

**January 4, 2026**

*The Epiphany of the Lord*



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## 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

## Upcoming Events

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## Welcome

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*Welcome!*

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

All our Parishes use the Breaking Bread missal/hymnal, everything you need to follow along with the Mass is found in the first 30 pages, including the prayers, responses, and when to stand or kneel.

The readings are listed by date.

*For the Our Lady of Pompeii Campus, your readings and music will be on the screens.*

If it's been a while since your last Mass, welcome home! If you're visiting, thank you for sharing this time with us! The Lord is always glad to see you—and so are we. Take this time to rest in His presence, listen to His Word, and be renewed in spirit.

May this celebration of prayer, Word, and Eucharist draw us closer to Christ and to one another. We warmly invite you to join us for events and opportunities to grow in faith and community.

***We're truly glad you're here.***

### **Abbreviations**

SJB - St. John the Baptist Parish

SMP - St. Martha Parish

SMA - St. Mary of the Assumption Parish  
Hill Campus

OLP - St. Mary of the Assumption Parish  
Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

SJC - St. Mary of the Assumption Parish  
St. James Church

SPA - St. Philip the Apostle Parish

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

*Please keep our Military and First Responders in your thoughts and prayers as they protect and serve our communities.*

### **NEWLY BAPTIZED**

*Welcome and May God Bless you and your family!*

SJB - Connor Daniel Setlock, Samuel Levi Cordovani

### **UPCOMING WEDDING**

*May God Bless this union!*

SMA - 1/24/26

Colden Repka & Sara Augustine

### **THOSE IN POOR HEALTH**

Sister Ann Helene, Eileen Barron, Roman Cham, Dawn Duncan, Laila Desjardins, Weston Faith, Mitzi & Max Fuller, Ann Marie Gleber, 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, "Ace" David Thornton, Andrew Vogt, Delphine Wachowiak, Ginny Zajac, Joseph Zaklikowski

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

*To place a Parishioner on this list, please call 716-668-8370 x 330 and follow the message or head onto our online submission form at: <https://tinyurl.com/bdclsicklist>*

### **DEARLY DEPARTED**

SJB - Thomas Lipa, Robert Ciszak

SMP - Chester Pawlowski, Rose Laffrado

SMA - Michael P. Cantanzaro

SPA - Stella Turzynski

### **SANCTUARY LAMP - JAN. 4 - 10**

SJB

Faith, Health & Friendship

SPA

In Thanksgiving | Robb & Rosie Flowers



## Saturday, January 3

*The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

8:00 am SJB - Charles Dollard | MaryAnn & Family  
4:00 pm SJB - Elizabeth "Libby" Easton | Jeanne & Jenny Graf  
4:30 pm OLP - Jeff Gregoire | The Wargo Family  
SPA - Colette Romano | Mary Scherber  
5:00 pm SMP - Eugene Kasprowicz | Bill and Fran Suszka  
7:00 pm SMA - Bill Anstett | Family

## Sunday, January 4

*Epiphany of the Lord*

8:00 am SJB - Ken Woods | Joe & Darlene Dahl  
SMP - Walter Ciszewski | Family  
9:00 am SPA - John & Joan Wierzbicki | Estate  
9:30 am OLP - Deceased Members of the DiStefano & Cammarono Families | Anthony DiStefano  
10:00 am SMP - Members of the Altar & Rosary Guild  
SMA - Floyd Adolf | Family  
11:00 am SJB - James Eschborn | Mary Lou Scott  
SPA - Edward Williams | Ladies Club Executive Board  
11:30 am OLP - Jeffrey Szeffler | Julie Schultz  
Noon SMA - Jacqueline Fischer | Estate

## Monday, January 5

*St. John Neumann*

8:15 am SMP - Mary Jane Mescall | Mary Bauer  
9:00 am SPA - Brett Norris | Veterans Committee  
12 Noon SMA - James & Dakota Gasiewicz | Paul & Jeanne Nest  
7:00 pm SJB - "Ace" David Thornton | Peter Satola

