



Akron Clarence Roman Catholic Community

www.AkronClarenceRCC.org

May 5, 2024 | Sixth Sunday of Easter



"LOVE ONE ANOTHER." —JN 15:17

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 C.C.D. ©LPI

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Dear Parishioners,

Our gospel passage this weekend continues the theme of discipleship in John's Gospel. Jesus teaches us today that love is the defining quality of discipleship. To remain in the abiding love, life, and joy of Jesus Christ, a disciple will need to keep His commandments.

A disciple can be obedient out of a variety of possible motivations. I would like to reflect on three motivations to be a disciple. Two of these motivations are mentioned in our gospel passage today. The first motivation is that of a slave. Slaves perform their duties, not of free will, but mostly out of a desire to avoid punishment. Thus, a slave's obedience to the master's command was often based on fear. When a person is motivated primarily by a fear of punishment something is missing – love.

Another motivation for obedience is a desire for a reward or compensation. This would describe a mercenary. A mercenary is motivated primarily by desire for reward and remains self-centered in their attitude. They are free, but they behave like a hired hand.

So when we are obedient to God out of a fear of eternal damnation, we make ourselves a relationship with that of master and slave. God rejects this type of relationship. He does not want our relationship to be based on fear of punishment.

If we are obedient to God out of a desire for a reward – entry into heaven – we make our relationship with God that of a mercenary. We become a hired hand seeking compensation. God does not want our relationship based on a desire for a reward.

In our gospel today Jesus tells us what kind of relationship God does want, "I have called you friends". The relationship Jesus is inviting us to have with God is a relationship based on friendship. Only the motivation of love will allow us to be in right relationship with God.

Does Jesus define what love is necessary? He does. A love that willingly sacrifices for the other with out fear of punishment or desire for reward. How far should this love go? "to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Thus, friendship with God is very challenging. Friends care for one another out of love rather than fear of punishment or desire for reward. Friends are friends all day, every day. It can be easy for us to love others – as long as we get to love them on our terms. Jesus wanted to clarify and establish once and for all what true love looks like, so he defined it for us on the Cross.

If we want to be disciples, if we want to be his friend, then we must manifest the same love in our lives that Jesus manifested in His life. This challenge of discipleship requires us to love not only the people with whom we want to share our lives but all those the Lord has placed in our midst – whether we choose them or not.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. Tereas of Avila, pray for us. All holy men and women, pray for us.

AMDG,

Fr. Tom Mahoney

St. Teresa of Avila Mass Schedule

Saturday, May 4

4:00 pm In Memory of Jim Vasi by Michael Shaw

Sunday, May 5 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am William D. Lantz by the Lantz Family

Monday, May 6

8:00 am Patricia Lederhouse by Bernadette Connolly

Tuesday, May 7

8:00 am Intentions for Fathers

Wednesday, May 8 – St. Damien deVeuster

5:30 pm Margaret Laciura Birthday Blessings by Mary Olsen

Thursday, May 9 – Ascension of Our Lord

8:00 am Dearly Departed Souls

7:30 pm Helen Capan by Daughter

Friday, May 10

8:00 am 2 Year Anniversary of Death of Nancy O'Donnell
by Maureen Metzger

Saturday, May 11

9:00 am Mr. & Mrs. Leo Preteroti & Family by Family

4:00 pm Jean Kisker by Cheryl & Marc

Sunday, May 12 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Connie Caprio by Family

St. 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

Margie 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

May 10-16—Russell Christopher (healing)-

Gugliuzza Family

May 17-23—John Irving- repose of his soul—Susan

Gugliuzza

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 4

5:15PM Rose Anne Duffin Concannon—Ludwig Family
Deceased members of Nenni & Fortunato
Families—Carolyn Nenni

Sunday, May 5—Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00AM Carolyn Voit—Jean Paa

10:00AM Simone Minneci— Wife & Children

Monday, May 6

8:00AM Bertha Krug—Sons

Tuesday, May 7

9:00AM All Souls—Nativity Parishioners

Wednesday, May 8—St. Damoem deVeuster, priest

8:00AM Helen Gough—Lyn Hutchinson

Thursday, May 9—Ascension of the Lord

8:00AM Albert Benker—Robison & Benker Families
Alison Benker—Robison & Benker Families

