

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. April 2026 Homily Helps available at: <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/learn/resources/>.

CHURCH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Catholic Charities bulletin message for weekend of March 28-29: As we celebrate Palm Sunday, we also mark the halfway point of Catholic Charities Appeal 2026. Because of the generosity of Western New Yorkers like you, Catholic Charities was able to help more than 136,000 people last year. Additionally, a number of important spiritual care programs were also supported through the Fund for the Faith. We are deeply grateful to everyone who has already contributed. If you haven’t yet had the chance to give to Appeal 2026, now is a wonderful time. Visit www.cwny.org/donate to donate today. Every gift, no matter the size, helps strengthen our community.

International Exhibition: Miracles of the Eucharist Across the World created by Saint Carlo Acutis. Make plans to share this free exhibit with your parish. The mystery of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist can be challenging to fully embrace as human beings. “I believe; help my unbelief!” (Mark 9:24) The exhibit has 36 panels (24” x 36”) describing Eucharistic miracles spanning the globe available to be exhibited in your parish at no cost. We will set it up and set it down in your parish hall or church. Along with the exhibit, we will bring the 1st Class Relic of St. Carlo Acutis for you to share and bless your parish. Make plans for 2026. Contact Mary Cygan at mary.jp.cygan@gmail.com.

Lenten Mission: “St. Francis and the Fire of Holiness in Our Lives” on March 9, 10 & 11 at St. Gregory the Great, 200 St. Gregory Ct., Williamsville. Join us for 3 powerful days of lively praise and worship music, inspirational talks and personal encounters with our Eucharistic Lord and confession. Allow the Holy Spirit to touch your heart and move through you to make the world a better place. The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (CFRs) will offer the same talk twice daily at 12:45 p.m. (after the 12:00 p.m. Mass) and again at 6:30 p.m. This is a special year for the Franciscans and the Church. This is the Year of St. Francis, a special Franciscan Jubilee Year. It marks the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi. This mission is free and open to all.

“Let us pray for reconciliation where there is division, for justice where there are violations of fundamental rights, and for consolation for all who feel overwhelmed by fear or loss.” Archbishop Coakley, President of the USCCB has invited our nation to take steps toward healing and peace and to come together in prayer. “Many people today feel powerless in the face of violence, injustice, and social unrest. To those who feel this way, I wish to say clearly: your faithfulness matters. Your prayers matter. Your acts of love and works of justice matter.” Bishop Mike invites the Diocese of Buffalo to join in this effort during a **“Holy Hour for Peace” across our diocese on Sunday, March 22** from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Exposition, Adoration and Benediction will be celebrated at 3 locations: St. Joseph Cathedral, Buffalo; ONE Catholic, Medina; and The Lord’s Vineyard, Dunkirk. All Catholics are invited to this moment of unity and solidarity in prayer.

St. Martha’s Lenten Fish Fry Fridays during Lent from 4:00-7:00 p.m. – drive-thru only. Beer Battered Fish (served with homemade mac salad, coleslaw, French fries, and bread) for \$16; Kids Meal (homemade macaroni and cheese, French fries and applesauce) for \$7; Clam Chowder (homemade) for \$6. St. Martha is located at 20 French Rd., Depew.

St. Leo the Great’s Lenten Fish Fry Fridays during Lent from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on February 20, February 27, March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, and April 3 at St. Leo the Great, 885 Sweet Home Rd., Amherst. Fish (fried, baked, gluten free) or Shrimp Scampi: \$19 pre-sale, \$21 day of event. Dine-in or take-out. Order online at <https://www.stleothegreatamherst.com/events/> or at the parish office. No phone orders.

Miserere & Path of Miracles, presented by the Harmonia Chamber Singers, on Saturday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph University Church, 3269 Main St., Buffalo and on Sunday, March 8 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Anne Church, 1600 Mt. Hope Ave., Rochester. Harmonia presents *Path of Miracles*, a monumental work by composer Joby Talbot. They will also perform a special “evolution” edition of the *Miserere* by Gregorio Allegri. Conductor: Robert Pacillo. \$25 general admission; \$10 students. Tickets available at the door and on Eventbrite: [Harmonia: Path of Miracles 2026 | Eventbrite](#).

Lenten Taize Prayer Service on Thursday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary Church, 6919 Transit Rd., East Amherst. The Taize service is like a micro-retreat, lasting less than an hour. Taize prayer involves singing and listening to the Word of God in a peaceful, meditative, candlelit atmosphere and uses icons as a focus for contemplative prayer. The songs used are simple refrains which have been composed specifically for Taize prayer.