## Tuesday, January 6

*St. Andre Bessettel*

8:15 am SMP - Stewart Foster | Mary Bauer  
8:30 am SJB -  
9:00 am SPA - John & Joan Wierzbicki | Estate  
12 Noon SMA - All Souls

## Wednesday, January 7

*St. Raymond of Penyafort*

8:15 am SMP - Deceased Members of the Ptak & Lusiak Families | Tom & Stephanie Ptak  
8:30 am SJB -  
9:00 am SPA - Rev. Ed Sheedy | gam Mass Group  
12 Noon SMA - Hudack & Raynor Families | The Estate of Edward Hudack

## Thursday, January 8

8:15 am SMP - Helen Spider and Della Cane | Cane Family  
8:30 am SJB - Mass of Thanksgiving | MaryAnn Heary  
9:00 am SPA - Brett Norris | Clay & Sally Ertel  
12 Noon SMA - Faithfully Departed

## Friday, January 9

8:15 am SMP - Walter Weber | Rosemary Peters  
8:30 am SJB -  
12 Noon SMA - Albert & Shirley Rinow | Rinow Children  
SPA - All Fathers; The Parishioners of the BDCL Family of Parishes

## Saturday, January 10

4:00 pm SJB - Joanne Ferguson | Linda & Bob Kalczynski & Family  
OLP -  
4:30 pm SPA - Cindy Mahon | Rene & Pat Zimmer  
5:00 pm SMP - Elnathen & Fern Miller | Brian Miller  
7:00 pm SMA - Happy Heavenly Birthday, Michael Pucci | Catherine & Children

## Sunday, January 11

*The Baptism of the Lord*

8:00 am SJB - Audrey Bea | Tony & Judy Jaroszewski  
SMP - Ginny & Hank Jaskier | Jaskier Family  
9:00 am SPA - Diane Kopp | Husband, Tom & Family  
9:30 am OLP -  
10:00 am SMP - Members of the Holy Name Society  
SMA - Teresa Vetter | Marie Sturm  
11:00 am SJB - Living & Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society | Holy Name Society  
SPA - Carol Gomolski | Margaret Germann  
11:30 am OLP - Patrick Farruggio | Darryl & Gloria Horn  
Noon SMA - Ed & Mary Rustowicz | Loving Daughter, Rene



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**1/5**

## **BDCL Respect Life Committee**

*St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus*

The Rosary begins at 1:00 pm in the Church, followed a meeting at 1:30 pm in the Rectory. All are welcome!

**1/6, 6:30 pm at Bobby J's**

## **Blessed Virgin Sodality**

St. Mary's Blessed Virgin Sodality (formerly St. Mother Teresa Sodality) is a women's group devoted to the Blessed Mother. We meet the first Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Our Lady of Pompeii Campus. Christmas Party on January 6 at Bobby J's. For info or to RSVP, contact Ann at 716-998-2967.

## **SMP Knights 21 Club Raffle**

The Knights of St. John will hold a raffle beginning April 21, offering a chance to win \$100 each week for 20 weeks. An Early Bird drawing will be held on March 8, with a Grand Prize drawing in Week 21 for \$1,000, plus 4 smaller prizes. Donation: \$20 per ticket. Tickets available: St. Martha Parish Rectory, after Masses in Dec. and Jan., or by calling Peter at 716-867-3448.

## **SPA Volunteers Thank You Party**

In appreciation and gratitude for all who selflessly give their time to strengthen our parish community, those involved in any ministry, bingo, or catechetical programs are invited to a Volunteer Thank You Party—each volunteer is welcome to bring one guest. Friday, February 7 in the Parish Center. Doors open at 5:30 PM | Dinner served at 6:30 PM. Please RSVP to the Rectory at 716-668-8370 ext. 210 by January 30.

