

St. John the Baptist | St. Martha St. Mary of the Assumption Hill & Our Lady of Pompeii Campus St. Philip the Apostle



December 21 2025

Welcome!

Whether you come every week or this is your first time in a while, please know that you are most welcome and that we're grateful to celebrate with you.

If your parish uses the Breaking Bread song book (Missal/Hymnal), you'll find everything you need to follow along with the Mass in the first 30 pages — including the prayers, responses, and when to stand or kneel. The readings for each week follow according to the date.

May this celebration of prayer, Word, and Eucharist draw you closer to Christ and to one another. Please take a moment to look inside for parish news, upcoming events, and ways to grow in faith and community.

Welcome — we're truly glad you're here!



Moderator Msgr. Richard W. Siepka

> In Solidum Rev. Bart Lipiec

In Residence Rev. Paul Steller

Rev. Lukasz Kopala

Deacons
John Hendricks
Matt Hens
John Owczarczak
Jim Trzaska

Business/Finance Director
Anne Pomaski

Bulletin Submissions due by Friday at Noon one week before the published Sunday. Please submit to your Rectory or scan below to submit:





Weekday Mass Schedule

8:15 am St. Martha

8:30 am *Tues. - Fri*.

St. John the Baptist

9:00 am *Mon. - Thurs*.

St. Philip the Apostle

12 Noon St. Mary of the Assumption, Hill Campus

in the Chapel

Fri. Noon St. Philip the Apostle

7:00 pm *Mon*.

St. John the Baptist

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday

First Saturday 8:30 am - St. John the Baptist

4:00 pm St. John the Baptist,

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

4:30 pm St. Philip the Apostle

5:00 pm St. Martha

7:00 pm St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

Sunday

8:00 am St. Martha, St. John the Baptist

9:00 am St. Philip the Apostle

9:30 am Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

10:00 am St. Martha,

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

11:00 am St. John the Baptist, St. Philip the Apostle

11:30 am Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

Noon St. Mary of the Assumption Campus



St. John the Baptist Sat 3 - 4:00 pm

St. Martha Sat before 5 pm Mass

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

Sat 6 - 6:30 pm

onfessions Our Lady of Pompeii Campus Sat 3 - 3:30 pm

St. Philip the Apostle Sat 3:30 - 4 pm

St. John the Baptist

First Fridays 9 am - 5 pm Mondays 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

St. Martha

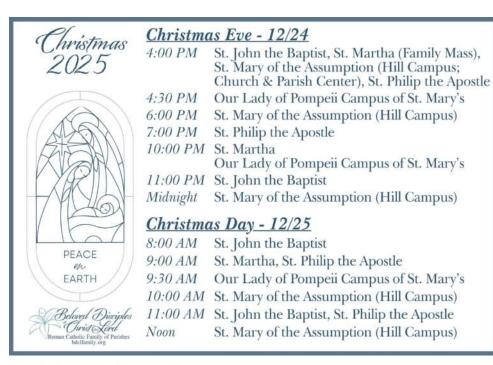
Mon - Fri 9 am - 3 pm; Holy Days Subject to Change (Chapel) First Fridays 9 pm - 10 pm (Church)

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

First Fridays 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus First Fridays Noon - 6 pm

St. Philip the Apostle Last Tues (May - Oct) 6:30 - 7:30 pm





Beloved Disciples Adult Confirmation Class



Are you an adult (18+) who is Baptized & received First Eucharist in the Catholic Church, but never received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Join us for a 5-week course from 11 am until Noon on Sundays, February 1, 8, 15 & March 1, 8 at St. Mary of the Assumption Church

Learn how to strengthen your Faith and how to commit to living it out through word and deed! This course will cover the essentials of the Catholic Faith and will end with a Confirmation Mass sometime in May 2026.

For more information and to register, please contact Becky Hoag, Director of Faith Formation at St. Mary's, at 716-683-8564 or via email at becky@stmarysonthehill.org.



