



St. Francis & St. Clare Parish

Weekly Bulletin

*Welcome, Parishioners and Visitors.
We are glad you attended Mass with us this week.*

Parish Office Address:
35 Center Street
Waterloo, NY 13165

Hours:

Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Closed Friday

Phone: 315-651-4349 or 315-539-2944
Fax: 315-539-8841
Faith Formation: 315-651-4351
E-mail: sfscparish@dor.org
Web Address: www.sfscrc.org
Facebook: St. Francis & St. Clare Roman Catholic Parish

Pastor: Reverend James Fennessy
Finance Director: Rebecca Pizzirusso
Business Manager: Marianne Piscitelli
Administrative Assistant: Trish Rosata
Catechetical Leader: Pamela Kane
Organists: Kate Small, Jennifer Cornwell
Pastoral Council: Vincenta Porretta
Baptism & Liturgy: Fr. Jim Fennessy
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Jennifer Cornwell
Finance: Vince Sinicropi
Social Ministry: Linda McCully
Parish Life: Volunteer Needed
Buildings & Grounds: George Strally
Cemetery Manager: Pamela Jones
Knights of Columbus: John Nesbit
Catholic Daughters: Patty Agnello
Music Ministry:
St. Patrick's - Jennifer Cornwell
St. Mary's 5pm - Kate Small
St. Mary's 9:30am - Bob Dinan



The Mission of St. Francis & St. Clare Parish

Through Baptism we are called by God, rooted in Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, to support and nurture a Catholic Christian Community:

- To learn, to love and to share our faith
- To worship in word and sacrament centered in the Eucharistic celebration
- This calls us to social justice to service those in need and to work together for God and one another



Rev. James D. Fennessy

St. Patrick's Church



95 West Bayard Street • Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Masses: Sunday 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM
Thursday & Friday 8:30 AM

St. Mary's Church



33 Center Street • Waterloo, NY 13165
Masses: Saturday 5:00 PM • Sunday 9:30 AM
Monday 5:30 PM • Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 AM
Confession: St. Mary's Sat. 3:30-4:30 PM or by Appt.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, October 6 (Jon 1 : 1, 2 : 2, 11/Lk 10 : 25-37)

5:30pm – (SM) Communion Service

Tuesday, October 7 (Jon 3 : 1-10/Lk 10 : 38-42)

8:30am – (SM) Alice VanTassell by Alan & Doreen Brown

Wednesday, October 8 (Jon 4 : 1-11/Lk 11 : 1-4)

8:30am – (SM) Thomas Finnerty by Doug & Diane Hay

Thursday, October 9 (Mal 3 : 13-20b/Lk 11 : 5-13)

8:30am – (SP) Mary G. Mitchell by Children & Grandchildren

Friday, October 10 (Jl 1 : 13-15; 2 : 1-2/Lk 11 : 15-26)

8:30am – (SP) Sam Scibona by Anthony & Rose Dellefave

Saturday, October 11 (Jl 4 : 12-21/Lk 11 : 27-28)

8:30am – (SP) Louis Rapa by Rosemary & Ed Barto

5:00pm – (SM) Donald A. Eshenour by Ellen Armitage

Sunday, October 12 (2 Kgs 5 : 14-17/2 Tm 2 : 8-13/Lk 17:11-19)

8:00am – (SP) Piscitelli Siblings-Tony, Rose, Mary, Howard, Carol, &
Nick by Ron & Nancy Piscitelli

9:30am – (SM) Deceased Members of CDA by Court Theresa #806

11:00am – (SP) Dennis Zwick, Jr. by Mom

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR 10/11 & 10/12/25

St. Mary's Church

LECTORS/COMMENTATORS

5:00 pm –Lector: J. Bells; Commentator: T. Smith

9:30 am – Lector: R. Capozzi; Commentator: L. Shipley

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

5:00pm – C. Felber, S. Scarpa, E. Hughes

9:30am – M. Grillone, D. Duprey, N. Dinan

MONEY COUNTERS FOR 10/7

Team # 2

FAMILY HOPE CENTER BANQUET

Friday, October 17 @ Club 86 Geneva, NY

Please join us for a celebratory evening. Tickets are \$37.50 each and can be purchased from Janet Brown (tonysian40@gmail.com or 315-719-2040) or call the Center at 315-789-0708. A special night awaits, with guests enjoying a buffet dinner, live entertainment, with inspiring speeches, and silent & live auctions.

