

ST. STEPHEN RC CHURCH

A Respect Life Parish

2100 BASELINE RD., GRAND ISLAND NY 14072

716.773.7647 / STSTEPHENSWNY.COM

PARISH & CEMETERY OFFICE

773-7647 Opt#1

Fax 773-5792

Business Administrator -

Karen Sweet / Ext. 104

businessmgr@ststephengi.com

Sandra Beyer Ext. 101

Lori Lenz Ext. 114

CLERGY

Pastoral Admin. -

Rev. Raymond G. Corbin

Frrayssp@gmail.com

Chaplain-Roswell Park

Comprehensive

Cancer Center Office of

Pastoral Care:

845-8051

Parochial Vicar - Fr. Chris

Emminger Ext. 107

Frchrisemminger@gmail.com

Deacon Frank Kedzielawa

773-3364

Deacon Tom Sutton 329-2292

Sr. Sharon Anne Radice

OSF

Ext. 103

TRUSTEES

Carl Walbert 773-2518

Richard Sander 773-3929

RISING

3 January 2021

PARISH SCHOOL PK3 – GR 8

www.ststephengi.org 773-7647 Opt#2

Fax 773-1438

Principal - Lynn Ortiz

Ext 119 ortizl@ststephengi.org

Maintenance -

Michael McNamee Ext. 127

MUSIC

Director-

Max Mauro Ext#126

Contemporary Ensemble -

Patrick Johnson - 491-7049

FAITH FORMATION

Coordinator -

Rebecca Cambria - Ext

#122

Admin Asst. Denise Ricotta

- Ext.117

MASS SCHEDULE Saturday~ 4:30pm (Organ/ Piano) Sunday~ 7:30am (Organ), 9:00am (Choir) 11:00am (Contemporary Ensemble)

DAILY MASS Monday to Friday~8:00am *Holy Days: Check Bulletin or Website

PARISH MEMBERSHIP New parishioners can register online or stop at the rectory for more information.

WEDDINGS Arrangements must be made with a parish priest no less than six months before the wedding. Pre-marriage preparation is required.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND Call the rectory to make arrangements for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or to have Holy Communion brought to the home. A Communal Anointing of The Sick is held on the last Friday of each month at the 8:00am Mass.

BAPTISMS Please call the parish deacons to arrange a baptism. Parents must be registered parishioners. Baptisms may be scheduled during any weekend Masses or privately. Parents must attend a one-time preparation class which is offered monthly. Deacon Frank Kedzielawa: Frank@amklawyers.com 773-3364 Deacon Tom Sutton:Deacontoms2020@gmail.com 329-2292

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)Saturday: 3:00–4:00 or anytime by appointment. Reconciliation Room is in the daily Mass chapel.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 4~*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

8:00am~ Jack & Samuel Schaefer

Tuesday, January 5~*St. John Neuman*

8:00am~ In Memory of Stephanie & Grace
(Panepinto Family)

Wednesday, January 6~ *Christmas Weekday*

8:00am~ Florence A. Kearns
(MAJ. & Mrs. Stephen Skibinski)

Thursday, January 7~ *Christmas Weekday*

8:00am~ Marie Nuttle (The Oldman Family)

Friday, January 8~*Christmas Weekday*

8:00am~ Ann Marie Bauer (John & Judy Bauer)

Saturday, January 9~*Christmas Weekday*

4:30pm~ Matthew Hamm Johnson (Dinsmore Family)
Don Scalise (Sandy Caffery & Leslie Dumas)

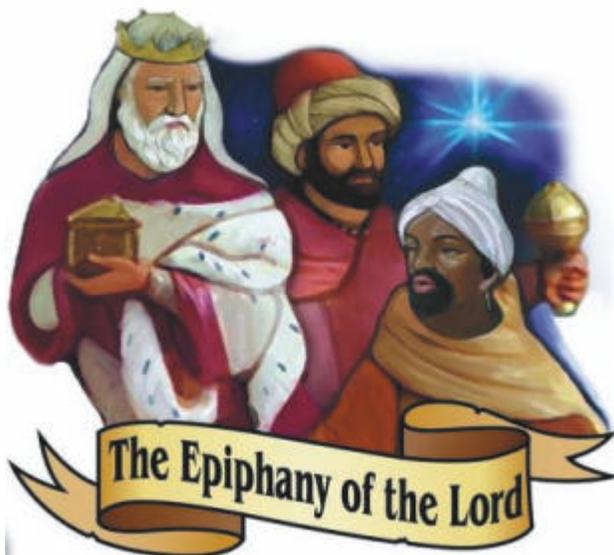
Sunday, January 10~**Baptism of the Lord**