Our (Parishes

St. John the Baptist 2021 Sandridge Rd. Alden, NY 14004 (716) 937-6959 stjohnalden.com Tue - Thurs: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

St. Martha

10 French Rd. **Depew, NY 14043** (716) 684-6342 stmarthadepew.org Mon - Fri : 9 am - 4 pm Closed Noon - 1 pm Food Pantry: 716-206-0387

St. Mary of the Assumption

Hill Campus 1 St. Mary's Hill Lancaster, NY 14086 (716) 683-6445 stmarysonthehill.org Mon/Tues/Thurs: 9 am - 4 pm *Wed/Fri* : 9 am – 3 pm

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus 129 Laverack Ave. Lancaster, NY 14086 (716) 683-6522

St. Philip the Apostle 950 Losson Rd. Cheektowaga, NY 14227 (716) 668-8370 spaparish.org Mon - Weds: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm or by appointment



Vther Events

Special Christmas Notes

SJB - Folk Group Children's Mass 4 pm Christmas Eve Mass

SMA

Children's Mass 3:30 pm Carols & Songs 4 pm Mass

Midnight Mass 11:30 pm Carols

OLP - Rockstars for Jesus Christmas Eve Mass &

4 pm Christmas Carols 4:30 pm Mass

BDCL - Respect Life Committee

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus The Rosary begins at 1:00 pm in the Church, followed by the meeting at 1:30 pm in the Rectory. All are welcome to attend!

OLP - Monthly Faith Enrichment 1/5 at 7 pm

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus Join Fr. Peter Santandreu as he discusses "Exploring the Rights & Obligations of the Faithful: Facts You Might Not Know." Free event.

SMA - Blessed Virgin Sodality 1/6 at 6:30 pm

Bobby J's St. Mary's Blessed Virgin Sodality (formerly St. Mother Teresa Sodality) is a fellowship devoted to the Blessed Mother. We meet monthly at the OLP Campus at 6:30 PM on the first Monday. All women in our Family are welcome. Our Christmas Party will be January 6 at Bobby J's. To RSVP or for more information on Sodality, contact Ann at 716-998-2967.



Children's Christmas OPPORTUNITIES



Practices in Church: Sat., Dec 20th 1-3 PM

Mon., Dec. 22nd 10:30 AM-12 PM

The St. John's Folk Group is once again hosting its annual Children's Mass at 4 PM on Christmas Eve. Any child (preferably aged 4-10) interested in participating in the Mass as a reader, gift bearer, singer, or special performer. Questions? Contact - Tracy Martin, call/text at 716-860-4888.



St. Martha Parish

Crights of St. John

Practice in the Parish Center:

Monday, Dec. 22 1-4 PM (Lunch provided)

We're looking for children in Grades K-8 to help bring Christmas joy to our Christmas Eve Family Mass at the St. Mary's Parish Center beginning at 3:30 pm. All children are welcome — come help make this Christmas celebration extra special!

> Questions? See Andrea, Our Music Director or email her at: andrea@stmarysonthehill.org

GREAT STOCKING STUFFER

A weekly drawing beginning April 21st for \$100 each week for 20 weeks! Early Bird Bonus drawing March 8th for \$100.

The final drawing on the 21st week we will pull one:
Grand Prize - \$1000, 2nd Prize - \$500, 3rd Prize - \$300, 4th Prize - \$200, 5th Prize - \$100

Tickets: \$20 Donation

For tickets call Peter Becker at 716-867-3448, ask any Knight of St. John, or pick up tickets at St. Martha's Rectory during office hours. We will also be in back of church selling tickets on weekends during December and January.



LIVING ROSARY AT ST. PHILIP'S

Thank you to the 90 people who joined us on December 8th for our beautiful Living Rosary at St. Philip the Apostle Church! With candles in hand and hearts united in prayer, the church was filled with a peaceful, Spirit-led joy.

We are grateful to everyone who helped make this evening so meaningful. These photos capture just a glimpse of the warmth and community we shared.

If you missed it, you can watch the event on our Family of Parishes YouTube or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

A Living Rosary invites participants to become the "beads" of the Rosary, often holding candles, with music enriching the prayer.