1:00PM All Souls—Nativity Parishioners

7:00PM Parishioners of Nativity—Fr. Tom Mahoney

Friday, May 10

8:00AM Wolfgang Voit—Jean Paa

Saturday, May 11

8:00AM Karen Sroka Werner—The Family

5:15PM Pat Hill & Georgia Manos—Carolyn Nenni

Eleanor Mahoney—Fr. Tom

Sunday, May 12—Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00AM Helen Clohessy—Robert & Ann Ludwig

10:00AM Jane Schrader—Nancy & Harry Carroll

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

nrich-

ard@nativityofmaryschool.org

Family Faith Formation 716-634-3130

Debbie Daigler – Director

ddaiglernbvm@gmail.com

Please keep in prayer the people on our sick list:

Michael Hartman, Susan Rogers, Timothy Gallivan,

Ted & Diane Petroff, Anna Daigler., Carolyn Dorigo ,

David Kraatz

For all those participating in the 33 days to Morning Glory, Marian retreat - May the Holy Spirit, living in Mary, guide our hearts closer to Jesus through Our Blessed Mother.

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 4

5:15PM Mary & Stanley Darlak - The Family

Sunday, May 5 - *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

8:00AM Adam Lukowski - Sharon & Connie Golebiewski

10:00AM Living & Deceased members of Altar & Rosary members

Monday, May 6

8:00AM Peyton L. Morse - The Kreppel Family

Tuesday, May 7

8:00AM Carolyn Mooney - Fr. Walt

Wednesday, May 8 - *Vigil of Ascension of the Lord*

St. Damien deVeuster, Priest

8:00AM Rita Wayman - Gemma Moell

7:00PM Departed Souls

Thursday, May 9 - *Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day)*

6:30AM Departed Souls

8:00AM Claire Ugowski - Scott & Anita Simons

12:00Noon Dominic & Nancy Paianini

Friday, May 10

6:30AM Paul & Shirley Kreppel - The Kreppel Family

Saturday, May 11

11:00AM First Communicants

5:15PM John Parkes - Friends of Family

Sunday, May 12-*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

8:00AM Mother's Day Intentions

10:00AM Lynn Weiss & Living and Deceased members of The Holy Name Society

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, Russell Christopher, 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, Kingston, John Kulozewski, Mark Korpanty, Laurie, Sister Ann Helene Koenig OSF, Steve L., Cindy Lueckert, Colin McCabe, Paul Meir, Al Meister, Kathy McHugh, Candace Morse, Betty Mutton, Peter Rizzo, Joan O'Brien, David P., Carmine Purdie, Paulette Sadus, Ron Sarafin, Donna Schmidle, Eleanor Smith, Steve, Thomas L., Tina C. Frank & Dolores Tobin, Vince, Judy Vogt, Mary Ellen Wagner, Paul Willard, Ron Weiss, Msgr. Wetter & Genevieve Wojcik.

LECTORS

Saturday, May 11

5:15 PM Bruce Kloc

Sunday, May 12

8:00 AM Karen Molitor

10:00 AM Kathleen Andrews

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, May 11

5:15 PM Robert Andzel, Patricia Andzel, Gina Freitas, Maureen McEwan

Sunday, May 12

8:00 AM Ronald Walkowiak, Elvin Eberle, Lew Wargo

10:00 AM Diane Cortese, Lori Sebian, M. L. Verdi-Korte, Ron Andrews

**The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation).
The Vigil Mass is on Wed., May 8 at 7PM and Thurs.,
May 9 at 6:30AM, 8AM and 12Noon**

**Eucharistic Adoration: Every Wed. 7AM-6PM
Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet: Wed. 5:30 - 6PM
Confessions: Saturday from 3:45 - 4:45PM**

Catholic Charities

We have received for 2024 a total of \$50,963.00

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

We still need **-64,875.00 to our Goal.**

Total donors so far are 152.

