

Mary Immaculate Parish



St. Mary's
11095 St. Mary's St.
P.O. Box 442
Pavilion, NY 14525

Rev. Innocent Diala, Pastor
Deacon Walter Szczesny
First Sunday of Lent
March 4 and 5, 2017

Immaculate Conception
5865 Ellicott St. Rd.
P.O. Box 98
East Bethany, NY 14054

To Contact Father Innocent:

Phone (585) 584-3280
Emergency Cell (716) 378-3731
E-mail: innocentdiala@yahoo.com

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm

Secretary - Mary Jo Cline

mioffice@rochester.rr.com

Bookkeeper - Mike Wilson

mifinance@maryimmaculateny.org

Phone: (585) 584-7031

Fax: (585) 250-4213

Website:

www.MaryImmaculateNY.org

Mass Schedule



Saturday Mass: 4:00pm

Months of October - March at St. Mary's

Months of April - September at Immaculate Conception

Sunday Mass: 8:00am at St. Mary's

9:30am at Immaculate Conception

Recitation of the Rosary 1/2 hour before Weekend Masses

Daily Mass: 8:30am

Tuesday & Thursday at Immaculate Conception

Wednesday & Friday at St. Mary's

Holy Day Mass Schedule: as announced in the bulletin

Confessions: 3:15 - 3:45pm Saturdays at Saturday Mass Site
or by appointment.

Welcome!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church; no matter your current family or marital situation; no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, race, ethnicity or spirituality; no matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue -

You belong to Jesus Christ and you belong to us! You are invited, accepted and respected here at Mary Immaculate Parish.

We want to share our Roman Catholic way of faith and life in Christ with you!

"Mother Mary; I Love You! Help me at the hour of my death! Amen!"

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND:

Saturday, 4:00pm – March 4 in Pavilion

Intention: Joseph Szczesny (RIP)

By: Don Davis

Sunday, 8:00am – March 5 in Pavilion

Intention: Stephanie Colantonio (RIP)

By: Donna Keough

Sunday, 9:30am – March 5 in East Bethany

Intention: Rose Szczesny (RIP)

By: Cheryl & Vic Anziano

Saturday, 4:00pm – March 11 in Pavilion

Intention: Stephanie Colantonio (RIP)

By: Bill & Ursula Fuest

Sunday, 8:00am – March 12 in Pavilion

Intention: Mary Jane Logsdon (RIP)

By: Bob and Cindy Lacey

Sunday, 9:30am – March 12 in East Bethany

Intention: Rose Szczesny

By: Dennis and Carol Wittman

DAILY MASS:

Mass Time: 8:30 am

Tuesday and Thursday in East Bethany

Wednesday and Friday in Pavilion

Tuesday, March 7 – Lenten Weekday

Intention: Catherine Colantonio (RIP)

By: Dave & Ron Colantonio

Wednesday, March 8 – Lenten Weekday

Intention: All Souls

By: Parishioners

Thursday, March 9 – Lenten Weekday

Intention: All Souls

By: Parishioners

Friday, March 10 – Lenten Weekday

Intention: All Souls

By: Parishioners

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:

Roberta Graney, Joan Dowdell, Rose Gould, Cindy Bishop, Tom Gulczynski, Julia Barniak, Father Richard, Father Kemp and Father Innocent

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR NURSING HOME

PARISHIONERS: Audrey McNulty, Martha Morgan, Betty Carney and Allan Carlson.

PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE

MILITARY: Joseph Stanley, Maj. Jason Palermo, W2 Christian Koch, Dan Murphy, Alex Roth, Tim Stalica, Jady Gray, Jakob Kosiorek, Paul Agan Jr., Mst. Sgt. Nicholas Boyer, Brett Sheffer, 1st Lt. Mathieu Philie, SFC Jay Knower, Michael Rigoni, and Mark Wilkinsen.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: All interested persons are welcome to attend:

March 16, 2017 – 7:00PM – East Bethany

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Held at Immaculate Conception Hall - Starting in September.

Time: 10:40 AM – 12:10 PM

MARY IMMACULATE PARISH COLLECTION REPORT

Regular Collection: (2/25 & 2/26)	\$2,366.00
Winter Fuel (Cumulative)	\$ 924.00
Church in Central & Easter Europe (Cumulative)	\$ 849.00

*Please make checks payable to
"Mary Immaculate Parish"*

When He calls on me, I will answer Him; I will deliver Him and give Him glory, I will grand Him length of days.

cf. Psalm 91 (90):15-16

Lector
Altar Server
Eucharistic Minister
Schedule:

Saturday, March 4 - 4:00pm - Pavilion

Lector: Rae Snyder
Altar Servers: Emma & Eric Cline
Eucharistic Ministers: Christine Dailey
Rosemary Givens

Sunday, March 5 - 8:00am - Pavilion

Lector: Dawn Bertrand
Altar Servers: John Callari
Cathy Johnson
Eucharistic Ministers: John Callari
Nellie Colvin