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Sunday - 2 pm Bingo Starts Tuesday - 7 pm Bingo Starts Third Wednesday - making Bingo packets

We are in dire need of volunteers to help run bingo on Sunday in the afternoons and Tuesday evenings. We are also looking for volunteers to help make bingo packets in the Ministry Center.

If you are willing to assist or have questions, please contact Donna Faatz at 716-683-6522 x101.





Oplatki Thank You

A huge thank you to the St. Philip's Ladies Club for their donation of our Christmas Oplatki again this year!



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH

Join our Family of Parishes in lifting up future priests, deacons, and religious! Host a chalice in your home to join our community in praying for vocations. You don't need to have a family member in a vocation - just a heart ready to pray for those who are called!

How It Works Sign up for one week Pick up the chalice at your chosen church Pray daily with the provided prayers Journal your blessings Return it at week's end







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ur Family

Find out more about our Family of Parishes and submit your information to join one of our Parishes by scanning the QR code below or stop by your Rectory to find out more!



For information on our Schools & Cemeteries, Live Stream opportunities, Letters of Recommendation, Funerals, Baptisms, Weddings, Collection Envelopes, and adding a name to our Sick List, please see your Rectory or scan the QR code below.





Weekly Readings

Sunday: Is $7:10-1\overline{4/Ps}\ 2\overline{4}:1-2$, 3-4,

5-6 (7c, 10b)/ Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday:

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/ Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Lk 1:67-79 Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/

Thursday:

Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday:

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Next Sunday:

Sir $3:2-\overline{6}$, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



Think About the

Is 7:10-14

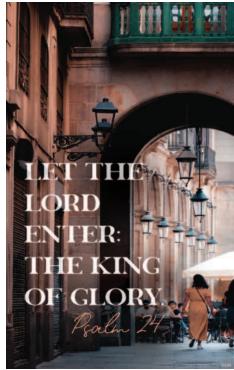
Seven hundred years before the birth of Jesus, Isaiah prophesies to King Ahaz that a virgin would bear a son and name him, Emmanuel ("God is with us"). When have you felt close to God this Advent season?



Paul instructs the Roman Christians that they are "called to be holy." What do you see as some of the steps toward growing in holiness?

Mt 1:18-24

We hear how Joseph struggled initially with the news of Mary's pregnancy. How do you discern making difficult decisions?







Our Parishes are always looking for volunteers to assist with the beautiful ministries that make our Masses so special!

There are many ways to share your time and talents:

- Altar Servers Children who have made their First Communion
 - Funeral Servers Adults who assist at Funeral Masses
- Eucharistic Ministers Those who help distribute Holy Communion
 - Lectors Readers who proclaim the Word of God at Mass
- Ushers & Greeters Friendly faces who welcome those attending Mass and assist in other ways.

Serving in a ministry is a wonderful way to grow in faith, build community, and be part of the heart of parish life. If you feel called to serve, please contact your Rectory for more information.

Your "yes" can make a big difference!





Circle the picture that is facing the **wrong** way. Then color in all the pictures.

























Sharing the Gospel An angel told Joseph to marry Mary because her baby was through the Holy Spirit of God. They would name the baby Jesus because he would save his people from their sins. God called you by name, too. Before you were born, he could tell you how many hairs would be on your head. He knew how long your feet would be. He knew all the good things you would do for his people.

Prayer

I am proud that I am your child, Father God. My Weekly Mission

I will thank my parents for having me and taking good care of me.

Prayer for Christmas Day

On this blessed Christmas day, may the joy and goodness of the sweet baby Jesus fill our home and our hearts. Jesus, bless every member of our family, near and far. May peace prevail, goodness reign, and love triumph.

Amen.

