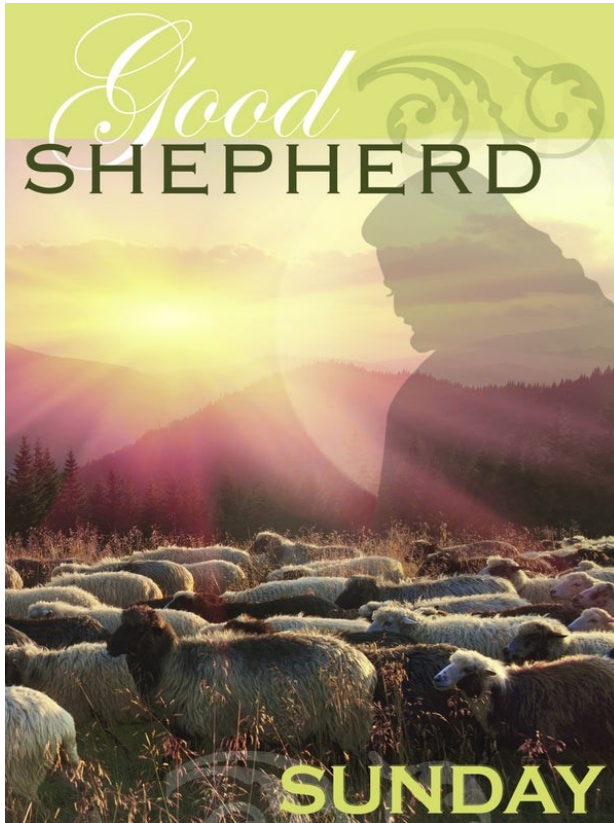




Akron Clarence Roman Catholic Community

www.AkronClarenceRCC.org

April 21, 2024 | Fourth Sunday of Easter



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: 716-688-9380

6919 Transit Road, Swormville, NY 14051

Office hours:

Monday – Friday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

St. Teresa of Avila Church
5771 Buell Street, Akron, NY 14001
716-542-9103

Our Lady of Peace Church
10950 Main Street, Clarence, NY 14031
716-759-8554

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church
4375 Harris Hill Rd., Williamsville, NY 14221
716-632-8838

St. Mary's Church
6919 Transit Road Swormville, NY 14051
716-688-9380

Rev. Thomas M. Mahoney, Pastor

Rev. Walter J. Szczesny, Senior Parochial Vicar

Rev. Arthur E. Mattulke, Senior Parochial Vicar

Rev. Joseph N. Franz, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Richard Stachura

Deacon Thomas Friedman

Deacon Ronald Adamczak

Deacon Arthur Sullivan

Deacon Peter Donnelly

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening/Sunday Vigil

4:00 PM St. Teresa & St. Mary's

5:15 PM Our Lady of Peace & Nativity of BVM

Sunday Morning

7:30 AM St. Mary's

8:00 AM Our Lady of Peace & Nativity of BVM

9:00 AM St. Mary's & St. Teresa

10:00 AM Our Lady of Peace & Nativity of BVM

11:00 AM St. Mary's

Weekday Masses

St. Mary's: Monday – Saturday 9:00 AM

(Monday-Thursday in Chapel; Friday-Saturday in Main Church)

Nativity of BVM: Monday, Wednesday – Saturday 8:00 AM.

Tuesday 9:00 AM

Our Lady of Peace: Monday – Thursday 8:00 AM, Friday 6:30 AM

St. Teresa: Monday – Tuesday 8:00 AM, Wednesday 5:30 PM, Thursday – Friday 8:00 AM, Saturday 9:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Dear Parishioners,

We are now moving quickly through the Easter season. Fifty days may seem long, but Pentecost will be here before we know it. During this time our first readings are taken from the Acts of the Apostles. Some biblical scholars refer to the Acts of the Apostles as the gospel of the Holy Spirit.

As we listen to the first reading this weekend it is not hard to realize how true this statement is. The Holy Spirit is front and center in the passages we heard during Easter Season. Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit when he addresses the leaders of the people. One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is courage. We are in great need of this particular gift today. We are called like Peter to boldly proclaim the gospel with love.

Throughout the history of the Catholic Church, when she has done this, she has grown. Of course, growth is only important if it results in the salvation of souls. Growth is not, or at least should not be, the goal. Salvation of souls is the goal of proclaiming the gospel. That is why both the truth and love are necessary in proclaiming the gospel.

Once again, the Acts of the Apostles gives us the example of how we are going to renew the Church, and by extension, renew the face of the earth. Before the Sanhedrin Peter and John do not yell and scream, they calmly proclaim Christ risen from the dead.

Yes, they accuse the people of putting to death the author of life, but not to condemn them but to urge them to repentance for their sins. Peter has not forgotten the message of the Risen Lord in the upper room on the morning of the Resurrection, "Peace be with you." Peter knows that Jesus has not come to condemn the world but to offer salvation and eternal life to everyone. He knows this not only because Jesus taught him this, but because he experienced it in his life.

