return to the children of Israel. He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

R/. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Rouse your power, and come to save us. **R/.**

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong. **R/.**

May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name. **R/.**

Second Reading

Heb 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Lk 1:39-45

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

DISCIPLES PRAY TOGETHER

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

Let us remember all those who have gone before us:

+Charlotte Driscoll, +Pat Kuhn.

May they rest in the peace of Christ.

4th Sunday of Advent

+ Order of Mass +

- **Processional:** Creator of the Stars of Night (#420)
- **Readings and Responsorial Psalm:** #1002
- **Offertory:** Wait for the Lord (#406)
- **Mass Parts:** Community Mass (#370, #373, #372)
- **Communion:** Maranatha, Lord Messiah (#397)
- **Recessional:** The King Shall Come When... (#414)

SACTUARY LAMPS

St. Ambrose Site: Dec. 19 - Dec. 25

Maddy Hynes (Anniv. Rem., req. by her brothers & sisters)

TIDINGS OF COMFORT & JOY

On behalf of our entire parish staff at Our Lady of Charity, have a joyous, blessed, and safe holiday season. May the miracle of our Lord's Incarnation fill your hearts with love, light, and music.

Happy Christmas!



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

Daniel Barry, Michael Beyers, Leon Bolick, Owen Chase, Eric Crawford, Vincent Crawford, Frank Czapezyk, Francis Davis, Larry Deskiewicz, Richard Dinnocenzo, Paul Fitzpatrick Sr., Jason Florea, Eric G., Jacob Heberling, Emmett Jakubowski, Rob Karr, Andrew Kuper, Gabe Lopez, Robert Maggio, George Rodriguez, Josean Rodriguez, The family of Coach Frank Rossi, Jeremiah Smith, Jim Sweeney, Tom Walsh, Christopher Zuercher

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat./Sun., Dec. 18/19 - 4th Sunday of Advent

- SA • 4:00pm
Joe & Ted Golda (Birth. Rem., req. by John & Debbie)
- HF • 8:30am
Florence Jennings & Jacqueline Ferguson (req. by family)
- SA • 10:00am
John Godwin (req. by Joe & Diane Godwin)
- HF • 11:30am
James Coughlin, Sr. (req. by his friend, Audrey Rizzo)

Mon., Dec. 20 - Late Weekday in Advent

- SA • 8:00am - **Bernice Nash** (Birth. Rem., req. by family)

Tues., Dec. 21 - Late Weekday in Advent

- SA • 8:00am - **Father's Day Intentions**

Wed., Dec. 22 - Late Weekday in Advent

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

Thurs., Dec. 23 - Late Weekday in Advent

- SA • 8:00am - **Richard Eusanio** (Anniv. Rem., req. by his family)

Fri., Dec. 24 - Late Weekday in Advent

- SA • 8:00am - **People of the Parish** (req. by Fr. Steve)
- SA • 4:00pm - **James & Kathleen Hillery** (req. by their children)
- HF • 6:00pm - **Terrence Eckert** (req. by his brother & family)

Sat. Dec. 25 - The Nativity of our Lord

- HF • Midnight
Ann Evans Driscoll & Jack Driscoll II (req. by Jack Driscoll)
- SA • 10:00am
Herman & Joan Hollstein and Shelly Holowaty (req. by their family)
- HF • 11:30am
John Martin (req. by Deacon Tim & Barbara Maloney)

Sun. Dec. 26 - Feast of the Holy Family

- HF • 8:30am
Salvatore Sanfilippo (req. by Joe & Kathy Kula)
- SA • 10:00am
Ann Dzialga-Stettin (req. by the Maroney Family)
- HF • 11:30am
Mary Gattie (req. by her son, Joe)

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve (Friday, December 24th)

4:00pm - St. Ambrose Site

6:00pm - Holy Family Site (candelight)

Christmas Day (Saturday, December 25th)

Midnight - Holy Family Site

10:00am - St. Ambrose Site

11:30am - Holy Family Site

PATTON PLUMBING
Sewer & Drain Cleaning



(716) 825-4900

\$10 OFF
Any Service Call
648 McKinley Pkwy.