Our Schools

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament PreK3 - 3rd 20 French Rd. Depew, NY 14043 716-685-2544 olbsdepew.org

St. John the Baptist
PreK3 - 8th
2028 Sandridge Rd.
Alden, NY 14004
716-937-9483
stjohnsalden.com

St. Mary of the Assumption
PreK3 - 8th
2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086
716-683-2112
smeschool.com

Faith Formation

St. John the Baptist 716-937-6959 x 103 faith.formation@ stjohnsalden.org

St. Martha 716-685-2546 jszpylman@ stmarthadepew.org

St. Mary of the Assumption 716-683-8564 becky@stmarysonthehill.org

St. Philip the Apostle 716-668-8370 x 502 spareled@spaparish.org





Would you like to request an intention at one of our Parishes?

Stop by the Parish Rectory of where you wish to have your intention said at and they will be happy to assist you in making your request.

> Donation: Mass Intentions \$15/Mass

Sanctuary Lamp \$10 to \$25/week Please check with your Rectory

Listed As: Location - Who it is for Who it is from

Sanctuary Lamp Week Of: Dec. 21-27

SJB

Repose of the Soul of Anthony G. Lazazzero from The C's

Mae & David Nestico from Diane Liptak

SPA Mika & Jakubowicz Families from Family

SJB - St. John the Baptist SMP - St. Martha SMA - St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus OLP - SMA Our Lady of Pompeii Čampus

SPA - St. Philip the Apostle

Saturday, December 20

4:00 pm SJB - Charles Dollard | Wife, Mary Ann & Family **OLP - J | Daughters, Diane & Donna** 4:30 pm SPA - Irene & Anthony Domagala | Mary & Vince

5:00 pm SMP - Stewart Foster | Fr. Bart & Kathleen Lipiec 7:00 pm SMA - Ann Detzler | Jeanette Domanowski & Family

Sunday, December 21 Third Sunday of Advent

SJB - Antoinette Wrest | Family 8:00 am SMP - In Memory of Paul Prusakowski

SPA - Carolyn Ball | Barb Mordino
OLP - Patricia Walter | Walter Family
Michael Schalberg | Andy & Carol Schalberg
SMP - Paul & Louise Hens/Frederick & Maria Steck | Debbie Steck
SMA - Joseph Karb | St. Mary's Ladies of Charity
SJB - Lino W. Cometto III | Bartram Family
SDA Carvas Prown Pagadon | Family 9:00 am 9:30 am

10:00 am

11:00 am

SPA - Caryn Brown-Reardon | Family 11:30 am OLP - Patricia Zak | Richard Zak & Family

SMA - Huber Family | Andrea Knab Noon

Monday, December 22

8:15 am SMP - Tony Stang | Gayle & Peter Becker

9:00 am SPA - Thomas Edwards | Family

12 Noon SMA - Sandra Berent | Bill & Brenda Cansdale

7:00 pm SJB - Fr. Dennis Rocheford | His Marines

Tuesday, December 23 St. John Kanty

8:15 am SMP - Samuel Emmanuele | Charlie & Anita Earley

8:30 am SJB - Anthony G. Lazazzero | SJB "Counters"

9:00 am SPA - Thomas Kolarz | Wife, Nancy 12 Noon SMA - Intention of Dennis & Mark Gabryszak Families | Alfreda Gabryszak

Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

SJB - Joyce Kirszenstein | Husband, Tom

SMP - For All Parishioners

SMA - Church: James & Edna Groth | Brenda & Barb Parish Center: Steller & Wutz Families | Family

SPA - Bigos & Janczak Families | Larry & Ronnie Bigos Cymerman & Miller Families | Cymerman Family

OLP -4:30 pm

6:00 pm SMA - Deceased Members of the Vetter Family | Marie Sturm

7:00 pm SPA - Michael & Kathy Burgio | Nicole Burgio

10:00 pm SMP - For All Parishioners OLP -

11:00 pm SJB - All Souls in Purgatory

Midnight SMA - Deceased Members of Harman & Faulhaber Families Rosanne & Roger Faulhaber

Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day

8:00 am SJB - Leonard Zymowski | Wife

SMP - For All Parishioners 9:00 am

SPA - Harry & Eleanore Macieiewski | Arlene Stevens

OLP-9:30 am

10:00 am SMA - Lorraine Chadwick | Family

11:00 am SJB - Diane Zymowski | Mother

SPA - Grandparents Kardas & Sturmer | Rob & Ann Marie Gaik

Noon **SMA - George Stilb | Estate**

Friday, December 26

St. Stephen

8:15 am SMP - Ann & Bill Palmer | Daughter, Mildred Stabler

8:30 am SJB - Donna Hamm | Jeff Hamm

12 Noon SMA - John Kuczka | Terry Kuczka

SPA - All Souls; Parishioners of the BDCL Family

Saturday, December 27

St. John

4:00 pm SJB - James Creighton | Wife, Ruth

OLP - Anthony & Terry DiStefano | DiStefano Family Irene & Stanley Jasiczek, Jr. | Patricia

4:30 pm SPA - David Wdzieczny | Sister & Godchild

5:00 pm SMP - Eugene Kasprowicz | Bill & Fran Suszka

7:00 pm SMA - Marianne Gable | Family

Sunday, December 28

The Holy Family

8:00 am SJB - Marie Woods | Joe & Darlene Dahl

SMP - Gene Kasprowicz | Wife, Joan & Family

9:00 am SPA - Elizabeth Kent | Kochalski Family

9:30 am OLP -

10:00 am SMP - Franklin & Lucia Lehner | Children & Grandchildren

SMA - Stella & Theodore Panasiewicz | Loving Family

11:00 am SJB - Bill Brown | Wife

SPA - Joseph Salhab | Laurette Irwin

11:30 am OLP -

Noon SMA - Lou, Nancy, Matt & Lenore Monin/Johnson | Family

Weekly Giving - Sunday, December 7

St. John the Baptist St. Mary of the Assumption St. Philip the Apostle

Regular: \$10,940 OSV: \$1,256.90 Building: \$40 Fuel: \$190 Cemetery: \$25 Rel. Retire.:\$250

Mission CoOp: \$5 Immac. Concept.: \$347 Christmas: \$395

Solemn. of Mary: \$5
St. Martha

Not Reported

Regular: \$3,870.20 Loose: \$980 CPL: \$7,583.33

CPL: \$7,583.33 Special Projects: \$180

Immac. Concept: \$55 Human Devel.: \$5

OLP Campus

Regular: \$4,291 Loose: \$546 Fuel: \$403

Split Club: \$80 Christmas Flowers: \$388 Regular: \$8,950 Loose:\$743.50 Online: \$4,075

Human Devel.: \$178 Religious Ret.: \$240 Christmas Flowers:

> \$684 Immac. Concept.:

\$267 Christmas: \$133

🗓 Dearly Departēd

SPA - Henry Podpora

😯 Keep in your Prayers

This list is for Parishioners of our Parishes that are in need of prayers.

Names will be on this list for two months and then removed.

To place someone on this list, please call 716-668-8370 x 330 and follow the message of what information to leave or head onto our online submission form at: form.jotform.com/bdclfamilymarketing/sick-list

Sister Ann Helene, Roman Cham, Dawn Duncan, Weston Faith, Mitzi & Max Fuller, Ann Marie Gleber, Stephen Hill, Kathy Kirk, Steven Kotlowski, Elaine Ladowski, John Lewandowski, Gary Lifton, Theresa Lisowski, Mary Ellen McNeill, Arelene Miodonski, Jodi Narloch, Shirley Salerno, Mike Sawyer, John & Karen Schaller, Christian Vinci, Andrew Vogt, Delphine Wachowiak, Ginny Zajac, Joseph Zaklikowski

Apcoming Second Collections

December 25 Christmas

This is a special collection for Christmas Day.
These envelopes can be placed in the regular collection at any time or saved for when you attend Christmas Mass.
These funds go directly to support the upkeep of our Parishes and to pay our employees.



To give electronically to any of our Parishes, please scan the QR Code below and then select your desired Parish.





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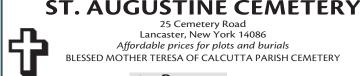
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