

# Church Bulletin Announcements – March 13, 2023

**Bulletin message for weekend of March 18-19: Catholic Charities operates nine food pantry and outreach centers in Western New York** – seven in Erie County (Central, East and South Buffalo, Getzville and Lackawanna) and one each in Allegany County in Wellsville, and in Cattaraugus County in Franklinville. Each location has emergency food pantry service and offers information and referrals to other needed services to those who are food insecure, free of charge. Your support of **Appeal 2023** helps ensure these vital basic necessities and programs are there when needed. Give today at [www.cwny.org/donate](http://www.cwny.org/donate) or text GIVEHOPE23 to 44321.

**Bulletin message for weekend of March 25-26: For Drake, turning to Catholic Charities was a matter of life or death.** The 19-year-old college student was an insulin-dependent diabetic but couldn't afford his medication. His mother told him to try Catholic Charities but he wasn't hopeful because he takes insulin 4 times daily and knew it would be an expensive ask. However, that all changed. A social worker was able to secure a grant to cover one month of insulin, filled out an application through the insulin manufacturer to get another month covered and a price reduction, and also got a discount at a local pharmacy. "Catholic Charities saved my life," he said. Your gift to **Appeal 2023** helps ensure that people like Drake can find HOPE when it matters most. Give today at [www.cwny.org/donate](http://www.cwny.org/donate) or text GIVEHOPE23 to 44321.

**Bulletin message for weekend of April 1-2: Palm Sunday typically means we have reached the mid-point of our Annual Catholic Charities Appeal.** Your support of the Appeal is vital in continuing our mission of being a beacon of HOPE to all those we serve. All told, your gifts helped us bring HOPE to more than 134,000 lives last year through Catholic Charities and helped the Diocese support spiritual care through the Fund for the Faith programs. If you have already donated, we offer our sincerest thanks on behalf of the children, individuals, and families we serve. If you have not yet given to **Appeal 2023**, now is a great time! Visit [www.cwny.org/donate](http://www.cwny.org/donate) or text GIVEHOPE23 to 44321. No gift is too small to make a tremendous impact right here in Western New York.

**Bulletin message for April:** Slavery is not a relic of the past. It is alive today and generates billions of dollars while at the same time ruining the lives of those involved. Learn more about human trafficking. **US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking**, 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114; [sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://sistersagainstrafficking.org).

La esclavitud no es una reliquia del pasado. Está viva hoy y genera miles de millones de dólares mientras que al mismo tiempo arruina la vida de los involucrados. Obtenga más información sobre la trata de personas. **US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking**, 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114; [sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://sistersagainstrafficking.org).

**Tuition Assistance for Private Grammar Schools Now Available.** The BISON Children Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance to economically eligible children in grades K-8. New families can now apply for scholarships for the 2023-24 school year. To start the process, families can complete a pre-application form online at <http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarships>. If selected in our lottery drawing, the scholarships can be used at any private grammar school in WNY. The deadline to apply is March 15. The average scholarship is \$1,560 and the maximum award is \$2,500. For more information, contact Cindy at 716-854-0869, ext. 1 or [cmcdonald@bisonfund.com](mailto:cmcdonald@bisonfund.com).

**Pierogi & Placek Sale and Basket Raffle** on Sundays during Lent from 9:30am-12:30 pm at St. John Kanty Church, Swinburne & Brownell Sts., Buffalo. In addition, St. Adalbert's homemade

Easter candy will also be available as well as tickets for a 50/50 Split the Pot raffle. Join us for 8:30 am Mass and then come to shop.

**Lenten Evening of Reflection** on Tuesday, March 21 at 6:30 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 115 O'Connell Ave., Buffalo. Presenter: Eileen Warner – Retreat Director and trained Spiritual Director. Are you looking to grow deeper in your prayer life this Lent? Eileen will explore ways we can understand how God speaks to us in prayer and offer insights on ways to deepen our prayer lives and our relationship with Jesus this Lent.

**Lenten Fish Fry** on March 24 from 4-6:30 pm at St. Pius X Faith Community, 1700 N. French Rd., Getzville. The dinner, provided by Krolick's, includes beer battered haddock with tartar sauce, potato salad, coleslaw, and roll with butter. Dine-in or take-out. Pre-sale tickets available at the parish office, after weekend Masses; walk-ins welcome. For more information, visit <https://www.stpiusxgetzville.org/> or call the parish office at 716-688-9143.

**St. Bernadette Parish welcomes families with special needs to an Inclusive Easter Mass** on Wednesday, April 12 at 7 pm at the wheelchair accessible church, 5930 South Abbott Rd., Orchard Park. The Mass offers a shorter, less crowded worship setting allowing for people to move freely as needed. The lighting will be dimmer, the music soothing and low gluten hosts will be available. Fr. Joseph Wolf, celebrant; Fr. Gerard Skrzynski will interpret the Mass through American Sign Language. Mass will be live-streamed on St. Bernadette's facebook page. This event is sponsored by the Open Doors Ministry which advocates for the inclusion of people with disabilities into the life of the parish. Questions may be directed to Sharon Urbaniak at 716-648-1720, ext. 3, [sharonu@saintbopny.org](mailto:sharonu@saintbopny.org) or Paula Potteiger at 716-649-1051, [cozmo3631@gmail.com](mailto:cozmo3631@gmail.com).

