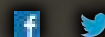


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Fr. Creagh named
to new position
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JULY 2020



Open wide
the doors to Christ

see pages ??-??

Diocese holds rally: 'Stand Up, Speak Out Against Racism'

By Patrick J. Buechi
Staff Reporter

As a response to the death of George Floyd and the emotional uproar that followed, Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger along with representatives from Catholic Relief Services, the diocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities and Catholic Charities held a Speak Out Against Racism rally on June 16 in front of the Catholic Center from downtown Buffalo.

Floyd, a black Minneapolis man, died when a police officer knelt on his neck for nearly nine minutes, long after the man went limp.

Deacon Don Weigel, diocesan director of Catholic Relief Services, who served as MC for the event, said that just not being racist ourselves is not enough, we must work against racism for the common good.

"We gather together in a peaceful and prayerful opportunity to stand up for justice and to speak out against racism," Deacon Weigel said. "We gather in solidarity with all who are oppressed and have had their voices silenced by all types of violence. As we begin our prayer we must examine our own conscience for the times we have let racism take root in our conversations, in our lives, and in our nation through our own commission or omission of sin from doing what is right; not only the sin we have participated in, but the sin of those who have come before us, those inside the church and outside the church."

Sister Mary McCarrick, OSF, the recently named chief operating officer of the Buffalo Diocese, led the crowd of over 50 priests, religious sisters and laity in a reading of the Beatitudes before introducing Bishop Scharfenberger.

"What we're doing today is not just witnessing to injustices that we're against, but also witnessing to the peace and the love that we are for," the bishop said. "This is not just peace and love in some vague sense. It's very, very personal because we know our

salvation history – and this goes back to our Jewish roots – shows a God that constantly, constantly reaches out to human beings who are broken, who have sinned. But, God reacts not with resentment, not with fury, but with love, with healing. It is the same God that we are the sons and daughters of. There is a divine spark in each and every one of us, whether you can all see it or not."

The bishop then asked in simple terms, "Are you good news or bad news?"

"I'm looking for the good news. I want to spread the good news. There's a lot of bad news around. You may say, 'Well, it's hard to find.' You know what the good news is? It comes in the passage that follows the Beatitudes. If you go to your Bible, right after that you'll see Jesus is telling us, 'You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world.' If salt loses its strength, it's useless, it can't do anything. You are the light of the world. You don't hide a light under a bushel basket, but you set it on the table to give light to the world. So, what's the message? First of all, accept being accepted. We're not perfect. We've all done things that we're embarrassed about or ashamed about. We can't change the past, but we can change right now."

The bishop pointed to a sign that said, "Change me first, Lord. Then let me be part of the change."

The USCCB issued a pastoral letter against racism in 2018. "Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love," asks that the individual God-given rights of all people be respected.

"If we're going to tackle institutional racism, we're going to tackle the stereotypes that people are judged or valued or devalued because of their status," the bishop continued. "It's going to have to start from changing the human heart. Gandhi understood that very well. Dr. King understood that very well. Jesus lived His life by the way He reached out to every human being regardless of what their



DAN CAPPELLAZZO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bishop Edward Scharfenberger, apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Buffalo, speaks to a crowd about the power of prayer and love to help the current state of social unrest.

status was. As a matter of fact, most of the times He got in trouble was because of the people He hung out with. And who did Jesus hang out with? Us. A lot of sinners, a lot of imperfect people, a lot of people who did not have status, whether that was lepers, whether that was republicans, tax collectors or even prostitutes. Jesus did not see any human being as beneath God's love. He did not see any human being as beneath the dignity of a son or daughter of God. That is the way we are called, each and every one of us, to act with justice is to treat each and every human being not only as an equal, but as a son or daughter of God."

Cheryl Calire, diocesan director for Pro-Life Activities, now oversees the Office of Cultural Diversity, which offers outreach into African, African-American and Hispanic/Latino communities and migrant ministries. She lives in a multiethnic neighborhood and knows that "Love thy neighbor" is easier said than done, but must be done for the good of all.

"At the end of the day, when we love one another, we act out of love and charity. If we act out of love and charity, beautiful things not only happen to us, but they happen

to the people who receive them. But it's based on a very simple principle. It's how we act and how we react to things that we disagree on," she said.

Deacon Steve Schumer, president and CEO of Catholic Charities of Buffalo, offered a prayer to close out the rally.

"Lord Jesus, today as we are faced once again with the division and strife caused by the sin of racism, we join our voices to your voice and we pray that all of us become one – black and white, yellow and brown, young and old, near and far; that all of us feel as one – loved not feared, safe not insecure, valued not scorn, uplifted not beaten down; that all of us work as one, not to tear down but to build up, not only to stop violence, but also to promote justice, not only to restore order, but also to ensure justice; not to favor a few but to defend the dignity and rights of all. May we all be one. May we recognize all as one family."

In a final gesture of solidarity, the group that had gathered pledged to be consciously inclusive of all individuals, affirm the gift of diversity, and promote understanding and mutual respect.

Pastors, parishioners full of joy as churches reopen

By Patrick J. Buechi
Staff Reporter

The locks are off, the doors are open, and people are once again welcome to enjoy a full Mass inside their church. In a quick turnaround, houses of worship were allowed to open during phase 2 of the post COVID reopenings, instead of phase 4 as originally planned.

On June 6, houses of worship were allowed to open to 25 percent of their capacity. The Diocese of Buffalo had already been working on guidelines for parishes once the churches did reopen. Churches had already been opening their doors to adoration and private prayer. Some had even experimented with outside Masses, either on the lawn or in the parking lot, with worshippers remaining in their cars.

"Mass is going fantastic. It's so good to see people back in the pews," said Father David Richards, administrator of Our Lady of Pompeii Parish, shortly after reopening.

The first Sunday after the announcement restoring Masses, the parish held an outdoor Mass in its parking lot, allowing parishioners to bring lawn chairs and spread out. Close to 400 people attended the service, which used volunteers to guide people through Communion procession.

Inside the church, two-thirds of the pews are now blocked off with tape, masks are required, and hand sanitizer is used before and after Communion. The Lancaster parish saw 27 people on their first daily Mass, which is average for morning worship.

"We've changed how people process forward for reception of Holy Communion," explained Betsy Amico, director of Pastoral Ministry and Youth Ministry. "Instead of shoulder to shoulder down the center aisle, they're approaching the eucharistic minister up the side aisle, then alternating coming back down the center aisle to reenter their pews."

People planning on attending Sunday services will need to call ahead to make reservations. Pews will be assigned to abide by social distancing and the 25 percent capacity guidelines.

"So, we have like a reservation in a restaurant. On Saturday or Sunday, we'll have someone leading them. 'OK, the Blair family, 10 people? We're going to pew number four. Everything has been put into place with that type of system,'" said Father Richards.