## **2025 Tax Letters**

It's time to start preparing for your taxes. Not all Rectories automatically send contribution letters, contact your Rectory in February to request your letter. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

## **St. Martha Parish Food Pantry**

Always Accepting Donations



Collection barrels in the vestibule of Church

### **Most Needed Items:**

Tea, Coffee, Pudding, Crackers, Rice A Roni, Mandarin Oranges, Salad Dressing, Hamburger Helper

Need assistance?  
Call 716-206-0387  
for an appointment.

## **Jesus Is Here Diocese Conference**

1/17 10 am - 3 pm  
St. Stanislaus  
389 Peckham St



Keynote: Fr. Carl Gales, SVD

Presentations, Small-group conversations, music, lunch

\$25 per person  
lunch included

Register by: 1/14



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## BDCL Adult Confirmation Class

Are you an adult (18+) who is Baptized & received First Eucharist, but never received Confirmation?

5-week course | Sundays, 11am–Noon

Feb 1, 8, 15 & March 1, 8

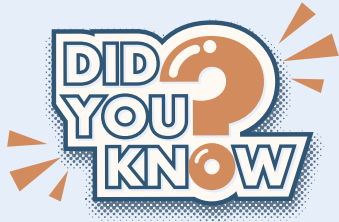
at St. Mary of the Assumption Church

Confirmation Mass in May 2026

*Learn how to strengthen your Faith, living it out in word & deed!*



More information  
or to register,  
Becky Hoag  
716-683-8564  
becky@  
stmarysonthehill.org



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

Ways to share your time and talents:

Altar Servers – Children who have made their First Communion

Funeral Servers – Adults who assist at Funerals

Eucharistic Ministers – 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!***



Join us this winter and spring for faith-building opportunities that invite you to grow in both faith and community at the Our Lady of Pompeii Campus of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish.

### **Monthly Faith Enrichment Series**

January 5 at 7:00 PM

Open to all

Fr. Peter Santandreu presenting Exploring the Rights & Obligations of the Faithful: Facts You Might Not Know. This free event will include refreshments following the presentation.

## HEALING MASS

**1/28 at 6:30 pm**

*St. John the Baptist*

6:30 pm | Rosary

7 pm | Mass

Officiant: Fr. Robert DiGiulio



Are you or anyone you know suffering? Come and join our Family Healing Mass with the Disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Questions:** Ministry for Outreach & Prayer Services 716-348-0829

## GROWING TOGETHER

*A Weekly Faith Challenge*

The magi remind us that every day, God offers small invitations—a quiet moment, a conversation that stirs us, a chance to help someone in need, a tug toward prayer or a deeper question. These are the “stars” that guide us. When we follow them, we discover God. So, this week, notice those gentle nudges of grace and be willing to follow His light wherever it leads.

### This week's challenge:

Each day, pause and ask:  
What light is God placing  
before me right now?

Where is He inviting  
me to take a new  
step or go deeper  
in faith?

*Msr. Richard Siepka*  
*Our Moderator*



## WEEKLY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

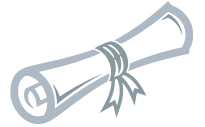
In addition to Fr. Rich's reflections, our Family is blessed to also hear from Fr. Paul, retired priest in residence and former pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption. Fr. Paul shares thoughtful weekly reflections on the Sunday Gospel that invite us to pray, reflect, and grow in faith.

Head onto the Family website to be linked to the St. Mary's YouTube channel and take time each week to deepen your understanding of God's Word!

## FAITH IN ACTION

### HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to Carter Ostrowski & Joshua Kandefer, Parishioners of St. Philip the Apostle Parish, on achieving Honor Roll status at Canisius High School for the First Quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.



### HELPING ONE OF OUR OWN

The family of Timothy and Nicky Salvatore—son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren of Our Lady of Pompeii parishioners Lou and Karen Salvatore—are facing a serious medical and housing crisis.