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 Thank-you for your generosity**

Weekly Readings

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 (19a)/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

St. Mary's Swormville Mass Schedule

Saturday, May 4 - Vigil

4:00PM Kathleen Bringard by Jim & Jane O'Donnell

Sunday, May 5—Sixth Sunday of Easter

7:30AM Chris Beiter by John & Cindie Siefert & family

9:00AM Doris Heim by Dave & Ann Perry

And Rebecca Iannone by Linda Macdonald

11:00AM George Eichelberger by Robert & Nancy Marciniak

Monday, May 6

9:00AM Kristina Young by Jay & Ellen Young

Tuesday, May 7

9:00AM Lena Montalbano by Regina Lauer

Wednesday, May 8—St. Damien De Veuster, priest

9:00AM Sister Suzanne Hitzges by the Bager Family

5:00PM For an increase in vocations to the Priesthood by Andi Andrzejewski **(Vigil Mass, Main Church)**

Thursday, May 9—Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation) (All Main Church)

7:00AM All Souls' Intentions by Parishioners

9:00AM Donna Rockwood by the Witkowski Family

7:00PM Michele Dickerson (Special Intention)

Friday, May 10

9:00AM Laura Ehrenreich by Linda Dietrich

Saturday, May 11

9:00AM Lourden Chavarria by the family

4:00PM Kenneth Herberger by Brothers & Sister

5:30PM Wedding of Megan Elman & Graham Welch (chapel)

Sunday, May 12—Seventh Sunday of Easter

7:30AM George & Clara Siefert by the family

And Joyce Oehman by the family

9:00AM For all Moms, Grandmas, & Godmothers, living & deceased

11:00AM Richard "Dick" & Janet Sherry by the Terrill Family

SANCTUARY LAMP—Dedication for the week of May 5th.

For the intentions of the Joseph & Joyce Janson Family (Church)

SANCTUARY LAMP—Dedication for the week of May 12th.

In Honor of Claire Dreyer by the Dreyer Family (Church)

In Honor of Joyce Drzewiecki by the Dreyer Family (Chapel)

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

Bridget McLaughlin Communications.acccc@gmail.com

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, Donald Herberger, Jerry Metz, baby Franco Joseph Licata, Rita & Don Manno, Dick McKie, Jim Jarosz, Jake Hugenschmidt, Amelia Forman, Rosario Castiglia, Douglas Kellner, Marty Rallabate, Donald York and Jeanette Diegelman.

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.



VBS 2024: July 8 -12

Online Registration for

Participants (Gr.K-5) & Volunteers

www.stmaryswormville.org

Contact Heidi Sutt or

Margaret Terrill at 716-688-0599 or

VBS@stmaryswormville.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

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.

Women's Guild Meeting, Tuesday, May 7th in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7 pm. All women are welcome to join!

Congratulations! Congratulations to Christopher Ginestre and Emily Mruk who were honored as our Altar Servers Of The Year.

NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS

MAY 18, 2024 AT 6:30 PM
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM
ST. TERESA OF AVILA CHURCH
PARISH HALL
5771 BUELL ST.
AKRON, NY 14001

Tickets go on sale starting at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, April 17th at the window of the main office at Nativity of Mary School! Tickets are \$10 For adults and \$5 for children. You can also call (716) 633-7441 to reserve tickets AFTER April 17th.

Catholic Charities Update
Parish Goal: \$39,410

Current Total: \$ 23,496 We have reached 59% of our goal with 91 donors!
Thank you for your generosity!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Classes Grades K-6, 10-11 am

Congratulations to our First Holy Communion Class of 2024

Paul Arbegast James Campbell
Cecilia Moreland Arina Olaf

New! The last Sunday of each month will be Children's Liturgy of the Word.
Thank you to Mrs. Elliot for leading this ministry for our parish.

HOPE Day is coming!
Catholic Charities one-day "above and beyond" 24-hour fundraising effort is Wednesday, May 15. Last year's HOPE Day was historic as donors gave a record \$507,456. This year, we're aiming for another successful one-day giving blitz. Be sure to follow us at www.ccwny.org and on Facebook and Instagram for more details on how you can make a contribution, help spread the word, and track the progress on HOPE Day. To view the full list of programs and services, visit www.ccwny.org.

Fully Alive Holy Hour/Eucharistic Adoration

Come and spend an hour with the Lord, with praise, prayer, reflections, and quiet time. During this peaceful hour of Adoration, Friday, May 10th, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed beginning at 7:30 p.m. Closing Benediction takes place by 8:30 pm.

FYI Jean will be on vacation from Tuesday, May 14th thru Tuesday, May 28th. The office will remain open with Sr. Ruth present during regular office hours.

