

**March 22, 2026**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent*



**I AM**  
THE RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE.

— JOHN 11:25 —

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

©LPi

## **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 at St. John the Baptist**

**March 25 at St. Martha**

*3:00 pm & 7:00 pm both days*

See pages 4-6  
for other **Lenten Events**

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



*Welcome*

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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.*

### NEW PARISHIONERS

*Welcome to our Family!*

SPA - Mrs. Adriana Nguyen & Family

### THOSE IN POOR HEALTH

Sister Ann Helene  
Megan Bodnarchuk  
Richard Czajka  
Dawn Duncan  
Weston Faith  
Mitzi & Max Fuller  
Ann Marie Gleber  
Tricia Hrycko  
Barbara Kidder  
Kathy Kirk  
Elaine Ladowski  
John Lewandowski  
Theresa Lisowski  
Susan Loniewski

Donna Mahoney  
Patrick McGinley  
Mary Ellen McNeill  
Arlene Miodonski  
Michael Munn  
Rose Marie Nawrocki  
Shirley Salerno  
John & Karen Schaller  
Donna Stengel  
Bruce Stewart  
Strozyk Family  
Sanford Swan  
Jerry Wick  
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

SJB - Danielle Lamb  
SMP - Melanie Skinner  
SMA - Tracy Fiegl, Larry E. Kociemski-Laurence,  
Estelle Jasiczek

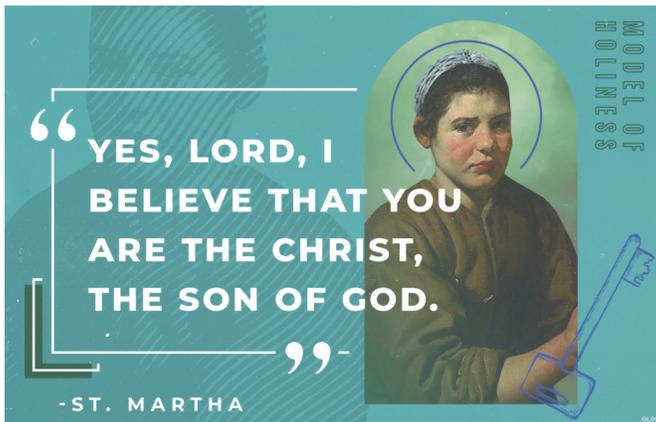
### SANCTUARY LAMP - MAR. 22 - 28

#### SJB

Blessings for Paul Hamilton

#### SPA

Shaun Vona & Patricia Fox | Vona Family



# 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 21**

- 4:00 pm SJB - Mr. & Mrs. Walter Dombrowski | Daughter  
OLP - Kathryn Orłowski | Barbara & Tom Kromer
- 4:30 pm SPA - Sam Cascio | Wife, Carol
- 5:00 pm SMP - Pasternak, Paradowski, Sweda, Henry, Dillon, & Disbro Families | Family
- 7:00 pm SMA - Michael Daddario | Family

**Sunday, March 22**

*5th Sunday of Lent*

- 8:00 am SJB - Ralph Dahl | Joe & Darlene Dahl  
SMP - Samuel & Frances Emmanuele | Charlie & Anita Earley
- 9:00 am SPA - Michael Gworek | Wife, Nancy
- 9:30 am OLP - Barney & Betty Bartell | Daughter, Chris
- 10:00 am SMP - Stanley Wypij & Melanie Skinner | Family  
SMA - Sally Miller | Family
- 11:00 am SJB - Frances Kocher | Family  
SPA - Shaun Vona & Patricia Fox | Vona Family
- 11:30 am OLP - Estelle Glegota | Geri Hoffman
- Noon SMA - Knab Family | Andrea Knab

**Monday, March 23**

*St. Turbius of Mogrovejo*

- 8:15 am SMP - Matthew Warren | Kathy, Wendy, & Family
- 9:00 am SPA - Bob Sielski | St. Philip's Women's Discussion Group
- 12 Noon SMA - Michael O'Connor | Parents
- 7:00 pm SJB - Deceased Members of the George Family

**Tuesday, March 24**

- 8:15 am SMP - Louis Fiorello | Amelia Lumadue
- 8:30 am SJB - All Souls in Purgatory
- 9:00 am SPA - Theodore Walkowiak | Daughter, Helen
- 12 Noon SMA - Stanley Kaniecki | Family

**Wednesday, March 25**

*The Annunciation of the Lord*

- 8:15 am SMP - Jacob & Helen Navarro | Rybak Family
- 8:30 am SJB - Fr. Gary Kibler
- 9:00 am SPA - James Kent | St. Philip's Veterans Committee
- 12 Noon SMA - Monica Neumann | Gregory Neumann

