THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN KANTY/ST. ADALBERT

DECEMBER 24, 2023



MISSION STATEMENT A Christian Community founded on the faith of Polish immigrants, Welcoming and accepting all as brothers and sisters in Christ, Working together to create one family bound by Christ's love

E-Mail: Stjohnkantybflo@gmail.com PASTOR Rev. Cole Webster SENIOR PAROCHICAL VICAR Rev. Mark Kreis, OSPPE, Ph.D. FAITH FORMATION: Barbara Myszkiewicz

St. Adalbert's Cemeteries: 6200 Broadway, Alden, NY 14086 716-681-3090 http://buffalocatholiccemeteries.org/LOCATIONS/StAdalbert.aspx

TRUSTEES

Evan Kolber Jennifer Snyder-Haas

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM Sunday 9:00 AM St. John Gualbert (Polish) 9:15 AM 10:15 AM 10:30 AM 11:45 AM 12:00 PM Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday Tuesday, Thursday Wednesday First Saturday

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE St. Stanislaus St. John Gualbert

Corpus Christi St. John Kanty St. Katharine Drexel St. John Gualbert St. Stanislaus (Polish) WEEKDAY MASSES St. Stanislaus 8:00 AM Corpus Christi 8:45 AM

St. John Gualbert 8:00 AM

Corpus Christi 12:15 PM

Corpus Christi 8:45 AM

St. Katharine Drexel 8:30 AM

St. John Kanty 8:30 AM

HOLY DAYS AND HOLIDAYS: As announced

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday 8:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

Phone: 716-893-0412 **Fax:** 716-893-9864 Internet address: http://www.saintjohnkanty.com/ On Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnkanty

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: We welcome all visitors and ask that if you like what you see and hear to please contact the parish office to register. A parishioner is someone who has completed a registration form, regularly attends Mass, and regularly supports the parish financially through the use of envelopes. It is necessary to be a registered and active parishioner in order to receive a letter of recommendation to serve as a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor. If you are moving away, we ask you to please contact the parish office so we can update our records.

MARRIAGE: Please consult with the Parish Administrator/Pastor at least six months to one year before setting a wedding date.

BAPTISM: Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

Visit our parish website - www.saintjohnkanty.com

REMINDER THAT ONLY THOSE WITH HANDICAP PERMITS MAY PARK IN THE DESIGNATED HANDICAP PARKING SPACES



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23-LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

NO MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:15 AM +Valentina & Edward Budny, (Family) **ST. ADALBERT**

4:00 PM +Rev. Michael Burzynski, (Parishioners & Friends)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25-THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

10:15 AM +Irene Morgan, (Family)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26-ST. STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

8:30 AM Blessings for Joe & Jill Stachyra

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27-ST. JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST 8:30 AM NO MASS

6.50 AM NO MASS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28-THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYR

8:30 AM +Maxwell Cywinski, (Walter & Terrie Domino)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29-FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 8:30 AM NO MASS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30-SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE LORD NO MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31-THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

10:15 AM +Genevieve Wojtusiak, (Family)

The Mass book for 2024 is open.

Weekend and week day Masses are available. The Mass stipend is \$15 per Mass. Please contact the rectory to schedule your intentions. You may also place your intentions, with the stipend amount, in the collection basket or mail in your intentions.

OFFERTORY: WEEK OF December 17, 2023

We have been given many blessings. How will we share our treasure with others? All of the parish financial resources depend on the donations of the parishioners.

> Regular \$705.00/Monthly \$5.00 Rel. Ret. \$20.00 Thank You!

The East Buffalo Parish Family 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Saturday, December 23rd

Celebrate Christmas with us. .

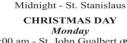


4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Saturday, December 23rd 4:00 pm at St. John Gualbert NO Vigil at St. Stanislaus Sunday, December 24th

9:00 am St. John Gualbert (Polish) 9:15 am Corpus Christi 10:15 am St. John Kanty 10:30 am St. Katharine Drexel NO 11:45 am at St. John Gualbert 12:00 pm St. Stanislaus (Polish)



CHRISTMAS EVE Sunday - Continued 4:00 pm - St. Adalbert 4:00 pm - St. Katharine Drexel 6:00 pm - St. John Gualbert 10:00 pm - St. John Gualbert 11:00 pm - Corpus Christi Midgicht St. Stensiour



9:00 am - St. John Gualbert (Polish) 10:15 am - St. John Kanty 10:30 am - St. Katharine Drexel 11 am - Corpus Christi





Greater East Buffalo Family of Parishes Winter Weather Policy



The winter weather is on its way. We want our parishioners, friends, staff and our clergy to be safe this winter season. Our family has decided on the following in case of inclement weather. We will follow the guidelines set by the City of Buffalo for winter weather, (driving ban etc.)