Women's Study Group

St. Teresa Women's Study will be meeting May 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 8:30 - 10 am in the Rectory Meeting Room. We will be viewing "The Last Things: 1. Death & Judgement. 2. Heaven, Purgatory & Hell. 3. The Second Coming, Resurrection & Last Judgement. 4. The New Creation." All ladies are welcome!

😊 After church, Johnny tells his parents he has to go and talk to the minister right away. They agree, and the pastor greets the family. "Pastor," Johnny says, "I heard you say today that our bodies came from the dust." "That's right, Johnny, I did," he says. "And I heard you say that when we die, our bodies go back to dust." "Yes, I'm glad you were listening," the pastor replies. "Why do you ask?" "Well you better come over to our house right away and look under my bed, 'cause there's someone either comin' or goin'!"



Our Lady of Peace Church

10950 Main St., Clarence, NY 14031

P. 716.759.8554 ~ Email: office@olpclarence.org

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

A Message From Father Walter

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Today's Gospel commands us to "love one another" and it demands a different kind of love than is projected by the media and society in general. Our love for one another is to emulate God's love – a love that is total, demanding, self-emptying, self-giving. Jesus doesn't ask us to do anything that he hasn't done first.

Yes, the command is simple: "love one another." The demand is imposing: lay down our lives. Keeping God's commandments is laying down our lives – we surrender our will to doing God's will and in this is the dying. Caring for and reaching out to others is laying down our lives – also a dying. Doing the little things every day, not because we have to but because we see the other as the beloved of God, is dying. We choose all these and other ways of dying because we know this is love and love is risen Life to offer us a share in divinity.

Fr. Walt



Pentecost Sunday

Celebrate the "Birth of the Church"
Saturday, May 18th & Sunday, May 19th

The Easter Season lasts for 50 days, ending with Pentecost. The weekdays between the Ascension and Pentecost are a preparation period for the outpouring of the Spirit. It is popularly called the Pentecost Novena. Pentecost itself closes out the Easter Season. It celebrates the overwhelming experience of God pouring out the Spirit upon the first community of those who believed Jesus was the Lord and Christ. Pentecost is called, therefore, the birth of the Church or the birth of the Church's mission.

The color of vestments and decorations for Pentecost is red. It symbolizes the intense love and fire of the Holy Spirit. *We encourage you also to wear something red when you attend Mass for Pentecost weekend.*

Join us after the 5:15PM Mass on Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19th at the 8AM and 10AM Mass for Strawberry (red) Shortcake that will be served following each Mass time, in the Parish Center.

Come Holy Spirit!!

All are welcome in our celebration!!

Altar and Rosary

The Altar and Rosary will be reciting the Rosary each Saturday evening before the 5:15PM Mass. 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.

Join us here at Our Lady of Peace

5th Annual Knights of Columbus

Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, May 12 from 8AM-12Noon

Celebrate with us and bring your Mother, Grandmother, etc.

There will be scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, fruit, pastries, coffee and tea.

No cost....Free Will offering gratefully accepted

TOOL RAFFLE THANK YOU

A sincere **THANK YOU** to Mark and Pam Baron and all those who gave of their time and energy to the Annual Our Lady of Peace

HOME, GARDEN & TOOL RAFFLE which took place in our church hall on April 27th. It was a full crowd that attended and there were so many happy faces as a good time was had by all. Your labors, time and creativity is so very much appreciated.



First Friday of the month Communion Calls for the Homebound. If you are in need of a visit from an Eucharistic Minister to bring you Communion, please call the Parish Office at 716-688-9380.



Baby Bottle Collection - The Respect Life Ministry and the Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's Council 17530, are sponsoring a baby bottle collection to benefit St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center and Mother Theresa Home.

These organizations provide material, emotional, and spiritual support during and after pregnancy to mothers, fathers, and families in need. Baby bottles will be distributed after Masses on Mother's Day weekend. Please take a bottle, fill it with your spare change, and return it to the blue collection bin in the church vestibule through Father's Day. Thank you for supporting these life-sustaining causes!



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.