7:30am~ Col. Stephen S. Skibinski
(MAJ. & Mrs. Stephen Skibinski)

9:00am~ Rita Moscoe (Husband)
Mary LaPorta (John & Diane Meka)

11:00am~ Aldo D'Alessandro (Family)
Chuck Hayes (Carl LaRock)

2020 Year End Contribution Statements can be emailed to you or snail mailed - call the parish office, 773.7647



**GOLD
FRANKINCENSE
MYRRH**



Readings for the Week

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-1

Epiphany OF THE LORD

“Where is that thing?” mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. “I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!” Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, “Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear.” The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

“And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.” The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God’s tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God’s salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God’s healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!



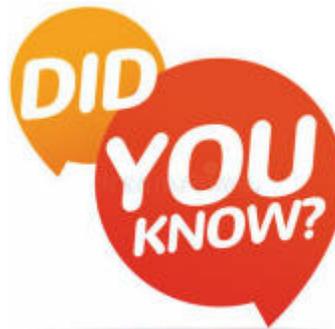
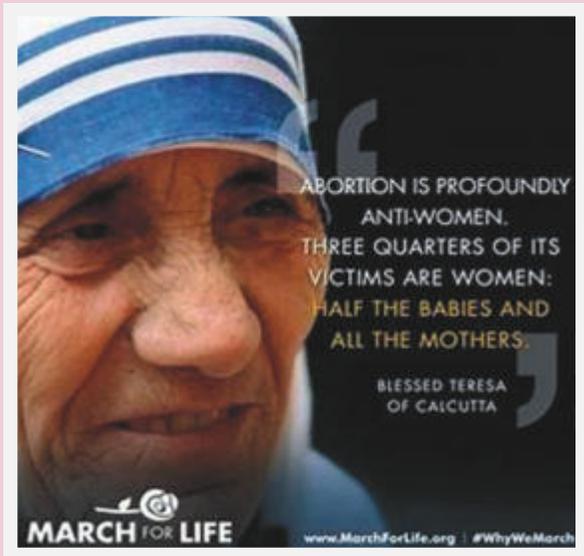
REMEMBER
in your prayers

Ann Hegarty † Lou Macro † Kevin Beyer Jr. † Pat Fitzgerald, † Susanne McMahon
Megan Johnson Brett Lombardo † Richard Pyc † Linda, Lisa, Jacinta & Gianna
Morinello † Frank Costanzo † Bethany Dzielski † Olga Demicke † Bill Ortiz † Fr.
Dan Fiebelkorn † Eveylen Strobel † Brian Fitzpatrick † Sandy Caffery †

Dorothy Jourdain † Bill Appenzeller † Deanna N. Pavone † Denise N. Baker † Dorothy Lew † Don Bartus † Francis Roman
Robert Depew † Maria DelSignore † Luann Moliterno And the Deceased.....

RESPECT LIFE NEWS

Respect Life Committee meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM. Questions? Call Mark or Kathy (773-5726). We welcome new members for our committee! Please call Kathy or Mark for meeting location until we are again able to meet at the church.



YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION TO THE ST. STEPHEN RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE SIMPLY BY RETURNING YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS. IT'S EASY!! SIMPLY TAKE YOUR EMPTIES TO BOTTLE

JUNCTION ON GRAND ISLAND BLVD. AND TELL THEM YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CASH RETURN DEPOSITED TO THE ST. STEPHEN RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE. IT IS A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY.



GENERATIONS IN

Faith FORMATION

NOTICE! The First Communion Parent Meeting scheduled for 1/5/21 has been postponed. The First Reconciliation Family Retreat scheduled for 1/9/21 has been postponed.

Materials are still available at the Faith Formation Office for those families that are beginning their formation at home. Please contact us anytime.