We must do the same! Not only must we teach what we have learned but we must share what we have experienced in the Risen Lord. Hopefully we have all experienced the power of God's forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance. To acknowledge that I am a sinner, in need of a redeemer, is the first step of conversion. Then, to recognize the true nature of God's love is to realize that you are a beloved child of God.

God loves you unconditionally. His desire is for all human beings (and all of creation) to be one with Him. Not on our terms but on His terms. This means that we are called to live in the light of His truth in love. And having received that light, truth, and love, we are sent into the darkness of this world to lead others to the light, the truth, with love.

The Apostles conquered the Roman Empire by boldly proclaiming the truth, living in the light of the truth, and sharing the love of God with everyone. Our challenges are different than theirs, but not more difficult. With the same Holy Spirit, we can conquer the culture of death that is so pervasive in Western culture today.

We must keep in the forefront of our minds and hearts that God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through Him.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. St. Teresa of Avila, pray for us.

AMDG,

Fr. Tom

St. Teresa of Avila Mass Schedule

Saturday, April 20

4:00 pm Gloria Rembas by Estate

Sunday, April 21 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Msgr. Robert Williamson – Birthday Blessings by the St. Teresa Women's Guild

Monday, April 22

8:00 am In Memory of Gertrude Bartels & Andrew Korszylowski by Estate of Gertrude Bartels

Tuesday, April 23 – St. George & St. Adalbert

8:00 am Ray Laciura – Birthday Remembrance by Mary Olsen

Wednesday, April 24

5:30 pm Martin Birkholz by The Flumerfeldt Family

Thursday, April 25 – St. Mark

8:00 am Intentions for Fathers

Friday, April 26

8:00 am Dearly Departed Souls

Saturday, April 27

9:00 am Tim Olsen – Birthday Blessings by Mom

4:00 pm Bob Tiedt by Sheila & John Ernst

Sunday, April 28 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Bill Lantz by Patricia & Catherine Feldman

St. Teresa of Avila

5771 Buell St., PO Box 168, Akron, NY 14001

Phone: 716-542-9103

stSt. Teresa of Avila

5771 Buell St., PO Box 168, Akron, NY 14001

Phone: 716-542-9103

stteresasofakron@verizon.net

Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction
- Second Friday of the month 7:30 - 8:30 pm.

Confession: Saturday 2:30-3:30 pm
Also the 1st Saturday of the month 8:15-8:45 am
& Vigil of Holy Days 3:30-4:15 pm

Rosary: First Saturday Prior to 9 am Mass

Family Faith Formation 716-542-9103 Ext. 2
stteresasfamilyfaith@gmail.com

Margaret Wood
Trustees

Dick Campbell & Wally Smith

Please Keep In Your Prayers: Lucas Lowe, Baby Josh, Paul Schifferle, Gloria Kintzel, Karen Fox, William Eberhard, Barbara Ford, Susan Hegetsweiller, Bob Larouere, Linda Chaffee, Richard Jordan, Joe Vasi, Sterling McCarriagher, Jean Ottney, Shirley Lantz, Rita Whelan, and Laura Gray

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Schedule

Sanctuary Candle Dedication

April 26– May 2—Gloria Drobits—Sue & Bill Rusin

May 3-9—Thanksgiving for Blessings Received—
Janet Vito

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 20

5:15PM Joseph & Bertha Heigl—daughter Kathy Janson

John, Alice, Judie McCullough—
Julie & Liz McCullough

Sunday, April 21—Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00AM Florence DeChellis—Chuck & Maria Bova

10:00AM Angelo Natale Sr.— Patrick & Sharon Stein

Monday, April 22

8:00AM All Souls—Nativity Parishioners

Tuesday, April 23—St. George & St. Adalbert

9:00AM All Souls—Nativity Parishioners

Wednesday, April 24

8:00AM Richard & Rosemarie Sroka—The Children

Thursday, April 25

8:00AM Roger Little—Patrick & Sharon Stein
Rosalia Castiglia—Domenica Castiglia

Friday, April 26

8:00AM Carolyn Beaulieu—Buffalo Snowbirds
Decorative Painters

Saturday, April 27

8:00AM Brian Morealle—Karen Hanover

5:15PM Rita & Willard Lehner—Loving Family

Rita Clarey—Patrick Clarey

Sunday, April 28—Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00AM Wayne Brooker—Ann Brooker

Joseph Pawlak—Mary & Jamie Orrange

10:00AM Mark E. Wojcik—Stan & Linda Wojcik

Jessica Hanna—Katie Wheeler

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4375 Harris Hill Road, Williamsville, NY 14221

Phone: 716-632-8838 Fax 716-632-7898

nativityoffice@nativityharrishill.org

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesdays 7:30-8:30
with Divine Mercy Chaplet @ 8:00pm

Confession: Saturday 3:45-4:45pm

Nativity of Mary School Pre K-8 716-633-7441

office@nativityofmaryschool.org

Mrs. Nicole Richard – Principal

nrichard@nativityofmaryschool.org

Family Faith Formation 716-634-3130

Debbie Daigler – Director

ddaiglernbvm@gmail.com

Please keep in prayer the people on our sick list:

Thomas Downing, Mary Downing, Michael Hartman,
Susan Rogers, Timothy Gallivan, Ted & Diane Petroff,
Anna Daigler, Carolyn Dorigo.