WEDDING BANNS
May 11, 2024
Megan Elman & Graham Welch

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
 For Further Information,
 Email us @ KofC17530@gmail.com

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



Many voices needed for Pentecost - This year **Pentecost weekend is May 18/19.** As is our tradition, we have the First Reading proclaimed in tongues at all Masses that weekend. In order to do this, we need many volunteers! If you are able to speak a language other than English, we invite you to participate. Please give us a call to sign up. Contact Donna Allan at the Parish Office (716-688-9380 or liturgy@stmaryswormville.org) if you are interested. There will be a rehearsal on May 18th at 11:30 for all those involved.

Catholic Charities—HOPE Day is coming! Catholic Charities one-day "above and beyond" 24-hour fundraising effort is Wednesday, May 15. Last year's HOPE Day was historic as donors gave a record \$507,456. To view the full list of programs and services, visit www.ccwny.org Appeal 2024 is ongoing through June 30. To make a donation today, visit www.ccwny.org/donate or text HOPE4WNY to 44321. St. Mary's 2024 Goal is \$218,032., so far current donors (271) (have donated) \$193,095.



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

Forever Young—Will host Bob Pozcik on **May 8th at 7pm** Parish Center Cafeteria. Thoughts on "When Breath Becomes Air". Refreshments will be served. Paper product donations for our St. Vincent de Paul Society gratefully accepted. Any questions, please Call 716-984-3350.



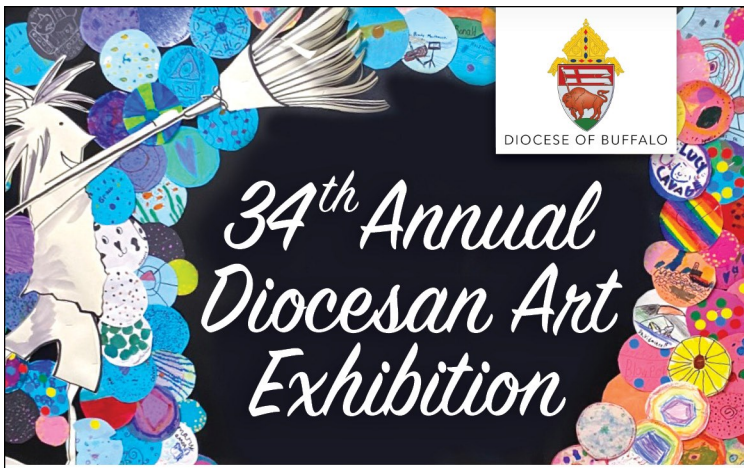
We invite all women to a **Daughters of Mary** gathering on **Friday, May 17** at 10:00am in room 110/111. Please join us for a presentation on the power of prayer in our lives. Coffee and breakfast treats will be served. This is a perfect opportunity to invite a friend to experience the warm fellowship of St. Mary's. "For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward Heaven. It is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy," *St. Therese of Lisieux.* To be added to the Daughters of Mary email list call Elizabeth Forman at (716) 691-6554 or email daughtersofmary815@gmail.com



Volunteers Needed - Volunteers are needed to assist at all the Karlo Broussard talks. Scan the QR code, go to the website, Stmaryswormville.org or call Janice O'Brien @ 716-688-9380



Hope & Healing Connections (grief support group) Experiencing loss? Death of a spouse, child, or other loved one. Divorce. Miscarriage. Adoption/foster care loss. Monthly support group for anyone experiencing grief. You are welcome to share, or just listen and make connections. Led by Judy Malinich (parishioner) and Heidi Rotella (licensed therapist). **Next meeting will be May 6th, 6-7:30pm, St. Mary's Parish Center, Room 105.**



34th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition

Please Join Us!

St. Mary School
SWORMVILLE
6919 Transit Rd., Swormville, NY

View artwork from 15 WNY Catholic Schools, and enjoy a sweet treat in our cafeteria!

OPENING & RECEPTION
Mon., May 13th - 6 to 8 pm

EXHIBITION TIMES
Tues., May 14th & Weds., May 15th - 6 to 8pm

APPLY NOW FOR PRE-K 3 THROUGH GRADE 8!



FAITH

We carry our Christ-centered, Catholic beliefs forward each day in our thoughts, words and deeds. Schedule a tour today 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.

