

JANUARY 29/30 2022

'...but the greatest of these is love.'
(1 Corinthians 13:13)

Our epistle this weekend is quite possibly one of the most beloved and often used pieces of scripture in the entire Bible. Commonly heard at weddings, St. Paul teaches of how love is the most important aspect of our lives by describing everything it *is* and everything it *isn't*. And while it might seem perfect for a bride and groom to hear it before making their marriage vows, one can't help but ask themselves: How am I following this outline on a daily basis no matter my vocation? How am I doing at loving?

The concept of 'love' is kind of a tricky subject because it's often based purely on raw emotion

and society tells us that love revolves primarily around romance. However, picture a familiar situation in your head:

A big winter storm is coming, and you go to the grocery store to stock up. The lines are outrageously long and the extra wait and crowds are irritating you. (Love is patient.) Since you're so irritated, you don't help the elderly woman unload her cart. (Love is kind.) And by the time you get to the cashier, you decide to take your frustration out on her.

(Love is not rude.)

Showing authentic love might not be the easiest thing, but in the end, we can all take heart knowing that love truly *never* fails.

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FROM FR. STEVE...

Dear Family,

How much do we trust God? How strong is our faith? Jeremiah, in our First Reading, was being sent on a mission as a prophet by God. God tells Jeremiah in a straightforward way that he will be rejected but that God would protect him. Jeremiah needed to have faith and hope that God would indeed do just that. And as the trials of Jeremiah's life increased, his trust in God was tested. But Jeremiah stayed strong! He continued the mission that God gave him because of his love for God and for his people. St. Paul tells us in our Second Reading today that we do not see things clearly now and that we do not have full understanding of the ways of our life. We often will question why God allows things to happen, yet we will never really understand on this side of the grave. But he tells us that we will, when we see God face to face, have full understanding of it all. We currently need to have faith and hope to sustain us. And we need to have true love of God! Faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love! And it will only be love that continues on in eternal life because faith and hope will no longer be needed since when we are in God's presence we will be beyond faith and hope. We will have true knowledge as St. Paul tells us. So, how much faith and hope do we have? Do we love God enough to trust Him in all things?

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

Father Steve

POTO GOLD GET IN IT TO WIN IT!

VIRTUAL PARTY: Saturday, March 12, 2022 (SEE PAGE 4)



Top Prize: \$10,000

(10) \$500 Prizes

Early Bird Drawings: Sweetheart Drawing (Feb. 14): \$250



ACT FAST! Tickets are \$30 each or (2) for \$50 - (Each ticket admits one to the party virtual 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. Each ticket is one chance to win.

DISCIPLES STAY ACTIVE

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Monday, January 31st

Holy Family Site

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

St. Ambrose Site

Yoga, 6:00pm, Parish Center

Tuesday, February 1st

Holy Family Site

Cub Scouts, 6:00pm, Hall

St. Ambrose Site

Buildings & Grounds, 6:00pm, Meeting Room Parish Council, 7:00pm, Meeting Room

Wednesday, February 2nd

St. Ambrose Site

Baptism Class, 6:30pm, Meeting Room

Thursday, February 3rd

Holy Family Site

Yoga, 6:00pm, Hall

St. Ambrose Site

Boy Scouts Troup #256, 6:00pm

Friday, February 4th

Holy Family Site

Community Dinner, 4:30pm, Hall

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

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 22/23, 2022

Collection: \$5,153.00 Renovation: \$294.00

Fuel: \$521.00

WeShare Dec. 2021: \$7,277.53

WeShare Ren. December 2021: \$1,290.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

THIS Weekend: Catholic Relief Services

BABY SHOWER PLANNED

February 12th & 13th

A baby shower will be held to benefit the baby ministry at St. Adalbert's Response to Love Center, & St. Gianna Molla Center the weekend of February 12-13, 2022. Wish list items are: baby cereal, jar foods (Stage 1& 2-fruits and vegetables), baby lotion, wipes, shampoo and body wash. Baby clothing, sizes 12mo.& 24mo. Toddler clothing 2T & 3T. Baby and toddler hats and mittens. Baby blankets.

They are in desperate need for diapers, newborn to size 6. There will be a box for monetary donations, each donation helps provide mothers with the items they need to care for their little ones.

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

When you are lonely, we are hope. One of the many things the pandemic has taught us is that we are social beings, and interactions with others are vital to our wellbeing. Catholic Charities programs like Friendly Phones, the Telephone Assurance Program, and Home Visitation work to keep homebound and disabled older adults socially connected with phone calls and home visits. Help continue these important social connections and extend HOPE to those who are lonely by donating to the Appeal 2022. To make a donation today, visit ccwny.org/donation or text GIVEHOPE22 to 44321. Catholic Charities of Buffalo is HOPE for All Seasons.