Sunday, March 5 - 9:30am - East Bethany

Lector: Mike Jackson
Altar Servers: Oscar & Francine
Stringham
Eucharistic Ministers: Carol Wittman
Debbie Schmidt

Saturday, March 11 - 4:00pm - Pavilion

Lector: Ron Colantonio
Altar Servers: Erika & Cole Rauscher
Eucharistic Ministers: Bruce & Samantha Platek

Sunday, March 12 - 8:00am - Pavilion

Lector: Carol Pursel
Altar Servers: John Callari
Cathy Johnson
Eucharistic Ministers: Nellie Colvin
Patty Bodine

Sunday, March 12- 9:30am - East Bethany

Lector: Marita Midwick
Altar Servers: Shea & EvanAmberger
Eucharistic Ministers: Ryan Shormann
Carol Wittman

UPCOMING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DATES:

March 12th and 26th
April 2nd

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Stations of the Cross are held every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm.

Friday, March 10th - East Bethany

Friday, March 17th - Pavilion

COFFEE HOUR: There will be a coffee hour after the 8:00am Mass in Conlin Hall **this Sunday, March 5th**. All are welcome!!

OUR FIRST CHICKEN BBQ OF 2017!! Please help your church by volunteering to help on Wednesday, Saturday, and/or Sunday. If you can't help physically there are a few things we need:

- Donations of Decaf & Regular Coffee
- Donations of pounds of butter
- Home baked pies or cakes by our very gifted bakers

Volunteers needed:

- **Wednesday, March 15th at 5:00pm** scrub potatoes and set up
- **Saturday, March 18th at 9:00am** grease and wrap potatoes and finish set up
- **Sunday, March 19th**, to assist in the dining room, pie room, or wherever else needed.
- Remember, more hands makes the work lighter!

Be sure to wash up those Mary Immaculate shirts and aprons and wear them on Sunday!!

Don't wait to be asked to help, everyone is needed to make our first BBQ of 2017 a success!! Also, be sure to invite all your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to come to the best Chicken BBQ around!! Posters are available at the back of each church, take as many as can be properly displayed.

RELIGIOUS ED. CLASS: Religious Education classes will be cancelled on Sunday, April 9th due to many family conflicts. In lieu of class, we are asking that families please attend one or more Stations of the Cross Fridays during Lent at 7:00pm. A complete schedule of Stations of the Cross is included in this bulletin.

BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS: The second collection this weekend, March 4th and 5th will be for Black and Indian Missions. Please give as generously as you can.

UPON THIS ROCK: There will be an "Upon This Rock" meeting next **Wednesday, March 8, 2017** at 6:00pm in Conlin Hall. Those invited for this meeting should have received an invitation in the mail. If you have already met with Father regarding Upon This Rock, it is not necessary that you attend this meeting.

ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE: Join our church's celebration of St. Joseph's Feast day on March 18th in Conlin Hall immediately following 4:00pm mass. Traditionally St. Joseph's tables have been prepared in thanksgiving for good fortune, good health, and personal devotion to St. Joseph. Traditional main dishes and desserts are part of the table's tradition. Please join us as we are thankful for our parish family in honoring St. Joseph on his feast day. There is no cost for the dinner.

RECONCILIATION: Ascension Parish, 19 Sumner Street, Batavia, will be having a Reconciliation Service on Monday, March 13th at 7:00pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

ALL BABIES CHERISHED: It is a distinct pleasure to be able to report to you the final numbers from the Mary Immaculate Parish Advent Baby Bottle drive conducted December 2016 – January 2017. We received 102 bottles with donations totaling \$2,702.87. This represents an average donation of \$26.50 per bottle. To put this in perspective, it has been my personal experience (fifteen years of bottle drives!) that most drives average \$12.00-\$14.00 per bottle. A figure of \$26.50 is remarkable. The parishioners of Mary Immaculate have displayed tremendous generosity in their support of All Babies Cherished during these trying economic times.

Our Lady of Batavia Knights of Columbus thanks you for allowing us to assist the parish in their bottle drive by collecting and sorting the coins. One of the missions of the Knights of Columbus is the practice of Charity, and you have helped us meet that mission.

God bless you all for your generosity, and if you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call.

Thank you!

Mike Jackson

Pro-Life Chair, Council 11728, 343-3810

ON THE DIVINE MERCY: Every created life needs the mercy of God; for without the Fatherly mercy of God, the world as we know it, will be a hail of a place for everything in it.

Please pick up a prayer card of the Divine Mercy at the bulletin table as you leave the church. Pray for the mercy of God on yourself, your family, your country and the world. Thank you!