This weekend, Our Lady of Pompeii will celebrate Masses at their usual times, but will maintain the 10 a.m. streaming daily Mass that it began at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Tonawanda returned to the traditional indoor Mass on Sunday, June 7 at 7:30 a.m., the day after the announcement.



DAN CAPPELLAZZO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Father Jim Cunningham celebrates the 9:30 a.m. reopening Mass at St. Teresa as PCV markers, placed six feet apart, were constructed by the St. Teresa support staff, cordoned off pews to make a safe environment for public prayer.

"Attendance was kind of low, partially because it was such a last-minute announcement," said Father Matt Nycz, pastor. "Almost nobody knew about it. The announcement came out Saturday and, of course, there was no way to notify people easily."

The parish taped off two-thirds of its pews to accommodate social distancing guidelines. Father Nycz does not expect the church to exceed the 25 percent cap within the next few weeks.

"People are afraid and still kind of uncertain," he said. "To bring people back there's going to be some readjustment. Perception of safety, I think that's the key."

The parish has also been conducting Masses outdoors while the church itself was being prepared. "They loved it. We're doing it again this Corpus Christi Sunday," he said. One of the benefits of outdoor Masses is that there are no capacity limits. "People enjoy the outdoors. Plus, they're going to get some vitamin D from the sun."

St. Teresa Parish in Buffalo saw 25 people at its first Mass Wednesday, June 10. "It went extremely well with no hitches whatsoever," said Father James Cunningham, pastor.

Along with the now standard masks and hand sanitizer stations, the parish has only one Communion line. "We have white stands that my maintenance men have built that we put in the main aisle six feet apart, so they know to stand

by each of those stands," Father Cunningham explained.

Father Cunningham is very happy about having his parishioners back.

"It's nice to be celebrating Mass with the public. As I said in my mailouts to them, we are a parish family, so today I stressed the fact that it's nice to have the family back and to be together again," he said.

Father Benjamin Fiore, SJ, pastor for St. Michael Parish in Buffalo, claims the Jesuit-run parish is bringing in standard numbers – 30 at morning Mass, 40 at noon, and 30 at 5 p.m.

"We have steady confessions. People know us for that and they have been coming regularly in good numbers for the confessions," he said. "It's going very smoothly. I'm very surprised. The people know the social distancing, so we don't have much of a problem there. We have a ton of room, so there isn't a problem with that either."

To keep things even safer, only the main celebrant has been allowed in the sanctuary. No lectors or concelebrants have been allowed so far.

"We haven't had anyone on the altar except the main celebrant for this week, just to get used to things," Father Fiore said. "Then next week we'll probably start with our lectors and maybe eucharistic ministers, but we're not having any of them during this first week of opening."

See Faithful page 4



DAN CAPPELLAZZO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Father Peter Calabrese celebrates the first Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, Youngstown, since the limitation of public gatherings was ordered by New York state in late March. Parishioners celebrated Mass at a safe distance from each other wearing face coverings.

Our lady of Fatima Shrine opens doors to pilgrims

By Dan Cappellazzo
Staff Photographer

Rays of sun shone through the domed basilica with its contour of the Northern Hemisphere of the globe that makes up the ceiling of Niagara County's iconic Fatima Shrine as Father Peter Calabrese, provincial vicar for the Barnabite Fathers USA, opened its doors on Saturday, June 13, for a Mass that signaled the beginning of a return of public worship.

Parishioners wore face masks and took their places in the pews at a safe distance from each other, following Diocese of Buffalo and New York state recommendations for public prayer. Attendees at the later afternoon Mass relished the opportunity to once again open their hearts in communal prayer and to receive the Holy Sacrament of

Communion.

Father Calabrese, who in a statement a month earlier on the anniversary of the Marian apparitions of May 13, 1917, in Fatima, Portugal, said, "We are sad we cannot have a beautiful anniversary celebration today, but you are in our prayers. The basilica is open for private prayer. If you come to visit and pray use a mask or face covering when in the basilica and respect social distancing for the safety of any pilgrims who do come. Mary said, 'My Immaculate Heart will triumph.'"

Visibly joyful, Father Calabrese welcomed parishioners back to worship in the house of God and spoke of Jesus who when asked which of all the commandments was the greatest, replied, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all

your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment."

Since 1954, Our Lady of Fatima Shrine has become a place of natural beauty, art, communal prayer and renewal to thousands who visit the unique buildings and grounds each year. Located in the beautiful Lower Niagara River Region of Western New York, the shrine has become a place of renewal to thousands who visit the unique buildings and grounds each year. The magnificence and natural beauty of the shrine is highlighted by an awe-inspiring domed basilica covered with two layers of glass and Plexiglas, designed with an image of the Northern Hemisphere.

The impressive approach to the basilica is down the Avenue of the Saints, where over 130 life-size marble and bronze statues represent saints

from every race and walk of life. A Rosary Pool sits in front of the basilica.

Two flights of stairs, with 63 steps, lead to the top of the dome, where, in graceful majesty, stands a huge statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The statue, carved from Vermont granite, is 13 feet high and weighs 10 tons. From the top of the dome, visitors can view the entire shrine grounds and surrounding countryside.

The Fatima Shrine has returned to their regular Mass schedule: Monday-Saturday: 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.,

Sundays: 9 a.m., 12 noon, and 5 p.m.

The cafeteria will be open Fridays only for fish fry takeout; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Office and Gift Shop will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The July healing Masses scheduled for July 4-5 have been cancelled.

Faithful overjoyed to receive the Eucharist again

From page 3

After the 12:10 p.m. Mass, visitors emptied into the parking lot with smiles behind their masks.

"We usually come here for confession and with confessions and Masses opening up again, this has been our first opportunity to receive the sacrament of confession before going to Mass," said Dennis Weiss, who brought his wife to St. Michael's shortly

after it reopened.

"Mass was beautiful after no having been to Mass for three months. It was different, definitely different, but it was a good spiritual experience to be able to go," added Mary Jo Weiss. "We've been watching either the televised Mass on TV or the online Masses from various different churches. Some local, some not local. But it was just so nice to

receive the Body of Christ again."

Margaret Mancinelli was overjoyed to be able to receive the Eucharist once more.

"I am so blessed. I've been here every day for adoration with no Eucharist, and I've been crying all week. Since I can receive the Blessed Sacrament again, it's a wonderful thing. I hope more people come back to God now," she said.

Father Mack has found his liver donor, transplant surgery held June 30

By Patrick J. Buechi
Staff Reporter

In January, the *Western New York Catholic* reported that Father John Mack, longtime theology professor at Christ the King Seminary, was in need of a live liver donor. On June 30, he received his new liver from one of his former parishioners.

The 66-year-old priest spoke from his family home in Rochester just a couple of weeks before his surgery. At that time, he was getting his paper work done, moving out of Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, and struggling with a cirrhosis-caused weakness. "I don't have the strength to do anything," he said, explaining that his liver cannot process proteins causing him to lose 15 pounds of muscle just in the past three months.