Seneca NH Communion Service

Thursday, October 9 @ 10 :30 am

Denise (P), Janet, Neil, Joanne

CALENDAR

Monday October 6

OCIA Class – Ministry Center

7-8:45 pm

Tuesday October 7

Free Pancake Breakfast – Ministry Center

8:30-10:00 am

Pastoral Council Meeting-Ministry Center

6:30 pm

Wednesday October 8

Catholic Daughter's Meeting – SMS

12:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration – SP Church

5-6:00 pm

Bingo – Gym/Ministry Center

6:30 pm

Thursday October 9

Eucharistic Adoration – SM Church

9:30am-4:00 pm

Seneca NH Communion Service

10:30 am

Friday October 10

Saturday October 11

Hunger Collection – SM Mass

Sunday October 12

NO RELIGIOUS ED

Hunger Collection – All Masses

Confession – St. Mary's – Saturday

3:30-4:30 pm

St. Patrick's – 1st Friday's

9:00-10:00 am

or by appointment

MEMORIAM

Joan Neary, Donna Rescorl, Art Westfall



FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Every Tuesday morning at the Ministry Center from 8:30 – 10:00 am. All are welcome; come and bring a friend ! Enjoy a menu of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, toast, coffee, OJ, tea and hot chocolate.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST CREW FOR 10/7

K. Peters, D. Bender, R. Costantino, C. Ralston

N. Pluretti, M. Hilkert

Week of 10/4/25– 10/10/25

St. Mary's – SANCTUARY LAMP

Peter Nicosia

Offered by: Clarisse Coggins

ALTAR BREAD & WINE

Tony & Lena DiPronio

Offered by: Children

St. Patrick's – SANCTUARY LAMP

Dorothea & Rocco Esposito

Offered by: Mary Esposito

ALTAR BREAD & WINE

Mary & Mauro Paradise

Offered by: Mary Esposito

ANGELUS BELLS

10/6 SM
SP

10/7 SM
SP

10/8 SM Denny Marino
SP

10/9 SM Armida Benassi Nicandri
SP

10/10 SM
SP

10/11 SM
SP

10/12 SM
SP

The cost to have the Angelus bells rung in memory of a relative or an occasion is \$10. There are many dates available.