Father Innocent

FAITH MOMENT REFLECTION: What is the cost of temptation? We see in our readings today that when we give in to temptation – when we choose our own self-interests over what God wants for us – there is always a cost. Adam and Eve's lack of trust in God's Word led them to give in to the serpent's temptation and eat the forbidden fruit. Making that poor choice cost them their fellowship with God as they were banished from the Garden of Eden. In contrast, in the Gospel reading we see that Jesus does not give in to Satan's temptations. He chooses to do God's will, to trust in His Word. What is the cost when we give in to our own temptations; when we choose self-interests over God? While we may experience short-term gratification, this path never brings true happiness. When faced with temptation, we instead need to trust in God's Word to help us make the right choice.

Today's Faith Moment was provided by Christ the King Seminary. You can listen to Faith Moments on WLOF 101.7 FM, WBEN radio 930 AM, or at www.faithmomentsonline.org.

MARRIAGE MOMENT: A good marriage is not recognized by the absence of conflict, but the presence of peacemaking. One sign of a healthy marital relationship is the desire of a husband and wife to seek unity when there are disagreements and differences.

PARENTING PERSPECTIVE: "Share your bread...Shelter the homeless...Clothe the naked." (Isaiah 58:7) Although this scripture is usually meant to urge people to go beyond their own families, if you are in the active parenting stage of life, it may be enough to feed, shelter, and clothe your own family. If you're stretched pretty thin this week, you're allowed to count that. It's holy.

LENT – IT’S NOT JUST ABOUT “GIVING UP”:

Many people tend to consider Lent a time to give up chocolate, candy, or other things they normally enjoy. However, Lent is about honoring our faith. Below are various ways we can observe Lent:

- **Attend morning Masses**
- **Attend the Stations of the Cross on Friday Evenings**
- **Read and Pray over the Sacred Scriptures**
- **Pray the Rosary**
- **Visit someone housebound**

Make this Lent a time to reconnect with your faith, reach out to others, and prepare yourself for the celebration of Jesus’ Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

NO CLOSING HYMN DURING LENT: In the season of Lent, we “await the sacred paschal feasts with the joy of minds made pure” (Preface I for Lent).

However, the general tenor of this season is one of conversion through repentance for sin by fasting, prayer, and alms-giving. This more penitential tone is reflected in the Liturgy by the use of violet vestments, simpler decorations at the altar, and the omission of the *Gloria* and the *Alleluia*. Our celebrations of the Eucharist during this season will reflect this attitude by the use of the *Confiteor* (found on page 4 in the Heritage Missal and in our Mass response cards) for the Penitential Rite and the omission of a closing hymn.

FAMILY LENTEN/EASTER PACKET: Looking for ways to keep your children interested and have a positive experience of the Church's annual retreat for 2017? With a little creativity and time you can provide your family with a unique journey together with Jesus. Your free packet includes realistic ideas and practical activities designed to discover the riches of Lent and Easter together. For your spirituality toolbox of ideas, contact the Office of Family Life Ministries at 716-847-2210 or email familylife@buffalodiocese.org.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Likewise, in places of solitude we too can hear the voice of God. Take some time to listen this Lent. If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Lauricella at 716-847-5535. You can also check out the “Priest of the Month” stories on our website – www.buffalovocations.org.

2017 LENT AND HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 7:00pm

- March 10th – East Bethany
- March 17th – Pavilion
- March 24th – East Bethany
- March 31st – Pavilion
- April 7th – East Bethany
- April 14th – Pavilion

RECONCILIATION: The sacrament of Reconciliation will be held at the regularly scheduled time – from 3:15 to 3:45 at the Saturday Mass location, except for Holy Saturday when no confessions will be heard.

PALM SUNDAY MASSES: (April 9, 2017)
In East Bethany: 4:00pm Saturday
In Pavilion: 8:00am Sunday
In East Bethany: 9:45am Sunday
(Please note: this Sunday, Mass at East Bethany is 15 minutes later)

HOLY WEEK TRIDIUM:
Holy Thursday: (April 13, 2017) - 7:00pm
East Bethany - The Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Good Friday Ceremonies: (April 14, 2017)
5:00pm – Pavilion - Stations of the Cross
6:00pm – Pavilion - Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday: (April 15, 2017)
8:30pm - Easter Vigil in East Bethany
(Please note: there is no 4:00pm Saturday Mass for Easter weekend. Also, no confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday.)

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: Will be celebrated according to the standard of Sunday schedule.

LENTEN REGULATIONS:
Abstinence: All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on the following days: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

Fasting: All Catholics between their 18th and 59th birthdays are also bound to observe the Law of Fast on the following days: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions in the course of the day.

Mary Immaculate Parish

Mary Immaculate Parish

Over the past several months, Mary Immaculate Parish has been a part of this effort called *Upon This Rock*. This is an exciting opportunity for all of us to work together to support Catholic Education, Catholic Charities, Evangelization and Catechesis, and priests throughout our diocese.

Through *Upon This Rock*, Mary Immaculate will receive 35%, or approximately \$79,800, of our goal of \$244,500.