Live liver transplant surgery is uncommon. Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, where Father Mack is having his surgery, does only a dozen or so of these operations a year. A lobe of liver from a healthy donor is removed and attached to the diseased liver of the recipient. Both lobes will regenerate to close their original size.

Diagnosed in 2014 with nonalcoholic steatohepatitis or NASH, which led to cirrhosis, the doctors at Strong Memorial Hospital told Father Mack his best chance for survival would be a live liver donor. The living livers are going to the people with non-alcoholic cirrhosis. Alcoholics have to stop drinking for a period of time until the doctors will even discuss transplant.

"The NASH people, we're the growing number now, because we're usually healthy enough to receive a living liver donation," Father Mack explained. "When I went on the transplant list, they were honest. They said, we want this sooner rather than later. I was approved late October. They said, a year from now, you're not going to be as healthy as you are right now."

In October, Father Mack, who enjoys Facebook, began working with a team of "champions" to get the word out about this need for a liver.

"The Tuesday before Memorial Day I received a call from the living liver



FILE PHOTO

Father John P. Mack Jr. has been matched with a life saving liver transplant and had surgery June 30.

donor transplant coordinator, who, when I went on the waiting list said, 'You're never going to hear from me again until you have a donor approved.' So, the coordinator said, 'We have a donor approved and it's about 95 percent.'"

The transplant staff at Strong started setting up the pre-op preparation, saying, "We think this is going to work."

One unique fact about the donor is Father Mack met her in early June. Donors are not always identified to the recipient.

"They're getting more and more what they call altruistic donations in which the donor wants to be absolutely anonymous to the recipient. That's not the case," Father Mack said. It turns out she is a parishioner of St. Andrew's in Kenmore, where Father Mack served as pastor from 2006 to 2008.

Nancy, who asked that we do not reveal her last name, had signed up to donate her organs upon her death. She was scrolling through Facebook just before Christmas when she saw a story on Father Mack's need for a liver. She fit the five listed criteria for being a live donor – right body type, blood type, age and good overall health – but expected to be rejected. She called Strong anyway.

"This is where I believe that prayers for Father Mack had some sort of power of intervention, because I made the call," she said.

Strong asked Nancy to fill out paperwork covering everything from her medication history to her heritage. Then she took part in three days of testing and meetings with doctors, advocates and other team members. She still expected to be rejected.

She followed through for the simple reason that, "The world needs a little more good in it."

"It came to the point that, if you can do the thing and the world need more good especially now, would you do the thing?" she said in explaining her decision. "I couldn't do it five years ago when my kids were younger. I probably can't do it in five years when my mom is older or I might have grandkids and I would be needed in a different capacity."

Although she had spoken briefly to Father Mack back at St. Andrew's when he was pastor, she didn't know that much about him as a person.

"I thought, I want to do this thing now, but what if he's actually a jerk in real life. So, I started secretly stalking him on Facebook," she said. "It turns out he is exactly the kind of person I would want to give a second chance to."

The surgery would have happened a lot earlier, but the COVID-19 pandemic put a stop to elective surgeries. This will be the first post-COVID transplant Strong Memorial has done. In May, when they were allowed to do elective surgeries, they started gearing up. And none too soon either.

Father Mack went into the hospital on Memorial Day weekend very sick. "Everything was off," he said. He received two units of blood and had fluid drained from his abdomen. That's when he received his surgery and recovering schedule.

The recovery will involve several day in ICU, followed by several days in a step down unit at Strong. After surgery, he will be immune suppressed. The coronavirus could be deadly to him. So, he will be social distancing and using a mask for the foreseeable future. To avoid COVID-19 from coming into the hospital, visitors will not be permitted.

"Basically, I'm going to face this by myself," he said.

He could be in the hospital anywhere from seven to 14 days. Then he'll return to his home in Rochester, where some friends will keep an eye on him. He cannot be alone in the first two weeks.

After a month, the surgical staples will be removed and he will be weaned off his pain meds. It will take the liver six to eight weeks to regrow, meaning the donor will be out of work for close to three months.

With his role at CKS over, Father Mack will have no assignment during his recovery.

He hopes to return to Immaculate Conception Parish in East Aurora where he has been helping with weekend Masses.

"I haven't said a public Mass since the middle of March. I miss it. I miss the people. I miss the parish. I miss the Eucharist," he said, adding, "Part of my ministry in the future will be as a support, as an information person, and as somebody to accompany those who are going through the some of the same thing I went through. Because there were times when I felt very alone because I don't know anyone else with cirrhosis."

Father Kevin Creagh, CM, appointed to new position as Vicar for Evangelization and Ministerial Formation

Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger has appointed Father Kevin Creagh, CM, to the newly created position of vicar for Evangelization and Ministerial Formation. Father Creagh, who has served as president/rector of Christ the King Seminary for the past year, has a long history in education and formation.

"Father Kevin's zeal for cultivating and nurturing the call experienced by so many to devote their lives to priestly ministry is well known," said Bishop Scharfenberger in his announcement.

In this expanded role, Father Creagh and his team, which includes Vocation director Father Andrew Lauricella and permanent diaconate director Deacon Timothy Criswell, will collaborate with theologates, diocesan offices and parish leadership to oversee the priestly, diaconate and lay ministerial formation processes, while working to foster a vibrant culture of ministerial formation, vocations awareness, leadership development, and mission advancement for the 21st-century Church in the Diocese of Buffalo.

With regard to the essential mission of evangelization, Father Creagh and his team will be reinforcing successful models of parish and family evangelization and ministry while developing new strategies to advance discipleship and faith development, parish leadership and planning, stewardship, vocational awareness and social justice programs to address the needs of underserved communities and those who have been marginalized. More specifically, with respect to ministerial formation for clergy and laity, Father Creagh will oversee vocational development of clergy, lay ecclesial ministry development, and the ongoing formation of newly ordained priests.

Bishop Scharfenberger said in the announcement that Covid-19 pandemic has "created a new sense of urgency, as well as a clear opportunity to work more collaboratively and to assert our essential, shared mission of evangelization and service, especially to those most in need."

Father Creagh is a native of Queens. After high school he served in the United States Marine Corp and then enrolled at St. John's University in Queens receiving a bachelor of science degree in 1991. While at St. John's, he met the Vincentian Community and later entered the Vincentian seminary formation earning two master's degrees from the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington. He later earned a professional diploma in administration and instructional leadership at St. John's University, and then a



FILE PHOTO

Father Kevin G. Creagh, has been appointed to the position of Vicar for Evangelization and Ministerial Formation. Father Creagh had served as president-rector of Christ the King Seminary.

doctoral degree in higher education management at the University of Pennsylvania.