**Spring Craft Show** on Saturday, April 22 from 9 am-2 pm at Cardinal O'Hara High School, 39 O'Hara Rd., Tonawanda. There will be more than 100 crafters and vendors. Proceeds from the fair will support Freshman Class activities. For more information, visit [www.cardinalohara.com](http://www.cardinalohara.com) or call the school at 716-695-2600, ext. 312.

**St. Gianna Pregnancy Outreach Center 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet** on Thursday, April 27 at 6 pm at Classics V, 2425 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst. Check-in begins at 5:30 pm. Opening remarks: Bishop Michael Fisher. Keynote Speaker: Toni McFadden, Author of "Redeemed: My Journey after Abortion." Special Guest: Honorable Shannon Filbert, First Woman Justice, Town of West Seneca. Make your reservation today by calling 716-847-2205, online at <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/st-gianna/> or email [StGianna@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:StGianna@buffalodiocese.org). Reservation deadline is April 17.

**Spring Luncheon and Theme Basket Auction**, sponsored by St. Benedict Rosary Altar Society, on Saturday, April 29 at Classics V, 2425 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst. Doors open at 11 am; lunch served at 12 pm. For reservations, contact Dolores Byron at 716-833-8030. Reservation deadline is April 21.

**Young Catholic Families Resource Day** on Saturday, May 20 from 9:00 am-12 pm at St. Amelia Church, 2999 Eggert Rd., Tonawanda. We will offer expert speakers on topics of raising a Catholic family while married/committed or single, and also education choices. Free babysitting will be available. For more information, please contact Kathy Waite at [youngadults@stamelia.com](mailto:youngadults@stamelia.com).

**Revive: A Night with Chris Stefanick** on Wednesday, May 31 at 7 pm at St. Gregory the Great Church, 200 St. Gregory Ct., Williamsville. We are excited to bring Chris Stefanick, a dynamic

speaker dedicated to reengaging a generation, to Western New York. Revive seeks to be an instrument for renewal of Catholic culture through annual events focusing on prayer, praise and engaging presenters who challenge and enrich our faith. For information or tickets, visit <https://buffalochestertonacademy.org/> or call 716-674-8101. This event part of the Revive Speaker Series presented by Chesterton Academy of Buffalo and Renew 716.

**“Seussical Kids” is a summer theater camp** for youngsters ages 8-15 from July 17-August 4 at Cardinal O’Hara High School, 39 O’Hara Rd., Tonawanda. The camp will take place from 9 am-3 pm daily. Working with theater professionals, the camp will end with 2 live performances on the Cardinal O’Hara stage. For more information and cost, email Thomas Wilkie at [twilkie@cardinalohara.com](mailto:twilkie@cardinalohara.com) or call 716-695-2600, ext. 357.

**Dress for Success.** Cardinal O’Hara High School has established a Success Closet to help students feel comfortable and confident while attending important events such as college, internship and job interviews. Items from donated clothes and shoes for male and female students may be borrowed from the closet and returned for future student use. Founded and coordinated by Kendra Ciezki, a licensed master social worker who works at Cardinal O’Hara, the closet is seeking business casual and professional clothing and shoes in all sizes that are either new or in good condition. Items may be dropped off at Cardinal O’Hara, 39 O’Hara Rd., Tonawanda or call 716-912-3517 to arrange for items to be picked up.

**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/>. All calls are confidential.

**Gun Violence in the US.** On the First Friday of each month, the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur offer their 11:30 am Mass for an End to Gun Violence in our country. Everyone is invited to join us at St. Mary Center, 241 Lafayette Ave., Buffalo to pray for an end to this epidemic.

**Word of Life-March 19:** “To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God’s glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ.”

**Palabra de Vida-Marzo 19:** “Celebrar el Evangelio de la vida significa celebrar el Dios de la vida, el Dios que da la vida... En cada niño que nace y en cada hombre que vive y que muere reconocemos la imagen de la gloria de Dios, gloria que celebramos en cada hombre, signo del Dios vivo, icono de Jesucristo.”

**Word of Life-March 26:** “There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life... Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those ‘brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves’... We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life.”

**Palabra de Vida-Marzo 26:** “Está el heroísmo cotidiano, hecho de pequeños o grandes gestos de solidaridad que alimentan una auténtica cultura de la vida. ...A este heroísmo cotidiano pertenece el testimonio silencioso, pero a la vez fecundo y elocuente, de ‘todas las madres valientes, que se dedican sin reservas a su familia, que sufren al dar a luz a sus hijos, y luego

están dispuestas a soportar cualquier esfuerzo, a afrontar cualquier sacrificio, para transmitirles lo mejor de sí mismas.' ...Os damos las gracias, madres heroicas, por vuestro amor invencible. Os damos las gracias por la intrépida confianza en Dios y en su amor. Os damos las gracias por el sacrificio de vuestra vida."

**\*\*\* Next newsletter will be published on March 27, 2023. \*\*\***