

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homily Helps from the Buffalo Diocese Care for Creation Committee. The Catholic Climate Covenant and the Integral Faith team provide resources for homilists and other materials that will help you integrate the rich insights of *Laudato Si'* and Christian care for creation into Sunday Mass. These include highlights from the scriptures, readings of the day, relevant quotations from *Laudato Si'*, brief commentary, illustrations and anecdotes, sample applications, sample petitions, and bulletin notes. **March 2023 Homily Helps available at:** <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resources/?tid=14>.

CHURCH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Catholic Health Services is looking for volunteers for all of our hospital sites – Kenmore Mercy, Sisters of Charity, South Buffalo Mercy and Mt. St. Mary's. Volunteers are the heart of our community! For more information, call Lisa Carey, Supervisor of Volunteer Services, at 716-862-1106 or apply online at: <https://www.chsbuffalo.org/volunteer>.

Hope After Heartache – Tools for Living with Loss. Buffalo Diocesan Catholic Cemeteries offers a comprehensive grief support program for those who have lost a loved one. Open to the community; no charge. Call Marianne Hubert, Director of Grief Support Services, at 716-873-6500 for a brochure of grief support times and locations as well as other activities provided, or email mhubert@buffalocatholiccemeteries.org.

St. Leo the Great Lenten Fish Fry to be held on Friday's during Lent – March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31 & April 7 – from 4-7 pm (or until sold out) at the Parish Center, 885 Sweet Home Rd., Amherst. Fish Fry dinner includes fries, coleslaw, roll, butter & dessert; Shrimp Scampi dinner includes fries or rice, coleslaw, roll, butter & dessert. Also available: soup, mac 'n cheese dinner, beer, wine, pop & water. Dine-in or take out. Pre-order at the parish office or online at www.StLeoTheGreatAmherst.com.

Beloved – 3rd-5th Graders: Saints in the Making Conference on Saturday, March 4 from 9 am-1 pm at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 6441 Seneca St., Springbrook. 3rd to 5th Graders are invited to a fantastic retreat centered around experiencing the love of God and understanding the purpose for every one of us...To become the best version of ourselves...to become Saints! Parents and guardians are welcome to stay onsite as there are breakout sessions for adults too. For more information, contact Mary Palmer at mpalmer@olpparish.com or Lisa Benzer at lbenzer@buffalodiocese.org.

Towel Bingo on Sunday, March 5 at Holy Mother of the Rosary Parish Center, 6298 Broadway, Lancaster. Doors open at 10:30 am; games start at 12 pm. Food and refreshments available. Also, Chinese auction and 50/50 raffle. For more information, call 716-685-5766.

Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille, a program for struggling couples, simply means “rediscovery.” The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. For more information, call 716-474-9371 or visit <https://www.helpourmarriage.org/>. The next weekend is March 10-12. All calls are confidential; registration is required.

Buffalo Choral Arts Society, under the direction of Marcia A. Giambrone, presents “**A Sacred Blessing**” on Sunday, March 12 at 3 pm at St. Joseph Cathedral, 50 Franklin St., Buffalo. The concert with orchestra, will feature Faure: “Requiem” (opus 48) and other works by Faure and Dan Forrest. For more information, visit: www.BuffaloChoralArts.org. Tickets will be available at the door.

Driver Education Program. Spring registration is open for the Cardinal O’Hara Driver Education Program for all area high school students. Classes will take place Mondays and Wednesdays from March 20 to May 22 (no class April 3-10) OR on Tuesdays and Thursdays from March 21-May 23 (no class April 3-10 and April 20). Students must attend all 16 classroom instruction and in-car driving sessions. Applications accepted on a first come first served basis. For additional information and registration forms, email ksosnowski@cardinalohara.com or visit: www.cardinalohara.com.

The Diocese of Buffalo is sponsoring two Catholic High School Information Nights for parents and their 6th-8th grade students in area public and private schools: Tuesday, March 21 at Nativity of Our Lord (gymnasium), 4414 South Buffalo St., Orchard Park; and Tuesday, March 28 at St. Andrew Country Day School (Msgr. Donovan Center), 1525 Sheridan Dr., Kenmore. Both evenings will be from 6-7:30 pm. High school representatives will be available to answer questions, discuss financial aid and provide information on scholarship opportunities.

St. John Paul II Schola Cantorum will perform sacred choral works at two events for Lent: **Stations of the Cross followed by Adoration and Benediction** on Friday, March 24 at 7 pm at All Saints Church, 127 Chaddock Ave., Buffalo; and **Lenten Tenebrae Service** on Friday, March 31 at 7 pm at Blessed Trinity Church, 317 Leroy Ave., Buffalo. Choral works by Tallis, Victoria, Handl-Gallus, Bruckner and others will be performed by the Schola. For more information, follow them on Facebook and Instagram @JP2Schola or email JP2Schola@gmail.com.