After ordination in 1996, Father Creagh was assigned to Niagara University as campus minister and lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies. He then spent time in Taiwan

as a missionary before returning to St. John's University as an administrator in the areas of campus management, fundraising, and global studies, as well as a lecturer in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies. During this time, he was also asked to serve as the vocation director for the Vincentian Community for a three-year term.

Father Creagh returned to Niagara University in 2011, where he was vice president for the Office of University Mission and Ministry and later assumed additional responsibilities as the vice president for the Office of International Relations, which entailed extensive international travel to recruit students from around the world. He also taught in Niagara's Leadership and Policy Doctoral Program and served on numerous dissertation committees. While stationed at Niagara he was asked to serve on the board of trustees at St. John's University. In addition to serving as the religious superior of the local Vincentian Community, he served on the board of trustees of Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora and also taught organizational leadership courses at the seminary. In 2019, the board of trustees of Christ the King Seminary elected him as its 27th president-rector.

Father Kevin's zeal for cultivating and nurturing the call experienced by so many to devote their lives to priestly ministry is well known.

~ Bishop Edward Scharfenberger

Racism is the cause, violence should not be the solution

By Patrick J. Buechi
Staff Reporter

Race riots and civil unrest date back to Nat Turner's Slave Rebellion in 1931. Buffalo was the spot of one of 159 riots that swept cities during the "Long Hot Summer of 1967," when a group of African-American teens, frustrated by mistreatment by white government and police forces, broke car and store windows through William Street and Jefferson Avenue on the afternoon of July 27. The next day they returned setting fires and overturning cars and looting stores. The riots nearly shut down the city.

The next year, riots broke out in New York City, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and other major cities after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The most famous incident of racial unrest in recent years involved the L.A. riots that erupted after the beating of Rodney King in 1992.

Recently, protests took place in Minneapolis, Washington and Buffalo after African-American George Floyd died during an altercation with a white Minneapolis police officer who pinned him down and placed a knee on Floyd's neck for nearly nine minutes during an arrest. Floyd died on the spot.

On June 12, one Buffalo police officer and one New York state trooper were injured, when an SUV drove through a crowd of protesters on Buffalo's East Side. One protestor, Martin Gugino, was injured during a fall after police pushed him away. The demonstrations caused curfews to be put in place.

Following the protests, Pope Francis spoke at the general audience, saying we cannot claim to defend the sacredness of every human life while turning a blind eye to racism and exclusion.

"I have witnessed with great concern the disturbing social unrest in your nation in these past days, following the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd," he said. "We

cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life."

The pope then cited a recent statement from Archbishop José Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the USCCB, to denounce outcroppings of violence at some protests: "At the same time, we have to recognize that 'the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost.'"

The pope concluded his remarks with an invitation to prayer.

Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger released a statement asking for the Catholic community to "advocate for justice in this case and to be a voice of calm and reason in the ongoing conversion" to heal the hurt that systemic racism breeds on our society."

"Everyone saw the incident of Monday, May 25, vividly on camera. Minneapolis police grounded an unarmed and handcuffed black man, one officer kneeling him on the neck," the bishop wrote. "It soon went viral, as we learned the man was begging for air, and subsequently died. Protests ensued locally and soon erupted in cities throughout the country. By week's end, different groups assembled, often very closely gathered, some becoming confrontational, with dangerous conditions involving fires, rock throwing, looting and destruction of property, reminiscent of the racial unrest which took to the streets in the '60s."

The bishop said that in a society already anxious and tense due to COVID-19 coupled with everyday racism, the death of Floyd "became a spark igniting a perfect storm, a confluence of expressions of frustration, anger and outrage about many inequitable conditions of a social, economic, political and racial nature. Almost as disconcerting, however, even frightening, has been the wholly inadequate response of many public authorities and law enforcement officials, charged to maintain order, ensuring the orderly exercise of the right to



DAN CAPPELLAZZO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A sign and folded hands call for an end to racism during a rally outside the Catholic Center.

assemble, and keeping persons and their property safe."

He went on to write that civil discord does no honor to our best selves.

"Scratch the surface and we see that racism and its vestiges persist," he wrote. "America's 'original sin,' as it has been called, must be not only acknowledged but vigorously resisted and corrected. Yes, the use of excessive force by some police is intolerable and must be addressed, especially as, racially and ethnically, it is systemically applied differently. Overcoming this continues to challenge us all, as the American bishops exhorted us 18 months ago in their pastoral letter, 'Open Wide Our Hearts.' In a recent statement, USCCB committee heads reiterated, 'for people of color some interactions with police can be fraught with fear and even danger. People of good conscience must never turn a blind eye when citizens are being deprived of their human dignity and even their lives. Indifference is not an option. As bishops, we unequivocally state that racism is a life issue.'"

The SSJ Sister Karen Klimczak Center for Nonviolence opened in Buffalo in 2007 to carry on the legacy of Sister Karen Klimczak, SSJ, who preached nonviolence.

The center offers an Alternatives to Violence Project workshop, which trains people to find peaceful conflict resolutions. Currently that program is on hold, due to the COVID-19 lockdowns.

"The message that I give is that we need to hear the anger," said Vivian Waltz, director of the center. "We need to listen. We need to try to understand the effect of racism on our country, we need to listen with humility to the black community. I'm white. In terms of what I would say to white people would be something different."

Waltz said the central issue is racism. "What happened George Floyd was not a surprise to black people," she said. "I don't want to speak for them. I am very committed to listening. But, I know what I have heard is that this is a reality that black people deal with every day. So, I'm sorry about shop owners in Buffalo who had their shops looted in response to something that happened in Minneapolis, but the issue is the systemic racism that is the core issue of all of it. Until that changes, riots, looting, protests are likely to continue."

Any interested in learning more about peaceful solutions may call the center at 716-362-9688.

Canisius High School community Day of Caring raises over \$111,000 for tuition assistance

With unexpected financial need growing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Canisius High School community stepped up to help during the school's online Day of Caring fundraiser on May 28. Nearly 400 donors raised more than \$111,000 to help the school carry out its mission and provide tuition support so that no student will have to leave school due to unforeseen financial reasons. "That we have alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends of Canisius who came together in this way to help and care for those who are in need right now is a blessing," said Canisius President Father

David Ciancimino, SJ "Perhaps more than ever our students are relying on this generosity, and I thank every single person who contributed to this Day of Caring effort."

Some members of the Canisius community created videos remotely with messages of support during the Day of Caring, while others issued friendly challenges to their fellow community members to join the campaign. "Our mission at Canisius is to help our students develop their individual God-given talents for the service of others. What we witnessed during our Day of Caring is one real life example of this mission in action."



COURTESY OF CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

Charlie Fortner holds up a Thank You sign for all those who participated in the Day of Caring. Fortner is a member of the Class of 2022 at Canisius High School.

