

March 8, 2026

3rd Sunday of Lent

A WOMAN OF
SAMARIA CAME TO
DRAW WATER.

— JOHN 4:7 —

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

©LPI

WALK WITH US THIS WEEK

Wherever you are on the path, pause for a moment to pray and draw close to Christ.

*Lent is a living story —
and you are part of it.*

Find ways to pray, serve, and reconnect with our community!

See page 4 for **Lenten Events**

Scan for more information on our **Lent Events & Holy Week schedule**



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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 - Miriam Rose Fontaine, Eliza Rose Kyre,
Lincoln Nevin Lawrence, &
Gabriella Jeanne Mosier

SMA - Riley Hoeflich, Piper James Esskuchen,
Harlow Elizabeth-Lynn Esskuchen,
Lillian Marie Fallacaro

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our Family!

SPA - Ratka Family

THOSE IN POOR HEALTH

Sister Ann Helene	John Lewandowski
Megan Bodnarchuk	Susan Loniewski
Joanne T. Conboy	Donna Mahoney
Richard Czajka	Patrick McGinley
Wendy Dobbins	Mary Ellen McNeill
Dawn Duncan	Arlene Miodonski
Kathy Duncan	Michael Munn
Weston Faith	Rose Marie Nawrocki
Mitzi & Max Fuller	Shirley Salerno
Ann Marie Gleber	John & Karen Schaller
Tricia Hrycko	Donna Stengel
Barbara Kidder	Strozyk Family
Kathy Kirk	Sanford Swan
Robert L. Knauber	Jeffrey Wick
Doreen Kurasiewicz	Jackie Wolfram
Elaine Ladowski	Joseph Zaklikowski

Names will be on this list for two months.

*Add Someone: 716-668-8370 x 330 or
<https://tinyurl.com/bdclsicklist>*

DEARLY DEPARTED

SMP - Sharon Welninski, Marcia Malczos

SMA - Sharon Helwig

SPA - Clair Owen

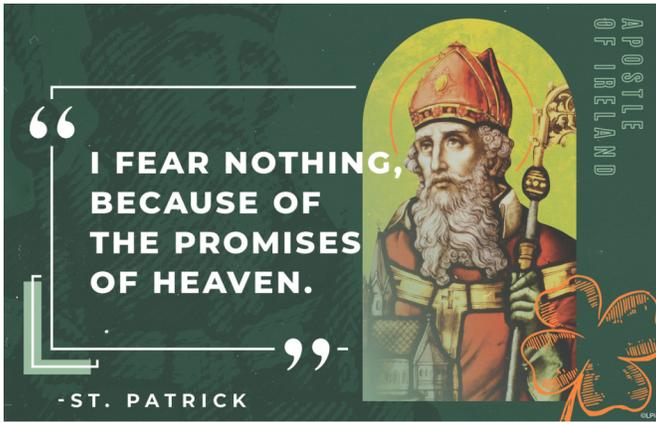
SANCTUARY LAMP - MAR. 8 - 14

SJB

William A. Kruger, Sr. | SJB Rectory

SPA

Celeste Politowski & Irene Klaus
| Larry & Veronica



Welcome!

Whether you come every week, are returning after some time away, or are visiting from another faith tradition — we are grateful you are here.

All of our parishes use the Breaking Bread missal/hymnal. The first 30 pages include the prayers, responses, and posture guidance for Mass. Readings are listed by date. (At Our Lady of Pompeii Campus, readings and music are displayed on the screens.)

If it's been a while, welcome home.

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 invite you to join us in the many 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

Saturday, March 7 *Ss. Perpetua & Felicity*

8:30 am SJB - Msgr. Fagowski | Mary Refermat
 4:00 pm SJB - Nicole Meyer | Grandma & Grandpa
 OLP - Jeffrey Faatz | Wife
 4:30 pm SPA - Janet Kozaczka | Jeanne Janicki
 5:00 pm SMP - Larry Lucarelli | Family
 7:00 pm SMA - Gerald & Marie Whelan | Linda & Ward Pautler