**Thursday, March 26**

- 8:15 am SMP - Lois Zon & Zon Family
- 8:30 am SJB - Matthew & Dorothy Czechowski
- 9:00 am SPA - Rosario Priore | Natalie
- 12 Noon SMA - Herbert Wutz | Family

**Friday, March 27**

- 8:15 am SMP - Carl & Irene Mazurek | Kathy, Wendy, & Family
- 8:30 am SJB - William A. Kruger, Sr. | Ken & Joan Brauner
- 12 Noon SMA - Suzann H. Johnson, Happy Repose of Soul  
SPA - All Mothers; The Parishioners of the BDCL Family of Parishes

**Saturday, March 28**

- 4:00 pm SJB - Mr. & Mrs. John Grzybek | Daughter-in-Law  
OLP - Terry DiStefano | Joann Blatner
- 4:30 pm SPA - Ed Williams | Jim & Chris Isbrandt
- 5:00 pm SMP - Thomas Scibor | Audrey
- 7:00 pm SMA - Louise Punaro | Estate

**Sunday, March 29**

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

- 8:00 am SJB - Jim & Marlene Kellner | Kellner Family  
SMP - Craig Flading | Laurie Koerner & Kathy Richert
- 9:00 am SPA - Msgr. Anthony Jasinski | Estate
- 9:30 am OLP - Christopher Connelly | Paula Hokaj
- 10:00 am SMP - Mary Jane Mescall | Tim & Charlene Mahony  
SMA - Joel Cristall II | Heather, Mom & Dad
- 11:00 am SJB - Eric Bartram | Bartram Family  
SPA - Szymanski & Nowak Families | Sr. Geraldine Nowak
- 11:30 am OLP - Anthony DiStefano | Joann Blatner
- Noon SMA - Eleanor Woloszynski | Sandy & Andrew

# LENT WITH THE BDCL



*"Create in me a clean heart, O God." — Psalm 51:10*

Grace is always beginning something new. **Open your heart to the work of renewal.** God is shaping you with patient and faithful love.

## Pray with Us

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



### **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 chant. This 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 Campus 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](mailto:musicministry@olpparish.com).**

### **SMP Family Mass**

3/29 at 10 am | St. Martha



Children participate in this special Mass by serving as: Readers, Ushers, Greeters, Gift Bearers, Prayer Leaders, and "Palm Wavers" for the opening procession.

*Assemble your palm branch and bring it to church.*

Coffee and donuts social after Mass!

**Scan the QR code to sign up to participate**



### **SJB Respect Life Stations of the Cross**

4/3 at Noon | St. John the Baptist Outdoor Stations

Join the Respect Life Ministry for this special time to reflect and pray on Good Friday. Stations pamphlets available in Church Vestibule. *Questions: Pam 716-785-7195*



### **SPA Liturgy of the Hours**

The Liturgy of the Hours is the Church's daily prayer made up of Psalms, Scripture readings, and simple responses. It has been prayed by priests, religious, and lay people for centuries as a way of pausing during the day to pray.

**All are welcome to join us as we begin these holy days together in prayer.**

9 am on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, & Holy Saturday | St. Philip the Apostle Church

## LENTEN FISH FRY

### **SMP/OLBS School Fundraiser**

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**

### **SJB School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade NYC Trip Fundraiser**

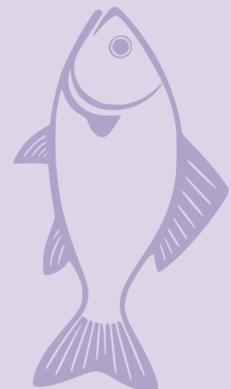
3/27 | 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm | Dine In or Drive Thru Served by Krolick's

**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



# HOLY WEEK 2026

April 2-5

**Palm Sunday** - Usual Mass Schedule

**Special Kid Centered Masses**

**Family** 10 am | SMP (See opposite page)

**Rockstars for Jesus** 11:30 am | OLP

## Holy Thursday



6:30 pm - Our Lady of Pompeii Campus - SMA  
7:00 pm - St. John the Baptist,  
St. Martha,  
St. Philip the Apostle  
Adoration at all Parishes until 10 pm

## Good Friday



### Service

Noon - St. Philip the Apostle  
3 pm - St. John the Baptist  
St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

### Stations of the Cross

Noon - St. John the Baptist (Cemetery), St. Martha  
7:00 pm - St. Philip the Apostle