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 20

5:15PM Living and Deceased members of the
Scheeler and Wargo Families

Sunday, April 21 - *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

8:00AM Adam Lukowski - The Holy Name Society
10:00AM Kathy Cole - Laretta Sarafin

Monday, April 22

8:00AM Intentions of Sandy

Tuesday, April 23 - *St. George, Martyr & St. Adalbert,
Bishop & Martyr*

8:00AM The DelMonte Family

Wednesday, April 24

8:00AM The DelMonte Family

Thursday, April 25 - *St. Mark, Evangelist*

8:00AM Gerry Rabin and Lawrence Sams

Friday, April 26

6:30PM Albert & Barbara Payne

Saturday, April 27

5:15PM John & Mary White Anniversary -
Cindy White

Sunday, April 28 - *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

8:00AM John Darlak - The Family
10:00AM Don, Jan & Lindsey - Kathy & Ron

PRAY FOR THOSE ON SICK LIST

Maria A., Mary Celine Aaron, Joan Antonicelli, Eleanore Cammarata, Austin Beatty, Jack Blodgett, David Bogden, David Burke, Rosemary Caito, Charisse Callahan, Joan Chatman, Christi Carson, Theresa Chapman, Sandy Coon, Lauren Conrad, Daniel Cortese, Sharon Covert, Rick Cousineau, Jim Cummings, Donald, Jack, Darlene Feinen, Carol & Ken Fox, Kevin G., Gabe, Gary Grapentrog, Dina Grabau, Heidi, Ian Harden, John & Maryann, George, Mark Hilbert, Jackie, Jackie S., Dan Kelly, John Kuloszewski, Mark Korpanty, Laurie, , Sister Ann Helene Koenig OSF, Steve L., Mary Lidkea, Cindy Lueckert, Colin McCabe, Paul Meir, Al Meister, Kathy McHugh, Kevin McNamara, Candace Morse, Pam Murray, Peter Rizzo, Joan O'Brien, David P., Carmine Purdie, P.A.T., Paulette Sadus, Ron Sarafin, Donna Schmidle, Eleanor Smith, Steve, Thomas L., Frank & Dolores Tobin, Vince, Judy Vogt, Mary Ellen Wagner, Paul Willard, Ron Weiss, Msgr. Wetter & Genevieve Wojcik.

Please Pray for All Deceased
Jim Grubka and Diane Bosse

LECTORS

Saturday, April 27

5:15 PM Patricia Andzel

Sunday, April 28

8:00 AM Richard Hahn

10:00 AM Adolph Iannaccone

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, April 27

5:15 PM Bert Sweeney, Jane Brunner, Susan Sweeney,
Maureen McEwan

Sunday, April 28

8:00 AM Mary Kiener, Robert Shanahan, Lew Wargo

10:00 AM Mark Morgante, Kathleen Andrews, Laura Wind,
Ron Andrews

Eucharistic Adoration: Every Wed. 7AM-6PM

Please join us in Prayer!

Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet: Wed. 5:30 - 6PM

Confessions: Saturday from 3:45 - 4:45PM

Altar and Rosary

The Altar and Rosary will be reciting the Rosary before the 5:15PM Mass each Saturday in May, starting May 4th. All are welcome!

Monday, May 13th meeting is our Pizza, Movie and Sundae night starting at 6PM. We will be showing a documentary movie on Blessed Carlo Acutis.

Weekly Readings

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 (22)/Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/ Mk 16:15-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Jn 14:7-14

Next Sunday:

Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

St. Mary's Swormville Mass Schedule

Saturday, April 20 - Vigil

4:00 PM Louis Antonucci
by Claude & Jody Imagna & family

Sunday, April 21 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:30AM George Eichelberger
by Tom & Theresa Stroth & family
9:00AM Teresa Donohue by the family
11:00AM Sam Donatelli by daughter Deanna

Monday, April 22

9:00AM Philip & Delia Smith by the family
And Amelia Forman (living intentions)
by the Catholic Education Office

Tuesday, April 23—St. George, Martyr, St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr

9:00AM Charles (Max) Pelisson by Mary Steinberger

Wednesday, April 24

9:00AM Thomas Joseph Ginty by Mary Steinberger

Thursday, April 25—St. Mark, Evangelist

9:00AM People of the Parish by Fr. Tom

Friday, April 26

9:00AM Dina Pacillo (living intentions) by friends

Saturday, April 27

9:00AM Living & deceased members of the Lang Family
4:00PM Chester Syput by Jim & Marsha Bingeman
4:00 PM Carole & Larry Melia by Kristy Witkowski & family

