

## Bulletin Announcements – September 12, 2022

**Bulletin message for weekend of September 24-25: Our Home Visitation Program in Genesee County is in immediate need of volunteers!** Volunteers in the program offer in-person visits or phone calls to help diminish the negative mental, physical and behavioral effects of isolation by providing a sense of social connection. Volunteers visit for at least one hour per week and engage in various activities such as puzzles, crafts, listening to music and card games. Training is provided. Ready to learn more? Call 585-343-0614, ext. 3804.

**Bulletin message for weekend of October 1-2: Become a Foster Grandparent!** Even though the school year is underway, it is not too late to sign up and make a difference in the life of a child! If you're an Erie County resident age 55 or older who meets income eligibility, consider being a Foster Grandparent and reap all of the benefits of becoming one. You'll stay active by developing one-on-one relationships with children ages 3-18 in a school setting. You'll also gain a stipend, social-economical health benefits, and the joy of guiding and supporting our next generation. To connect with the program, call 716-896-6388.

**Bulletin message for October:** It's Trick or Treat time and tricking potential victims into promising them something they may never be able to get on their own is a given for traffickers...a way they make their money. **U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking** is a 501(c)(3) organization, 2039 N. Geyer Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131; [sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://sistersagainstrafficking.org).

Es el momento de pedir dulces y engañar a las víctimas potenciales prometiéndoles algo que tal vez nunca puedan obtener por sí mismos. Es un hecho para los traficantes y una forma de hacer su dinero. **U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking** es una organización 501(c)(3), 2039 N. Geyer Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131; [sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://sistersagainstrafficking.org).

**Oktoberfest** on Saturday, September 17 from 7-11 pm at Assumption Church, 435 Amherst St., Buffalo. Music by the *Bergholz German Band*. Food and drink available for purchase; Black Forest sausage, frankfurters, German potato salad, sauerkraut, sweet & sour cabbage, pretzel bites. Pop and coffee free with ticket. Come for dancing, singing and a lot of fun. For tickets, call 716-868-1942 or 716-875-7626.

**Buffalo Ladies of Charity Annual "Dress for Less" Style Show, Luncheon and Theme Basket Raffle** on Saturday, September 24 at The Columns Banquets, 2221 Transit Rd., Elma. Doors open at 11 am for browsing the Boutique and to purchase basket raffle tickets; split club drawings also available. For information or tickets, call 716-895-4001. Please consider supporting the Ladies of Charity and its ministries.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Buffalo celebrates 125 years since its founding by Bishop James Quigley.** The community is preparing a **Homecoming Mass** on Sunday, September 25 at 10:30 am. Current and former parishioners as well as clergy

and religious who have ties to the neighborhood are most welcome to attend. A ticketed brunch will follow at The Tewksbury Lodge. The church is located at 115 O'Connell Ave., in the Old First Ward of Buffalo. For more information, call 716-852-2671 or email [olphpets@gmail.com](mailto:olphpets@gmail.com).

**Open House: Cardinal O'Hara High School** invites middle school students and their families to the Fall Open House on Thursday, September 29 from 4-7 pm or on Saturday, October 1 from 9 am-12 pm at the Franciscan-based co-educational school, 39 O'Hara Rd., Tonawanda. Visit the 17-acre campus, take a student-guided tour, meet faculty from each department and learn all about why "You Belong Here." Explore everything from the core curriculum, fine arts, science, music, and world languages programs, to the many sports and clubs. For more information, contact Thomas Wilkie, admissions director, at 716-695-2600, ext. 357 or visit [www.cardinalohara.com](http://www.cardinalohara.com).

**"Can We Become A Peacebuilding Church After Ukraine?"** on Friday, September 30 at 7 pm at OLV Charities' Glynn Family Conference Center, 780 Ridge Rd., Lackawanna. Noted author and Notre Dame University professor, Gerard Powers, will be on hand to discuss this thought-provoking topic. To register, call 716-828-9616 or online at <https://www.olvbasilica.org/speakers>. Free will offering welcome.

**The Great Shred Event** returns on Saturday, October 1 from 9 am-12 pm at St. Gregory the Great Parish, 200 St. Gregory Ct., Williamsville. Cost per box or full bag. Sponsored by St. Greg's KofC. For more information, call 716-688-5678.

**Respect Life Mass on Sunday, October 2.** Bishop Mike Fisher invites all to St. Joseph Cathedral (50 Franklin St., Buffalo) on Respect Life Sunday as we celebrate the Eucharist at 10:30 am. Blessings of families, babies and expectant mothers will be held after Mass. Come celebrate the gift of LIFE. For more information, call the Office of Pastoral Ministries at 716-847-2205.

**National Life Chain** will take place on Sunday, October 2 from 2-3 pm along Niagara Falls Blvd. and outlying areas. Together let us build the largest chain by participating in this prayerful, peaceful event. If your parish is participating in the Life Chain, please give the Office of Pastoral Ministries your location so that we can publicize it: 716-847-2205 or email [Pro-Lifeoffice@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:Pro-Lifeoffice@buffalodiocese.org).