Their 13-year-old son, Mason, was suddenly diagnosed with Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS), requiring ongoing treatment not fully covered by insurance. At the same time, toxic mold was discovered in their home, forcing the family to relocate while still carrying mortgage, rent, and medical expenses.

A GoFundMe has been established to help with medical care, housing costs, and relocation to a safe home. If you are in a position to help—or know of a home available in the Orchard Park School District—your support would be deeply appreciated. Most of all, please keep this family in your prayers as they navigate this difficult journey together. Scan to donate.



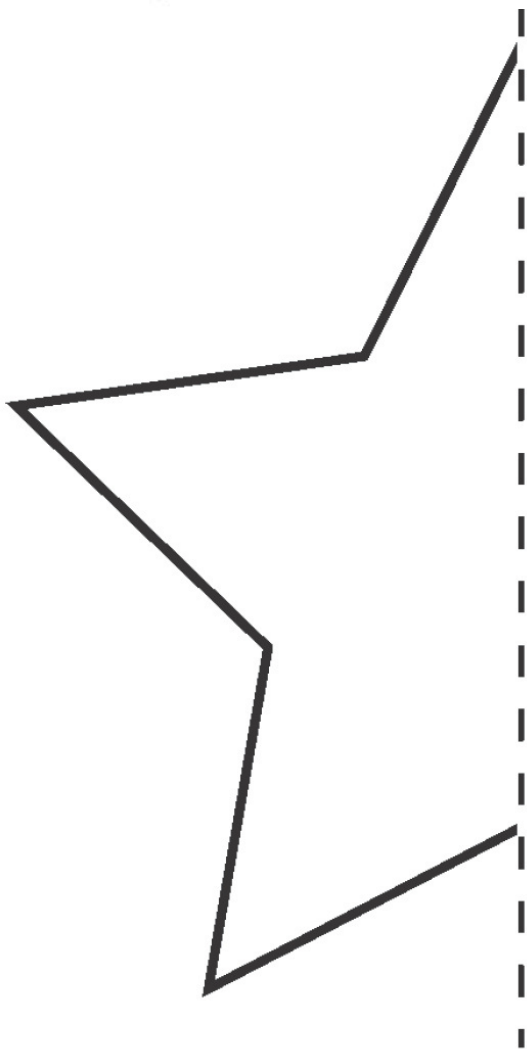
### THANK YOU

"We are deeply touched by the outpouring of love, prayers, and kind expressions of sympathy we have received following the loss of our beloved son and brother, Michael. Your thoughtful words, comforting presence, and spiritual support have brought light into a time of great sorrow. Knowing that so many care and are holding us in their hearts has given us strength to face each day. We are truly grateful for your compassion and for walking beside us in this difficult journey."

- Ron, Sharon, and David Hottum



Can you draw the second half of this star?



## WEEKLY PRAYER

### *Epiphany Blessing*

Dear God, It was You who inspired the Magi to follow the star to find You. Inspire us to seek You, as well. Bless our homes and families this season, make them places where we can encounter You through prayer and community. Amen.

©LPi

## VOCATIONS REFLECTION

*Fr. David Baker*

The Three Magi worshipped Jesus and then "departed by a different way." Is Jesus asking you to live your life in a new and different way for the Kingdom of God?

If God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org)