Sunday, April 28 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:30AM Loretta Fitzpatrick by the Cumbo Family
9:00AM Patricia Volk by the Terrill Family
11:00AM Fred Gaulin by Ed & Marie Leising

St. Mary's Swormville
6919 Transit Road, East Amherst, NY 14051
Phone: 716-688-9380 Fax 716-688-6025

rectory@stmaryswormville.org
www.stmaryswormville.org

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 4pm Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00am
Daily: Monday—Thursday, 9am (Chapel)
Friday & Saturday 9am (Main Church)
Holy Days: 5:00pm Vigil, 7:00am, 9:00am & 7:00pm
Eucharistic Adoration: First Friday, 9:30am-noon
Confession: Saturday 2:30-3:30pm
Also the 1st Saturday of the month after 9:00am Mass
Anointing Mass: Last Saturday of the month
after 9:00am Mass
Rosary: Monday-Saturday 8:30am (before 9:00am Mass)
& Wednesday 7:00pm (Chapel)

St. Mary's School Pre K-8 716-689-8424
office@stmaryschoolswormville.org
Tristan D'Angelo principal@stmaryschoolswormville.org

Family Faith Formation 716-688-0599
Christina Egleston, Director of Catholic Education
familyfaith@stmaryswormville.org
Stephanie States communications@stmaryswormville.org
Kristen Saurer & Melissa Kent
parishcouncil@stmaryswormville.org

Please pray for those on our sick list: Kathy Kent, Gene Santercole, Joyce Zoerb, Maria Iacono, Delphine Levesque, James Ingham, Erin Milazzo, Bob Brown, Tim Gallivan, Richard Kubiak, baby Reed Hausrath, Roseanne Hoffner, Donald Herberger, Jerry Metz, baby Franco Joseph Licata, Rita & Don Manno, Dick McKie, Jim Jarosz, Jake Hugenschmidt, Amelia Forman, Rosario Castiglia, Douglas Kellner and Marty Rallabate.

After hours Sacramental Emergency 716-688-9380, choose Ext. 5. A notification will be sent to the priests, then they reach out to the caller for information for the Anointing of the Sick.



Looking for a fun, relaxing, and fulfilling Christ-centered vacation for your whole family this summer? Family Camp is a unique opportunity to share your love of family, fun, and faith with other Catholic families in a beautiful camp setting near Canandaigua Lake. Check out their website and sign up soon. Space is limited. Sign up at <https://www.campkoinonianyny.org>

**ST. MARY'S PARISH MISSION 2024
MAY 19 - MAY 22**



TWELVE UNIQUE TALKS BY A DYNAMIC SPEAKER WITH COMPELLING MESSAGES ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH,

KARLO BROUSSARD

CATHOLIC APOLOGIST AND NATIONAL SPEAKER FOR CATHOLIC ANSWERS

Karlo is one of the most dynamic and gifted Catholic speakers on the circuit today, communicating with precision of thought, a genuine love for God, and an enthusiasm that inspires.



Scan for a complete schedule of Karlo's talks or go to stmaryswormville.org

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THESE FREE TALKS!

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF DISCIPLESHIP



St. Mary's Church, 6919 Transit Road East Amherst, NY 14051



Office Hours: T, Th, F
8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Weekly Events Calendar
Posted on the Bulletin
Board in the vestibule



St. Teresa's Grounds Cleanup is Saturday, April 27th at 10 am. Everyone is invited to come and join in the cleanup - no experience necessary! Please bring garden tools if you have them. Lunch will be provided. For more information or questions, call Tony & Mary Jo Schumacher at 716-542-5138.



**Collection
For the St. Gianna Center**

The Women's Guild playpen will be placed in the vestibule beginning May 4th thru Mother's Day weekend, to collect donations of new and very gently used baby items. St Gianna's always needs diapers, baby wipes, clothing, blankets, bottles, and baby wash/lotion. They also accept strollers and bouncers. If you have any questions or need items picked up from your home, please call Jennifer Brennan at 716-510-5890. Thank you for your generosity!

Flea Market

Bring your Treasures, Crafts or other Creative Goods to sell at St. Teresa's Indoor/Outdoor Flea Market on Saturday, May 25th from 8 am until 4 pm at St. Teresa's Church Hall at 5775 Buell Street in Akron.

Call Judith Bell (716) 983-0166 or Trish Sharkey (716) 462-2883 for an application or information.

Catholic Charities Update
Parish Goal: \$39,410
Current Total: \$ 15,996



We have reached 40% of our goal with 71 donors!
Thank you for your generosity!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes Grades K-6, 10-11 am



Confirmation Rehearsal after the 11am
Mass at St Mary's - April 21st

Confirmation at St Mary's - Friday, April 26th - 7 pm
Students to arrive between 6:15 - 6:30

First Communion Rehearsal
Sunday, April 28 from 10-11:15 am

Welcome! Join Us in Welcoming a new parishioner to our St. Teresa's Family! During the last month we were blessed with the addition of Terri King.