DEACON STEVE SCHUMER

It is with sadness that I inform you that Bishop Mike has re-assigned Deacon Steve to a different parish assignment beginning in February. Deacon Steve's ministry as CEO of Catholic Charities places a lot of demands upon his time which limited his availability to our parish. Therefore, Bishop Mike agreed to re-assign him to a place where the demands on his time would be more in line with his other responsibilities at Catholic Charities. On behalf of our parish, I thank Deacon Steve for his ministry here and wish him well in his new assignment! God Bless you Deacon Steve!!

MINISTRY NIGHT

Wednesday, February 16th, 6:30pm St. Ambrose Site

All ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, servers, and sacristans are asked to come.

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. It will be immediately after the 4:00pm Mass.. 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

"Before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." So it is with the call to ministry. We are destined for it by God before our birth. Is God calling you? 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:

February 4: MAK & Friends

February 11: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

February 18: Social Action Committee February 25: Liturgy Committee

March 4: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
March 11: 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

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 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19

The word of the LORD came to me, saying: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you. But do you gird your loins; stand up and tell them all that I command you. Be not crushed on their account, as though I would leave you crushed before them; for it is I this day who have made you a fortified city, a pillar of iron, a wall of brass, against the whole land: against Judah's kings and princes, against its priests and people. They will fight against you but not prevail over you, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17

R/. I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, and deliver me, incline your ear to me, and save me. R/.

Be my rock of refuge, a stronghold to give me safety, for you are my rock and my fortress. O my God, rescue me from the hand of the wicked. **R/.**

For you are my hope, O Lord; my trust, O God, from my youth.
On you I depend from birth; from my mother's womb you are my strength. R/.

My mouth shall declare your justice, day by day your salvation.
O God, you have taught me from my youth, and till the present I proclaim your wondrous deeds. R/.

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:31-13:13

Brothers and sisters: Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts. But I shall show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in human and angelic tongues, but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy, and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous, It is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things. At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known. So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Lk 4:21-30

Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" He said to them, "Surely you will quote me this proverb, 'Physician, cure yourself,' and say, 'Do here in your native place the things that we heard were done in Capernaum." And he said, "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place. Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. Again, there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet; yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

5

DISCIPLES PRAY TOGETHER

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

Let us remember all those who have gone before us: +Donald Dalton. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time + Order of Mass +

- Processional: Christ, Be Our Light! (#590)
- · Gloria: Mass of Creation (#193)
- Readings and Responsorial Psalm: #1103
- Offertory: God Is Love (#699)
- Mass Parts: Mass of Creation (#198, #199, #202)
- Communion: You Are Mine (#721)
- Recessional: Love Has Brought Us Here... (#969)

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

MASS INTENTIONS

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

SA • 4:00pm

Stanley Mann (req. by his wife, Joan)

HF • 8:30am

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

SA • 10:00am

Fran Faltisco (reg. by the Buildings & Grounds Committee)

HF • 11:30am

Philip Pecoraro (reg. by the Coughlin Family)

Mon., Jan. 31 - St. John Bosco, Priest

SA • 8:00am - Richard Radwan (reg. by Maryann)

Tues., Feb. 1 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

SA • 8:00am - Dorothy Davis (reg. by Ron & Dolores DuBois)

Wed., Feb. 2 - Presentation of the Lord

SA · 8:00am - Ron O'Connell (reg. by sister Audrey Rizzo & family)

Thurs., Feb. 3 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

SA · 8:00am - Joseph Kurcz (req. by his sister, Roza)

Fri., Feb. 4 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

SA · 8:00am - People of the Parish (req. by Fr. Steve)

Sat./Sun., Feb. 5/6 - 5th Sunday in Ord. Time

SA • 4:00pm

Mother's Day Intentions

HF • 8:30am

Carmen Rizzo (reg. by his wife, Audrey & family)

SA • 10:00am

Tommie Lynch (req. by his Mom & Dad)

HF • 11:30am

Teresa Kenefick Sroda (10 year Anniv., req. by the Beth & Larry Cannan)

Happy Feast of St. Agatha: Feb. 5th Patroness of Breast Cancer

Saint Agatha, blessed virgin and martyr. You are honored as the patron of breast cancer. You suffered pain and torture in your devotion to the Lord. Protect me from breast cancer and intervene before God almighty, and pray for me so that I may be cured. Heal me and comfort me, and mercifully grant me protection from all cancer. Saint Agatha, pray for me.





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