## WEEKLY READINGS

### SUNDAY

Is 60:1-6  
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Mt 2:1-12

### MONDAY

1 Jn 3:22-4:6  
Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

### TUESDAY

1 Jn 4:7-10  
Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8  
Mk 6:34-44

### WEDNESDAY

1 Jn 4:11-18  
Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13  
Mk 6:45-52

### THURSDAY

1 Jn 4:19-5:4  
Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17  
Lk 4:14-22a

### FRIDAY

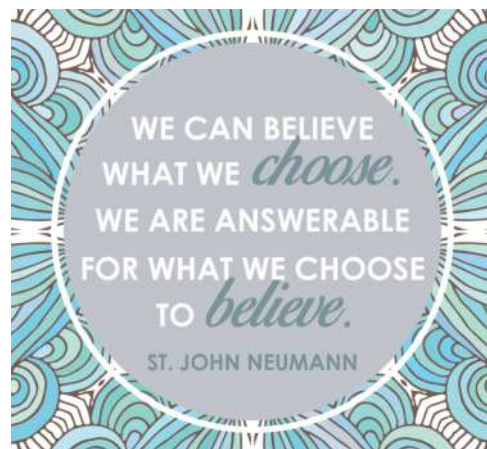
1 Jn 5:5-13  
Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20  
Lk 5:12-16

### SATURDAY

1 Jn 5:14-21  
Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5, 6a, & 9b  
Jn 3:22-30

### NEXT SUNDAY

Is 42:1-4, 6-7  
Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10  
Acts 10:34-38  
Mt 3:13-17







Every Sunday on our new Family of Parishes Social Media pages you will find our new video series reflecting on the week's Gospel, giving a weekly challenge, and sharing upcoming events at our Parishes!

Follow us: **BDCLFamily**



## STEWARDSHIP

WEEK OF DEC. 21

Thank you for your continued support & generosity!

### St. John the Baptist

Regular: \$8,208.25  
OSV: \$855  
Fuel: \$41  
Building: \$20  
Snow Removal: \$11  
All Saints: \$20  
Immac. Concept.: \$176  
Christmas: \$690  
Solemn. of Mary.: \$10  
Religious Retirement: \$280

### St. Martha

Did Not Report

### St. Mary of the Assumption

#### Hill Campus

Regular: \$3,223  
Loose: \$1,107  
CPL: \$3,628  
Christmas Flowers: \$30  
Religious Retirement: \$315  
Seminarist/Diaconate: \$20  
Special Projects: \$50  
Catholic Education: \$25  
Christmas: \$400

### Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

Regular: \$4,937.25  
Fuel: \$25  
Split Club: \$65  
Christmas Flowers: \$355  
Immac. Concept.: \$163  
Christmas: \$90  
Religious Retirement: \$200

### St. Philip the Apostle

Regular: \$11,254  
Loose: \$663.25  
Online: \$4,459.50  
Christmas Flowers: \$60  
Immac. Concept.: \$169  
Religious Retirement: \$645  
Solemn of Mary: \$10



**Give Online**

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

*Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments*

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

©LPI

### ***The Stars We Follow***

Everyone follows a star. It is human nature to seek. If we are rich, we want to be richer. If we are smart, we want to be smarter. If we are powerful, we want to be more powerful.

We cannot stay in one place, so to speak — to say, "I am what I am, I have what I have, and it is enough." Even the very act of maintaining a status quo, be it health or wealth or spiritual goodness, requires action. It requires effort. It requires movement. This is human nature. There is nothing wrong with it. When we stop seeking, we die.

But what are we looking for? Where are we going?

I often wonder if the Magi knew what they were seeking — really, truly knew. They were seeking "the newborn king of the Jews," yes, but did they understand who he was? What he was? I don't see how they could have. They were wise men, but they were not prophets. They simply knew this was an endeavor they had to undertake. They knew it in their souls.

There really is very little that we know for certain about the Magi. We don't know how many of them there were. We don't know their religion. We don't know where they came from. All we know for certain is that they listened to a voice they heard deep within themselves. And, heeding that voice, they went forth.

And what did they find? They found what we all seek, even if, foolishly, we seek it in riches or power. They found the face of the Child.

So tell me this. Of all the stars you could follow, which one does the voice — that one deep within you — tell you to chase? Point to it. And go forth.

## UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

### ***January 25 - Catholic Relief Services***

The Catholic Relief Services Collection brings help and hope to vulnerable families affected by poverty, war, and natural disasters. Your gift supports CRS's global mission of providing lifesaving assistance and empowering communities to build a more stable future.