Pray for our sick & homebound... Gina Carr, Joan Mooney, Diane Macaluso, Don Dwello, Mila Rae, Haley Rodger, Nico Hadyk, Sue Mitchell, James, Stephen Gillen, Myrna Manning Pollino, Jack Morabito, Elizabeth Martin, Thomas P. Callaghan, Paul F. Deal, Matthew Enger, Dave Russell, Edith Greene, Helen Boenigk, H.A.D., Joyce Tedesche, Christopher Podgorny, Doug & Rosemary Plank & family, Bob & Dolly Steinhouse, Joanna Gould, Dr. Steven Ryan, Amy Marie Maloney Farr, Dan Hogen, Sr. Catherine Judge, Judy, Glenn Paul, April Lanphear, Hannah & her family, Tenley Gurreri, Jayden Jensen, Kendra, Christopher Jones, Doris Crawford Mitchell, Brian Oddi, Kay & family, Lisa, Anna Boise, Nancy Versteg, James Pokrzywa, Bruce Gilbert, Pat Panek, Todd Gaglianese, Sandy & Gene Lopez, Bill O'Hara, Georgine Rosata, Vince & Bonnie Piscitelli, Timothy Youngs, Linda Arichiello, Randy Doty, Don, S.M., V.C, Mary Emilius, Tish Zepp, Michele V., Anna Wilkes, Jimmy Lamson, Scott Jones, Marsha Ryck, Terri M., AMM, LMM, JAM, Madeline DiManno, Betty Bellomo Levesque, Fran Barbieri, Kaydi Heins, Kathy Harper, Keith Stahl, Bob Sandroni, Marylou Murdock, Laura Worden, Anna Ellis, Holly Jones, Judy Ellis, Stacey Jansen, K.M., Patty Lewis, Cheryl DeMillo, Jeff Page, T.H., E.B.L., Joel Rivera, Kay Eighmey, Richard Schweitz Jr., Barb Twist, Megan Seneca, Dorothy Rizzo, Anne Cannuli, Keith Gibbs, Jeremy Andrews, Michele, Alexis Eldrige, Marcia Harrison, Roxanne Starr, Mary Ann Dambrosia, Ellen Moon, Bob B., Kathleen Talcott, Dolores Boeticker, Marie Ramson, Jonah Decory, Marcella Hill, Karen Jenkins, Jayden Moone, Loretta C., Dorothy & John Euchlund, R.C., Mary Jo Semler, Ron Barnhart, Joseph Lotto, William Cathy, Dale Trout Jr., Ellen Clark, Kathy Cole, LM, Jesse Alcott, Amber Moses, Eric Gelsomino, Felicia Strong, Asa Poorman, Marjorie Edmeston, William Johnson Jr., M. Claire M., Miranda Y., Colleen VanCamp, Cathy Woods, Tyler Sheldon, Marilyn, Amy Roeppack, Cindy Brown, Orion, John Gnell, Julia Kennedy, David Smith, Mary Harrin, Maria C. Norman, Judy Hoffman, Ann Passifione, Gianna, Ashley Stillwell, Lucille Cook, Mary Lou's Intentions, Kathy, Judy Bauer, Michael Cunningham, Judy Wheaton, Carol Eck, Mary Ebers, Rose Nehring, Margaret Nardi, Tim O'Mara, John Bennett, Cory Steinbacker, Robin Ryan, Jarrod Ticconi, Cindy Schlegel, Emily Venturelli, Wendy Goodman, Bonnie, Lauren, Maureen Jusko, Neal Wood, Robin Jock, Zachary M., Kelly, Jay Colin, Rebecca Carson, Rebecca Tuccio, Trevor Cauler, Patricia L., Cheryl Lewis, Marilyn Dickinson, Lainie Forde, Misty Clark, Kitty Allenza, Jesse Pardee, Pat Battley, & all of our sick

Please note: We are trying to keep the prayer list updated – if you would like to be added to or **deleted from** the list, please call the parish office at 539-2944 or 651-4349.

"All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor"
Pope Francis

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

On Sept 24, Pope Leo XIV asked everyone to pray the Rosary daily in the month of October for peace. The pope said, "I invite everyone to pray the rosary every day during the coming month -- for peace -- personally, with your families and in your communities". In our parish, the Rosary is said before daily Mass, as well as at the Holy Hour on Wednesday night at St. Patrick's. If you need a rosary, we have them for free at each of our churches, as well as information on how to say it. On Tuesday, October 7, we will celebrate the feast Our Lady of the Rosary at daily Mass which was established by Pope St. Pius V to celebrate the Christian victory at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571. Pope Pius V attributed the Christian fleet's miraculous victory against the outnumbered Ottoman navy to the power of the Rosary, and he instituted a feast day to honor Mary's intercession. The dedication to the Rosary became more established through the efforts of Popes like Leo XIII, and has been encouraged to promote prayer, reflection on the life of Christ and Mary, and peace. The month of October is dedicated to the rosary, as most powerful prayer.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