SCHOOL NEWS

The St. Stephen's National Junior Honor Society would like to thank everyone who donated socks to the sock drive for Buffalo City Mission. We were able to donate over 100 pairs of socks to those in need this holiday season!

The lower grade levels learned about Las Posadas in Spanish. It's a 9 day Christmas celebration that leads right up to Christmas day and it celebrates the pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. It also has a song and procession that goes along with it!



HOLY NAME SOCIETY

of St. Stephen Parish

Meeting - The next prescheduled, monthly meeting (for officers and key members only) is on Sunday, January 10, in the Community Room (Library), following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. The meeting may be cancelled or postponed without further notice

Membership - Renewals and new memberships will be accepted through calendar year 2021. Please forward your \$10 dues with name, address, phone number, and e-mail address, in an envelope marked 'Holy Name Society', through the weekend collection or the rectory office.

Please Welcome OUR NEW MEMBERS

The Parish welcomes:

Mr. Fred Korhummel

Mr. Andrew Lang

Mrs. Nancy Ortiz & Daughter

Mrs. Marla Price

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Valera & Children

STEWARDSHIP

A purple icon of a cross with rays emanating from it, and two figures standing at its base.

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



This year we invite you to take part in an old tradition of “chalking the door” to celebrate the Epiphany, the day that marks the arrival of the magi, to the place where Jesus was born!

What is “Chalking the Door” ?

“Chalking the door” is a sign and symbol of asking **God’s** blessing upon those who live, work, or visit throughout the coming year. In Exodus, the Israelites marked their doors with blood so that the Lord would pass over their homes; but in this service, we mark our doors with chalk as a sign that we have invited **God’s** presence and blessing into our homes.

In Deuteronomy 6:9 God tells the people of Israel: “These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house... You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” Chalking the door is a tangible way to honor God in our lives.

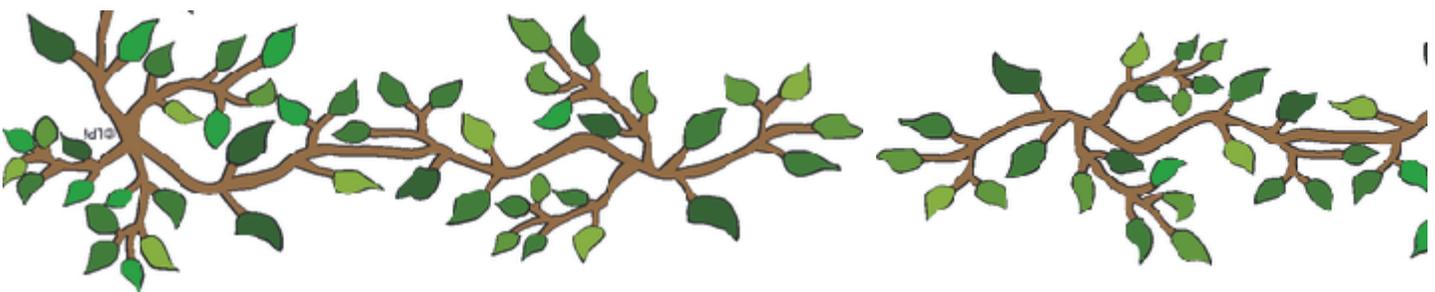
How to Participate

Using chalk, write on the outside of your house or inside above the front main entrance, above or next to an entrance: +20 Christus Mansionem Benedicat 18+ or +20 C M B 20+

Pray: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live here and all who visit. May we be blessed with health, kindness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+20 C M B 20+

The letters C M B come from the traditional names for the three kings: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. It is also an abbreviation for “Christus Mansionem Benedicat” which means, “May Christ bless this dwelling!” The first and last numbers simply refer to the current year.





