

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Letters of Good Standing and Celebrets. Priests and deacons who will need good standing letters or celebrets to celebrate Masses or other sacraments in another diocese should **complete and submit a “Request form for Letter of Good Standing” at least 3 weeks in advance (except for funerals).** The form can be found on the diocesan website at: <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/resources-for-clergy/> under “Chancery Forms.” Letters will not be issued unless the priest or deacon has a signed Code of Conduct and Uniform Release Authorization in his file, and is current with *Virtus* training and bulletins. For any questions, call the Chancery secretary at 716-847-5559.

CHURCH BULLETINS

Bulletin message for weekend of August 20-21: The great summer downsize! If you’re cleaning out closets and drawers in anticipation of the new school year – and the new wardrobe that comes with it – please keep **Ladies of Charity** in mind. The volunteer diocesan organization, which is affiliated with Catholic Charities, accepts donations of new or gently used clothing, footwear, purses and bags; household items such as small kitchen appliances, curtains and drapes, dishes, utensils and bed linens. For more information or to schedule a donation drop-off, call 716-895-4001.

Bulletin message for weekend of August 27-28: 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? Our **Multisystemic Therapy Program in Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties can help.** MST is an intensive, family-focused intervention program that’s facilitated in the youth’s natural environments, including the home. Think MST might be a good fit? Call 716-204-0555, ext. 5025 or visit www.cwny.org. In other WNY counties, office-based counseling is always available to families.

Bulletin message for September: Many underage victims of human trafficking are students. No community, school, socioeconomic group is immune. Cases of child trafficking are found in every area of the country – rural, suburban and urban settings alike. Be alert. **U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking** is a 501(c)(3) organization, 2039 N. Geyer Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131; sistersagainstrafficking.org.

Muchas víctimas menores de edad de la trata de personas son estudiantes. Ninguna comunidad, escuela, o socioeconómico está inmune. Los casos de trata de niños se encuentran en todas las áreas del país, tanto en entornos rurales como urbanos y suburbanos. Esté alerta. **U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking** es una organización 501(c)(3), 2039 N. Geyer Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131; sistersagainstrafficking.org.

Protecting God’s Children. Have you ever considered becoming a Virtus Facilitator for the Protecting God’s Children Program and becoming a member of our Safe Environment team? If interested, contact the Diocesan Coordinator, Don Blowey at 716-847-5542 or email safekids@buffalodiocese.org.

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish will be holding 40 Hours of Devotion, in honor of our Patron, whose feast day is August 14. The 40 Hours of Devotion will begin after a special 7 pm Mass on Thursday,

August 11 at the East Pembroke site, 3656 Church St. We will recite the rosary on Friday, August 12 at 6:30 pm followed by evening prayer, reflection and Litany to St. Maximilian Kolbe at 7 pm. There will be continuous Adoration until Saturday, August 13 at 11:30 am followed by Benediction and a Closing Mass at 12 pm. The event will be followed by our Annual Theme Basket Auction and Clam Chowder Sale on Saturday, August 13 between 2-7 pm under the tent in the parking lot of our Corfu site, 18 West Main St. For more information, contact the parish office at 585-599-4833.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The Office of Worship of the Diocese of Buffalo will host training sessions for individuals who wish to become Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Saturday, August 13 at 9:30 am at Immaculate Conception Duffy Parish Center, 8791 S. Main St., Eden; and Saturday, August 20 at 9:30 am at St. Jude the Apostle Parish Hall, 800 Niagara Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda. Please first discuss the possibility with your pastor/parish administrator. Once your pastor approves, complete an application form (available from your parish office or the Office of Worship) and present it to your parish office for final approval, pastor's signature and parish seal. Forms should then be sent to the Office of Worship, 795 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14203 no later than 7 days prior to the training. When attending a formation session, please bring your personal Bible and a means of taking notes. For more information, email worship@buffalodiocese.org or call 716-847-5545.

St. Bernadette Parish Open Doors Ministry invites you to our annual **Summer Picnic Party** for adults and children with different abilities. Our indoor party will have a Buffalo Bills theme and held on Saturday, August 27 from 11 am-2 pm at St. Bernadette Church Parish Ministry Center, 5930 S. Abbott Rd., Orchard Park. Lunch provided and served at noon. Our facility is accessible including restrooms and a food chopper is available. Call 716-649-1051 or email cozmo3631@gmail.com to let us know how many people are in your group.