Sunday, March 8 *3rd Sunday of Lent*

8:00 am SJB - Current & Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society | SJB Holy Name Society
 SMP - Donald Nugent - Susie
 9:00 am SPA - Donald Bartus (5th Anniversary of Passing) | Wife, Deborah, Children, & Grandchildren
 9:30 am OLP - Joseph & Mary Mazurkiewicz | Family
 10:00 am SMP - Members of the Holy Name Society
 SMA - Fleisch-Linetty Families | Estate
 11:00 am SJB - Sheila Hoglund | Aunt Ruth
 SPA - John Corcoran | St. Philip's Ladies Club
 11:30 am OLP - Deceased Members of the DiStefano & Cammararo Families | JoAnn Blatner
 Noon SMA - Hugh Fischer | Estate of Jacqueline Fischer

Monday, March 9 *St. Frances of Rome*

8:15 am SMP - Frances Emmanuele | Charlie & Anita Early
 9:00 am SPA - Rev. Ed Sheedy | 9 am Mass Group
 12 Noon SMA - Deceased Members of the Maddigan & Wiles Families
 7:00 pm SJB - Matthew & Dorothy Czechowski

Tuesday, March 10

8:15 am SMP - Deceased & Living Members of Bower & Coyne Families | Family
 8:30 am SJB - Fr. Irwin Spahn & Members of His Family | Fr. Gary Kibler
 9:00 am SPA - Lawicki & Sielski Families | Sielski Family
 12 Noon SMA - Debbie Fetterman Wiles | Mom, A.J., Mara, & Trey

Wednesday, March 11

8:15 am SMP - John & Marie Bauer | Mary Bauer
 8:30 am SJB - All Souls; Deceased Members of the George Family
 9:00 am SPA - Andrew Randazzo | Melina Zavatti & Family
 12 Noon SMA - Eleanor F. Woloszynski | Deborah & Michael Angierski

Thursday, March 12

8:15 am SMP - Tony Stang | Wife & Children
 8:30 am SJB - Holy Souls in Purgatory
 9:00 am SPA - Amy Noworyta | Mom
 12 Noon SMA - Spiritual & Physical Healing of Mark Schwarzmuller | Jim Snyder

Friday, March 13

8:15 am SMP - Michael Hottum | Peter & Gayle Becker
 8:30 am SJB - All Souls in Purgatory
 12 Noon SMA - All Souls in Purgatory | Craig Allen
 SPA - All Fathers; The Parishioners of the BDCL Family of Parishes

Saturday, March 14

4:00 pm SJB - Robert Pautler | Family
 OLP - Larry & Debbie Bednarz | Carol Bednarz
 4:30 pm SPA - Rosario Priore | Wife
 5:00 pm SMP - Chester Pawlowski | Family
 7:00 pm SMA - Lisa McAllister | Harold & Christine Kausch

Sunday, March 15 *4th Sunday of Lent*

8:00 am SJB - Archie & Marion Chapman | Kellner Family
 SMP - Raymond & Sharon Mahony | Tim & Charlene Mahony
 9:00 am SPA - Rev. Ed Sheedy | Sue & John Marshall
 9:30 am OLP - Jeannine Pasierb Militello | Len & Linda Kufel
 10:00 am SMP - Kasinski Family | Klyczek Family
 SMA - Fabian Helinski | Family
 11:00 am SJB - Danielle Lamb | Kowalczyk Family
 SPA - Lawrence Menard | Sarah & Mark Worrell
 11:30 am OLP -
 Noon SMA - Evelyn Hapeman Basher | Family

LENT WITH THE BDCL



"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted." — Psalm 34:18

God draws near to every burden you carry.
Bring Him what feels heavy, hidden, or worn.
His mercy heals gently and makes all things new.

Pray with Us

Free Events | No Registration (unless noted) | Open to Anyone

Stations of the Cross *Fridays in Lent*

6 pm St. Philip the Apostle
7 pm St. John the Baptist
7 pm St. Mary of the Assumption (both)
Hill Campus
Our Lady of Pompeii Campus
7:30 pm St. Martha

Daily Lenten Rosary

Mon. - Fri. at Noon (2/19 - 4/1)
St. Martha Church
Live Stream:
youtube.com/@stmarthadepew

Lenten Penance Services

A prayerful opportunity to receive God's mercy before Easter. Regularly scheduled confession times continue throughout Lent (see page 9).

March 23 – St. John the Baptist | March 25 – St. Martha

3:00 pm & 7:00 pm both days

Soup & Scripture

3/12, 3/26 | 5:30 pm Soup & Bread | 6:15 pm Scripture
St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus Parish Center

If you've never come, make this your year! Fr. Paul Stellar offers us Gospel reflections.