Additional 2020

Christmas Flowers

Stevenson, William P. Faber, Edward & Rita

Stevenson, Charlene Burns, Jack & Marian

Scoma, Barbara

McRae, Serch & Iola

Additional CHRISTMAS INTENTIONS

BAUMAN, Deceased Family Members;

Deceased Members of Pfohl Family (Peggy Bauman)

GOSS, John (Fallon Family)

ALLEN, Robert B. Family; Alexander J. Tolejko Family

(David & Mary Tolejko)

BULKA, Deceased Family Members; Deceased Members of Klock Family

(Paul & Jo Klock)



The Search from FORMED is an innovative video-based journey that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from the fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence. Watch the trailer here and use it for promoting The Search in your parish. It's easy for any parish that subscribes to FORMED to be part of this exciting journey. The entire seven-part series is available to parishes and their parishioners for free at www.formed.org. Parishes can promote The Search among their parishioners and in the broader local community, inviting individuals to join small-group studies—in person or virtual—to watch and discuss The Search. Ready to get started? Here's a suggested plan for the launch of The Search in your parish. A 2021 Model Schedule for The Search: Week of January 3: Episode 1—What Do You Seek?



Why Do We Do That? *Catholic Life Explained:*

Question:

What is the difference between a chastisement and a punishment?

Answer:

The distinction between chastisement and punishment is, in many ways, a subtle one, but which is still relevant in our Catholic tradition.

First, chastisement is a concept that is grounded in Sacred Scripture. Here, we see chastisement as a response by God to people's actions that is intended to teach a lesson. As St. John Paul II observed, "chastisement appears to be ... a kind of divine pedagogy, in which the last word is reserved to mercy: He scourges and then shows mercy, casts down to the depths of the nether world, and he brings up from the great abyss" (Tobit 13:2). The idea here is that in order to capture our attention or to highlight how we have not lived out our covenant-relationship with God as we should, there are times when God uses events in life to draw us back to the quality of relationship or faith that we should have.

The concept of punishment, however, has a different sense. The Catechism of the Church observes that punishment is the consequence of a damaging action that "has the primary aim of redressing the disorder" and to protect the community and the common good from further damage or harm (see no. 2266). Although we always hope that someone who is being punished for a crime or some other harmful action will learn from their actions, punishment isn't necessarily intended to teach a lesson in the same way that a chastisement is.

Ultimately, how we make the distinction between chastisement and punishment is a matter of discernment. As with almost everything in life, our experiences can be an opportunity for grace — or for something less — depending on how open we are to recognizing the movement of God's Spirit within them.

"A" Best, Inc. In Business over 65 Years

Get the 'Best' because we fix the rest!

- Roofing ◆ Insured
- Siding ◆ AND LICENSED
- Windows ◆ Quality
- Additions ◆ WORK WARRANTY
- Remodeling ◆ Award
- Builders ◆ WINNING PROJECTS

716.692.4517

James E. Grace Funeral Home

335 Ontario St. • Buffalo
877-5079

ADAMS DOOR COMPANY INC.

Garage Doors • Service & Repair • Free Estimates
232 Sawyer Ave. • Tonawanda
895-9245
www.adamsdoorcompany.com

FRONTIER GLASS

Auto • Home • Business
Fast Insurance Claims
1676 Niagara Falls Blvd.
835-4402
Island Owned & Operated Parishioner

THE BEACH HOUSE RESTAURANT

• Dinner Specials • Lunch Specials
• Children's Menu • Late Night Snacks
• Our Famous Fish Fry is served each Wed., Thurs. & Fri. from 11 am
5584 E. River Rd. 773-7119



2140 Grand Island Blvd.
775-1138
GREAT PLACE TO WORK & SHOP!

LACROSS MONUMENTS

2609 GENESEE ST. • 896-4654
MONUMENTS • MARKERS
GRANITE VASES • CEMETERY LETTERING
STATUARY • PLAQUES
GRANITE BENCHES
SHRINES • WALKWAYS



2271 Grand Island Blvd. • Grand Island
775-3400
www.islandpediatrics.com

Fichte Endl & Elmer Eyecare

1-800-309-2020
Accepting New Patients
www.fichte.com

Just Right HEATING & COOLING

Joel Suppa
Call 773-HVAC
call or text 863-2148
1879 WHITEHAVEN RD #130
GRAND ISLAND, NY 14072
JOEL@JUSTRIGHTGI.COM



Dr. Adrienne Manzo Cassata
1780 Grand Island Blvd.

Eye Care for the Entire Family!