Tonawanda parish celebrates Feast of Corpus Christi

By Dan Cappellazzo
Staff Photographer

While others carry their own crosses or the burdens of the past, Father Matt Nycz openly carried hope in the form of the Eucharist. On Corpus Christi Sunday, the pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish walked the streets of his Tonawanda neighborhood in an individual Corpus Christi procession with Eucharist in the monstrance.

"Although this was not an organized group event, over 30 people prayerfully followed – respecting proper physical distancing and face masks requirements," Father Nycz said. "It is such a proof that God can draw good out of the COVID-19 evil. Perhaps this is the start of a new Corpus Christi parish custom."

The three-mile walk processed through the streets within the parish boundaries, beginning and ending at the church located about two blocks north of Kenmore Avenue on Claremont Avenue. Although this was not an organized event, parishioners

and members of the community followed on the public sidewalks. Some participants gave a freewill donation for diocesan Catholic Charities Appeal on behalf of the parish to help the needy.

"In these challenging times, we as Christians can help with the most

powerful defenses we have at our disposal – prayer, forgiveness and love. Inspired by one of our parish families and by the Holy Spirit, we are starting a new prayer initiative, which we open to all parishioners and all Catholics from Western New York," Father Nycz explained.



DAN CAPPELLAZZO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Father Matt Nycz, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, leads parishioners on a Corpus Christi walk through the neighborhood surrounding the church.

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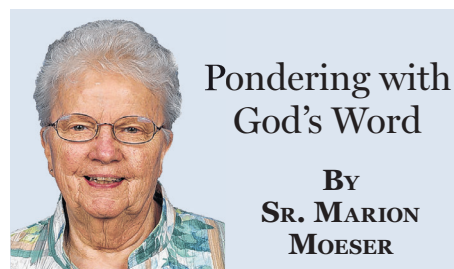
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'I will parable you a parable'

The Sunday Gospel readings this July contain several of Jesus' parables. In teaching with parables, Jesus is clearly using a technique from his Jewish background since these short narratives are found in the Old Testament and later rabbinic literature.

What is a parable? It is a brief story using something familiar to the reader/hearer to compare with an unfamiliar idea. It is meant to capture one's attention, to engage one in active thought, pondering its meaning. When we think of Jesus as teacher, we remember that the parables were his favorite mode of teaching. Jesus was a storyteller, an alert observer of human life, one who loved and appreciated the foibles and patterns of human action. Through his parables Jesus brought home to his listeners the truth and beauty of God and God's reign.

An Old Testament parable is found in 2 Samuel 12:1-4, where the prophet Nathan told King David the story of a wealthy man stealing the only ewe



Pondering with God's Word

BY
SR. MARION
MOESER

lamb of a poor farmer. David reacted negatively against the wealthy man, but through this parable David was led to see that he himself was guilty for raping and taking the wife of Uriah the Hittite.

Rabbinic literature has long been considered as a compendia of Jewish laws with little or no real life stories or spirituality. Yet many questions of God and God's actions are responded to with a parable, *mashal* in Hebrew. The datings of the most often cited rabbinic texts, such as the Talmud, come from a time after the gospels. Still, it can be shown that these texts contain material from around the times of Jesus and the early Christians.

The most common rabbinic parables are the "king parables," 967 in all, wherein, the king usually represents God.

During a course on rabbinic literature, I studied a rabbinic commentary on Ruth and found 12 king parables/*meshalim*. While most of my study concerned the manner in which each *mashal* fit into the argument of the sage, I also looked at what a *mashal* said about God/the king. Here are several of the results: God protects those who follow the Torah; God tests but strengthens the righteous person; God expects Israel's leaders to protect the people, especially the "small ones"; and it is legitimate to lament before God in the face of suffering. All of this is found in Jesus' teachings in the gospels also. Additionally, the engagement of the reader in this process allowed that person to actively participate in the search for knowledge of God; this involvement enabled the reader to own that same experience as her/his

own. Thus, the sages communicated the abiding presence of God with the people.

My favorite rabbinic parable, however, is found in the Palestinian Talmud. For background, it is important to know that Rabbi Akiba was a student of Rabbi Eliezer who was to be honored by R. Akiba.

"R. Eliezer observed a fast but caused no rain to fall. R. Akiba observed a fast, and rain fell. He (R. Akiba) went in and spoke before the council of the elders, saying, 'I will parable you a parable. Unto what is the matter like? It is like a king who had two daughters. One was brazen and one was proper. Whenever the brazen one wanted something and went in before him, he said: Give her what she wants so she will get out of here. But whenever the proper one wanted something and went in before him, he prolonged the conversation with her because her speaking so pleased him.'"

Certainly timely understandings of God for us today.

Black Lives Matter and the preferential option for the poor

You might have heard that in early June, Pope Francis called Bishop Mark Seitz of El Paso. It's not unusual for the pope to speak to bishops, of course, but this phone call created some news because Pope Francis called Bishop Seitz shortly after the bishop and a number of priests in his diocese participated in a demonstration against racism in response to the death of George Floyd.

Bishop Seitz and his priests knelt in prayer for that same nine minutes that George Floyd had been knelt on, and held signs reading, "Black Lives Matter."

There was some great confusion among many Catholics about the appropriateness of a Catholic bishop and priests embracing the slogan "Black Lives Matter." However, there is an intimate connection between Black Lives Matter and a tenet of Catholic Social Teaching, the Preferential Option for the Poor.

First, let's understand what the BLM slogan means. It began

as a movement in 2013 after the acquittal of the white man who shot and killed Travon Martin, a 17-year-old black man. BLM asserts that systematic racism exists, and must be replaced by a culture where the humanity, contributions to society, and the resilience of black people are recognized and raised up.

Some have objected that such thinking puts black people out in front and affords them special treatment. And, in a sense, it does and must. The reason is that attention has to be placed where the problem is – and the problem being highlighted is the systemic racism that still exists in our country.

Some insist that it is more proper to assert that "All Lives Matter," but that misses the point. Suppose that your house is on fire, and the firefighters arrive and begin to put the fire out by training their fire hoses on your house. Then neighbors come out to demand that water be sprayed on their houses too because "all houses matter."



Justice Perspective

BY
DEACON DON
WEIGEL

That statement is true enough, but attention must be paid to the house that is in trouble.

This idea of putting attention where it is needed most is the idea behind the Church's teaching of the "preferential option for the poor." The phrasing of this idea began in the late '60s and was explained well by St. Paul VI in his document "Octogesima Adveniens" ("A Call to Action") in 1971:

"In teaching us charity, the Gospel instructs us in the preferential respect due to the poor and the special situation they have in society: the more fortunate should renounce some of their rights so as to place their goods more generously

at the service of others."

While this concept is usually discussed in economic terms, the idea was expanded by St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI who expanded the understanding of the "poor" to anyone who is marginalized by society.