**Taize Service:** 7 pm - St. John the Baptist

7 pm - St. Mary of the Assumption Hill

### Tenebrae Service:

7:30 pm - St. Martha

8:00 pm - Our Lady of Pompeii Campus - SMA

## Holy Saturday



### Blessing of the Baskets

11:30 am - Our Lady of Pompeii Campus - SMA

Noon - St. Martha,

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus,

St. Philip the Apostle

1 pm - St. John the Baptist

**Egg Hunt** **Rain or Shine | No Registration**

St. Philip the Apostle - Cancelled

St. John the Baptist | Around 1:15 pm | Kids, Grandparents

### Easter Vigil

8:00 pm - St. Martha

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

## Easter Sunday



6:30 am - \*\*St. Mary of the Assumption\*\*

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

9:00 am - St. Philip the Apostle

9:30 am - Our Lady of Pompeii Campus - SMA

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 - SMA

Noon - St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

\*\*Outside at Westwood Park

# GROWING TOGETHER

A Weekly Faith Challenge

**There are moments in life when something feels finished... when we feel stuck or hope feels buried.**

This weekend's Gospel brings us into one of those moments. Jesus' friend Lazarus has died. Martha says something many of us have probably felt at some point in life: "Lord, if you had been here, this wouldn't have happened." It's honest. It's human. It's what faith sometimes sounds like when life hurts.



This week's challenge:

Think about one place in your life that feels like a tomb right now — something that feels stuck, heavy, or maybe beyond hope. Bring that place to the Lord in a simple prayer: "**Jesus, bring life here.**"

Lent is about letting Christ slowly work in our hearts. Sometimes the first step toward new life is simply inviting Him into the places we've been carrying alone.

*Msgr. Richard Siepka*  
*Our Pastor*



# FAITH IN ACTION



## BEFORE CANA SESSION

Congratulations to the seven couples who completed the Before Cana preparation course on February 21. This time of preparation helps engaged couples reflect on the meaning of Christian marriage, strengthen their communication, and consider how faith will guide their life together.

Marriage is a sacred vocation in which husband and wife help one another grow closer to Christ. We are grateful to those who help lead the program, sharing their time and experience to support couples preparing for this important step. We look forward to celebrating these weddings and will keep the couples in our prayers as they begin this beautiful journey together.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 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

Questions: 716-668-8370 ext. 229

## SMP Adoration

4/10 | 9–10 pm

St. Martha Church

Due to first Friday falling on Good Friday, the Nocturnal Adoration schedule has changed.

## Sleep in Heavenly Peace Presentation

4/13 | 7 pm

St. Martha Cafeteria

The St. Martha Holy Name Society will host a presentation by Jerry Sheldon on the history, mission, and ways to volunteer or donate to SHP Buffalo, which provides beds for children in need.

## OLP Basket Raffle Winner

The winner of Our Lady of Pompeii Campus Holy Rosary Society's Basket Raffle is Kathy Simme.

Congratulations and thank you to all who supported us! Special thanks to Maureen Taylor who beautifully created the basket.

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

GOD'S SON  
SICKNESS  
RISE

LAZARUS  
MARY  
MARTHA

BELIEVES  
WEEPING  
WRAPPED

S A O E T R H I E T Y  
T W R A P P E D H O N  
O E K R W Y A O Y U T  
B E L I E V E S T S H  
H P T S A O M Y N I E  
T I H E U N A J H C S  
U N S V M A R Y L K O  
O G K H E I T D W N U  
T P A Y N O H S Y E A  
I S D L A Z A R U S H  
G O D S S O N F E S R

## WEEKLY READINGS

### SUNDAY

Ez 37:12-14  
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8  
Rom 8:8-11  
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

### MONDAY

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62  
or 13:41c-62  
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6  
Jn 8:1-11

### TUESDAY

Nm 21:4-9  
Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21  
Jn 8:21-30

### WEDNESDAY

Is 7:10-14; 8:10  
Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11  
Heb 10:4-10  
Lk 1:26-38

### THURSDAY

Gn 17:3-9  
Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
Jn 8:51-59

### FRIDAY

Jer 20:10-13  
Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7  
Jn 10:31-42

### SATURDAY

Ez 37:21-28  
Jr 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13  
Jn 11:45-56

### NEXT SUNDAY

Mt 21:1-11 (37)  
Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24  
Is 50:4-7  
Phil 2:6-11  
Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### Blessing for New Life

God, in Your goodness, restore our hope. Where we feel imprisoned, break our chains. Where we feel discouraged, bring us light. Where the ground feels dry, break through with life anew. Amen.