Diamonds Gem Stones Watches Repairs

ZAWADZKI JEWELERS

Family Owned & Operated For Over 50 Years

1234 Abbott Rd. Plaza, Lackawanna, N.Y.
(716) 822-1302

O'Connell Murphy
Funeral Home



Same location as
"Norman E. Gannon & Sons"
1075 Ridge Road, Lackawanna
823-0124
www.OCONNELL-MURPHYFUNERAL.com




Mineo's South PIZZERIA



2154 South Park Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14220
823-6228

SOUTH PARK LIQUORS

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD DISCOUNT LIQUOR STORE

1605 South Park Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14220
(716) 822-2477

LET ME TELL YOU WHAT YOUR HOUSE IS WORTH!
OVER 16 YEARS EXPERIENCE

HUNT
Since 1911
Always There For You!




John Oakley
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
716-812-2582
PARISHIONER
john.oakley@huntrealestate.com

FREE AD DESIGN
WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE

CALL 800.477.4574



Zappia

Pools & Spas
SALES • SERVICE • SUPPLIES
Kyle Zappia, Owner
716-824-3325
1437 Abbott Road • Lackawanna, NY 14218
EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR OF *Princetonlike*

NIGHTENGALE FUNERAL HOME

Serving South Buffalo, West Seneca and beyond.

family owned & operated by residents of west seneca

250 Orchard Park Rd., West Seneca (Between Seneca St. & Potters Rd.)
716-822-4371

- Pre-Planning
- Traditional Funerals
- Memorial Services
- Full Service Cremation Options



Peter K. Leslie
LIC. FUNERAL DIRECTOR



Margaret M. Leslie
LIC. FUNERAL DIRECTOR

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide




ADT Authorized Provider SafeStreets
1-855-225-4251

Are you caregiving for someone 60+ not on Medicaid?
Want to be compensated?
Call now for info and eligibility

NEW YORK STATE | **NY Connects**
Your Link to Long Term Services and Supports

of ERIE COUNTY
(800) 342-9871 • (716) 858-8526

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Brett Burt** to place an ad today!
bburt@4LPi.com or **(800) 477-4574 x6443**

Cusack Funeral Home

Traditional • Memorials • Cremation

250 Orchard Park Road, West Seneca
716-828-1846



Michael J. Cusack, Funeral Director
Parishioner • Finance Committee Member



CASTIGLIA FUNERAL HOME, INC.

3rd Generation Family Owned and Operated Funeral Home

Pre-Plan a Traditional Funeral Today

824-6435 • 873 Abbott Rd., South Buffalo

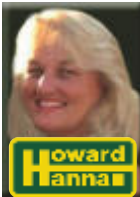
Café for Refreshments | Spacious Viewing Chapels | Handicap Accessible
Modern Audio/Visual System | Ground Level Entrance



**ERIE COUNTY
CREMATION SERVICE**

Direct Cremation: \$625 (Funeral Home Charge)

Over **29 Years** Experience
& Platinum Award Winner



**Clare Shea
Hourihan**

Licensed Real
Estate Agent

308-1177

APOLLO FAMILY RESTAURANT

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

*Take Out Available
Open 7 days a week*

423 Hopkins Street
825-9087



O'NEILLS' AUTO SERVICE

QUALITY & HONEST REPAIRS

TIRES • SALES • SERVICE • REPAIRS

New York State Inspections

1951 South Park Ave.

(716) 825-9234



GROBELNY ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE LLC

- Acupuncture
- Chiropractic Needs

1064 Union Rd. • West Seneca, NY 14224

651-9011

Robert Grobelny, Parishioner

Lombardo Funeral Home

Our Family Serving Your Family 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)

3060 Abbott Road
(Near Lake Avenue)

823-4812

"The End of High Cost Funerals"



Committed to
Caring, Learning
& Growth

100% of Graduates
Get Accepted
to College!

Check our Website for Upcoming
Open Houses, Seminars & More

716.825.8796 • www.mtmercy.org

88 Red Jacket Parkway, Buffalo

PAUL E. VOGEL PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

BATH & KITCHEN REMODELING

FAMILY OWNED

& OPERATED SINCE 1944

WEST SENECA, NY

823-0968

Do You Need a Plumber?



**PCS
PLUMBING
& HEATING**
PAT LEARY, OWNER

Commercial • Residential
South Buffalo Local Business **BBB**

716-822-4302

FULL SERVICE PLUMBING & HVAC EXPERTS
www.pcsplumbing.com

Daniel J. Leonard Funeral Home

New Location
Brand New Facilities
Large Chapels and Parking

Dan Leonard | 827-8487

873 Abbott Rd



3-D-4-3

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

14-1034