St. Margaret to host its annual Lenten Fish Fry on Friday, March 31 from 4-7 pm at the American Legion Post 1041, 533 Amherst St., Buffalo. Dinner includes on-site cooked haddock, potato salad, coleslaw, rye bread, dessert and a drink. Tickets can be purchased following St. Margaret’s 8 am Sunday Mass and in the rectory during normal business hours; and following Holy Spirit’s 4:30 pm Saturday Mass and 11 am Sunday Mass. Dine-in or take out. Also, a basket raffle and 50/50 split will be offered. For further information or to purchase tickets, contact Diane at 716-876-5318.

Infant of Prague Feel the Spirit 5K on Saturday, April 1. Post-race party for participants and guests. Beer, pop, hot dogs and bunny dogs (marinated, grilled carrots) for all. Baked good sale, basket raffle, door prizes. It all takes place at Infant of Prague’s Henesey Hall, 921 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga. Go to <http://buffalorunners.com/> for race info and online registration. Visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/feelthespirit5k>. For more information, call Tim at 716-380-0231.

Word of Life-March 5: The Gospel of Life is “meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and its inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!”

Palabra de Vida-Marzo 5: El Evangelio de la Vida “quiere ser pues una confirmación precisa y firme del valor de la vida humana y de su carácter inviolable, y, al mismo tiempo, una acuciante llamada a todos y a cada uno, en nombre de Dios: ¡respeta, defiende, ama y sirve a la vida, a toda vida humana! ¡Sólo siguiendo este camino encontrarás justicia, desarrollo, libertad verdadera, paz y felicidad!”

Word of Life-March 12: “We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life.’ We find ourselves not only ‘faced with’ but necessarily ‘in the midst of’ this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life.”

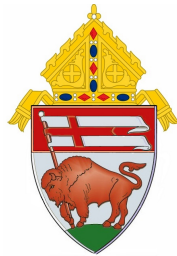
Palabra de Vida-Marzo 12: “Estamos ante un enorme y dramático choque entre el bien y el mal, la muerte y la vida, la “cultura de la muerte” y la “cultura de la vida.” Estamos no sólo “ante,” sino necesariamente “en medio” de este conflicto: todos nos vemos implicados y obligados a participar, con la responsabilidad ineludible de elegir incondicionalmente en favor de la vida.

ENCLOSURES

1. Easter Vigil: Requesting the Faculty to Confirm Baptized Catholics – memo and form *

* = Priests and Deacons only

** = Diocesan Priests only



DIOCESE OF BUFFALO
OFFICE OF WORSHIP

MEMORANDUM

TO: Priests, Deacons, DRE's, CRE's and RCIA Coordinators
RE: Easter Vigil - Requesting the Faculty to Confirm Baptized Catholics
DATE: February 22, 2023

The Bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation in the Latin Church. However, in accord with Canon Law (canons 883-884) and the *National Statutes of the Rite of Christian Initiation* (nos. 28-29), the Bishop may delegate a priest to administer Confirmation.

There are four situations where a presbyter may lawfully confirm by mandate of the Bishop:

- when he baptizes an adult participant in the RCIA process;
- when he receives a previously baptized non-Catholic into full communion;
- when he readmits a previously baptized Catholic who had apostatized from the faith;
- when he readmits a previously baptized Catholic who, through no personal fault, was instructed in, or adhered to, a non-Catholic religion.

In the case of a baptized Catholic who without his or her fault never put the faith into practice, the faculty to confirm must be given by the Bishop to a specific priest.

This is appropriate for those previously uncatechized adult candidates who have been in formation along with others who will be receiving the Easter Sacraments. *It is not to include those candidates who are baptized Catholic, catechized and practicing in the normal course, since the Bishop reserves these candidates to himself.*

Priests who intend to confirm previously uncatechized adults at Easter time must request the faculty to confirm from the Bishop.

The faculty is granted by the Bishop only:

- (1) to the priest listed on the application,
- (2) for the occasion indicated, and
- (3) for those candidates listed on the application.

The attached form should be filled out and returned to Bishop Michael W. Fisher c/o The Chancery, 795 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14203 no later than March 17, 2023.

If you have any questions regarding the canonical status of any persons to be confirmed, please call Fr. Seán Paul Fleming at (716) 847-5545 or e-mail him at spfleming@buffalodiocese.org.

**EASTER VIGIL - Request for the Faculty to Confirm
In Accord with Canons 883 and 884 of the Code of Canon Law**

Date of Request: _____ (N.B.: Absolute Deadline – March 17, 2023)

Parish: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Date of Celebration: _____

Place (Church) of Celebration: _____

Dear Bishop Fisher:

In accord with the norms set forth in Canons 883 and 884 of the Code of Canon Law and Paragraphs 28-29 of the National Statutes for the Catechumenate, I, the **Rev.** _____ do hereby request the faculty to confirm the following previously uncatechized adult candidates who have been baptized in the Catholic Church (please print):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I understand that the request for this faculty is not to include those candidates who are baptized Catholic, catechized and practicing in the normal course, since the Bishop reserves these candidates to himself.

Sincerely,