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TO GOD

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# UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

## March - Easter Flowers

This special envelope may be used at any time, as it does not have a designated collection date. Your generous donations help provide the decorations for Holy Week and the entire Easter season. Thank you for helping make our churches beautiful for this most special time of year!

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WEEK OF 3/8

### St. John the Baptist

Regular: \$9,771.26

OSV: \$1,266.75

Fuel: \$60

Maintenance: \$220

Good Friday: \$10

Easter: \$20

Black & Indian Missions: \$1,148

Catholic Home Mission: \$5

### St. Martha

Regular: \$7,346

Loose: \$638.25

Online: \$2,389

Buildings & Grounds: \$160

Coughlin Fund: \$20

Christmas: \$20

Christmas Flowers: \$5

Solemnity of Mary: \$20

Poland: \$20

Black & Indian Missions: \$648

Catholic Relief Services: \$20

Religious Retirement: \$35

### St. Mary of the Assumption

#### Hill Campus

Regular: \$2,157

Loose: \$1,127.45

CPL: \$6,892

Building Fund: \$15

Fuel: \$206

#### Our Lady of Pompeii Campus

Regular: \$3,984

Loose: \$601

### St. Philip the Apostle

Regular: \$7,353.75

Loose: \$780.05

Online: \$4,139.60

Ash Wednesday: \$6

Easter: \$50

Ascension: \$20

Easter Flowers: \$150

Black & Native Missions: \$98

Holy Land: \$25

Catholic Home Mission: \$16



**Give Online**

An Event "Knot" to be Missed...  
**ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL  
ALUMNI BASKET RAFFLE**

# PRETZEL PALOOZA

**Friday, April 17**  
School Gym

Doors: 6 pm  
Drawings: 7:30 pm

**\$5 Admission**  
Limited Seating | Age 13+  
BYO Snacks & Drinks

**Basket Raffle**  
\$5 for sheet of 25

**Cash Drawings**

**Large Prize Raffles**

**Reservations Required by 4/10**  
**Call/Text Michelle @ 716-870-1035**

**St. John the Baptist  
School**  
2028 Sandridge Rd.  
Alden



## 2027 MASS INTENTIONS & SANCTUARY LAMPS

### Mass Intentions

Remembered and mentioned during the Mass. The offering supports the priest who celebrates the Mass.

### Sanctuary Lamps

*Not at all Parishes*

A candle burns near the tabernacle for one full week in honor of Christ's presence. Donations help cover candle and Mass costs.

### Who may request?

Anyone—for birthdays, anniversaries, thanksgiving, or in memory of deceased loved ones.

- St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus & Our Lady of Pompeii Campus: At SMA Hill Campus Rectory, 2026 still available; 2027 later this year (Fall)
- St. John the Baptist – 2027 already open
- St. Philip the Apostle – 2027: April 14 & 15 | 10 am - 2 pm

### To Request

Stop by your Rectory during office hours. Some parishes offer alternate request options. Some parishes have limits on the number of requests per person.

## 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](mailto:frrich@bdclfamily.org)

Senior Parochial Vicar: Rev. Bart Lipiec  
Rev. Lukasz Kopala  
[kopalalukasz@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://olbsdepew.org)

St. John the Baptist PreK3 - 8th  
2028 Sandridge Rd. Alden, NY 14004  
716-937-9483 | [stjohnsalden.com](http://stjohnsalden.com)

St. Mary of the Assumption PreK3 - 8th  
2 St. Mary's Hill Lancaster, NY 14086  
716-683-2112 | [smeschool.com](http://smeschool.com)

## FAITH FORMATION

St. John the Baptist  
716-937-6959 x103  
[faith.formation@stjohnsalden.org](mailto:faith.formation@stjohnsalden.org)

St. Martha  
716-685-2546  
[jszpylan@stmarthadepew.org](mailto:jszpylan@stmarthadepew.org)

St. Mary of the Assumption  
716-683-8564  
[becky@stmarysonthehill.org](mailto:becky@stmarysonthehill.org)

St. Philip the Apostle  
716-668-8370 x502  
[spareled@spaparish.org](mailto:spareled@spaparish.org)

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



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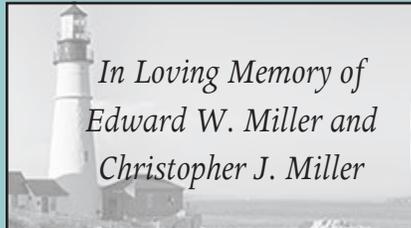
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