Perhaps this story will help. When I was on a CRS retreat a couple years ago, we had Stations of the Cross outside. I happened to be next to a woman named Mary who had some difficulty walking. By the time we reached the next station the prayers had already started. The solution would have been to put Mary in the front of the line and we would have all arrived together.

Working to eliminate racism and asserting that Black Lives Matter is necessary if we genuinely want to arrive together in the Kingdom of God.

Deacon Don is the Diocesan Director of Catholic Relief Services and can be reached at deacondon@gmail.com.

Eighth-grade commencement ceremony: COVID style

St. John the Baptist School in Kenmore celebrated its 88th graduating class on June 16. Festivities began with the awarding of diplomas during a reverse parade at the entrance of the parish church followed by an evening celebration at the Transit Drive-In.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic that resulted in the March closure of schools and subsequent distance learning, students returned to St. John's campus to celebrate their eighth-grade graduation with faculty and staff. Families remained in their cars as they were greeted by cheering teachers and staff lining the perimeter of the school's triangular campus. As they approached the front doors of the church, the location where ceremonies traditionally take place, students were greeted by Father Michael Parker and Principal Jenny Bainbridge to receive their diploma, year book, class photo and gift, as well as a "warm fuzzy," a beloved cotton-ball-like-creature wearing a graduation cap that symbolizes friendship, love, and belonging, a kindergarten tradition.

The parade continued as families and the faculty headed to the Transit Drive-In to view the graduation ceremony on the "big screen," albeit presented in a creative form given the pandemic limitations. "St. John's has a time-honored graduation tradition that includes Mass, ribbon ceremony, traditional parent and student prayers, and so on," said Bainbridge. "And although this isn't how we expected to honor the Class of 2020, we're glad to be able to celebrate them."

The screening included a pre-recorded prayer service and the presentation of the graduates. Traditional class awards and scholarships were awarded, including the NYS Attorney General's "Triple C Award" for Courage, Commitment and Character, and The Joseph and Joan Denzak Memorial Scholarship awarded each year to an eighth-grade student planning to attend a Catholic high school who demonstrated exceptional academic effort.



COURTESY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL

Father Michael Parker congratulates graduate Natalie Roberts from the back of her family car during St. John the Baptist graduation ceremonies on June 16.

During the ceremony, traditional class ribbons were pinned onto each student by his or her parent as seventh-grade student council representatives virtually honored the Class of 2020 and recognized the passing of leadership from one class to the next.

Additionally, the video included an address from Principal Bainbridge and a special message from Dean of discipline and beloved middle-school Social Studies teacher, James Werick, as well a poignant moment for students and parents exchanged letters previously prepared that are traditionally shared on class night. The

presentation culminated with a parent prepared video of the students' elementary school days. Afterwards, families enjoyed a movie provided by the Transit Drive-In.

"We wanted to end our graduates' time at St. John's on a very positive note," Bainbridge said. "Many have been part of St. John's School for a decade and all share in our special school bond. Although these milestones look very different this year, we could not be more proud of our students. We are truly honored to celebrate the 88th graduating class of St. John's School and all they have accomplished!"

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Kenmore Mercy Celebrates Discharge of COVID-19 Champion

Dr. Mark St. Marie, a longtime Mercy Hospital of South Buffalo gastroenterologist, proudly held up a sign reading "COVID-19 Champion" as staff Kenmore Mercy Hospital bid him an emotional farewell on June 5.

His 67-day journey started at Mercy Hospital where he was diagnosed in March, followed by two weeks on a ventilator and his treatment at the COVID-19 Treatment Facility at St. Joseph Campus.

By late May, St. Marie was COVID-19 free and transferred to Kenmore Mercy's Medical Rehabilitation Unit. He still couldn't walk very far on his own and had trouble swallowing and speaking. The nursing team, as well as physical, occupational and

speech therapists, helped him to improve his strength and mobility, preparing him for life at home.

"When COVID-19 survivors get past the worst of their illness, many find that they need help to return to normal life," said Kevin Gibson director of rehabilitation services for Catholic Health. "They spend hours a day in rehabilitation at medical rehab units, skilled nursing facilities, outpatient facilities, or at home."

Physical, occupational and speech language therapists focus on retraining these patients to return to a normal level of function. These treatments include breathing exercises, strengthening, swallowing activities and walking. Up to 20 percent of patients recovering from COVID-19

will require facility-based rehab.

"There's been a lot of bumps along the way. The

good doctors helped to heal me, but it was the nurses and therapists that put me together again," said St.

Marie. In addition to rehab, he attributes lots of prayer to helping him make through this tough time.



COURTESY OF KENMORE MERCY HOSPITAL

Dr. Mark St. Marie, a longtime Mercy Hospital of South Buffalo gastroenterologist, proudly held up a sign reading "COVID-19 Champion" as staff Kenmore Mercy Hospital bid him an emotional farewell on June 5

Podcasts for Catholics affected by divorce and families in crisis

Two podcasts are being offered through the St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for Freedom, Family and Faith.

Podcast for Catholics Affected by Divorce and Separation

The First Tuesday of each month, 8-9 p.m. Eastern

Podcast for Families in Crisis.

The Last Thursday of each month, 8-9 p.m. Eastern

Both podcasts are available on YouTube, Facebook, Podbean app, and Tune In app.

Subscribe to the "Philly Nonnatus" YouTube channel, and on Podbean and Tune In subscribe to: "Patchwork Heart Ministry".

More information go to the foundation website at www.Nonnatus.org.

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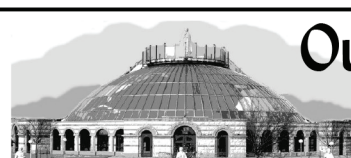
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Adoration

Alden — Adoration is held at St. John the Baptist Parish, 2021 Sandridge Rd., every Friday in the church at 7:30 a.m., followed by Mass with the schoolchildren at 8:30 a.m. First Friday Adoration 7:30 to 8:25 a.m., followed by Mass at 8:30 a.m. Resume Adoration from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., closing with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Arcade — Adoration is held at St. Mary Parish, 417 West Main St., Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 585-492-5330

Buffalo — Exposition of the Holy Eucharist takes place at Corpus Christi Church, 199 Clark St., Wednesdays to Fridays with a 10 to 11:30 a.m. Mass, and the first Thursday of each month in the church from 7-10 p.m.

Buffalo — SS. Columba-Brigid Parish, 75 Hickory St., offers Eucharistic adoration every First Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Buffalo — St. Michael Church, 651 Washington St., offers Eucharistic adoration at the Sacred Heart Shrine each day. Weekdays, 7:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., and Sundays from 12:45 to 5 p.m. Confessions weekdays

from 11:30 a.m. to noon, and 4:30 to 5 p.m. On Saturdays, confessions will be heard from 11:30 a.m. to noon; 1 to 2 p.m.; and 3:30 to 5 p.m. Handicap accessible and on-site parking. www.stmichaelbuffalo.org.

