

## 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 22/23 2022

'He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.' (Luke 4:15)

Did you ever have a teacher that changed your life? Maybe it was a dynamic personality, a memorable curriculum, or just that he or she showed that they cared... but at the end of it all, you walked away changed, knowing and understanding something that you didn't before.

In our Gospel this weekend, Jesus is just beginning his public ministry in one of his many roles: teacher. As he reads from the prophet Isaiah, he makes one thing very clear: Jesus doesn't want people just to know that he came. He wants people to know why he came. He wants them to understand.

As the narrative continues throughout the year, we will continue to see Jesus in his role of teacher saying things like '...learn from me' (Matthew 11:29) and '...hear me and understand.' (Mark 7:14). While Jesus could have very easily just said, "I'm the Messiah, and it's my way or the highway," he doesn't. He wants people to understand the *right* way. He wants them to get it.

So, how are we doing as students? As disciples of Jesus, we're always learning and growing. Some days we might be an A+ Christian, and other days we'd recieve an F. Thankfully, however, we have the world's best teacher on our hands. And if we follow what he says, we will walk away changed forever.

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## FROM FR. STEVE...

Dear Family,

Pope Francis, in 2019, declared that from that time forward the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time would be the 'Sunday of the Word of God'. This may seem strange as we celebrate the Liturgy of the Word every day at Mass. So why set aside a separate day devoted to the Word of God? Well let's think about it. The Bible is the best selling book of all time! It is estimated that over 5 billion copies have been printed! Amazing! But Pope Francis is aware, I am sure, of a problem. While that many have been sold, how many have been actually read? Many are given as gifts for First Communion or Confirmation or Marriage. But how many sit collecting dust on a shelf? How familiar are we with this book that tells us of the infinite love and mercy that God has for us? We can all probably quote lines of our favorite movie or TV show. We might even be able to quote some Shakespeare. But can we quote and really understand the majority of the Bible? The Bible is a living thing! We should read it over and over again because as our life changes and the times change, so does what God speaks to us from the Word! I can tell you that as I read the same passages year after year, God inspires me with new understanding of what He is trying to teach me. St. Jerome is quoted as saying "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ". That is worth praying about...and then we should pick up our Bibles and read! There is a wonderful podcast out there by Fr. Mike Schmitz called the Bible in a Year. It is a daily podcast that in one year takes you through the entire Bible! It's about 20 minutes a day. Check it out! I highly recommend it!

I would be remiss if I did not remind everyone that Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> was the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the horrible Roe v Wade decision. As a long time pro life advocate and Bishop Mike's representative to the ecumenical group Western New York Pastors for Life, I beg you to pray for an end to abortion and the respect for all human life from conception to natural death. This work includes praying for an end to euthanasia, assisted suicide, the death penalty, and all other things that bring human life to an unnatural end. God made humans, and humans alone, in His image. We need to remind ourselves and everyone else of that! We may be on the verge of success at the Supreme Court, but then our work takes on new importance at the state level. Let's all pray for the respect for all human life! I would love it if our parish, and our South Buffalo family would have a vibrant pro-life ministry! If interested in getting this moving forward, please contact me!

Praised Be Jesus Christ...Now and Forever!!! Father Steve

## POT O' GOLD: GET IN IT TO WIN IT!

Saturday, March 12, 2022 (Now VIRTUAL - SEE PAGE 4)



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

Early Bird Drawings: 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.

## DISCIPLES STAY ACTIVE

### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

#### Monday, January 24th

St. Ambrose Site

Confirmation Class Grades 9-10, 6:00pm, Church Yoga, 6:00pm, Parish Center

#### Tuesday, January 25th

**Holy Family Site** 

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm, Hall

Wednesday, January 26th

#### Thursday, January 27th

**Holy Family Site** 

Yoga, 6:00pm, Hall

St. Ambrose Site Boy Scouts Troup #256, 6:00pm

#### Friday, January 28th

**Holy Family Site** 

Community Dinner, 4:30pm, Hall

#### Saturday, January 29th

St. Ambrose Site

Confessions, 3:15pm, Church

#### **FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE**

January 24th, 6:00pm - 7:30pm, St. Ambrose Site Confirmation Class Grades 9-10

January 31st, 6:30pm - 7:45pm, Holy Family Site Faith Formation Grades 1-8

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

## **WEEKLY COLLECTIONS**

January 15/16, 2022 Collection: \$5.827.50 Renovation: \$162.00

Fuel: \$1.902.00

Thank you for financially supporting Our Lady of Charity Parish (especially as we enter the heating season)!

#### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**NEXT Weekend:** Catholic Relief Services

## **BISON CHILDREN'S** SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Have you heard about the BISON Children's Scholarship Fund? They are a tuition assistance program helping economically eligible children attend private grammar schools of their choice. BISON was founded on the belief that parents should be able to choose the school that best fits their child's needs regardless of their incomce. The application process is now open for new families. To start the process, families can complete a pre-application form online at http://bisonfund. com/our-scholarships. The deadline to apply for a scholarship is February 28, 2020. Scholarships are awarded using a lottery system from all applicants on March 1, 2022.

### WESHARE ONLINE

Did you know you can financially support our parish right from your computer or phone? Just visit our website and click 'Donate Online' at the top!

## KEEP UP TO DATE WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Appeal 2022 is underway! Bishop Michael Fisher, Appeal 2022 Chairs Thomas Beecher Jr. and Nancy Nielsen, and Deacon Steve Schumer launched the Appeal earlier this week and announced the \$9.5 million goal, as well as HOPE for all seasons as the campaign theme and St. Teresa of Calcutta as this year's patron saint. Your donation to the Appeal stays right here in Western New York and supports various programs and services through Catholic Charities and the Fund for the Faith. These are vital programs and services that help feed, clothe, counsel and guide those in need. To make a donation today, visit ccwny.org/donation or text GIVEHOPE22 to 44321.

## 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. Chéck the box

5. Start shopping!

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

#### **FUN FACT:**

Did you know Hebrew is written and read right to left (as opposed to our modern English being left to right)? This goes all the way back to stone tablets.

## DISCIPLES STAY IN THE KNOW

#### POT O' GOLD PARTY UPDATE

Out of an abundance of caution, it has been decided not to have the in-house party this year for the drawing on March 12. Details on the virtual drawing will be announced soon. While it's disappointing to all, our concern for all of you comes first. Thank you for your continued support of this fundraiser and good luck to all! Reminder: February 14 is our next early bird drawing! Tickets continue to be sold after all Masses, at the parish office, in person at Mineo's pizzeria and you can mail in a request (if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope, you will be included in an extra mystery raffle!).

## **A VOCATION VIEW**

Jesus' first sermon reminds us that so many in our culture are held captive by addictions. Priests have a special ability to set them free through the grace of Confession. Interested? If so, contact Fr. Dave Baker at (716) 847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

#### WEATHER CLOSINGS

If Buffalo Public Schools are closed – morning Daily Mass is **CANCELED**. Please know that Fr. Steve will pray for the intention of that Mass privately. If the weather is looking bad, please pay careful attention to local news sources for all closings. And by all means: stay warm and safe.

### **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:

January 28: Sisters of Mercy February 4: MAK & Friends

February 11: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED February 18: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED February 25: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED March 4: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### TAX STATEMENTS

Any parishioner who would like a statement of your donations for 2021 should submit your request in writing. Please include your name, address, and envelope number. All requests should be in the parish office by January 31, 2022. You may put your request in the collection basket. Thank you very much for those who include a self-addressed stamped envelope. We will get them to you as soon as we are able. Thank you for being patient.

#### **BRING BACK YOUR PALMS**

We invite you to start bringing back your dried palms from last Palm Sunday. We will use them to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday. Containers will be at each of the doorways of the churches.

## MASK MANDATE UPDATE FROM THE DIOCESE

A reminder that masks should be worn not only when entering and exiting churches and worship spaces, but throughout the duration of the liturgy, even when seated. While we want to build places of worship that foster the welcome of all, particularly at this beautiful time of year, part of our pastoral outreach in this extraordinary time should be to ensure the safety of all of our congregants.