- Routine and Medical eye exams for patients of all ages
- Eyeglasses and contact lenses
- The latest lines of sunglasses
- Frames for every budget
- Anti-fog options for lenses
- Accepting most insurance plans

Try on frames at home with our online eyeglass gallery!

Book your appointment to see better today!

775-2220 • GiFamilyEyecare.com

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.
Buy a bulletin ad space today!

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

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

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact Chris Reeves to place an ad today!
CReeves@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6206

SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com



WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES



- Full Time Position with Benefits
 - Sales Experience Preferred
 - Paid Training
 - Overnight Travel Required
 - Expense Reimbursement
- CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers



Kaiser Funeral Home

1950 Whitehaven Road

Medicaid Trust Accounts • Pre-Need Consultation



Ross A. Kaiser

773-3433

DENTAL CARE ASSOCIATES
716-297-1644
www.dentalcareassociates.com

MARTY'S TOWING
1741 Baseline Rd., Grand Island
Auto Repairs • Towing
Road Service • Recovery • Collision
773-3515
24 Hours • 7 Days a Week

PROVIDING THE BEST REHAB SERVICES.
SO YOU CAN GET HOME, FASTER
After surgery, you need the right place for short-term rehab.

2850 Grand Island Blvd. • 773-5900

Call Linda to buy or sell your Island Home!
Linda M Kutzbach
Licensed RE Associate Broker
www.LindasIslandOfHomes.com

NIAGARA MONUMENTS WORKS

Monuments - Statues
Markers - Bronze Markers
Low Discount Prices
Largest showroom in WNY
M-F 9-5; Sat 10-2
285-4318
4801 Hyde Park Blvd, Niag. Falls

Pain Relief & Wellness for Life

ACCESS PHYSICAL THERAPY
A PERSONALIZED APPROACH TO YOUR WELL-BEING
Niagara Falls • 284-4474
Enrico Frosolone - PT/ATC • Mark Nearhood - PT/DPT

Acetis Wine & Spirits

Hours:
Monday-Saturday: 9:00am-10:00pm
Sunday: Noon-9:00pm

"Enjoy the Experience of Grand Islands Finest"
Tops Plaza
2156 Grand Island Blvd. • Grand Island, NY
773-WINE (9463)
www.AcetisWineandSpirits.com

628-1719
Direct
773-2573
Office
Parishioner
Each Office Independently owned and operated

State Farm
Piatek Insurance Agency Inc.

Bob Piatek
LUTCF, Agent
37 Year Parishioner

1837 Whitehaven Road
773-2300
piatekinsurance.com

773-4861 SALES@SAMLONGS
LANDSCAPING.COM

Blank advertisement space.

TARSHUS LAW FIRM

- Want to start a new business?
- Need a lawyer to review your contract or business document?

Give Andrea a Call!
GRAND ISLAND RESIDENT **716-745-6225**

"Here's something to smile about!"
1771 Love Road • 775-0333
www.saycheesepizza.com

Gross Plumbing & Heating

John Gross Master Plumber 255-0554 • Jonathan Gross 545-7719
Sewer Cleaning, Excavation, Waterproofing,
Hot Water Tanks, Remodeling, 7 Day a week service
Serving Niagara & Erie County for over 50 years • 2104 Niagara St., Niagara Falls

CHRISTINE A. LEARMAN, CPA, PC
1763 Baseline Rd., Ste. 110
Grand Island, NY 14072
773-7265
www.chrislearmancpa.com

RICHARDSON AUTO REPAIR
8652 Buffalo Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
283-2765
www.richardsonautorepair.com

PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM

\$29.95/MO PLUS SPECIAL OFFER
BILLED QUARTERLY
CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772
WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

DOUBLE D CONSTRUCTION
Licensed Plumbing
SEWER CLEANING
SEWER,
WATER LINES &
SEPTIC SYSTEMS
Installed or Repaired
773-1642
Owned & Operated By
Dan Drexelius

Blank advertisement space.

Busch Floor Company
"First Class Service and Quality Since 1923"
Wall to Wall Carpeting • Tile • Linoleum
Ceramic • Hardwood • Laminate • Blinds
Commercial • Residential
2727 Elmwood Avenue • Kenmore, NY 14217
Parishioner **875-2602**

Too Sick for Mass?
SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!
Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
www.parishesonline.com