A PRAYER FOR A CULTURE OF LIFE

Good and Gracious God, You call your people to live out the Gospel of life, building a new culture in which we recognize that every person is made in your image and likeness. Renew our hearts, and inspire us to honor and uphold the dignity of human life, from conception to natural death. Help us to be instruments of your mercy and love, living as missionary disciples and imitating the compassion of the Good Samaritan— toward both neighbor and stranger alike. United as one people, may we, through acts of charity and service, transform the world into a place that promotes the sacredness of every human life, where dignity is cherished, and life is defended and protected. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

I write about the Catholic Ministries Appeal every year, in that it is an essential fund that helps the Diocese to help us at the parish level. The theme of this year's appeal is "*Together We Bring Hope...and Hope does not disappoint.*" Themes for the Catholic Ministries Appeal are not chosen at random but have great meaning, especially in this Jubilee Year of Hope. Our diocese has faced challenges over the past year, with the economy and the bankruptcy process that recently came to an end. Through all the challenges that we face, the one thing that remains strong is our faith! The Diocese of Rochester needs to move forward in faith. By donating to the Catholic Ministries Appeal you are helping the Diocese to help us in providing the framework to maintain and grow our faith. This framework that I speak of is not always obvious to the average parishioner, who may not see the everyday goings on that take place daily, but as a pastor I see it very clearly. I contribute each year to the appeal; I always have, and always will. Please join me in donating to this worthy cause.

Father Jim Fennessy

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

St. Francis & St. Clare Parish will again be following a food collection schedule developed by several area churches. Each church will collect specific items for the House of Concern and CAP each month. Although we are given specific items to collect, we will graciously accept **any** food or personal hygiene items. For the month of **October**, we will be collecting the following items for the House of Concern and CAP: **Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressings, pickles, etc. & diapers.** Thank you so much for your continued support.

Social Ministry Committee

SPIRITUALITY

What is the function of the gathering song?

The gathering song also serves to form us into a community, preparing us to worship as a unified body. It is the first formal act of the liturgy that we do together. The singing together, even breathing together as we sing, helps us to become the one body that is gathered for worship. It focuses us on what we are about to do. It frequently brings to our awareness the focus of the day's celebration. Like the homily, the intercessions, and the prayers, the music is chosen to reflect the readings of the day. The gathering song should help us to become aware of ourselves as a unified community gathered for worship.

Clergy Appreciation Day-10/12/2025

A Prayer for Priests: Lord Jesus, Who called me to share in your priesthood, keep me always mindful of your life within me. Let me accept every difficulty or trial with trust that your grace is sufficient for everything made one with you in faith. Give me a kind and sensitive heart in the service of my brothers and sisters, especially the most wounded in spirit. Let me have a special love for the poor. May my own style of life offer them witness to Him who sent me. Keep me chaste in my vision of begetting children of The Spirit – always accepting celibacy as a gift of The Spirit. Make me hunger to be always with you in the communion of prayer, believing in its power to make all things possible. Make me only want what you will for me-nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. Come, Lord, walk the earth in the priesthood I share with you!

Established by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

October 5, 2025

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." 2 TIMOTHY 1:7

Many of us compartmentalize our Faith, we bring it out only when we attend Mass or when we attend a parish event. Being a good steward requires discipline and striving to put God first in everything - all the time. The next time you are at a neighborhood party or at work or out shopping, would your words and actions signal to others that you are a good and faithful servant of our Lord?

COAT GIVE AWAY PROJECT

The Social Ministry Committee is still collecting coats for children and teens for their give away in October.

Coat sizes needed are for girl's sizes 6-18, boy's sizes 7-10 and adult sizes. Barrels are in both churches through the weekend of October 11-12.