Buffalo — St. Stanislaus Parish holds a Holy Hour with Eucharistic adoration every First Friday of April through December, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the church at 123 Townsend St.

Canaseraga — Eucharistic adoration takes place every Thursday at St. Mary Parish, 6 North St., with exposition at 10 a.m., followed by all day adoration and benediction at 7 p.m. Confession available from 6 to 7 p.m. First Friday exposition is at 9:30 a.m., after 9 a.m. Mass, followed by the rosary for life and silent adoration, with benediction concluding at 10:30 a.m.

Depew — Eucharistic adoration is held on the First Friday of every month at Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish, 496 Terrace Blvd., beginning with the 8 a.m. Mass and concluding at noon. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited at 11 a.m.

Kenmore — Eucharistic adoration is held in

the St. John Neumann Chapel at St. John the Baptist Parish, Englewood and Belmont Avenue, Monday through Friday, 2 to 4 p.m.; Holy Hour Fridays, 1 to 2 p.m.; Holy Hour Sundays, 3 to 4 p.m.

Lancaster — Our Lady of Pompeii, 158 Laverack Ave., holds adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday from noon to 6 p.m. The Divine Mercy chaplet is prayed at 3 p.m.

Lancaster — St. Mary of the Assumption holds Eucharistic adoration every First Friday from 12:30 to 5 p.m. at the church at 1 St. Mary's Hill (corner of N. Aurora St. and St. Joseph St.) 716-683-6445.

North Tonawanda — St. Jude the Apostle Parish, 800 Niagara Falls Blvd., holds Eucharistic adoration on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. 716-694-0540.

North Tonawanda — Our Lady of Czestochowa, 57 Center Ave. North Tonawanda 14120, every Tuesday From 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Adoration Room, in the Ministry Center.

Orchard Park — Eucharistic adoration takes place at Nativity of Our Lord Church, 43 Argyle Place, 24/7. 716-998-0593 or 716-662-9339.

Orchard Park — St. Bernadette Church, 5930 South Abbott Road, offers 24/7 Eucharistic adoration. Entry code needed after 3 p.m. Everyone welcome. 716-649-3090.

Snyder — The Perpetual Adoration Chapel at Christ the King Church, corner of Main Street and Lamarck Drive, is open to the public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week, for anyone who wishes to spend time in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. Enter the church through the door under the arch between the school and church.

South Buffalo — St. Martin of Tours Parish, 1140 Abbott Road, provides daily Eucharistic adoration 24/7. Anyone interested in being a weekly adorer or a substitute, call Don Graham at 716-822-0283. A security code is needed from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Tonawanda — Night of Two Hearts, all night adoration, honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, takes place at St. Amelia Church, 2999 Eggert Road, from 8 p.m. each First Friday of the month to 8 a.m. Saturday.

Tonawanda — Blessed

Sacrament Church in the Town of Tonawanda, at 263 Claremont Ave., offers Eucharistic adoration in the Divine Mercy Chapel every Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. until 6:10 p.m., followed by a Mass. 716-834-4282.

West Seneca — Queen of Heaven Parish, 4220 Seneca St., provides daily Eucharistic adoration 24/7. Anyone interested in being a weekly adorer or a substitute, call Nancy at 716-907-5368. Visitors are welcome. A security code is needed from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Williamsville — St. Gregory the Great Parish, 200 St. Gregory Court, offers adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 24/7. A security code is needed from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. 716-688-5678.

Charismatic Prayer Meeting

Buffalo/Black Rock — A Charismatic prayer meeting, Prayer and Praise, will take place in the church hall at Assumption Parish, 435 Amherst St., (use the Peter Street entrance) every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m.

North Tonawanda — A Charismatic prayer meeting takes place at St. Jude the Apostle Parish

every Thursday from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Healing Mass

Boston — St. John the Baptist, 6895 Boston Cross Road, monthly Healing Mass, second Wednesday at 7 p.m. 716-941-3549.

Pilgrimages

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LIVESTREAM LINK: STLEOTHEGREATAM-HERST.COM/ABOUT-ST-LEO-THE-GREAT/LIVE-FEED/
MONDAY-SATURDAY: 8:00 AM
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM AND 11:00 AM

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT
LIVESTREAM LINK: STGREGS.ORG/LIVESTREAM
DAILY: 7:00 AM, 8:00 AM AND NOON
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM AND 5:30 PM
SUNDAY: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM, & 4:30 PM

ST. MARTHA PARISH
LIVESTREAM LINK: STMARTHADEPEW.ORG/ABOUT-US/LIVESTREAM
DAILY: 8:15 AM
SATURDAY: 8:15 AM AND 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM AND 7:00 PM

OUR LADY OF POMPEII RC CHURCH
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UC3EWKGWLN8YAFLPKOQLPSQ
DAILY AT 10:00 AM

SS. COLUMBA BRIGID
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://LIVESTREAM.COM/ACCOUNTS/2315534
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM (SPANISH) AND 11:00 AM
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA CHURCH
LIVESTREAM FEED: HTTPS://NT-OLC.ORG/LIVESTREAM/
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM
SUNDAY: 8:30 AM AND 10:30 AM
MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00 AM

ST. AMELIA CHURCH
LIVESTREAM FEED: YOUTUBE CHANNEL
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM
SAT: 4:30 PM

HOLY FAMILY
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTP://WWW.HOLYFAMILYALBION.COM/LIVESTREAM.HTML
DIRECT LINK: HTTPS://LIVESTREAM.COM/ACCOUNTS/13498042
SUNDAY: 10:30 AM

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SHRINE & BASILICA
LINKS: OLVBASILICA.ORG, YOUTUBE
EVERY SATURDAY ON ALL SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

St. JOHN'S
LIVESTREAM LINK: YOUTUBE CHANNEL
MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00 AM, 12:10 PM
SATURDAY: 8:00 AM AND 5:00 PM
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM AND 12:00 PM

St. BERNADETTE
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SAINTBOPNY.ORG
DAILY: 7:00 AM AND 11:30 AM
SATURDAY: 5:00 PM
SUNDAY 9:00 AM AND 8:05 PM

NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CHURCH
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://VIMEO.COM/USER35440082
WEEKDAYS: 9:00 AM
SATURDAY: 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

RESURRECTION PARISH
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://WWW.