If there is a **driving ban** in the City of Buffalo there will be <u>no services</u> and <u>parish offices</u> <u>will be closed</u>, including St. John Gualbert in Cheektowaga.

We will also follow the Buffalo Schools winter weather closures.

If **Buffalo schools** are closed due to winter weather, there will be <u>no services</u> and <u>parish</u> <u>offices</u> will be closed, including St. John Gualbert in Cheektowaga.

Closings will be listed on Channel 4 -WIVB.com as "Greater East Buffalo Family of Parishes." *Please be assured, the Mass intentions during driving bans and school closures will be fulfilled by our priests in their residence chapels.* Any questions please call the parish office.

Stay safe and warm!



HAVE A SAFE AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS



Please pray for the healing touch of Jesus' hand for those who are ill, especially: Jessica Frysz, Dee Stetz, Emily Wolf, Patricia Milas, Dr. Owen Moye, Msgr. Matthew Kopacz, Eric G., Elizabeth Quizon, Dolores Quizon, Emily Ventura, Norm Macierowski, Julie Ulicki, Melanie Plata, Kimberly Paul, Jeffrey Nietopski, Joanne Marcucci, Sharon Jakubowski, Ben Lisiecki, Edward Szadkowski, Stanley Kowalski, Ronald Slazak, Paul Fox, Rogo Family, Marcia P, Corazon Bocalan, Kaitlyn Dubik, Dina Szymanski and all the sick of our parish. If you have a name to add or a deletion, please call the parish office.

Diocese of Buffalo Wedding Anniversary Mass

Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 10:30AM St. Joseph Cathedral For couples observing 25, 50, 60, 70 years of Marriage. Registration is required by January 12 Please call the parish office to register.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

We are familiar with the story of the Annunciation, and it is fitting that we recall how God announced the birth of Jesus as we make our final preparations for our celebration of the Incarnation. The angel Gabriel visited Mary, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary greeted the angel's news with awe and wonder and asked how it could be possible that she could give birth to a child. In his reply, the angel Gabriel announced the seemingly impossible reality: the child to be born would be conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and would be God's own Son. The angel reported to Mary another miracle; her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant despite having been thought to be unable to have a child. Mary's response to the angel, which is called her fiat, is an example of complete faith and obedience to God.

The story of the Annunciation calls to our attention God's wondrous action in human

history. God chose a human person to give birth to his Son so that all humanity would know God's salvation. Mary, already full of God's grace, was able to cooperate in this great plan for our salvation. Thus Jesus was born as one of us, fully human and also fully divine. This is the mystery we prepare to celebrate at Christmas, the mystery of the Incarnation. In the model of Mary, we pray that we will be people of faith who recognize God's saving plan for us and are able respond with obedience.

Christmas

As we observe in today's reading, the Gospel of John includes highly philosophical and theological One example language. that particularly stands out in this Gospel is John's repeated references to "the Word" in the opening verse. This expression (logos in the Greek) borrows from a concept found in both Jewish and Greek thought. Jews used this phrase to describe God's action in the Creation story, for example, and in the Wisdom literature. In Greek thought, the logos was understood as an intermediary between God and humanity. John and others in the early Church adopted this language to describe God's incarnation in Jesus. As the term was used to express the Trinitarian faith of Christians, the Word came to be equated with the Second Person the Trinity. of

In this prologue to the Gospel of John, we also hear the main themes that will be developed in his Gospel. These are often presented as dualities: light and dark, truth and falsehood, life and death, and belief and unbelief. We also hear in this prologue a unique aspect of John's Gospel, the theme of testimony. John the Baptist was sent by God to testify to Jesus, the light. Others in this Gospel will also offer testimony about Jesus. The reader is invited to accept this testimony, which bears witnesses to Jesus, the Son of God. But even more directly, Jesus' action and words will testify to Jesus' identity as God's Incarnate Word.

Thinking about Jesus' birth in these theological and cosmological terms is particularly appropriate as we celebrate the Feast of Christmas in the darkness of winter. At this time, nature itself seems to remind us of the darkness of sin. Into this darkness, in the midst of our sinfulness, God comes to dwell among us. John's Gospel reminds us that through the Incarnation, God saves us from the darkness of sin and makes us his children.