Raffle-Mania on Saturday, August 27 at Infant of Prague Henesey Hall, 921 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga – featuring basket raffle, sweepstakes drawing, 50/50 raffle and more. Doors open at 2 pm. Chicken dinner available for purchase from 4-6 pm or until sold out. For more information, call 716-634-3660 or visit <https://www.iopparish.com/>.

Mass Mob. Join St. Martin de Porres parishioners at 555 Northampton St, Buffalo for a Catholic African American Gospel Mass on Sunday, August 28 at 9:30 am. Be ready to sing and swing. Bring a friend.

“Applying a Trauma Informed Lens: Building a Culture of Resilience in the Professions of Care” – a free webinar on Friday, September 2 from 2-3:30 pm; sponsored by Sisters of Charity Hospital Clinical Pastoral Education. Speaker: Laurie Belanger, LCSWR, Clinical Social Worker & Trauma Therapist. This webinar will introduce participants to the guiding principles of using a trauma informed lens when acting in service and compassion care roles professionally. It will also provide a framework for balancing personal wellbeing with service to others. To register, contact Nancy Koteris at 716-862-1374 or nkoteris@chsbuffalo.org. Once registered, the Webex link will be sent.

Cursillo Weekend for Men – September 15-18 at St. Vincent de Paul, 6441 Seneca St., Elma. Cursillo is for practicing Catholics who are trying to live their Catholic lives as best as they know how; free to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Catholic Church; seeking opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus and their friendships within their parish community; and active in the life of their parish programs. We invite you to join a refreshing weekend spent meeting Jesus as he comes to you through other Christians. For more information and registration form, visit www.buffalocursillo.com.

Meat Raffle on Friday, September 16 at Fr. Justin Knights of Columbus Hall, 2735 Union Rd., Cheektowaga; sponsored by the Parish Community of St. John Kanty and St. Adalbert. Doors open at 6 pm; first spin at 7 pm. Admission includes beer, wine, and soda. Also, basket raffle, freezer raffle, 50-50 split. For tickets or further information, call 716-893-0412 weekday mornings between 9-11 am or email stjohnkantybfo@gmail.com.

Fall Eucharistic Conference – “The Eucharist, Our Source and Summit” on September 16 & 17 at St. Gregory the Great Parish, 200 St. Gregory Ct., Williamsville. We are very excited to bring back two outstanding national speakers, Dr. John Bergsma and Dr. Scott Hahn, for this Fall Eucharistic Conference. The conference will begin Friday evening at 7 pm with a couple of sessions and then go deeper into the riches of our Catholic faith on Saturday, starting with 8 am Mass. You are welcome to bring your own lunch or choose from some options available that day. To view the schedule and purchase tickets, visit <https://stpaulcenter.com/buffalo2022/> or call 740-264-9535.

SS. Peter & Paul’s (Williamsville) Annual Luncheon & Basket Raffle “Shades of Autumn” on Sunday, September 18 at Salvatore’s Italian Gardens, 6461 Transit Rd., Depew; sponsored by St. Ann’s Sodality. Doors open at 10:30 am and lunch served at 12:30 pm. Luncheon tickets are pre-sale only. There will be over 100 baskets for raffle. To purchase tickets, call Debbie at 716-631-9528 or Mindy at 716-633-5682.

Padre Pio Relics available for veneration on Friday, October 14 and Saturday, October 15 at St. Gregory the Great Parish, 200 St. Gregory Ct., Williamsville. Public veneration will begin October 14 after the 12 pm Mass and conclude at 8 pm. Veneration will continue on October 15 after the 8 am Mass and run until 3:30 pm prior to our 4 pm Saturday Vigil Mass. Padre Pio was known to have had the gifts of healing, bilocation, levitation, prophecy, miracles, and abstinence from sleep and nutrition. Despite these wondrous gifts from God, he still looked upon himself as a simple, sinful friar. This event will give the faithful an opportunity to have a “special encounter” with St. Pio; to pray to him and ask for his intercession.

Word of Life-August 14: “Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains unaddressed. This lack of response not only often leads to unresolved grief, but also fails to clearly manifest our belief that each person, from conception onward, is precious and unique.”