Legion of Mary Buffalo Comitium will be celebrating the annual Acies ceremony on Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 8791 S. Main St., Eden. The Latin word Acies means “army set in battle array.” We gather active & auxiliary members throughout

the diocese for Mass, a brief benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and renewal of our consecration to our Mother Mary, praying to receive strength and blessing for yet another year. Food and fellowship to follow. All adults and teenagers who may have an interest in our ministry are cordially invited to join us.

Sensory-Friendly Easter Mass. On Saturday, April 11 at 3:00 p.m., St. Bernadette Parish welcomes families with special needs to a Sensory-Friendly Easter Mass. Fr. Joe Wolf will be the celebrant; Fr. Gerard Skrzynski will interpret the Mass through American Sign Language. The Mass offers a shorter, less crowded worship setting allowing people to move freely as needed. The lighting will be dimmer, the music soothing and low gluten hosts available. Light refreshments will be served after Mass in the accessible Parish Ministry Center. This event is sponsored by Open Doors Ministry, a ministry that advocates for the inclusion of people with disabilities into the life of the parish. St. Bernadette is located at 5930 South Abbott Rd., Orchard Park. Any questions, contact Paula Potteiger at 716-649-1051 or cozmo3631@gmail.com.

Adoption Mass on Sunday, April 19 at 12:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Victory Shrine and Basilica, 767 Ridge Rd., Lackawanna. All are welcome to this special Mass honoring anyone touched by adoption – adoptees, adoptive families, birth parents, friends and relatives. Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. David LiPuma. A light reception will follow Mass. Tours of the OLV Infant Home will be offered after the reception. For more information, contact the Respect Life Office at 716-847-2205 or pro-lifeoffice@buffalodiocese.org.

Subs 'N Suds Lecture Series on May 4 at Blessed Trinity, 317 Leroy Ave., Buffalo. Supper at 5:30 p.m. and lecture at 6:30 p.m. by Sr. Roberta Fulton, a Sister of St. Mary Namur. Come, enjoy a meal together then listen as Sr. Roberta tells the story of the Sisters. "Let us serve the Lord with joy." Free will donations.

Buffalo Diocese Ladies of Charity Annual Gift Card Raffle (30 or more gift cards to be awarded) on Saturday, May 16 at St. Leo the Great Church Parish Center, 885 Sweet Home Rd., Amherst. Basket Raffle and Split Club drawings also available. Doors open at 11:00 a.m.; first drawing at 12:00 p.m. Tickets \$12 at the door. Entry ticket includes 2 slices of pizza and a drink. Additional pizza/drinks available at a small cost. Bring your friends, your own snacks and your dollar bills to support Ladies of Charity and its ministries. For additional information, contact Ladies of Charity at 716-895-4001.

Pilgrimage to Northeast Shrines – June 27-29. This pilgrimage will stop at the following shrines: Our Lady of Czestochowa, PA; St. John Neumann, PA; Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, DC; National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, MD; Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, MD; Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, PA; Abbey of the Genesee, NY. This is a 3 day, 2 night bus tour. If interested or for further details, contact Deacon Howard Morgan at Hmorgannu86@gmail.com or 716-417-7584.

ENCLOSURES

1. Holy Hour for Peace - flyer
2. Women's Lenten Retreat - flyer
3. Adoption Mass - flyer

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

Holy Hour for

Peace

3:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

Saint Joseph Cathedral

50 FRANKLIN ST., BUFFALO, NY 14202

ONE Catholic:

Holy Trinity Church

211 EAGLE ST., MEDINA, NY 14103

The Lord's Vineyard:

Holy Trinity Church

1032 CENTRAL AVE., DUNKIRK, NY 14048

WOMEN'S LENTEN
RETREAT

Undone

FREEDOM FOR THE FEMININE HEART

Hosted by St. Greg's MOMS

MOMS Ministry is hosting a 3 day Women's
Healing Retreat during Lent from the JP II Healing Center

Fri. March 27-Sun. March 29, 2026

St. Greg's Gathering Rooms

JP II Healing Center 3 day Livestream: \$119

Sisters, mothers, daughters & all women seeking a
deeper relationship with Mary are invited!

Food included, deadline March 20. Seating limited!

For more info & to register:
stgregsmoms@gmail.com

ADOPTION MASS



All are welcome to this special Mass honoring anyone touched by adoption
Adoptees, adoptive families, birth parents, friends and relatives

All are invited to attend

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

12:00 PM

OLV NATIONAL SHRINE AND BASILICA

767 RIDGE RD.

LACKAWANNA, NY 14218

Mass will be celebrated by Msgr. David LiPuma

A light reception will follow Mass

Tours of the OLV Infant Home will be offered after the reception

For more information contact the Respect Life Office of the
Diocese of Buffalo at (716) 847-2205 or pro-lifeoffice@buffalodiocese.org