

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Letters of Good Standing and Celebrets. Priests and deacons who will need good standing letters or celebrets to celebrate Masses or other sacraments **in another diocese** should **complete and submit a “Request form for Letter of Good Standing” at least 3 weeks in advance (except for funerals).** The form can be found on the diocesan website at: <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/resources-for-clergy/> under “Chancery Forms.” Letters will not be issued unless the priest or deacon has a signed Code of Conduct and Uniform Release Authorization in his file, and is current with *Virtus* training and bulletins. For any questions, call the Chancery secretary at 716-847-5559.

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. **September 2024 Homily Helps available at:** <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/learn/resources/>.

CHURCH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletin message for weekend of August 17-18: Join our team! Catholic Charities will once again be participating in the 2024 American Foundation for Suicide Prevention **Out of the Darkness Walk**. The walk will be held Saturday, September 21 at Canalside Buffalo. Registration begins at 8:30 am, with the program beginning at 10 am and walk to follow. Those interested in joining our team and walking with us can register via our website at www.ccwny.org. Please join us as we support AFSP’s mission and show solidarity for those who have been affected by suicide.

Bulletin message for weekend of August 24-25: Make a difference this upcoming school year – become a Foster Grandparent! If you are an Erie County resident age 55 or older, 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-emotional health benefits and the joy of guiding and supporting our next generation. To connect with the program, call 716-896-6388 or visit www.ccwny.org/older-adults.

Bulletin message for September: More than 200,000 children and teenagers in the United States are victims of sex trafficking every year. It is important for teachers to be aware of the signs and take action. **Alliance to End Human Trafficking** (founded and supported by US

Catholic Sisters), 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114; sistersagainstrafficking.org.

Más de 200.000 niños y adolescentes en Estados Unidos son víctimas de la trata sexual cada año. Es importante que los profesores sean conscientes de las señales y actúen. **La alianza para poner fin a la trata de personas** (fundada y apoyada por las Hermanas Católicas de los EE. UU.), 7575 Grand River Rd., Suite 109, Brighton, MI 48114; sistersagainstrafficking.org.

Coronation Sunday on August 11 with a 3 pm Rosary procession and crowning of the statue atop the dome Basilica at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, 1023 Swann Rd. (off Rt. 18E), Lewiston. There will also be the annual Candlelight Rosary Procession at 8 pm. Come and pray with us for world peace! Shrine and Gift Shop are open daily 9 am-5 pm. Admission and parking are free. Cafeteria open on Fridays from 11 am-7 pm, Sundays from 10 am-4 pm, every first Saturday from 10 am-4 pm, and upon group request. For Shrine information, call 716-754-7489.

Polka Mass on August 18 at 10:15 am at St. John Kanty Church, 101 Swinburne St., Buffalo. Music by Special Delivery. Following Mass, lunch is available at a cost of \$10: BBQ hamburger, chips, pickle, beverage, dessert. All are welcome! For more information, visit www.saintjohnkanty.com.

“Heart to Heart with God” Day Retreat with Confessions and Mass on Thursday, August 22 from 10 am-4 pm at Branches Christian Rest & Renewal Center, 8251 Lower Lake Rd., Lodi (located on Seneca Lake). Do you long for a deeper, more intimate relationship with our Lord? Did you know that He has the same longing for us? Together, and inspired by the saints, Deacon Ward Nolan and Jayne Badano-Bidwell will help us discover how heartfelt prayer is the answer to transforming our relationship with God. During this day retreat, Rev. Brendan Buckley, OFM Cap. will hear confessions and celebrate Mass. More information at www.branchescenter.org, email branches1515@live.com, or call 716-901-4313.

Annual Summer Picnic Party for adults and children with different abilities on Saturday, August 24 from 11 am-2 pm at St. Bernadette Church Parish Ministry Center, 5930 S. Abbott Rd., Orchard Park. This indoor party will have a God Bless America theme. Lunch will be provided and served at noon. The facility is accessible (including restrooms), and a food chopper is available. Call Paula Potteiger at 716-649-1051 or email cozmo3631@gmail.com to let us know how many people are in your group. If you cannot attend but would like to donate a side dish or dessert, contact Paula. This event is sponsored by St. Bernadette Parish Open Doors Ministry.

Two-week DVD session on Grief on Thursday, September 12 at 6 pm and Thursday, September 26 at 6 pm at St. John Vianney Gathering Room (located to the right of the Church doors), 2950 Southwestern Blvd., Orchard Park. The two sessions will be 45 minutes each, followed by discussion and fellowship. Snacks will be served after the presentation. To register, call the parish office at 716-674-9133.

Ladies of Charity Annual “Dress for Less” Style Show, luncheon and theme basket raffle on Saturday, September 28 at Grapevine Banquets, 333 Dick Rd., Depew. Maryalice Demler, WGRZ News Anchor is this year’s commentator. Doors open at 11 am for browsing the Boutique and to purchase basket raffle tickets; split club drawings also available. Style Show tickets cost \$48 each. Luncheon entrée is broccoli stuffed chicken. For additional information

and tickets, call 716-895-4001. Please consider supporting the Ladies of Charity and its ministries.

Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience. In 1858 the Mother of God appeared 18 times to Bernadette Soubirous in the grotto cave in Lourdes, France. Lourdes became well known and is well loved as a holy place of pilgrimage, prayer, peace and healing. Millions of people from all over the world have traveled to Lourdes each year. Now, Lourdes comes to us through a *Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience* on Sunday, September 29 at 1:30 pm at St. Adalbert Basilica, 212 Stanislaus St., Buffalo. With the grace of a plenary indulgence, this interactive, prayerful experience “transports” us to the Grotto in Lourdes through projected imagery, an in-person guide, actual pieces of the grotto rock and Lourdes water. The rosary and Eucharistic blessing are sacred parts of this profound experience. Come and experience the peace and healing of Lourdes without the international travel. Our Lady extends her invitation to all!

ENCLOSURES

1. Parish Respect Life Coordinators – letter to parishes
2. Multicultural Mass – flyer
3. Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience - flyer

* = Priests and Deacons only

** = Diocesan Priests only



Respect Life Office

St. Gianna Pregnancy Outreach Centers/Mother Teresa Home

Diocese of Buffalo



St. Teresa of Calcutta
Pray for Us!

IMPORTANT: RESPECT LIFE COORDINATOR INFORMATION NEEDED

Dear Father:

Respecting and protecting life at ALL stages is who we are in our Catholic identity. Pre-born and end-of-life issues, human trafficking, community & domestic violence, and disabilities are only a few of many Respect Life aspects requiring our action, care, and prayer.

Bishop Fisher and our Respect Life Office deeply appreciate your support in keeping Respect Life ministries and issues visible at your parish level.

Our office exists to support the Respect Life Ministries and Committees in keeping all pro-life issues visible in the parishes.

Respect Life Committees in our parishes are led by a pastor-recommended volunteer coordinator who is certified and commissioned by our bishop to take on this leadership role. With the approval of our bishop and guidance of the USCCB, NCHLA and our Respect Life Office, the coordinator helps strengthen parishes to build a Culture of Life in the Diocese of Buffalo.

With the recent *Road to Renewal* changes to parishes and parish families, this is an appropriate time to ensure Respect Life is represented at individual parishes and the parish family level as well. We ask each parish to have an assigned Respect Life Coordinator (RLC). Additionally, coordinators collaborating as a family group has proven invaluable in maintaining the critical support in place at each parish, while strengthening and enhancing awareness and activity at the family level.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED FORM TO OUR OFFICE BY

Friday, August 23rd, 2024, to ensure your parishes and family are represented appropriately, and that we have current information to invite coordinators for the upcoming Commissioning Mass and In-Service.

COMMISSIONING MASS: You are invited to concelebrate with Bishop Fisher on Saturday, September 7th at 9:00am, St. Joseph Cathedral, 50 Franklin St., Buffalo; current RLC's will be recommissioned, and newly appointed coordinators installed. We hope to see you on the altar supporting your pro-life volunteers in this vital ministry.

Coordinators will receive a separate invitation for this Mass. Our annual In-Service for them will follow, providing informative guest speakers and valuable resources to assist them throughout the year in their parish Respect Life program.

We thank you and pray for God's blessing as we work together to build and preserve a Culture of Life!

Blessings,

Cheryl Zielen-Ersing
Director, Respect Life Office

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Director of Respect Life – Cheryl Zielen-Ersing
Emails: Pro-Life@buffalodiocese.org

Director of Life Ministries – Cheryl M. Calire

Exe. Assistant – Miriam Escalante

Website: <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/pro-life-services/>

795 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14203-1250 * Phone: (716) 847-2205 / Fax: (716) 847-2206

For **current RLC's**: Please provide the contact information for the current Respect Life Coordinator(s) at your parish(es).

For **New RLC's**: If a coordinator is not currently assigned, PLEASE appoint a new coordinator, and provide their contact information.

NOTE: If your parish has more than one Respect Life Coordinator, please copy this form and fill in their information.

Parish Respect Life Coordinator/s Contact Card

(Newly Appointed?): Yes _____ No _____

Coordinator's Full Name: _____

Coordinator's Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

Coordinator's E-mail: _____

Parish: _____ **Pastor:** _____

Parish Family Name/Number: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS INFORMATION BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 23RD

Regular Mail / E-mail or Fax

Respect Life Office/795 Main Street/Buffalo, NY 14203

Pro-LifeOffice@buffalodiocese.org

Fax: (716) 847-2206

For more information call the office at: (716) 847-2205

The Diocese of Buffalo invites you to a

Multicultural

Mass

Sunday | September 8, 2024 | 12:00 pm

Assumption Catholic Church

435 Amherst St. Buffalo, NY 14207

Celebrant: Bishop Michael W. Fisher



Cultures united, represented, and celebrated through music
African, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and African American Commissions

~ All are welcome ~

Invite your friends & family!

Reception will follow the Mass



You Are Invited

**Lourdes Virtual
Pilgrimage Experience™**

Sunday, September 29th

**St. Adalbert Basilica
212 Stanislaus Street
Buffalo, NY 14212
at 1:30 pm**

- Receive Lourdes Water
- Touch the Grotto Rock
- Adoration & Benediction
- Rosary Procession
(weather dependent)



**A Plenary Indulgence Granted
by Papal Decree**