SCAM ALERT

Please be aware that from time to time scammers will impersonate someone you know to try and get you to buy gift cards for them because there is some sort of "need." As mentioned several times before, the priests or anyone associated with our parishes **WILL NEVER** reach out to you via email, text or by phone to ask for "special assistance" that involves any sort of monetary commitment; especially through gift cards. These are scammers who are not using actual email address or real numbers. DO NOT respond to these messages, block them and report them as spam. We are unaware of how the scammers get certain contacts or associations, but know they are scams.

Classic Dad Jokes:

What do sprinters eat before a race?
Nothing, they fast.

I tell dad jokes all the time even though I'm not actually a dad. I'm a faux pa.

I changed all my passwords to 'Kenny'
Now I have all Kenny Loggins

I dreamt last night that I was a muffer...
I woke up exhausted.

A friend had a new baby girl. Her coworker asked:
"What's her name?" My friend replied: "Melanie Noelle."
Her coworker: "How do you spell it, then?"

I spent all my money collecting every bird species in my zoo, except one. My wife hates it. But I have no egrets.



Our Lady of Peace Church

10950 Main St., Clarence, NY 14031

P. 716.759.8554 ~ Email: office@olpclareance.org

Rectory office: M-Thursday 8:30AM-2:30PM and Friday 8:30AM-12Noon

A Message From Father Walter

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Gospel of the Good Shepherd is a lesson in leadership that is centered in the servanthood of Jesus. To act in the interest of those in our care to “freely” place our own stature at the service of others, is to embrace the model of Christ the Good Shepherd. Christ calls each one of us to realize the gifts, talents, and abilities that God has entrusted to us are not for our own profit or aggrandizement but to fulfill our vocations as “good shepherds”: to seek out and bring back the lost, scattered, and forgotten; to enable people to move beyond their fears and doubts and realize their own gifts and talents ; to bring the peace and justice of God into our own relationships and communities.

Fr. Walt

pastor@olpclareance.org

Save the Date

5th Annual Knights of Columbus
Mother's Day Breakfast
 Sunday, May 12 from 8AM-12Noon

Free Will offering gratefully accepted

Catholic Charities

We have received for 2024 a total of \$38,357.00

and are on our way to our goal of \$115, 838

We still need **-77,481.00 to our Goal.**

Total donors so far are 130. **THANK-YOU!**

You can also send you Catholic Charities donations to the Church Rectory or drop off in person or mail at Our Lady of Peace Church, 10950 Main St. Clarence, NY 14031 or can be mailed directly to Catholic Charities office at 741 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209-2201.

*****Please make your check out to Catholic Charities. Parish code is #0502**

If you need a Catholic Charities card they are in the Narthex Parish Center on a small table. **Please give generously!**

HOME, GARDEN & TOOL RAFFLE Saturday, April 27, 6-10PM

Food and Drinks included - Admits 1
 Limited Seating

(need not be present to win prizes listed on back of ticket)

Ticket donation \$30

***** Buy / Sell 10 Tickets to Get 1 Free*****

We are looking for volunteers for Kitchen Help, Raffle Ticket Sales, etc. during the evening of the event. Donated items can be dropped off before and after weekend Mass. You may purchase tickets in the Parish Center Narthex after all weekend Masses. Please Contact Mark Baron at 716.864.2023. **We are in need of completed Theme Baskets or basket items.** Drop off anytime in Uriel Hall. List of prizes are found on parish website and flyers at entrances of church.

2024 MAJOR PRIZES

1. Masterbuilt 30" Gas/Charcoal Smoker
2. Murray 22" Self-Propel Lawn Mower
3. Vissani 17.5" Wine or Can Cooler
4. HONITURE Robot Vacuum and Mop Combo
5. \$200.00 Cash
6. Milwaukee M18 18V 5 Tool Combo Kit
7. Patio 5 pc. Swivel High Chairs / Table Set
8. Solo Stove Woodburning Fire Pit
9. Samsung 65" UHD 4k Smart TV
10. \$500.00 Cash
11. Westinghouse 3200 PSI Gas Pressure Washer
12. Bose Solo 5 TV Soundbar Sound System
13. Ninja 8 in 1 Digital Air Fry Countertop Oven
14. Toro Battery Powered Lawn Mower
15. \$200.00 Cash
16. BISSELL CrossWave Cordless Wet-Dry Vacuum
17. Toro 10" Tilling Gas Cultivator
18. \$200.00 Home Depot Gift Card
19. Hisense 75 IN. 4K UHD Smart TV
20. \$500.00 Cash



Catholic Charities—Is your child age 12-17 displaying chronic negative behaviors such as noncompliance, verbal and/or physical aggression, truancy, school failure, curfew violations, running away, illegal substance abuse and/or criminal activity? **Catholic Charities multisystemic Therapy Program can help.** MST is an intensive, family-focused intervention program that's facilitated in the youth's natural environment. Call 716-207-7472. Catholic Charities Appeal 2024 is ongoing through June 30. To make a donation today, visit www.ccnw.org/donate or text HOPE4WNY to 44321. St. Mary's 2024 Goal is \$218,032., so far current donors (245) (have donated) \$183,175.