Television Guide

Sunday Televised Mass
Sunday
8:30 am
WNYO-TV
Antenna Ch 49
Cable/Dish Ch 8

EWTN
Daily Televised Mass
Every Day
8:00am, Noon, 7:00pm and Midnight

Spectrum Subscribers
Erie/Suburbs Ch 10
Buffalo Ch 24
Batavia Ch 41
Jamestown Ch 50
Lockport Ch 10
Niagara Falls Ch 10
Olean Ch 35

C-Band
G1-11
Direct TV
370
Dish Network
261

YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCCLMpTL-56T17RBGIpWAFVWG
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM, 5:30PM
SUNDAY: 7:30 AM AND 9:25 AM AND 11:30 AM

BASILICA OF ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BASILICAOLEAN
MASS SONGS CAN BE ACCESSED ON: HTTPS://SMAOLEAN.ORG/
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM
SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

ALL SAINTS
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ALLSAINTSLOCKPORT/?REF=HL
SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

St. ANTHONY OF PADUA (LATIN Mass)
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://BIT.LY/3AW-0MxV
DAILY: 6:00 PM
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM

St. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY PARISH
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UC1OBCC1G-

0ZWRFM5oYO_CqnQ
SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

St. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
LIVESTREAM FEED: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ST-FRANCIS-OF-ASSISI-CHURCH-221506421196977/?REF=BOOKMARKS
DAILY: 8:00 AM
SATURDAY: 10:00 AM AND 4:00 PM
SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

St. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH (NIAGARA FALLS)
LIVESTREAM LINK: HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/476277555253/
WEEKDAYS: NOON
SUNDAY: 11:30 AM

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART
LIVESTREAM LINKS: FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE
WEDNESDAY: 12 NOON
SUNDAY: 10:00 AM

Radio Schedule				
Batavia	Mass (first Sunday of the month)	WBTA-AM (1490)	Sunday	10:30am
Buffalo	Father Justin Rosary Hour www.rosaryhour.net	WLOF-FM (101.7)	Sunday	7:00am
		CIAO-AM (530)	Saturday	8:00am
	Mass at St. Stanislaus The Ukrainian Catholic Hour	WXRL-AM (1300)	Sunday	3:00pm
		WLOF-FM (101.7)	Sunday	Noon
Dunkirk	Mass from Holy Trinity Church	WJL-AM (1440)	Sunday	2:00pm
Hornell	Marian Hour Radio Rosary	WDOE-AM (1410)	Sunday	8:30am
Jamestown	Catholic News and Views	WLEA-AM (1480)	Sunday	7:00am
Wellsville	Crossroads	WJTN-AM (1240)	Sunday	7:00am
	Lift Your Heart	WLSV-AM (790)	Sunday	9:00am
		WLSV-AM (790)	Sunday	10:00am

WLOF-FM (101.7) Catholic programming 24 hours a day



Sister M. Frances Joseph Piazza, OSF

Sister M. Frances Joseph Piazza, a Sister of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities for nearly 57 years, passed away on June 7, 2020, at the age of 86.

Born Jean Piazza on June 6, 1934, in Phillipsburg, N.J. to Joseph and Josephine Piazza, Italian Immigrants. Jean attended school at St. Phillip and St. James in



Phillipsburg, operated by the Sisters of Mercy. Following graduation, she studied in a three-year program at Easton Hospital School of Nursing in Easton, Pa., and became a registered nurse. She went on for two years of graduate studies at McGill University in Montreal to teach student nurses. When returning home, she was

on the staff at Easton Hospital in charge of pediatrics and taught maternal and child health to students in the nursing program.

Prior to entering religious life, Jean worked in the Pediatric Department at St. Clare's Hospital in New York City. She later worked in the operating room of Mount St. Mary's Hospital, Lewiston.

Jean entered the Sisters of St. Francis on Sep. 8, 1963, taking the name of Sister M. Frances Joseph and professed final vows on July 3, 1971. She completed her bachelor of science degree at NY Empire State College and later completed her New York State Nursing Home Administration Certificate at Cazenovia College, as well as becoming an accredited record technician.

Sister Frances Joseph's nursing experience continued in the

convent with further education pursuits in health care serving at St. Mary's Manor as director of nursing, St. Francis Home as administrator, St. Francis Hospital as staff nurse, CCU nurse, in-service education director and director of medical records.

Starting in 1992, she served at St. Mary of the Angels as local minister and assistant to the infirmity supervisor.

Following her retirement in 2009 until the present, Sister Frances Joseph spent her days as a baby cuddler at the Sisters of Charity Hospital neonatal intensive care unit in Buffalo, a ministry she greatly loved.

Sister M. Frances Joseph is survived by her brother, James.

A private funeral Mass was offered in St. Mary of the Angels Chapel, on Thursday, June 11.

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Sister Loretta Young, SSJ

Sister Loretta Young, a teacher and administrator at St. Mary's School for the Deaf and an adjunct professor at Canisius College, died June 8, 2020, at the Sisters of St. Joseph Residence in Clarence after a long illness. She was 89.

Born in Buffalo May 9, 1931, to Robert and Ethel (Griffith) Young. Sister Loretta and her identical twin, Sister Virginia, entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in September 1948 and pronounced final vows in August 1954.

After completing a bachelor of science in education at Mount St. Joseph Teachers College, (now Medaille), in 1959, Sister earned advanced degrees from Northwestern University, Education and Guidance of the Deaf, and University of California, Northridge, Special Education Administration and Supervision.

Sister's ministries at St. Mary's (1950-1994) included elementary teacher, elementary supervisor, elementary supervising teacher and principal of the elementary department. The school established the Sister Loretta Young Elementary Academic Achievement Award at her retirement.



Timothy M. Kelly, superintendent of St. Mary's, praised Sister Loretta as "Child first every step of her great journey. She represented the best of what the 'Spirit of St. Mary's' and deaf education

have to offer."

She also taught multiple sign language and American Sign Language classes in Canisius College's Modern Language Department and its graduate program in Deaf Education 1963-2013, to police and firefighters as well as to multiple elementary school students. Humor and anecdotes characterized her teaching. Sister served her congregation as a general councilor 1997-2007 and president 2007-09.

She is survived by her twin, Sister Virginia, and nieces and nephews.

A memorial Mass will be offered by the Sisters of St. Joseph in the future.



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PROMISE TO PROTECT PLEDGE TO HEAL

Working Together To Create A Safe Environment For Our Children

A PRAYER FOR HEALING VICTIMS OF ABUSE

*God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his blood on the cross.*

*Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.*

*Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.*

*Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace
in justice. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

PREVENTION MEASURES AND FOLLOW-UP

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We require background checks.

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to be reported to public authorities

We work with law enforcement.



BELIEVE IN THE POSSIBILITY OF HELP AND HEALING: THERE IS HOPE.

Your local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church. We will listen to your needs and support you. We will help you make a formal complaint and arrange a personal meeting with the bishop, or his delegate, if desired. We encourage you to come forward and speak out.

**The Victim Assistance Coordinator
for the Diocese of Buffalo:**

Ms. Jacqueline Joy
Catholic Charities
Report Hotline (716) 895-3010
jacqueline.joy@ccwny.org

**To file a report of sexual misconduct by
a U.S. bishop or eparch visit:**

ReportBishopAbuse.org
**Calls can be placed to the national third-party hotline:
(800) 276-1562**