KARLO BROUSSARD

DYNAMIC CATHOLIC SPEAKER WITH COMPELLING MESSAGES ABOUT OUR FAITH

MAY 19 - MAY 22
ST. MARY'S CHURCH



St. Mary's will host nationally acclaimed Catholic speaker, Karlo Broussard, for 12 unique talks over four days (3/day)! Karlo's talks promise to be inspirational, educational, and energizing!

Sunday, May 19 - 1:00 pm 2:30 pm and 6:30 pm*
*The 6:30 talk is geared toward teens/young adults.
Monday, May 20; Tuesday, May 21; Wednesday, May 22 - 10:00 am, 6:30 pm, and 7:50 pm.

All talks are free and open to the public.

KARLO BROUSSARD IS A CATHOLIC APOLOGIST AND NATIONAL SPEAKER FOR CATHOLIC ANSWERS WHO TRAVELS THE COUNTRY GIVING TALKS ON APOLOGETICS, THE BIBLE, THEOLOGY, AND PHILOSOPHY.

HE 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 schedule with topics

From Family 36's Refugee, Immigration and Human Trafficking Committee

WE NEED YOUR UNUSED BIKES!

Bicycle Collection at
St. Joseph University Church, 3269 Main Street
Saturday, May 18 from 8:30am–1:00pm

Do you have an unused bicycle —any size, any condition— ready for a new owner? By reaching out across the area, we are able to gather bikes to be distributed throughout WNY to our neighbors needing transportation.

We collect bicycles each year to be refurbished and recycled. The bicycles provide newly arrived refugees and immigrants in our community seeking much needed transportation for health care, food, education and recreation. Bring your bikes to our collection and with our partners at Wheels to Work 716, we will have them distributed this Spring. IF YOU NEED HELP TRANSPORTING A BIKE, WE HAVE PICK-UP ARRANGEMENTS ON A LIMITED BASIS. Contact Colleen Culligan at 716-440-7411 or cculligan53@gmail.com.



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Knights of Columbus - Thought for the Week

“Our Lady asks everyone to pray the rosary every day to combat the evils of this world. No one is more concerned about the future than us mothers. Mary tells us, in her Church-approved apparitions, that we can change the future by praying the Rosary. It is a way for us to leave our children a better world.”

Sherry Boas from her book *A Mother's Bouquet Gift Edition: Rosary Meditations and Journal for Moms*



BIG SCREEN VIEWINGS OF SEASON FOUR

Remaining Episodes will be presented

Tuesday, May 7, Thursday May 16,

Thursday May 23 and Thursday May 30

7: 00 PM in Nativity Church

The 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat

Remaining Monday meetings are :

May 6—St. Mary's in Swormville, in the Cafeteria, at 7pm

May 13—St. Teresa's in Akron, in the Parish Hall, at 7pm

May 20—Consecration Mass (Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church) at 6pm at Our Lady of Peace, Clarence

CLARENCE COMMUNITY PANTRY

extends their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the parishioners of Nativity for the generous donations of food and supplies throughout the year. The Clarence Community Pantry serves approximately 85 households in the Clarence area and Clarence Central School District. The Pantry is located at the rear lower level of Clarence Presbyterian Church, 9675 Main St., Clarence.

“No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends,” Jesus tells us. This does not always mean one heroic act of self-sacrifice. It can also be a life laid down in daily self-denial & service to others. The priesthood is just such a life. There is no greater love! To learn more, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

FINE ARTS NIGHT: Cardinal O'Hara High School in the Town of Tonawanda will highlight its music, art and dance departments at the annual Fine Arts Night at starting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 8. Students' artwork will include black and white photography, charcoal drawings, and acrylic paintings among other works. The program in the school's Performing Art Center will focus on the Jazz and Concert bands along with the Wind Ensemble. O'Hara choral groups will feature musical numbers by the Song Corps, chorus and a special combined performance. Dance performances will also be part of the program. The public is invited. For more information, call the school at 695-2600, ext. 312.

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.

NATIVITY OF MARY'S 4TH ANNUAL

Golf Tournament

THE NATIVITY OF MARY GOLF TOURNAMENT IS THE 3RD LARGEST FUNDRAISER WE HAVE! WITH RAISING AN AVERAGE OF \$20,000 EACH YEAR THIS TOURNAMENT IS A HUGE SUCCESS! TO ENSURE THIS YEAR IS THE SAME, WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY.