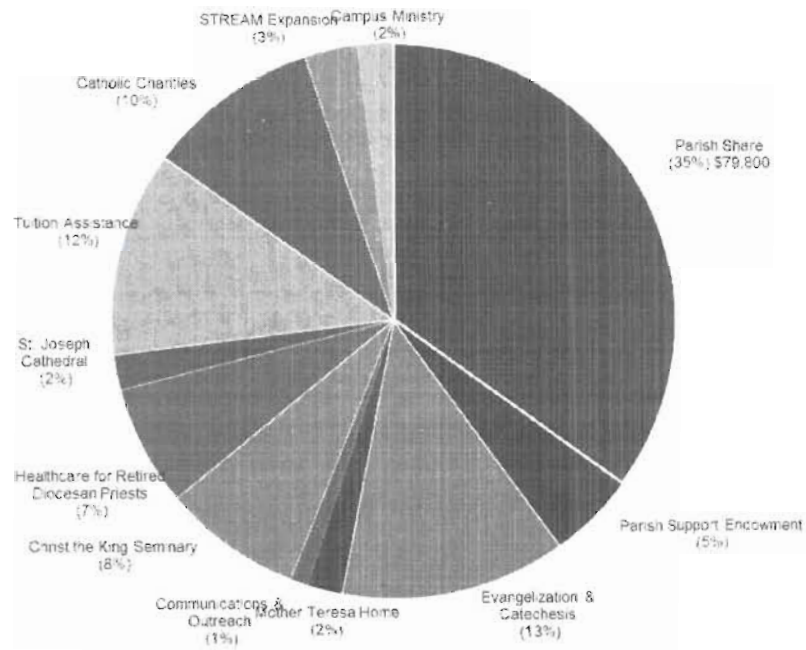
Parish Goal
\$244,500

Raised to Date
\$178,824

Number of Gifts
41

Percent of Goal
73%

Totals are as of
02/27/17



Our Needs

At Mary Immaculate we have many exciting plans for the returning funds. Our parish share of the proceeds will be used to establish a Deferred Maintenance Fund, to make necessary upgrades and repairs at both parish sites.



LENT 2017

Mary Immaculate Parish

Rev. Innocent Diala, Pastor

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>).</p>	<p>1 Lent is a stressful time of year for priests. Offer to perform some act of service for your parish. Ask at the rectory for suggestions.</p>	<p>2 Ash Wednesday liturgy and wear the cross of ashes for the rest of the day.</p>	<p>3 Start a prayer book and record those for whom you pray or for what you pray. Also keep track of how God answers your prayers.</p>	<p>4 It is our Christian responsibility to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent as a form of penance.</p>	<p>5 St. Casimir was a prince of Poland who used his power for God's interests rather than worldly ones. Ask for the grace to put God's interests first today.</p>	
<p>5 After Mass, pick one thing that prevents you from loving God "with all your heart...soul...[and] mind" (Matthew 22:37). Resolve to conquer it this Lent.</p>	<p>6 Pick a charity to which you would like to donate and set up a donations jar in your home. Try to fill it by the end of Lent.</p>	<p>7 Improve your spiritual vision: resolve to go the whole day without judging or criticizing anyone.</p>	<p>8 Despite suffering deep losses, St. Frances of Rome trusted God would work things out. Entrust your worries to God; knowing he will take care of them.</p>	<p>9 In today's busy world, older people who have become less active tend to be overlooked. Visit a senior you know; take them out to lunch and just listen.</p>	<p>10 Today, pick one or two things on your to-do list that you've been putting off and do them. Offer them up for your prayer intentions.</p>	
<p>12 Offer going to Mass today for someone you know is going through a rough time or facing a difficult challenge.</p>	<p>13 Find an unfamiliar term in the glossary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and read about it until you explain it to someone else.</p>	<p>15 Resolve to say (and think) only positive things about yourself today.</p>	<p>16 Consider making today a day of fasting between meals. When you feel tempted to snack, remind yourself of those for whom hunger isn't a choice.</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day - St. Patrick was influential in evangelizing Ireland. In his honor, evangelize by wearing a sign of your faith.</p>	<p>18 Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, taught to St. Faustina to help repair the hurt caused by sin. Find it at www.usccb.org.</p>	
<p>19 After Mass today, go out for coffee or breakfast with other parishioners from your parish.</p>	<p>20 St. Joseph was a man of action; what God said, he did. Resolve today to fulfill your responsibilities without complaining.</p>	<p>22 Read today's Gospel reading, Matthew 5:17-19. Write down two things you learned and keep it with you throughout the day.</p>	<p>23 Spread joy. Smile at everyone you meet, regardless of how you feel.</p>	<p>24 Attend a Stations of the Cross service if your parish offers one. If not, find them here: www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/devotional/stations-of-the-cross/</p>	<p>25 Today celebrates Mary's "Yes" to God, when she agreed to become the mother of Jesus. Pray for the courage to respond faithfully to whatever God asks.</p>	
<p>26 <i>Letter: Similiti!</i> Make today special. Invite friends and neighbors over for a potluck brunch to celebrate the midpoint of Lent.</p>	<p>27 Take stock of your Lenten sacrifices and renew your commitment to them.</p>	<p>29 Browse a Catholic bookshop and find a good book to read during the rest of Lent.</p>	<p>30 Clean your closet of clothes you no longer need. Donate gently used items that you no longer wear to charity.</p>	<p>31 Observe a reverential silence from noon to 3pm out of respect for the three hours Jesus hung on the Cross.</p>	<p>April Attend a Reconciliation Service or go to Confession on your own. Make a sincere confession and experience God's forgiveness.</p>	
<p>2 Read one of the seven penitential psalms (Psalm 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143) each day this week.</p>	<p>3 Pick a day this week and attend daily Mass. It may mean getting up earlier than usual, but it will be worth it.</p>	<p>5 Instead of focusing on unanswered prayers, recall what God has already done for us. Make a list of all you're grateful for; it comes from God.</p>	<p>6 Fill a small Easter basket with treats and give to a friend. If appropriate, include a prayer card, a rosary, a religious book.</p>	<p>7 Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist, waits for us in the tabernacle of every Catholic church. Make time to visit with him, if only for a little while.</p>	<p>8 Start spring cleaning for Easter: Vacuum, dust, and straighten the rooms of the house you use the most to prepare for Jesus' resurrection.</p>	
<p>9 Today's Gospel narrates the important events of Holy Week. Place yourself in the scene and "walk through" Holy Week with our Lord.</p>	<p>10 Tonight and every night this week, say an extra prayer for those entering the Church this Holy Saturday.</p>	<p>12 Try to read an entire Gospel in one sitting.</p>	<p>13 Holy Thursday celebrates the Last Supper, when Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood. Celebrate by going to church tonight.</p>	<p>14 Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Read and compare all four Gospel accounts of the passion and death of Jesus.</p>	<p>15 Our Lenten sacrifices end with Lent, but our efforts to seek God don't have to. Pick an "Easter challenge" to continue to help grow closer to God.</p>	