Lenten Morning of Reflection

3/14 | Doors at 8:30 am | Presentation 9 am - 11:30 am
St. Philip the Apostle Parish Center

Led by Sr. Patricia McMahon, OSF (Stella Niagara) on repentance and joy. Coffee provided.

RSVP by March 11 to Elizabeth at 716-674-8581 or Marilyn at 716-334-9352.

Candlelight Taizé Prayer Service

3/24 at 7:00 pm
St. John the Baptist Church

A peaceful evening of prayer with Scripture, candlelight, silence, and meditative chant. This reflective service offers a quiet space to rest in God's presence during Lent. All are welcome.

OLP Living Stations of the Cross

3/27 at 7 pm
Our Lady of Pompeii Church

Presented by Rockstars for Jesus. Meal catered by An Enchanted Taste follows in the Ministry Center. ***RSVP by call/text to 716-570-4923 or email: musicministry@olpparish.com.***

Holy Saturday Egg Hunt (4/4) - Rain or Shine | No Registration

St. John the Baptist | After 1 pm Basket Blessing (around 1:15 pm)
Ages 4 - 12, there will be a special Grandparents egg hunt too!

St. Philip the Apostle | After Noon Basket Blessing (around 12:15 pm) | Kids



LENTEN FISH FRY

SMP/OLBS School

Every Friday of Lent | Drive-Thru Only
4:00–7:00 pm | **St. Martha Parking Lot**

Beer-Battered Fish Fry – \$16 | Macaroni salad • coleslaw • fries • bread

Kids Meal – \$7 | Mac & cheese • fries • applesauce

Homemade Clam Chowder – \$6

No reservations • Pay as you pick up

Proceeds benefit St. Martha Parish & Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament School

SJB School

3/27 | 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Dine In or Drive Thru

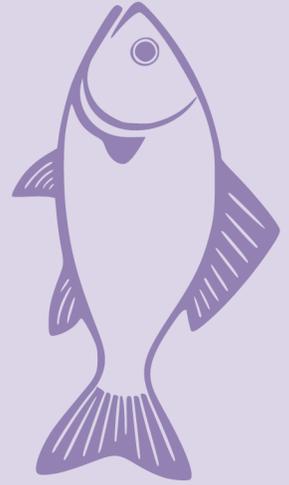
St. John the Baptist School

\$17 Presale | \$18 at Door | Haddock • two sides • roll w/ butter • dessert

\$6 Homemade Pizza with dessert

Presale: 716-937-9483

8th Grade NYC Trip Fundraiser | Served by: Krolick's



UPCOMING EVENTS

SMA Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality

3/9 at 6:30 pm

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

St. Mary's (formerly St. Mother Teresa's) Sodality invites all women to attend their next meeting.

SPA Chiavetta's Drive-Thru Dinner

3/10 | Noon - 6 pm

St. Philip the Apostle

½ Chicken \$16 | ½ Rack \$19 | Full Rack \$30

Includes sides. No reservations. Cash & Credit.

SPA Prayer Shawl Committee

3/10 | 1 pm

St. Philip the Apostle Parish Center

Non-parishioners welcome. Yarn donations accepted.

The Amazing Journey: Christ Child in the Womb

3/25 | 4:30–5:30 pm or 6:30–7:30 pm

St. Philip the Apostle Church

Free, interactive journey through the Joyful Mysteries for children 8+ (accompanied) and adults. Presented by BDCL Family Respect Life Committee. Information: 716-668-8370 ext. 229.



SMA LIVING STATIONS

3/20 | 7 PM Presentation

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus Church

Youth and teens in grades 2–12 are invited to sign up to participate in our Living Stations of the Cross presentation. Strong readers are needed, as well as youth to dress in costume and act out each station.

Rehearsals: 3/5, 3/12, & 3/19 | 6–7:30 PM

Contact: Andrea Ross, Music Director
andrea@stmarysonthehill.org



MASS TIME CHANGE

3/23 ONLY

St. John the Baptist

7pm Mass will be held at 8:30am due to the Family Lenten Penance Service.

GROWING TOGETHER

A Weekly Faith Challenge

Jesus asks a Samaritan woman for water in this week's Gospel. He reveals He knows her life and offers her "living water." When He says, "I am he," the Messiah, she leaves her jar and tells everyone, "Come see the man who told me everything." Many believe because of her, then more believe after hearing Jesus.