FRIDAY, JUNE 28TH 2024
CHESTNUT HILL COUNTRY CLUB
Tee Time: 1:30pm

Lunch
Open Bar
Prizes
Dinner



Golfers Needed!!
\$200 Golfer / \$760 Foursome



Golf and Sponsorship Information

THANK YOU TO OUR ALREADY COMMITTED SPONSORS

CORTESE CONSTRUCTION

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WEST HERR
BUFFALO ROOFING



GETTING TO *Know* OUR PRIESTS REVEREND JOSEPH FRANZ

Did you grow up in the WNY area? Do you have siblings?
I grew up in Eden, NY, in a large family. I'm number 5 of 6 kids (3 boys, 3 girls). Family is very important to me.

Did you go to public or Catholic schools growing up? What about college?

I went to public school in Eden then, attended Alfred State for an associate degree in Drafting and Design and D'Youville College for a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. I studied at Christ the King Seminary until it closed. I continued at St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, MD., graduating with a bachelor's in Sacred Theology and Master of Divinity 2022. In 2023, I received a license in Sacred Theology in Spirituality.

Did you work in other fields prior to becoming a priest?

I worked for 25 years in Commercial Heating and Plumbing doing drawing and design.

When were you ordained? What parishes were you previously assigned to?

I was ordained in June 2022. Our Akron Clarence family of parishes is my first assignment.

Who encouraged/inspired you to become a priest?

I was married, and my annulment process was a big part of it – reflecting on my life, my relationships, and the realization that God is at work in all things. Fr. Art Mattulke was my first Spiritual Director; he inspired me through his guidance and example. I was also encouraged by Fr. Walt Szczesny, Vocations Director at the time; Fr. John Heigl, my parish priest; and friends who mentioned the priesthood. Getting serious about my faith – learning and asking questions was an important part of it.

Akron, Clarence Roman Catholic Community



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



May is the Month of Mary!

We know Our Blessed Mother is faithful, strong, gentle and humble. We follow Mary's example as a disciple. Through Mary's powerful intercession, she brings our prayers to her Son and draws us closer in our relationship with Him. As a family, read together the Canticle of Mary found in your Bible, Luke 1:46-56. These are words from our Blessed Mother which become a prayer we can pray daily to remember God's mercy and our role in His plan.

We begin this month of honoring Mary with May Crowning, to recognize her importance in God's plan as queen of heaven. Make a crown for your Mary statue at home. Pray a Hail Mary as you place your crown of flowers on your statue.



Just like family photos that we display with care, Catholic statues or holy images are a visual reminder to us of someone we hold as important.



Outside your home, you may choose to create a small garden placing a statue of Mary in the center to honor her. These are known as Mary Gardens. This is a fun way to work together as a family creating an outdoor prayer space.



St. Mary's Parish Family Faith Formation 2024-2025 Program

Registration opens on May 9. If you do not receive a Flocknote email with registration information, please contact the Catholic Education Office.

Sunday, May 5 is the last day of Faith Formation classes at **Our Lady of Peace Parish!**



Congratulations and thanks to all for a great year! May God Bless you and your families over the summer break. We look forward to seeing you again in September!

FORMED[®] Mary and the Month of May!

Join Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. Ben Akers for today's discussion on **Marian devotions and customs** in the month of May!



Please join us at **Nativity BVM Parish** for a special May Crowning & Procession!

Sunday, May 19 - 10am Mass

All recent First Communicants are invited to wear their First Communion outfits to Mass and participate in the procession!





Stop by to purchase fresh, healthy, affordable and locally grown produce!

1st/3rd Tuesday 12:30-1:30pm
Akron-Newstead Senior Center
5691 Cummings Rd Akron, NY 14001
Fire Hall Parking Lot

2nd/4th Tuesday 12:30-1:30pm
Newstead Public Library
33 Main St Akron, NY 14001

The Farm Market accepts credit, debit, cash, SNAP, and Double Up Bucks!

**FeedMore
wny**

FeedMore WNY
www.feedmorewny.org
(716) 822-2002



Alpha is an outreach ministry looking for volunteers for our upcoming Summer sessions.

Wednesdays
May 29th - August 7th @ 7 pm
& Saturday June, 29

We need your hospitality and leadership to make this a success. Please contact:
communications.acrcc@gmail.com or more information

Scan me for Alpha video