Dedicate the Sanctuary Candle - The red Sanctuary Lamp is located near the tabernacle, in both the church and chapel, and burns to remind us of the presence of Jesus Christ. If you wish to have the Sanctuary Lamp burning in memory of a loved one or to honor a special occasion or a special intention, please contact the Parish Office. The cost of the candle is \$10.00. It will burn for one week. Please specify if you would like the church or the chapel. The memorial or intention will be published in the Bulletin.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 17530
4th Annual
GOLF
4-Man Scramble Tournament
May 17th, 2024
Registration/Check-In 10:30
Shotgun Start 12:00 p.m.
Food, Open Bar & Awards,
Following Golf 5:30p.m.

*** ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT LOCAL *
 * MINISTRIES, CHARITIES, & SEMINARIANS ***

Play & Win! **\$165 \$550**
PER PERSON FOURSOME

ARROWHEAD Golf Club
 12292 Clarence Center Akron NY 14001

RAIN OR SHINE EVENT
LOTS OF FOOD, PRIZES & SURPRIZES
SPONSORSHIP & REGISTRATION
 Call: (716) 650-0837 or Email: kofC17530@gmail.com
 Like us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus 17530



SUNDAY SCRIPTURE PREPARATION AND FAITH SHARING

Join us as we use the Scriptures for each upcoming Sunday to study the Bible and share our faith. Sessions will be facilitated by Dick Marchessault or one of our regular participants. We will begin on April 25, when we will study and prepare for Sunday, April 28. Thursdays at 10 AM in Rooms 110/111 of St. Mary's Parish Center. Use this link to view the study sheet for Sunday, April 28

<https://tinyurl.com/SundayApril28>

Questions: Dick Marchessault (716-221-0046 [voice or text]) or the Catholic Education Office (716-688-0599)



May Crowning –Our annual May Crowning devotion will take place on Sunday, May 5th before the 9:00 am Mass. We will begin at 8:45 around the statue of Mary in the back lot of the church. All are invited to meet outside and participate in the crowning. All First Communicants are invited to wear their First Communion outfits and bring a flower for Mary if you wish.



ALL YOU CAN EAT Pancake Breakfast at **A. J. Jurek Post**, Smith & New Roads, E. Amherst, **Sunday, May 12th**, 8AM-12:00PM. Includes: pancakes, eggs, sausage, & a beverage. Adults \$10, 12/U \$4, U/5 free.

The Great Shred Event at St. Gregory the Great Saturday, April 27th 9am—noon. Bring and shred your personal documents. Shredding is done on site by Lincoln Archives. \$15 a bag/box OR 3 for \$35. St Gregory the Great Ministry Center is on Maple Road next to Millard Fillmore Suburban in Amherst. Call 716-688-5678 for more information. Sponsored by St. Greg's KofC.

Catholic Home Missions Appeal—Strengthening the Church at home. Today, nearly 40% of US dioceses are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support will help them meet sacramental needs. You may place your donation in the collection basket any time in April. Envelopes at entrances. More info at www.usccb.org/home-missions

Thank You!

Our utmost gratitude goes out to our many sponsors, live & silent auction donors, gift card & wine donors, ministries, staff, auction committee, and incredible volunteers for making the Spring for Success Auction Gala possible. All funds raised help provide critical funding for the continuing education and vital programs we offer at St. Mary's.

APPLY NOW FOR PRE-K 3 THROUGH GRADE 8!



TRADITION

Founded in 1849, we celebrate our strong past as the foundation of our vision for tomorrow. Schedule a tour to see why we're more than just a school.

716-689-8424 | stmaryschoolswormville.org



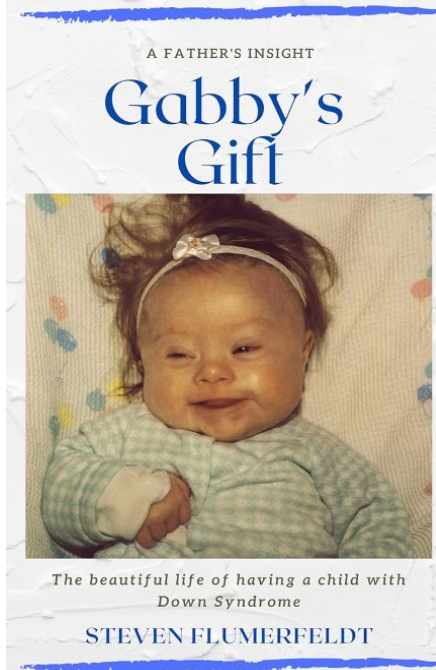
St. Mary School
SWORMVILLE



ST. MARY'S
MONTESSORI

DEDICATED TO THE WHOLE CHILD...
SERVING THE ENTIRE FAMILY.