This week's challenge:
We all have that one thing we're running from—that insecurity, that past mistake.

This week, stop running.

Take five simple minutes to speak to God about that one thing. Be brutally honest about where you are, no filter. Lent isn't just about giving things up; it's about allowing His grace to flow into our dry places.

Msgr. Richard Siepka
Our Pastor



WATCH | LEARN | GROW TOGETHER

BDCL Family YouTube Channel
youtube.com/@BDCLFamily

Growing Together:

Fr. Rich's weekly video inspiration rooted in faith and life — spiritual focus in 5 minutes or less.

Faces of the Family:

The Kromer Sisters, Music Leaders from Our Lady of Pompeii Campus interview clergy & ministry leaders, sharing stories of service and joy across our Family of Parishes.

**Scan to
subscribe & watch!**



FAITH IN ACTION

THANK YOU!



To all who donated to the St. Luke's Mission clothing/household goods drive: Your generosity exceeded our wildest expectations; over 180 bags/boxes of goods benefiting some of our neediest neighbors in Buffalo. A beautiful example of Christian service! On behalf of St. Luke's & the members of our Holy Name Society, a belated thank you St. Martha Parish.

- Matt Reinbold
SMP Holy Name Society President

SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus Wrapped Easter Candy

For St. Luke's Mission of Mercy
Now - 3/15
Bags can go in the front of church

Easter Blossoms of Blessings Tree

For BDCL Caring & Sharing Pantry & WNY Foster Closet
3/14 - 3/29
Take a tag, buy the gift, return it to church with the tag.

Bottles & Cans + Food Drive

Bottle/Can - Rockstars for Jesus | Food - Local Pantries
5/9 from 9 am - Noon
Bring your bottles and cans for us to recycle or non-perishable food for us to donate.

St. John the Baptist

Food

For Alden-Marilla Food Pantry & St. John's Blessing Box
3/14 & 3/15
Non-perishable food items may be placed in the back of the church or near the baptismal font — please do not block the aisle.

St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Bins

Available at St. John the Baptist, St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus, & St. Philip the Apostle.



PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

Sychar	well	truth
woman	worship	faith
drink	Father	Savior

Scyhra S y c h a r

wroshpi _____

fatih _____

wmoan _____

Fethar _____

Svairo _____

wlel _____

turth _____

dirkn _____

WEEKLY PRAYER

Blessing of Living Water

Lord, where there has been dryness in my life, bless me with Your living water! Where I fear to dream of new hope and growth, bless me with Your living water! Where I'm thirsty for new and abundant life, bless me with Your living water! Drench the parched earth with Your promise, bless me with Your living water!

Amen.

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VOCATIONS REFLECTION

Fr. David Baker

A random encounter with Jesus completely transformed the woman at the well. This happens all the time in ministry, and it's a joy to behold. Come and find that joy. Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org

FAITH BUILDERS

WEEKLY READINGS

SUNDAY

Ex 17:3-7
Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
Rom 5:1-2, 5-8
Jn 4:5-42 or
4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

MONDAY

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab
Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4
Lk 4:24-30

TUESDAY

Dn 3:25, 34-43
Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9
Mt 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY

Dt 4:1, 5-9
Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20
Mt 5:17-19

THURSDAY

Jer 7:23-28
Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
Lk 11:14-23

FRIDAY

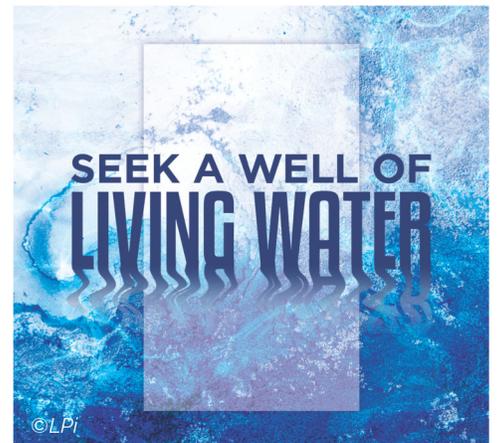
Hos 14:2-10
Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 & 17
Mk 12:28-34

SATURDAY

Hos 6:1-6
Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab
Lk 18:9-14

NEXT SUNDAY

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Eph 5:8-14
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

