

Church Bulletin Announcements – September 11, 2023

Bulletin message for weekend of September 23-24: 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? **Catholic Charities' Multisystemic Therapy Program can help.** MST, offered in Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties, is an intensive, family-focused intervention program facilitated in the youth's natural environments, including the home. Think MST might be a good fit? Call 716-597-0756, ext. 2252.

Bulletin message for weekend of September 30-October 1: Catholic Charities' Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program (OKPEAP) is available to parents or caregivers and their significant others who have experienced conflict regarding custody and/or access issues related to their children. OKPEAP helps parents develop a "business" relationship and encourages co-parents to refrain from putting the children in the middle of the conflict. Topics covered include: the impact of separation/divorce on children; child development and the implications for parenting after separation/divorce; cooperative and parallel approaches to parenting; an overview of family law as it affects custody and visitation; and conflict management and problem-solving. Groups are held throughout Western New York. Call 716-896-6390. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit www.ccwny.org.

Bulletin message for weekend of October 7-8: Looking for ways to give back and stay busy this Fall and Winter? Try volunteering! The Catholic Charities' Immigration & Refugee Assistance Program has many opportunities for volunteers, including: English language tutoring, drivers and transportation guides, organizing donations, and more! Check out these and other volunteer opportunities with Catholic Charities at www.ccwny.org/volunteer.

Bulletin message for October: The sale in the trafficking business today dwarfs the numbers involved in the slave trade of the past. Billions of dollars are generated today using people as products to be bought and sold in a global market. **US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking**, 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114; sistersagainstrafficking.org.

La venta en el negocio del tráfico de hoy eclipsa los números involucrados en la trata de esclavos del pasado. Hoy en día se generan miles de millones de dólares utilizando a las personas como productos que se compran y venden en un mercado global. **US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking**, 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114; sistersagainstrafficking.org.

Do you love to sing? The Festival Chorus is recruiting new singers for their 2023 Christmas season. Open rehearsals will be held on September 12 and September 19 from 7-9 pm at St. Katharine Drexel Church, 135 North Ogden St., Buffalo for new singers to join. All voice parts are welcome; no audition required. Save the date for the Christmas performance on Sunday, December 3 at 4 pm at SS. Peter & Paul, 5480 Main St.,

Williamsville. For more information about the Festival Chorus, contact 716-864-9688 or email festivalchoruscfa@gmail.com.

Our Lady of Fatima Outdoor Procession Services. Join us at the Sacred Heart Parish Shrine & Diocesan Shrine, 5337 Genesee St., Bowmansville for Holy Mass, Rosary and Procession with the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Upcoming dates are: September 13 at 6:30 pm and October 13 at 6:30 pm. Bring a lawn chair if you are unable to process but would like to join us in prayer. Rain or shine services. For more information, call 716-683-2375.

Am I lovable? Do I belong? Does my life have meaning? Is God really good? You've got questions? Bring them to **Alpha**. Food, video, discussion every Sunday for 11 weeks starting September 17 from 6-7:30 pm at St. Stanislaus Church (old convent), 127 Wilson St., Buffalo. No charge. No commitment of time; come when you can. To register or for more information, text or call 716-341-3466. Sponsored by the Road to Renewal.

Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser for St. Andrew Church and Knights of St. John Commandery #135 on Sunday, September 17 from 12-4 pm at St. Andrew Parish Hall, 111 Crocker St., Sloan. Meal includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, roll and butter. Drinks available for purchase. Dine-in or take-out. For tickets, call Jim Hill at 716-683-2062 or St. Andrew Parish Office at 716-892-0425.

Anointing of the Sick Healing Mass, in honor of St. Peregrine, on Wednesday, September 20 at 7 pm at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church, 157 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga and on Thursday, October 5 at 7 pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 4263 St. Francis Dr., Hamburg. Fr. David Bellittiere and Friends of St. Peregrine cordially invite those afflicted with cancer or need special healing, who wish to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, to attend a healing Mass. For further information, call 716-283-0011 or visit www.stperry.org.

Priesthood Sunday is Sunday, September 24. Mary, Mother of Vocations Ministry wishes to thank the many priests who serve our diocese so faithfully every day. Priesthood Sunday is a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church as a central one. It specifically honors priests, without whom the Mass could not be offered, and Sacraments could not be celebrated. The men who answer the call to priesthood are special, indeed, and they are working harder than ever before. Please remember to thank and pray for your priests! To find out more about the priesthood, visit www.buffalovocations.org. Mary, Mother of Vocations Ministry is a 501c3. Visit our website at www.mmvminc.org. For information on joining MMVM, contact us at ssantandreu7@verizon.net or dinamarie70@outlook.com.

Biblical Conference – “Our True Faith and the Eucharist” – from Friday, September 29 through Saturday, September 30 at Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Olean. Speaker: Dr. John Bergsma, Professor of Theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville. For a

complete list of times and talks, visit www.SMAOlean.org. RSVP your free ticket online or call the parish office at 716-372-4841.

“Taste of Oktoberfest” on Sunday, October 1 from 3-6 pm at the Sisters of St. Joseph Clarence Residence, 4975 Strickler Rd., Clarence. The event includes German Hors d’oeuvres, desserts, beer and wine. The Auslanders will provide music in the outdoor tent. Ticket includes food and 2 drinks. For information, call 716-759-6454.