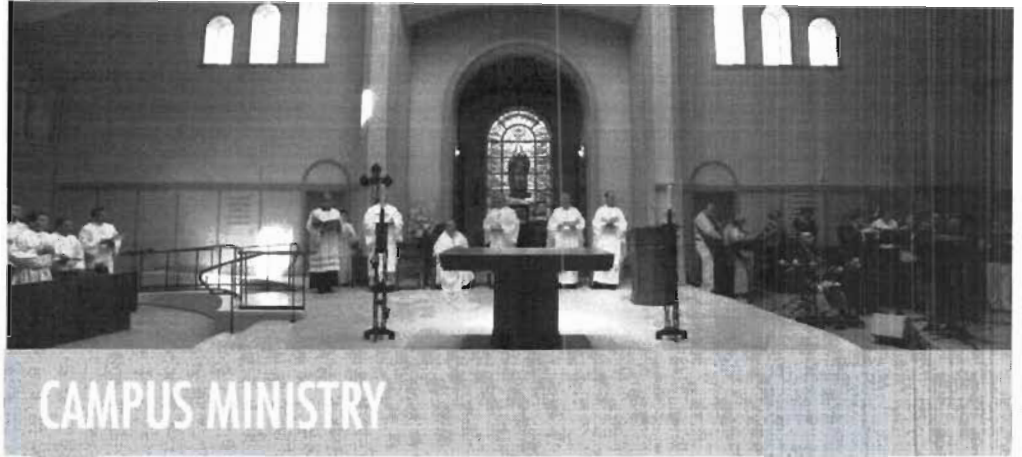


standing together
in faith

Mother Teresa Home
Evangelization & Catechesis
Communications & Outreach
Christ the King Seminary
St. Joseph Cathedral
Healthcare for Retired
Diocesan Priests
Catholic Charities Endowment
Tuition Assistance
STREAM Expansion
Campus Ministry
Parish Life and Ministries

**“GIVE AND IT WILL
BE GIVEN TO YOU”**

Luke 6:38



Campus ministry programs offer opportunities for college students to engage in a warm and welcoming environment of prayer and cultivation of the Catholic faith. These programs provide support during a transitional and often challenging time and invite students to deepen their relationship with God through participation in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church, community outreach and service, leadership training, and prayerful retreats.

WHY GIVE?

- While the Catholic colleges and universities in Western New York fund and operate their own campus ministry programs, the Diocese provides financial support to the campus ministry programs offered at non-Catholic colleges.
- Campus Ministries are essential in the development of our young adults for future roles in Catholic service, leadership, and evangelization. We should foster the Catholic faith in the next generation so we may be able to continue to build upon the strong foundation of our Church.
- The endowment will help provide funding and resources for our ministry programs, enabling them to continue providing essential services and support to the next generation of Catholics in Western New York.

WHO BENEFITS?

- It is difficult when a person goes away to college and they no longer have easy access to the support system within their parish. With the Campus Ministries, it is possible to not only find support but help further their faith in God.
- Students who are interested in pursuing a leadership position in faith.