#### **PARISH STAFF**

#### **Pastor**

Fr. Steve Jekielek Fr.Steve@olcp.org

#### **Deacons**

Deacon Tim Maloney Deacon Steve Schumer

#### **Business Manager**

Elaine Williams

E.Williams@olcp.org

#### **Director of Music & Worship**

Brian Meyer music@olcp.org

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Diana Deck d.deck@olcp.org

#### **Sacramental Preparation**

Maureen Brown Kathleen Mulqueen

#### Weekend/Weekday Help

Fr. Robert (Bob) Hora

#### **Prayer Link**

768-4022 823-2067

#### **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 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, which consisted of men, women, and those children old enough to understand. Standing at one end of the open place that was before the Water Gate, he read out of the book from daybreak till midday, in the presence of the men, the women, and those children old enough to understand; and all the people listened attentively to the book of the law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the occasion. He opened the scroll so that all the people might see it — for he was standing higher up than any of the people —; and, as he opened it, all the people rose. Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people, their hands raised high, answered, "Amen, amen!" Then they bowed down and prostrated themselves before the LORD, their faces to the ground. Ezra read plainly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read. Then Nehemiah, that is, His Excellency, and Ezra the priest-scribe and the Levites who were instructing the people said to all the people: "Today is holy to the LORD your God. Do not be sad, and do not weep" — for all the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law. He said further: "Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared; for today is holy to our LORD. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength!"

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm** 

Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15

R/. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; The decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple. R/.

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye. R/.

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; The ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just. R/.

Let the words of my mouth and the thought of my heart find favor before you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. R/.

#### **Second Reading**

#### 1 Cor 12:12-30

Brothers and sisters: As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit. Now the body is not a single part, but many. If a foot should say, "Because I am not a hand I do not belong to the body, "it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. Or if an ear should say, "Because I am not an eye I do not belong to the body, "it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I do not need you, " nor again the head to the feet, "I do not need you." Indeed, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are all the more necessary, and those parts of the body that we consider less honorable we surround with greater honor, and our less presentable parts are treated with greater propriety, whereas our more presentable parts do not need this. But God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to a part that is without it, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the parts may have the same concern for one another. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy. Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it. Some people God has designated in the church to be, first, apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers; then, mighty deeds; then gifts of healing, assistance, administration, and varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work mighty deeds? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel

#### Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received. Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captive and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them. "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

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: May they rest in the peace of Christ.

### The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time + Order of Mass +

- Processional: Praise to You, O Christ Our... (#596)
- Gloria: Mass of Creation (#193)
- Readings and Responsorial Psalm: #1097
- Offertory: Lord, You Have the Words (#31)
- Mass Parts: Mass of Creation (#198, #199, #202)
- Communion: Christ Has No Body Now... (#760)
- Recessional: O God Beyond All Praising (#589)

#### PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

In every age, O God, you have called us to be your people, to be your Church.

In this time, we begin anew to discern the pathways that will lead us, your people, closer to you.

Continually Bless our journey as we proclaim your Good News, celebrate your saving presence among us, serve others wil charity and justice, and steward the world you have intrusted to our care.

Send your Spirit to lead and guide our Emmaus journey as we commit ourselves to the renewal of our Church.

This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### 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, 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., Jan. 22/23 - 3rd Sunday in Ord. Time

**SA** • 4:00pm

Donovan Miller (req. by the Sherk & Hayes Families)

HF • 8:30am

Sr. Patricia Collins (req. by Holy Family Alumni)

**SA** • 10:00am

People of the Parish (reg. by Fr. Steve)

**HF •** 11:30am

Frank Switalski (reg. by "Your Loving Book Club Gals")

Mon., Jan. 24 - St. Francis de Sales, Bishop

SA · 8:00am - Fr. James Fugle (req. by Fr. Steve Jekielek)

Tues., Jan. 25 - Conversion of St. Paul, Apstl.

SA • 8:00am - Sandra Thompson (req. by Barbara Lang)

Wed., Jan. 26 - SS. Timothy & Titus, Bishops

SA • 8:00am - Steve Horvath (reg. by Maryann)

Thurs., Jan. 27 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

**SA** • 8:00am - **Linda Kurcz** (req. by the Divine Mercy Prayer Group)

Fri., Jan. 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest

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

Sat./Sun., Jan. 29/30 - 4th Sunday in Ord. Time

**SA** • 4:00pm

Stanley Mann (reg. by his wife, Joan)

**HF** • 8:30am

James Coughlin, Sr. (reg. by the Mariani Family)

SA • 10:00am

**Fran Faltisco** (req. by the Buildings & Grounds Committee)

HF • 11:30am

Philip Pecoraro (req. by the Coughlin Family)

## SANCTUARY LAMPS

St. Ambrose Site (January 23-29)

Carole Blando (req. by Cathy & Tony Bevilaqua)

## ENVELOPE UPDATE

Please note: Collection envelopes have been mailed to your house. If you did not receive 2022 envelopes (and are not using WeShare), please call the office. If you are not registered and would like to join our parish community, simply stop by for a registration form or download one from our parish website. (Found on the front cover)





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