Catholic Singles Mingle on Friday, October 6 at 6:30 pm at Lafayette Brewing Company, 391 Washington St., Buffalo. Enjoy an evening of hot apple cider and fellowship by the fireplace. This Fall celebration is for Catholic single adults in their 30s and 40s. All proceeds to be donated to the Mother Teresa Home, which provides shelter, community service and education referral services for all mothers in need. For more information and to reserve your free spot, visit <https://CatholicSinglesMingle2.eventbrite.com>.

Great Shred-It event on Saturday, October 7 from 9 am-12 pm at St. Gregory the Great Ministry Center, 200 St. Gregory Ct., Williamsville. Bring and shred personal documents. Shredding done on-site by Lincoln Archives; there is a charge per bag/box. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus, St. Gregory Council #14687.

OLV Victory Nite on October 12 at 6 pm at AcQua, 2192 Niagara St., Buffalo. What was an auction in the Spring and an awards dinner in the Fall, has been re-imagined as a single night of friends and fellowship. Proceeds from Victory Nite will support OLV Charities and OLV Human Services’ new Evaluation & Treatment Center, where children receive early screening and treatment for conditions such as Autism Spectrum Disorder. For tickets and further information, visit <https://www.olvcharities.org/victorynite>.

St. Gregory the Great Parish in Williamsville is excited to host a public viewing of the Vatican approved, International Display of Eucharistic Miracles compiled by Blessed Carlo Acutis, as well as a first-class relic available for veneration. Blessed Carlo Acutis died of leukemia at the age of 15 in 2006. This millennial was known as a “computer geek” who had a deep devotion to the Eucharist. Prior to his death, he developed a website that catalogued Church approved Eucharistic miracles throughout history. This exhibit will allow the faithful to learn more about Blessed Carlo Acutis, deepen their understanding of Eucharistic miracles, and connect with our Lord in a special way. Public viewing of this exhibit and veneration of his relic will begin Thursday, October 12 after 12 pm Mass. The exhibit will remain open the mornings and afternoons of Friday, October 13; Saturday, October 14; and Sunday, October 15.

Buffalo Diocese Ladies of Charity are holding their Annual “Dress for Less” Style Show, luncheon and theme basket raffle on Saturday, October 14 at Grapevine Banquets, 333 Dick Rd., Depew. Doors open at 11 am for browsing the boutique and to purchase basket raffle tickets. Luncheon entree is Chicken Piccata. For ticket information or questions, call 716-895-4001.

Hear the life story of Father Baker through a live theatrical one-man presentation entitled “She Did It All!” on Saturday, November 4 at 6 pm at Queen of Martyrs Church, 180 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga. From a typical family in Buffalo, you will see how he placed his life in the hands of Our Lady of Victory while dedicating his life to the marginalized, poor and orphaned. See how Father Baker recovers from a deadly infection that put him on the brink of death only to lead him to discover this lasting devotion to the Blessed Mother. Witness how his trust in Mary’s intercession transformed a bankrupt orphanage and protectory into one of the greatest institutions of its kind in America. Accompany Father Baker as he guided thousands of orphaned and wayward boys by educating their minds and hearts and providing them with tools necessary to become respectable citizens, husbands and fathers. Listen to how he then built a basilica to give thanks and honor to the Mother of God for her constant patronage. This presentation is free and open to all ages.

OLV Pilgrimage – Walking in the Footsteps of Venerable Nelson Baker. Join Msgr. David LiPuma, Pastor and Rector of Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica, on this awe-inspiring pilgrimage of faith from April 30-May 9, 2024. Travel to Parish and Rome, retracing and reliving the pilgrimage that changed Father Baker’s life forever 150 years ago. If interested, contact Kim Kutera at 716-828-9648 or kkutera@olvcharities.org. Spaces are limited.

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 www.helpourmarriage.org. All calls confidential; pre-registration is required.

Word of Life-September 17: “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.’” (Luke 15:7)

Palabra de Vida-Septiembre 17: “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 vuelve a Dios que por noventa y nueve justos que no tienen necesidad de convertirse.’” (Lucas 15:7)

Word of Life-September 24: “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 24: “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?’”

Word of Life-October 1: “Radical solidarity compels us to come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their preborn children. It requires us to address the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her. We must do all we can to provide mothers, children, and families with the support they need to flourish. This cannot be accomplished by laws or policy alone, but requires the continual transformation of our own hearts.”

Palabra de Vida-Octubre 1: “La solidaridad radical nos obliga a estar al lado de las madres vulnerables con profunda amistad, compasión y apoyo, tanto para ellas como para sus hijos no nacidos. Nos exige hacer frente a los desafíos fundamentales que llevan a una futura madre a creer que no puede acoger al hijo que Dios le ha confiado. Debemos hacer todo lo posible para proporcionar a las madres, los niños y las familias el apoyo que necesitan para avanzar. Esto no puede lograrse solo con leyes o políticas, sino que requiere la transformación continua de nuestro propio corazón.”

***** Next newsletter will be published on September 25, 2023. *****