## DEVOTIONS

### ADORATION

*(Holy Days Subject to Changes)*

St. John the Baptist

First Fridays 9am – 5pm & Mondays 7:30pm – 8:30pm

St. Martha

Mon.–Fri. 9 am – 3pm (Chapel)

First Fridays 9 pm – 10pm (Church)

St. Mary of the Assumption

Hill Campus First Fridays 12:30 – 2:30pm

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

First Fridays Noon – 6 pm

St. Philip the Apostle

Last Tues. (May–Oct) 6:30 – 7:30pm

### CONFESSION

St. John the Baptist Sat. 3 – 4:00pm

St. Martha Sat. before 5pm Mass

St. Mary of the Assumption

Hill Campus Sat. 6 – 6:30pm

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus Sat. 3 – 3:30pm

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

## SACRAMENTAL

### BAPTISMS

Please contact your Rectory. A class is required every three years.

### WEDDINGS

Preparations begin at least six months prior to the wedding date. Please contact your Rectory.

### HOLY COMMUNION

#### *Homebound or Sick Parishioners*

Please contact your Parish Rectory.

#### *Low Gluten Hosts*

Please see an Usher before Mass for direction.

### CARE IN TIMES OF ILLNESS

During Office Hours: Please contact your Rectory.

After Office Hours:

St. John the Baptist: 716-937-6969 x 113

St. Martha: 716-684-6342 x 202

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus & Our Lady of Pompeii Campus, St. Philip the Apostle:

716-668-8370 x 9

Anointing of the Sick: For serious illness, surgery, or advanced age; offers healing, strength, and peace.

Last Rites: For those nearing death; final sacraments offering forgiveness and hope of eternal life.

## OUR PARISHES

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2021 Sandridge Rd., Alden, NY 14004

(716) 937-6959 | stjohndalden.com

Office: Tue–Thurs, 8:30am–1:30pm



@StJohnsChurchAldenNY

### ST. MARTHA (SMP)

10 French Rd., Depew, NY 14043

(716) 684-6342 | stmarthadepew.org

Office: Mon–Fri, 9am–4pm (Closed Noon–1pm)

Food Pantry: (716) 206-0387

Live Stream: youtube.com/@stmarthadepew

All Masses



@stmarthadepew

### ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE (SPA)

950 Losson Rd., Cheektowaga, NY 14227

(716) 668-8370 | spaparish.org

Office: Mon–Wed, 9:30am–2:30pm

or by appointment

Live Stream: stphiliptheapostleparish.org/live-stream/

All Masses



@stphilipwny

### ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

#### HILL CAMPUS (SMA)

1 St. Mary's Hill, Lancaster, NY 14086

(716) 683-6445 | stmarysonthehill.org

Office: Mon – Fri, 9am – 4pm

Live Stream: stmarysonthehill.org/mass-live-stream/

Daily at 12 noon and Sunday at 10:00am



@SMALancaster

#### OUR LADY OF POMPEII CAMPUS (OLP)

129 Laverack Ave., Lancaster, NY 14086

Live Stream: youtube.com/@olplivestream1382

All Weekend Masses



@ourladyofpompeiiLancaster

### ST. JAMES CHURCH (SJC)

496 Terrace Blvd., Depew, NY 14043

*Bulletin submissions due by Friday at Noon,  
one week before the published Sunday.  
Submit to your Rectory.*



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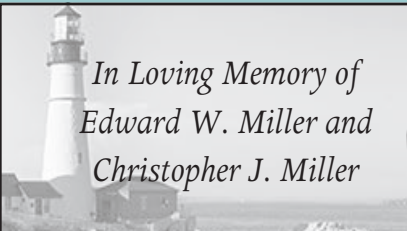
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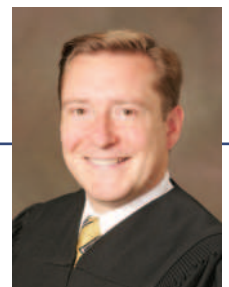
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