Gabby Flumerfeldt is an altar server at St. Teresa of Avila



Anyone who has a child with Down syndrome knows what an incredible gift it is. Gabby's Gift, a heartwarming tribute by a loving father, tells the story of how a very special girl has touched and blessed the lives of all who have come to know her. From the perspective of a father, readers will see the transformative effect that having such a special child has on a couple, a family, and a community. This new, enlightened perspective will engage readers and inspire them to see life in a new way.

This is a story about a father's love for his daughter with Down syndrome. From the moment he and his wife learned of their child's diagnosis, Gabby has had a profound impact on them, their older children, their faith, and the community. It is a story about how Gabby has touched her family and the lives of her community in so many ways. It is also about Gabby's love for life in its entirety and her love for our Lord and Savior. By sharing the details of his daughter's life and the many ways she has made a difference in his life and the lives of others, author Steven Flumerfeldt pays special tribute to this beautiful young woman who truly is a gift from God. Readers will enjoy Gabby's Gift for its inspiring message that having a child with Down syndrome is a profound blessing.

At this time it is only available as an e-book but it will be available soon in soft cover. <https://www.amazon.com/dp/BOCW1CHDNS>

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Knights of Columbus - Thought for the Week

"It is not enough to love the young; they must know that they are loved,"

St. John Bosco

On this Good Shepherd Sunday we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life -- especially in our diocese. May Jesus raise up good shepherds in our midst. If you feel the call, talk with Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847- 5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.



BIG SCREEN VIEWINGS OF SEASON FOUR
CONSECUTIVE THURSDAYS - APRIL 11—MAY 30
7: 00 PM in Nativity Church
[exception- Tuesday, May 7th in place of May 9th]

The 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat
is brought to you by Hearts Afire: Parish-based Programs from the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception (HAPP®).



Weekly meetings will take place on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
Dates and locations will be as follows:

April 15th, 22nd, and 29th - Our Lady of Peace in Clarence in the Parish Center.

May 6th - St. Mary's Church in Swormville in the cafeteria.

May 13th - St. Teresa's in Akron in the Parish Hall.

May 20th - Consecration Mass (Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church) at 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace Church, Clarence.

People of Praise - Youth Camp & Mission

Basket Raffle Fundraiser

Saturday, April 27, 2024, 5:30pm

Nativity BVM Gym – Main & Harris Hill

Dedicate the Sanctuary Candle

The red Sanctuary Lamp burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honor to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection. If you wish to have the Sanctuary Lamp burning in memory of a loved one, to honor a special occasion, or a special intention make arrangements with the Parish Rectory Office. The cost of the candle is \$10.00. It will burn for one week, beginning on a Friday and completing the Thursday of the following week. The memorial or intention will be published in the Bulletin.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP) offers assistance with food, clothing, gasoline, medicine, rent, utilities and transportation to people of all backgrounds and faiths facing economic or emotional crises. To request assistance from SVDP, please call the Nativity Parish contact at 716-632-8838 ext. 420 and leave a message for a parish member to respond back. Financial donations can be placed directly in the collection boxes at Nativity Church. Clothing donations can be placed directly in the collection boxes in the lower parking lot at Nativity Church.

The Refugee, Immigrant and Migrant Ministry will be partnering with Father Ron to resettle a family from Uganda, in the Buffalo area. Similar to our previous resettlement projects, we are asking for pledges of donations NOW. We will collect and store donations on Saturday, April 27th from 9:30 am -11:00 am in the PAA center. The "wish list" of household goods needed for the family, can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/NewListRefugee>
Wegmans, Tops and Walmart gift cards are welcome.
If you are interested in assisting with the move in process, sometime in May, please contact Cheryl Gelder @ geldercheryl@yahoo.com

CASH ONLY!



Bring your own recyclable bags!

RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, May 4th

8:00 - 3:00

Donation Drop Off: Friday, May 3rd 8:30-1:30

WHAT TO DONATE:

- Housewares
- Kitchen Items
- Decor, Knick-Knacks
- Working Appliances
- Artwork
- Craft Supplies
- Sports Equipment
- Tools
- Clocks, Lamps
- Antique & Vintage
- Toys, Games, Puzzles & Books
- Furniture
- Purses, Shoes
- Accessories
- Items in good, working condition



WE DO NOT ACCEPT:

- Items in need of repair
- Carseats
- Cribs
- TV sets
- Computers & Laptops
- Printers
- Undergarments
- Carpeting
- Air Conditioners
- Chemicals & Paints
- Mattress & Boxsprings
- Heavily Soiled Items

Nativity of Mary School Gym
8550 Main Street, Williamsville NY 14221

Nativity BVM is teaming up with several other groups and organizations to support the **Baby and Children's Ministry at Harvest House.**

Families are asked to seek and collect donations of **gently used clothing and other items** from your own homes, and from friends and relatives:

Clothing items to collect - Gently used and clean children's clothing and outerwear for any season (underwear and socks must be new/not used).

Sizes to collect - All sizes newborn - size 14. The most urgent need is for boys' clothing and coats in sizes 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, & 14.