**Respect Life Sunday – October 2.** Please consider your second collection to support our diocesan ministries that directly have served over 1,500 families at the 5 locations of the St. Gianna Pregnancy Outreach Centers and the Mother Teresa Home.

**Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Olean.** Make a pilgrimage to the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels and visit St. Joseph's Altar where Thomas Merton prayed. Receive a Plenary Indulgence on Tuesday, October 4 for the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi with Mass at 7 am. Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on Friday, October 7 with Mass at 12:15 pm, followed by Eucharistic Adoration and Scriptural Rosary for peace and healing. Designated a basilica by Pope Francis in 2017, we are one of only 89 basilicas

in our country, In 2019 we celebrated the centennial of the installation of our Munich-style glass windows, a priceless treasure for the region and beyond. Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels is located at 202 South Union St., Olean.

**Fall Interfaith Retreats at Stella Niagara Center of Renewal & Conference Center, 4421 Lower River Rd., Stella Niagara:**

- **Beatitudes: A Retreat on the Practical Dimensions of the Beatitudes for Today** from Thursday, October 6 to Sunday, October 9. Presented by Sr. Marcella Kiesel, OSF. Participants will enjoy discussions, music, reflective meditation, time outdoors in nature and other meaningful retreat-based activities.
- **St. Francis of Assisi Feastday Evening of Prayer** on Tuesday, October 4 from 5-8 pm (including dinner). Presented by Sr. Mary McCarrick, OSF.
- **Celtic Evening of Prayer** on Saturday, October 29 from 5-8 pm (including dinner). Presented by Sr. Colleen Shanahan, OSF.
- **Fall Faith-Based Book Club** on Tuesdays, October 4-November 15 from 1:30-2:30 pm. Book selected for Fall is "Feathers of Hope" by Sharon Garlough Brown

The Center of Renewal Retreat & Conference Center at Stella Niagara operates as an interfaith retreat facility located only 2 miles north of the Village of Lewiston and Artpark, and is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity. To receive a detailed flyer on any event or for additional information and to pre-register for retreats, call the Center of Renewal at 716-754-7376, ext. 1 or 2.

**Annual Pet Blessing in honor of St. Francis** on Saturday, October 8 at 11 am at Nativity of Our Lord, South Buffalo St. & Thorn Ave., Orchard Park; rain or shine. Bring all your furry or feathered friends! We will be collecting food, toys, treats and cash donations for needy critters.

**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.

**Cursillo Weekend for Women** – October 20-23 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](http://www.buffalocursillo.com).

**Wedding Anniversary Mass** on Sunday, October 23 at 10:30 am at St. Joseph Cathedral, 50 Franklin St., Buffalo. Honoring couples who will observe their 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries and recognize the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, challenges and comforts in daily married life. Registration is required by September 30; contact your parish to register. Sponsored by the Diocese of Buffalo and the Office of Pastoral Ministries. If you have any questions, call 716-847-2205.

**Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** on Sunday, October 30 from 12-5 pm at Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, 202 South Union St., Olean. Attend Sunday Mass at 11 am and then enjoy an early dinner. Dinner includes Spaghetti and Mega Meatballs, salad with ranch dressing, roll & butter, and Basilica baked heart cookie. Pick-up and delivery only. Theme Basket Raffle in Centennial Hall (Basilica cafeteria); Cash Raffle. Fundraiser supports the Oratory of the Sacred Heart in Portville. Online orders at: <https://smaolean.org/spaghetti-dinner>.

**Help for Your Marriage.** Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times. For more information, call 716-474-9371 or visit <https://www.helpourmarriage.org/>. Next weekend is October 21-23. All calls are confidential and pre-registration is required.

**Word of Life-September 18:** “Throughout salvation history, God has welcomed repentant sinners with special joy. Jesus concludes the parable of the lost sheep with these words: ‘there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance’ (Lk 15:7).”

**Palabra de Vida-Septiembre 18:** “A lo largo de la historia de salvación, Dios ha recibido a los pecadores arrepentidos con especial alegría. Jesús concluye la parábola de la oveja perdida con estas palabras: ‘habrá más alegría en el cielo por un solo pecador que se convierta, que por noventa y nueve justos que no necesitan convertirse.’ (Lucas 15,7).”

**Word of Life-September 25:** “Suicidal individuals - with or without a terminal illness - typically do not want to die... The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking: Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?”

**Palabra de Vida-Septiembre 25:** “Las personas suicidas - con o sin enfermedades terminales - normalmente no quieren morir... El paciente que solicita el suicidio asistido suele preguntarse: ¿Hay alguien que quiera que yo siga vivo, o que se preocupe tanto como para disuadirme y apoyarme en este difícil momento?”

**\*\*\* Next newsletter will be published on September 26, 2022. \*\*\***