LEARN MORE & CONNECT WITH US:



UponThisRockWNY.org



[/UponThisRockWNY](https://www.facebook.com/UponThisRockWNY)



[@UponThisRockWNY](https://www.instagram.com/UponThisRockWNY)



standing together
in faith

- Mother Teresa Home
- Evangelization & Catechesis
- Communications & Outreach
- Christ the King Seminary
- St. Joseph Cathedral
- Healthcare for Retired
Diocesan Priests
- Catholic Charities Endowment
- Tuition Assistance
- STEAM Expansion
- Campus Ministry
- Parish Support Endowment

**"GIVE AND IT WILL
BE GIVEN TO YOU"**

Luke 6:38



MISSION FOR ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

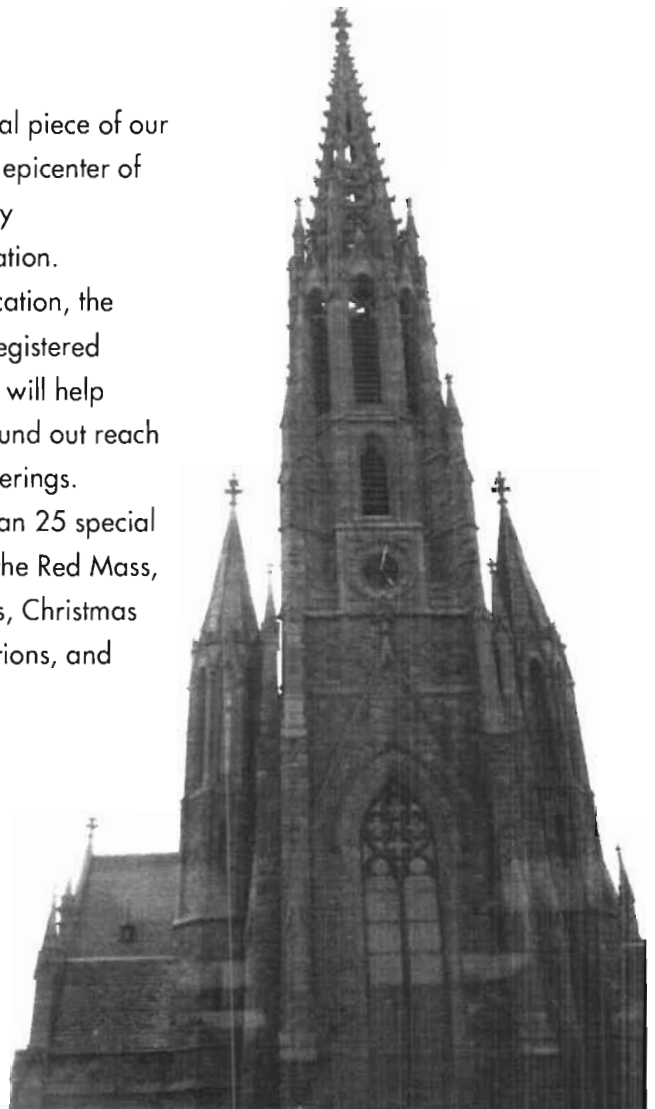
St. Joseph's Parish was established by Buffalo's first bishop, John Timon, in 1847, and the cathedral was dedicated in 1855. Today, it remains the "Mother Church" of the Diocese of Buffalo and the symbolic center of our Catholic community in Western New York; it is everyone's parish. The history of the cathedral is rich in faith and tradition.

WHY GIVE?

- St. Joseph Cathedral is a vital piece of our history as a diocese. It is the epicenter of Catholic outreach, community engagement, and evangelization.
- Because of its downtown location, the parish has fewer than 400 registered families and this endowment will help sustain the parish and help fund out reach programs and ministerial offerings.
- The cathedral hosts more than 25 special events each year, including the Red Mass, the Annual Respect Life Mass, Christmas Mass, Chrism Mass, Ordinations, and Confirmations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.buffalodiocese.org
/St.-Joseph-Cathedral



LEARN MORE & CONNECT WITH US:



UponThisRockWNY.org



[/UponThisRockWNY](https://www.facebook.com/UponThisRockWNY)



[@UponThisRockWNY](https://www.instagram.com/UponThisRockWNY)

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

March 2017

Mary Immaculate Parish

Rev. Innocent Diala, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Dominic Savio

St. Dominic was born to a pious peasant family in Riva, Italy.

When he was 12, he joined St. John Bosco's Oratory as a student. There, he founded the Company of the Immaculate Conception to help Don Bosco in his work. Dominic had mystical experiences in prayer but tried to keep them secret. His frail health led to lung problems. He died at home of a lung infection. He is the youngest non-martyr to be canonized.



Hearing God's voice

It can be difficult to "hear" God's voice in today's world, but with some effort, we can learn to recognize it. Read a chapter of the Gospels and listen: a phrase may grab your attention or you may experience peace and joy. Remember, God often speaks to our hearts, not our ears.