March 8 - Black & Indian Missions

Your support helps sustain Catholic ministries serving Black and Native American communities throughout our country—bringing the Gospel, forming leaders, and strengthening parishes where resources are limited. Thank you for helping the Church's mission continue to grow.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WEEK OF 2/22

St. John the Baptist

Regular: \$7,147.51
OSV: \$1,095.75
Fuel: \$50
Maintenance: \$3,005
Snow Removal: \$50
Ash Wednesday: \$1,065
Poland: \$30

St. Martha

Regular: \$6,783
Loose: \$762.30
Online: \$638
Buildings & Grounds: \$45
Coughlin Fund: \$10
Solemnity of Mary: \$5
Poland: \$105

St. Mary of the Assumption

Hill Campus

Regular: \$2,584.33
Loose: \$1,032
CPL: \$3,355.56
Building Fund: \$15
Poland: \$20

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

Regular: \$5,011.78
Loose: \$788
Fuel: \$30
Poland: \$20
Stewardship Way of Life: \$148

St. Philip the Apostle

Regular: \$5,607
Loose: \$586
Online: \$1,666.50
Poland: \$142
Christmas: \$10
Solemnity of Mary: \$15
Ash Wednesday: \$2,186.10
Catholic Home Mission: \$438



Give Online

AROUND THE DIOCESE

LEGION OF MARY - ANNUAL ACHIES CEREMONY

3/22 at 10:00 am

Immaculate Conception Church & Ministry Center
8791 Main St. | Eden
Begin in Church | Refreshments to follow

A sacred and essential expression of our Legion devotion. The word *Achies* in Latin means, "army set in battle array." Your presence is a vital part of our Legion's unity and strength. All active and auxiliary members are encouraged to attend.

FRCDB ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

5/18

**Registration: 10:30 am | Lunch: 11 am | Shot Gun Start: Noon
Cocktails & Dinner: 5 pm**
Niagara Falls Country Club

Join us for a day of golf and fellowship to support a great cause! For registration and sponsorship information, visit www.frcdb.org/golf.

FATIMA & LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Sept. 21–30, 2026

Join Fr. Michael Brown on this special tour!

- Mass at the Shrine of Fatima & the Grotto in Lourdes
- Visit the Eucharistic Miracle of Santarém
- Pray at the birthplace of St. Anthony in Lisbon
- Tour the sacred sites of St. Bernadette in Lourdes

Includes: Hotels, daily breakfast & dinner; Ground transportation, guide, tips & taxes; Airport transfers (with group air)

Details & itinerary: www.206tours.com/cms/frbrown

CALIFORNIA MISSIONS PILGRIMAGE & WINERY TOUR

Sept. 15–21, 2026

Join Fr. Peter Karalus with this California adventure!

- Mass at Missions San Juan Capistrano, Santa Barbara, Carmel
- Wine tasting & winery dinners
- Tour Hearst Castle & Muir Woods Redwoods

Includes: Hotels, daily breakfast, ground transportation, guide, tips & taxes

Details & itinerary: www.rosabelgrace.com

DEVOTIONS

ADORATION (*Holidays & Holy Days Subject to Change*)

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 *All are welcome. No appointment.*

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: 716-937-6959 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

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (SJB)

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

 @ourladyofpompeii Lancaster

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.*

@BDCLFamily
BDCLFamily.org



STAFF INFORMATION

Pastor: Msgr. Richard W. Siepka
frrich@bdclfamily.org

Senior Parochial Vicar: Rev. Bart Lipiec
Rev. Lukasz Kopala
kopalalukasz@gmail.com

In Residence: Rev. Paul Steller

Deacons: John Hendricks, Matt Hens,
John Owczarczak, Jim Trzaska

Business/Finance Director: Anne Pomaski
apomaski@bdclfamily.org

SCHOOLS

Schedule a tour — contact the school office.

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament PreK - 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 x103
faith.formation@stjohnsalden.org

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

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

St. Philip the Apostle
716-668-8370 x502
spareled@spaparish.org

To find out more about our
Family of Parishes, Schools,
Faith Formation, or to register at
one of our Parishes



10

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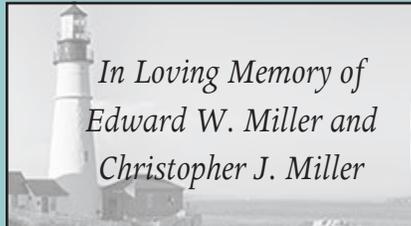
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