Other necessities needed - Disposable diapers in all sizes, wipes, shoes, boots, educational toys, children's books, pack n' plays, car seats no older than 2018, cribs, toddler beds, highchairs, strollers in good condition.

How to donate - Please ensure all donations are clean and placed in boxes or bags. **We will collect donations in the Nativity Rectory office mid-April through Saturday, April 27 at 11 am.** Volunteers will transport all donations to Harvest House Ministry Center the afternoon of April 27.





GETTING TO *Know* OUR PRIESTS REVEREND WALTER SZCZESNY

Did you grow up in the WNY area? Do you have siblings?
I grew up in Batavia, NY, with five siblings.

Did you go to public or Catholic schools growing up? What about college?
My entire education was in Catholic schools including Notre Dame High School, Wadhams Hall Seminary College, and Christ the King Seminary.

Did you work in other fields prior to becoming a priest?
I was a Special Education Teacher with deaf/blind children for 2 Years at the NY State School for the Blind in Batavia and worked for 6 years with the US Treasury Office both in Los Angeles, CA and Ithaca, NY

When were you ordained? What parishes were you previously assigned to?
I was ordained on July 21, 1990. My first assignment was to Immaculate Conception in East Aurora and then to SS Peter & Paul in Hamburg. I have been a faculty member at Christ the King Seminary, Vocations Director for the Diocese of Buffalo, Pastor of Saint George in West Falls, NY, Pastor of All Saints Church in Lockport, and most recently, Pastor of Our Lady of Peace in Clarence.

Currently, I serve as Bishop's Delegate for Priestly Life and Care; a Priest Council and Chancery Curia member; and am a member of the Priest Personnel, Priest Retirement and Lay Pension boards. I also serve as the Chaplain for the Lockport Fire Department and Lockport Men and Women Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Who encouraged/inspired you to become a priest?
The Priests that I grew up with in my home parish, Sacred Heart in Batavia, inspired me to become a priest.

Akron, Clarence Roman Catholic Community

Monday May 13th 2024

(Mary Palmer & OLP Music Ministry)

Christ in Me Arise

7-8 PM Inspirational Outdoor Concert
[6:15 PM Slider Sandwich, Side & Dessert]

RSVP 716-683-6522 by May 6th

Bring a Lawn Chair

Free Will Donations accepted

Location: **Our Lady of Pompeii Parking Lot**
129 Laverack Ave. Lancaster NY 14086
(Rain location—OLP Aud.)

*The Church Musicians Guild of Buffalo
and
St. Louis Church
present a*

Festival Ensembles Concert

**Featuring the choirs of St. Joseph Cathedral, St. Louis,
St. Anthony, Blessed Trinity, Queen of Heaven the
St. John Paul II Schola Cantorum**

**Sunday, April 21, 2024
5:00 PM**

St. Louis Church
780 Main Street (at Edward)
Buffalo, New York

Please join us for a lovely afternoon of great music! Free admission

St. Francis High School *Choral & Instrumental 2024 Spring Concert*

Thursday, April 25th @ 7pm(no charge)
4129 Lake Shore Blvd. Hamburg, NY

Marian Mini-Retreat: Join your female friends in faith for an evening of peace, wellness and fellowship to celebrate the month of Mary at Kin Loch Farmstead (4299 Ridge Road Lockport, NY 14094) on Thursday May 16th from 7:00pm-8:45pm. Activities include movement and praying the Rosary by SoulCore, Tea Tasting and make your own lavender sachet. Tickets are \$30. All proceeds benefit Chesterton Academy.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/MarianMiniRetreat24> for more information.



Catholic Education

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

As a parish family, we celebrate the joy of encountering Jesus in the sacraments. We pray that you have an even closer relationship with Our Lord through your sacramental preparation experience.

Congratulations!

To the candidates who received full initiation into the Catholic faith during the Easter Vigil this year. May the Holy Spirit continue to draw you close to the Lord.



To those who are welcomed as a child of God through Baptism this month. May God bless the parents and godparents who are teachers of our faith.



To those who will receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time over the next months within our family of parishes. May He continue to bless you with His love and saving grace.



To our Confirmation candidates who will be full initiated in the Catholic faith through Confirmation by Bishop Michael Fisher on April 26. As disciples, they will continue to walk on their faith journey sharing the Good News with their lives.



**Hold my Hand, God,
lead the way,
Help me be good every day.
Let me know what's wrong and right,
Keep me safe day and night.
Let me know what you have planned,
lead the way God,
hold my Hand.
Amen**

A big **thank you** to all who have been part of the preparation process and supported in many ways all those who are receiving a sacrament this Easter season. Every time we share the love of Jesus with another we are acknowledging our vocation as a disciple.

FORMED® Enrich your faith journey as a family. Create a login today!

Watch **33 Days to Morning Glory** videos that follow along with our parish family retreat.



Find **Brother Francis** videos specifically created to engage your children as they learn about our Catholic faith!



The 4th Grade class at **Our Lady of Peace** will proclaim the Word of God during 10am Mass on Sunday, April 21. Please pray for the children as they participate in this Liturgy.