

Bulletin Announcements – September 26, 2022

Bulletin message for weekend of October 8-9: Leave a legacy of HOPE. Did you know that Catholic Charities accepts many forms of planned giving, including bequests, gift of life insurance, charitable gift annuity, gift of retirement assets, and gift of real estate? If you or your family wishes to leave behind a legacy of HOPE for others in Western New York, please keep Catholic Charities in mind. We seek to be a partner in fulfilling your long-term philanthropic goals. Our team is happy to discuss options and opportunities and to answer any questions you may have by calling 716-218-1400.

Bulletin message for weekend of October 15-16: Catholic Charities is a beacon of HOPE. Our agency offers assistance to all ages – from cradle to grave – in a myriad of capacities. We can help with basic needs, such as food and clothing; counseling and mental health services to children, teens and adults; education and workforce support; family safety and stabilization; and so much more. Find out how Catholic Charities can be a beacon of HOPE for you by visiting www.ccwny.org. General inquiries and request for assistance can be made online at any time at www.ccwny.org/get-help.

Bulletin message for weekend of October 22-23: Costs keep rising and we know for many it can feel nearly impossible to keep up. If you or your family is facing a crisis situation with food, utilities, toiletries, being able to afford vital medical or more, **Catholic Charities** can help. Call 716-856-4494 if you reside in Erie County, or your local Catholic Charities office if you reside outside of Erie County.

Synod Voices continue to be heard. Earlier this year our diocese participated in the worldwide Synod called for by Pope Francis. Now the results from ALL of the dioceses in the US have been consolidated and are available at the USCCB website at: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/us-national-synthesis-2021-2023-synod>. We encourage you to read this extraordinary document and notice how so many of the same comments throughout the country match the results of our own Diocesan Listening Session.

Annual Red Mass on Wednesday, October 5 at 12:10 pm at St. Joseph Cathedral, 50 Franklin St., Buffalo and <https://www.youtube.com/saintjosephcathedral>. The St. Thomas More Guild of WNY, a Catholic association of legal professionals, cordially invites all to attend the Annual Red Mass in honor of St. Thomas More, the patron saint of the legal profession, to ask for God's guidance and blessings in the proper administration of justice. Bishop Michael Fisher will be the principal celebrant and homilist. The Hon. Mary Slisz will offer judicial remarks. This year's attendees are invited to support St. Luke's Mission of Mercy by bringing monetary donations or items of toiletries and paper products. Further details can be found at www.stthomasmorewny.org.

Group Retreat. Praying Sacred Scripture with Dr. Tim Gray is being offered from October 7-9 and again from November 11-13. Retreat begins on Friday at 6pm (with dinner) and closes on Sunday at 11 am at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, 57 Center Ave. North Tonawanda. The weekend retreat consists of talks geared to equip participants to more fully understand and appreciate how to read and pray the Scriptures. It also includes Holy Mass, availability for confession, conferences, quiet time, meals and fellowship. For more information or to register, contact Sr. Jacinta at 716-692-0276 or olcparishevent@gmail.com. Free-will offering.

St. Bernadette Faith Formation Program in Orchard Park welcomes any children or adults with disabilities and their families to join us on the second Saturday of each month from 9:30-

11 am in our accessible Parish Ministry Center (5930 S. Abbott Rd.) to share a light breakfast, socialize, make a craft, learn through sensory interactive activities about our Catholic faith, sing, pray and receive materials to assist in spiritual growth through the month at home. This program, **GOD'S FAMILY 2**, welcomes all. Sacrament Preparation programs are designed according to each candidate's abilities. Our first session is Saturday, October 8. We will gather for Mass at 9 am. If interested, contact Sharon at 716-648-1720, ext. 3 or sharonu@saintbopny.org.

Polka Mass & Polish Platter Dinner on Sunday, October 16 at St. Andrew Parish, 111 Crocker St., Sloan. Polka Mass by Special Delivery at 11 am and dinner in the parish hall from 12-2 pm. Dinner includes: golumbki, smoked Polish sausage, sweet and sour cabbage, lazy pierogi, roll and butter, beverage, and dessert. Tickets are pre-sale only. For more information, call 716-892-0425.

Retreat for Married Couples. The Mystery and Meaning of Marriage from October 21 at 6 pm (with dinner) to October 23 at 11 am at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, 57 Center Ave., North Tonawanda. Here is an opportunity for married couples to experience firsthand the wonder, mystery and joy behind that first "I do"...whether you said it last year or many years ago. A time for prayer, inspirational talks, discussions focused on spousal communication and fellowship. For more information or to register, contact Sr. Jacinta at 716-692-0276 or olcparishevent@gmail.com. Free-will donation.

Coffee with Sr. Jacinta on any Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 10-10:30 am at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish Ministry Building, 57 Center Ave., North Tonawanda or through Zoom. Today is always the right day to grow and deepen your knowledge of your faith. If you are interested, contact Sr. Jacinta at 716-692-0276 or olcparishevent@gmail.com.

Personal Retreat Days. If you would like to take a day or few days away from your busy schedule and enjoy an opportunity to deepen your relationship with God and to be more aware of God's presence and action in your life, you may want to try a personal retreat. There are several 1-day retreats, 30-day silent retreats and silent weekend retreats being offer at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, 57 Center Ave., North Tonawanda. For more information, contact Sr. Jacinta at 716-692-0276 or olcparishevent@gmail.com.

Thinking about Separation or Divorce? Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? **Retrouvaille** is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages. 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-October 2: "The witness of our Blessed Mother invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities... Following Mary's example, we can ask ourselves how to better know these mothers, listen to them, seek understanding, and help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children. How can we, like the Blessed Mother, lovingly support mothers in welcoming and caring for God's gift of life?" Respect Life Reflection: "Called to Serve Moms in Need" USCCB

Palabra de Vida-October 2: "El testimonio de nuestra Santísima Madre nos invita a ser más conscientes de las necesidades de embarazadas y madres que crían hijos en nuestras propias parroquias y comunidades... Siguiendo el ejemplo de María, nos podemos preguntar cómo

conocer mejor a estas madres, escucharlas, buscar entenderlas y ayudarlas a satisfacer las necesidades de la vida para ellas y sus hijos. ¿De qué manera podemos, al igual que la Santísima Madre, apoyar amorosamente a las madres para que acojan y cuiden el don de Dios de la vida?”
Reflexión Respetemos la Vida: “Llamados a servir a las madres necesitadas” USCCB

Word of Life-October 9: “An old Irish proverb says, ‘It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.’ Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life's end, we may not know how best to ‘shelter’ them. For some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them visit <https://www.usccb.org/end-of-life-care>.”

Palabra de Vida-October 9: “Un proverbio irlandés dice: ‘En el refugio del otro vive cada uno.’ En verdad, hemos sido creados para depender unos de otros y caminar juntos en el sufrimiento. Pero cuando familiares o amigos se acercan al final de la vida, puede que no sepamos la mejor manera de darles ‘refugio’. He aquí algunas maneras concretas en que podemos cuidar compasivamente de ellos. [usccb.org/es/cuidado-al-final-de-la-vida](https://www.usccb.org/es/cuidado-al-final-de-la-vida).”

***** Next newsletter will be published on October 17, 2022. *****