"So be imitators of God...and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us" (Ephesians 5:1).



Make the most out of Catholic Spring Training

One way to think of Lent is as Spring Training for Catholics. We may come into the season out of top spiritual form but, by working to renew our skills, we can be back in shape by Easter. Strengthening the Cardinal Virtues will help.

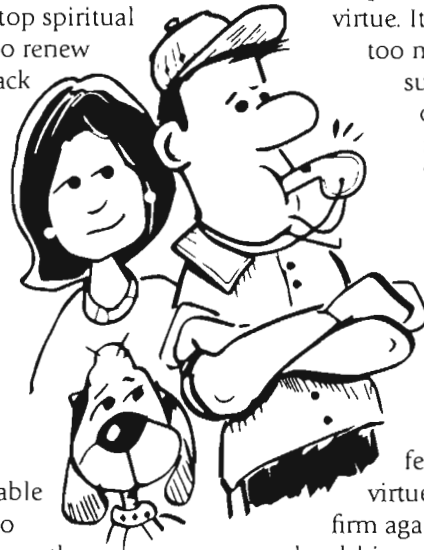
Prudence - the thinking virtue. It helps us live wisely in the middle ground between fear and recklessness. For example, we can take out a mortgage to buy a home that's comfortable but we avoid going into excessive debt to impress others. Prudence helps us live with wisdom.

Justice - the "play fair" virtue. We learn early to "play fair" by sharing toys and treats. Fairness is a basic ingredient of justice. Justice thrives when we give

what is due to God and others.

Temperance - the "just right" virtue. It is possible to have too much of a good thing, such as too much food or drink or watching too much television. Temperance, also called "moderation," is the virtue that helps us find the balance. It keeps us from becoming too attached to the world.

Fortitude - the fearless virtue. This virtue helps us to stand firm against fear and hardships and persevere in attaining what is good. Fortitude strengthens our resolve to resist temptation, overcome personal weaknesses, and make sacrifices for what is good.

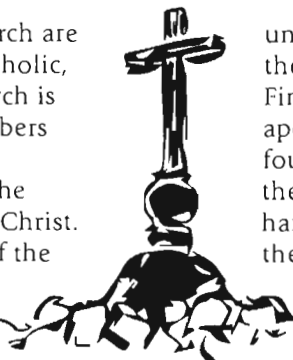


Why Do Catholics Do That?

The Marks of the Church are that she is "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic." The Church is one because all her members are united in Christ. The Church is holy because she shares in the holiness of Christ. She is catholic because of the

What do Catholics believe are the Four Marks of the Church?

universal mission to spread the Gospel to all people. Finally, the Church is apostolic because she is founded on the teaching of the Apostles, which was handed down to us through their successors, the bishops.



“And the Lord said, ‘Lighten Up’ ...”

With all the fighting and suffering in the world around us we can sometimes forget the joy of being a child of God. Try these tips to lift your spirits:

“Therefore I commend mirth, because there is nothing good for man under the sun except eating and drinking and mirth” (Ecclesiastes 8:15). Laughter is like changing a baby’s diaper. The change isn’t permanent, but it makes everything okay for a while. Each day, try to find at least one



thing that makes you smile. Even the act of looking can help.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: Rejoice! ... Have no anxiety at all” (Philippians 4:4, 6a). St. Paul wrote that while he was in prison – not a place conducive to hope. He knew that like the most loving father, God wants us to be happy and carefree. All we have to do is trust him. Turn your worries over to the Lord and know that he will handle them better than you can.

from Scripture

John 9:1-41, The sight of faith

In this Gospel reading, Jesus cured a blind man on the Sabbath by making clay and smearing it on the man’s eyes. This cure was two-fold; the man received both physical sight and the sight of faith. As he was being questioned by the Pharisees, his understanding of Jesus moved from knowing him as simply a “man”, to acclaiming him as a prophet, and finally, to worshipping him as the Son of God.

While the faith of the cured man progressed, the spiritual sight of the Pharisees did just the opposite. Their anger blinded them to the truth—that

the curing of the blind man was God’s work. Furious that Jesus failed to observe the Sabbath, they refused to believe that the man had been born blind and was miraculously healed.

In baptism, we are given the gift of faith—the ability to “see” God and our life in relation to his loving plan.

The longer we follow Jesus and learn from him, the better we understand him. The more we turn away from sin, the sharper our “vision” becomes.



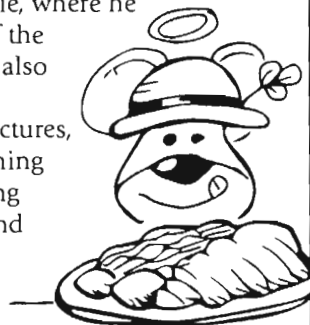
Feasts & Celebrations

March 1 – Ash Wednesday. The first day of Lent. Ashes from the burnt palms of the previous Passion Sunday are blessed and placed on the foreheads as a sign of penance.

March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (c.461). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited for having established the Church there.

