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IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL: Fr. Felix 716-885-2469

Catholic Academy West Buffalo, call: 716-885-6111 For Catholic cemeteries, call: 716-873-6500

For the Sisters of St. Mary Namur: 716-885-6252



Follow us on:



Parish Staff

Letters of Recommendation: Are given to registered parishioners who attend Mass and support the parish.

Penance (Confession): 1/2 hour before all weekend Masses and by appointment, call 716-885-2469.

Baptism: Please see Mr. Ron to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick: If you would like to be anointed, or receive communion, please call the office 716-885-2469.

Marriages: Engaged couples should contact their church 6 months prior to the wedding.

Pre-Marriage Requirements: All couples are required to attend a pre-cana program. Contact the Diocese of Buffalo at 716-847-2203 for more information.

First Sunday of Advent—December 3, 2023



Saturday, December 2, 2023 4:00 p.m. Clay King by William Herby

Sunday, December 3, 2023—1st Sunday of Advent 9:00 a.m. Nicholas & Frances Sanfratello (A) by Niece, Mary

11:00 a.m. Lisa Kozlowski by Deacon Roberto

Monday, December 4, 2023

11:30 a.m. Albert Hanna (A) by Wife & Daughter 7:00 p.m. Novena to OLOH For Our Lady of Hope Parishioners

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

11:30 a.m. **Convent** Skip Kopinski (A) by Mary Marsowiczi

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 11:30 a.m. Convent

Thursday, December 7, 2023

11:30 a.m. Convent For Fathers Living & Deceased

Friday, December 8, 2023

11:30 a.m. Convent

6:30 p.m. Feast of Immaculate Conception—For Our Lady of Hope Parishioners

Saturday, December 9, 2023

4:00 p.m. Joe LaPiana by Sister, Sarah Capitano

Sunday, December 10, 2023—2nd Sunday Advent

9:00 a.m. Clare by Pat Rine

11:00 a.m. Judy Miranda by Deacon Roberto

The Sanctuary Light for the week of December 3rd—December 9th Is Burning In Loving Memory of John Kompson

In Loving Memory of John Kompson By Tom & Kathy Maulucci

Please remember our parishioners and friends who are in need of our special prayers: Sue Dugarm, Rosa Maria Santos, Marie Amatrano, Peter Green, Margaret Treanor Frey, Thalya Onelien, Tony Mascellino, Florence Bonvisutto, Phyllis Regensdorfer, Ann Licata, Cornelia Ndimarike, Agnes Myar, Dolly Mascellino, Darrell Covert, Ida Rine, Joe Tomasello, Saw Pwe Doh, Marian Rodriguez, Poe Meh, Robin Tomasello, Toni Vaccaro, Bernadette Huff.

Please remember that the 7-Day Sanctuary Light can be reserved in honor or in memory of a loved one or for whatever intentions you would like. It is \$10 for the week and you can reserve it by calling the rectory. The Offering for the 5-Day candle is \$3.00

COLLECTION TEAM (C) IS ON THIS WEEK

REMINDER The Mass book for 2024 is open. Masses can be scheduled at weekday or weekend liturgies to remember deceased loved ones, intentions of the sick or homebound and in celebration of birthdays, anniversaries or other events that mark the lives of our family or loved ones. Please call Cheryl our secretary to schedule. Stipends (Offerings) for announced masses are \$15.00.

Our Bulletin is Provided
Courtesy of Lombardo Funeral Homes

Stewardship, our partnership with God November 26, 2023

Regular Sunday Collection \$1,687.00 Insurance..... 312.00 Thanksgiving 197.00 Total \$ 2,196.00

Stewardship Is Our Partnership with God— Your prayer, financial support and time given to various projects enable your church Community to continue its mission. Thank you for your continued generosity.



THE ADVENT WREATH placed in the center of our worship space is a weekly reminder for us of the time of waiting and preparation. With the lighting of each candle we take time to pray, to

reflect and to place our hope in Jesus who promises to take us to live with him at the end of time.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS You can help! "Religious are blessed to serve", says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate next weekend to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests like the Oblates who serve our parish. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously to this important fund.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Patroness of the United States will be celebrated on Friday Evening, December 8th at 6:30 PM in Church. We invite you to make room in your busy schedule and celebrate together with the Holy Cross Parish Community.

FAITH FORMATION CONTINUES NEXT Saturday. December 9th at 10:00 am over in O'Brien Hall. We encourage parents to be sure their children are signed up for these classes. Remember that you promised at the baptism of your children to be diligent in providing for their religious formation. You can still register this Saturday before class begins.

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERARY MASS The Buffalo Diocese and the Foundation wishes to honor couples who observe their 25th, 50th, 60th and 70th wedding anniversaries on Sunday, February 11th 2024 at St. Joseph Cathedral 10:30 AM. Registration deadline is January 12th. For questions or information contact the Foundation of the Diocese of Buffalo at 716-847-8373.

OUR NEXT PARISH LUNCHEON will be held on Sunday, December 17th following the 11:00 Mass. Make plans today to join your sisters and brothers for a nice lunch, conversation and an opportunity to spend some extra time together.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Theme: Active waiting

Family Question: What is one thing that you can do this week

to help you remember that Jesus is coming? First Reading: <u>Isaiah 63:16b-17. 19b: 64:2-7</u> Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Gospel Reading: Mark 13:33-37



Humay FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Today Luke speaks to us about the end of time. "People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming into the world." The constant

stream of violence is overwhelming. Let this be the year you make a difference through your actions. Advent is indeed a time of preparation. Though we walk in darkness and live among things that are passing way, the light of Christ forever shines In our hearts. He came to us in poverty and vulnerability, he will come again in glory, that we might live with him forever. Advent then is a serious time for us to focus on the three comings of Christ in history over 2,000 years ago, in our hearts each day, and at the end of time. Come Lord Jesus!

A NEW CHURCH YEAR BEGINS THIS WEEKEND We will be following the readings for Year B. As we turn our calendars to December, we begin the season of intense preparation, longing and expectation for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ into our world and into our lives. Each Advent we are reminded again of our destiny and our need to reach for Jesus and welcome him again into our daily lives. As we center our attention on the lighting of the Advent Wreath, let us turn our attention to the Lord, who will come as a light in the darkness, at a time we least expect.

WORKBOOKS FOR LECTORS: are available in the sacristy. These books are very helpful to lectors. Each week there are tips and commentaries for each reading. These books are also well organized to assist the Lector to effectively proclaim the WORD.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES Today marks the beginning of Advent—a time for reflection and for opening our hearts to compassion, love, and light. Put this into action by holding a personal care items drive for those in need. Whether the drive is just within your household or in your parish, school or place of business, it can make a profound impact as many Catholic Charities offices offer toiletries to individuals and families in need. Gifts like shampoo, soap, or toothbrushes may seem like a small gesture, but to someone who has been going without, they make a big difference! To schedule a time to drop off your donation, please call your local Catholic charities office.

EXPERIENCE THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE at OLV National Shrine and Basilica and be inspired! The Heritage Edition of the Saint John's Bible, a one-of-a-kind exhibit, will be on display at OLV National Shrine and Basilica between December 3—January 7. A special community kick-off with Dr. John Ross, executive director of the Saint John's Bible Heritage program, will be at OLV Basilica to discuss the masterpiece's amazing story on Sunday, December 3 from 1-2 pm. All are welcome to visit the Basilica to be inspired and enriched by this artistic masterpiece. For Saint John's Bible event information special and programming, visit www.olvbasilica.org/bible.