Palabra de Vida-Agosto 14: “Aunque no nos sentimos seguros sobre cómo consolar a los que sufren, debemos acompañarlos mientras sufren. El aborto espontáneo toca la vida de mucha gente, sin embargo a menudo esta tragedia no recibe mucha atención. Esta falta de atención no solo lleva a un dolor sin resolver, sino que no manifiesta de manera clara nuestra creencia de que cada persona, desde la concepción en adelante, es valiosa y única.”

Word of Life-August 21: “Death is a decisive moment in the human person’s encounter with God the Savior. Helping the Christian to experience this moment with spiritual assistance is a supreme act of charity. It encompasses the patient with the solid support of human relationships to accompany them and open them to hope... While palliative care cannot entirely eradicate suffering from people’s lives, it provides an authentic expression of human and Christian care—allowing us to ‘remain’ at the side of a suffering person, as the Blessed Mother and the beloved disciple remained at the foot of the Cross.”

Palabra de Vida-Agosto 21: “En el sufrimiento el hombre debe poder experimentar una solidaridad y un amor que asume el sufrimiento ofreciendo un sentido a la vida, que se extiende más allá de la muerte... En [la familia] a la persona se apoya en relaciones fuertes, viene apreciada por sí misma y no solo por su productividad o por el placer que pueda generar. En el cuidado es esencial que el enfermo no se sienta una carga, sino que tenga la cercanía y el aprecio de sus seres queridos.”

ENCLOSURES

1. Letter regarding Parish Respect Life Coordinators & Commissioning Mass *

* = Priests and Deacons only

** = Diocesan Priests only



Department of Pastoral Ministries
St. Gianna Pregnancy Outreach Centers / Mother Teresa Home
Diocese of Buffalo



St. Teresa of Calcutta
Pray for Us!

Dear Father,

**Your support in keeping this ministry visible at the parish level is deeply appreciated by
Bishop Fisher and the Office of Pastoral Ministry**

The Pro-Life Office exists to support the Respect Life Ministries, through their chairpersons, in order to keep the Respect Life Committees and all pro-life issues visible in all the parishes.

The parish Respect Life Ministry is led by a volunteer who is recommended by the pastor, then certified and commissioned by the Bishop to take on this leadership role at the parish level. With the approval of the Bishop, guidance of the USCCB, NCHLA and the Office of Pastoral Ministries the coordinator helps to strengthen parishes to build a Culture of Life in the Diocese of Buffalo.

Respect Life Coordinator's Form

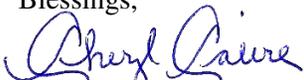
- **Current & New RLC:** For our records, please provide the contact information on the form below regarding the name of the Respect Life Coordinator who is currently serving as the chairperson of your Respect Life Committee at your parish. If you do not have one assigned, **PLEASE** appoint a new Respect Life Coordinator by filling out the form below.

Return completed form by **Friday, August 26th, 2022** to the Office of Pastoral Ministries, so that your parish is recognized and represented appropriately. You can also fill out the form online at <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/pro-life-services/>

Commissioning Mass: You are invited to concelebrate the Commissioning Mass at **9:00 am with Bishop Mike Fisher** on Saturday, September 24 at St. Louis church, Buffalo, as he recertifies the current Coordinators and installs all newly appointed Respect Life Coordinator/s leading the pro-life ministries in our parishes. We hope to see you on the altar supporting your pro-life volunteer in this vital ministry to support them as they take on this most important role.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and may God continue to bless you, as you "*Live the Gospel of Life*" in your parish, to build a culture of life throughout our diocese.

Blessings,


Cheryl Calire
Executive Director

Parish Respect Life Coordinator/s Contact Card

Coordinator's Name: _____ (Newly Appointed?): Yes _____ No _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Cell: _____
Parish: _____ Pastor: _____
Coordinator's E-mail: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS INFORMATION BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 26th, 2022

Regular Mail / E-mail or Fax
Pastoral Ministries/795 Main Street/Buffalo, NY 14203 Pro-LifeOffice@buffalodiocese.org Fax: (716) 847-2206
For more information call the office at: (716) 847-2205

Executive Director - Cheryl M. Calire
Emails: Pro-Life@buffalodiocese.org

Executive Assistant - Miriam Escalante
Website: <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/pro-life-services/>