March 18 – St. Cyril of Jerusalem (386). Born around 315 and raised in

Jerusalem, St. Cyril was ordained a priest by the bishop of Jerusalem. He was appointed the Bishop of Jerusalem, but spent half of it in exile due to a conflict between himself and the Arian heretics. He was falsely accused and banished from Jerusalem. He attended the Second Council of Constantinople, where he was cleared of the rumors. He is also known for his catechetical lectures, aimed at teaching those preparing for baptism and the newly baptized.



Q & A Why do we give things up for Lent?

We give up things for Lent to help us grow closer to God. We imitate Jesus, who spent forty days in the desert, fasting



and praying. “By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #540).

Whenever we think of our sacrifice — whether it is a favorite food, pastime, or fifteen minutes of sleep — we are reminded of Christ’s sacrifice of love for us.

Giving things up for Lent is also an expression of penance for the wrong we’ve done. The forms of penance the Church recommends are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (charitable deeds). To be effective, however, these acts must come from a place of sincere repentance. “Jesus’ call to conversion and penance ... [aims at] the conversion of the heart, interior conversion” (CCC #1430). It involves turning our hearts back to God and away from that which separates us from him. “Going without” purifies us and helps us resist temptation more easily.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC

Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™

(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax

http://www.growinginfaith.com

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

© Copyright 2017 Success Publishing & Media, LLC

NORTON'S CHIZZELWOOD

MILLWORK & DESIGNS
Specializing in custom woodworking, woodcrafts, small cabinetry, and furniture.
Also, retail sales of Amish furniture and products.
Quality Craftsmanship for a Lifetime!

Fran & Bobbi Norton
4309 Gilhooly Road
Alexander, NY 14005
716-560-2094
716-560-0291
chizzelwood@gmail.com



ENCORE PIANO SERVICE

Piano Tuning and Repair

2557 Stewart Rd.
Pavilion, NY 14525
768-6860
Cell 721-2097
encorepiano@frontier.com
Dennis Mellander
Piano Technician



Eisenhard Forestry

Member:
Society of American Foresters

- Complete marketing services
- Independent evaluation of woods' resources
- Representing landowners in the timber sale process

John Eisenhard
10650 South Street Road
Le Roy, NY 14482
585.584.3814
585.409.3132
eisenjm@yahoo.com



FALCONE FAMILY

Funeral & Cremation Service Inc.

Jenna M. Falcone
Funeral Director

PO Box 187
8700 Lake Road
LeRoy, NY 14482
Ph. (585) 768-2400
Fax (585) 768-2401
jfalcone55@yahoo.com



Weeks FUNERAL HOME

"An Established Family Friend Since 1919"

123 N. Main Street
Warsaw, New York 14569
(585) 786-2200
www.weeksfuneral.com
BRIAN J. KACZMAREK
Owner



ARCTIC

Refrigeration Co. of Batavia, Inc.

Residential & Commercial
Heating & Cooling
26 Cedar St. • Batavia, NY
585-343-2678



Eaton Watson
Funeral Home, LLC
98 N. Main St.
Perry, NY 14530
PH: 585-237-2626
FAX: 585-237-3760
www.eatonwatsonfuneralhome.com
Timothy J. Woodward
Timothy D. Woodward
Thomas S. Bush



Richard & Joyce Cook
Lakestreet Florist & Gift Shoppe
110 Lake St., LeRoy, NY 14482
585-768-7720
FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS



SINCLAIR PHARMACY
786-2330
Monday - Friday 9:00 - 9:00
Saturday 9:00 - 5:00
Sunday & Holidays 9:00 - 1:00

COMPUTERIZED PRESCRIPTIONS, HALLMARK CARDS,
RUSSELL STOVER CANDY, HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT

75 N. Main * Warsaw * New York 14569

Joe's Place
MEN'S CUTS and STYLES
1 BANK STREET • LE ROY, NY
768-2960
Joseph Sherman, Proprietor

HOURS
Sun.-Mon. Closed
Tues.-Wed. 8-5
Thurs.-Fri. 8-7
Saturday 8-4



LAW OFFICES OF
THOMAS A. BURNS
200 East Main Street
Suite #7
Batavia, New York 14020
(585) 343-0311
(585) 343-5377 [fax]
KELLY DONOHUE BURNS, ESQ., of
counsel
THOMAS A. BURNS
Attorney at Law



JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
SELF AND COMMERCIAL
STORAGE THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD
585-356-0973
585-356-1527
509 Pavilion Warsaw Rd
Wyoming, NY 14591



CAMERON, BRADY AND STEUBER FUNERAL HOME

Pre-Planned Funeral arrangements • Cremation Services • Medicaid Counseling (585) 768-6800

Jeffrey T. Deragon, Owner/Funeral Director

Cameron Funeral Homes LLC

111 Wolcott St. • Le Roy, NY 14482
www.leroyfuneralhome.com

Serving LeRoy
and surrounding
Communities since 1907