If you have any questions or if you need coats picked up, contact Ellen Hughes @ 315-539-3674. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

FAMILY SPIRITUALITY WEEKLY TIP FOR:

10/5/2025 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel: Luke 17 : 5-10

After Mass, discuss these questions & brainstorm ideas & ways to implement them this week!

Adults: When have you done more than was required of you in the service of others?

**Children: When have you done something extra for someone in your family without being asked?
What did you learn from this?**

LET'S LIVE THE GOSPEL!!!!

The Sunday 8:00am Mass as well as daily Masses are live streamed on Facebook which is accessible on the website at sfscrcc.org

Total number of people at all the Masses on September 27 & 28 was approximately 458

*The Mass, mail-in & online contributions for the week of **Sept. 27 & 28, 2025** was \$7,668.11
We thank you for your generosity!*

The Parish appreciates your attendance and support !!

Don't forget that we survive on the offerings of our parishioners. If you do not feel comfortable attending Mass, you can still send in your envelope or drop it off at the Ministry Center office. Online giving is also available now at <https://www.osvhub.com/sfscrss/funds> God bless you for your support.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Our request list has dwindled! *Thank you!* to all who have donated time and treasure! We still need some help putting the finishing touches together. Check in the Faith Formation office if you have a little time.

We still could use : wooden boxes Ring size up to 12 x 12

Finger nail brush – Qty. 2

Religious Art- beautiful, no cartoons. Statues not bigger than 9ish inches.

We still have spots available in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program for Children **3 yr.-1st** grade on Monday afternoons at 4:00 pm. Please call the Faith Formation office for more information @ 315-651-4351.

We will have an open house for the parish as soon as the “Atrium” is completed.



Our Year 1 Confirmation Candidates (8th graders) will be on retreat this weekend. Please pray for them as they commit to this time of preparation and that they are able to grow in faith with the help of the Holy Spirit !

**ST. FRANCIS DE SALES-
ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL**
PRESENTS

family **FINDS SALE & COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR**

**DESALES GYM
90 PULTENEY ST GENEVA**

**• SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
9AM-NOON**

*Sell Your Used
Children's Items at the
Family Finds Sale!*

To register your community
organization or to sign up to sell your
used children's items at the
Family Finds Sale
Email: sfssmomtomomsale@gmail.com
Call: 315-789-1828
(during school hours)

Family Finds Sale Table Fee:
\$25 for two tables
Each additional table is \$10.

Event Highlights

**FAMILY FINDS SALE
(FORMERLY MOM TO MOM SALE)
COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR
REFRESHMENTS FOR SALE
FUN ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL: [SFSSMOMTOMOMSALE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:sfssmomtomomsale@gmail.com)



St. Francis October 2025 St. Clare

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Area Churches food collection for this month: Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, salad dressings, pickles, etc.), diapers | | | | | | |
| 5 RE—Family Day 4 10:30am-12:30pm Gym-Min. Center Year 1 Confirmation Retreat—MC 8:00 am—3:00 pm | 6 Social Ministry Mtg 4:15pm - Min Ctr OCIA Class 7-8:45 pm—MC | 7 Free Pancake Breakfast MC—8:30-10am Pastoral Council Mtg. 6:30pm - Ministry Ctr | 8 CDA Meeting Noon—SMS BINGO—Ministry Center Gym 6:30 pm | 9 Seneca NH Community Service 10:30 am | 10 Confession—SP 9:00 am | 11 Hunger Collection |
| 12 CDA Mass—9:30am SM Hunger Collection NO RE | 13 Columbus Day Parish Office Closed OCIA Class 7-8:45 pm—MC | 14 Free Pancake Breakfast MC-8:30-10am K of C Meeting 7pm - Min Ctr | 15 BINGO—Ministry Center Gym 6:30 pm Bldgs & Grounds Meeting 6:30pm - SP Rectory | 16 Huntington Mass 2:30pm | 17 | 18 |
| 19 RE—Family Day 5 10:30am-12:30pm Min. Center Year 1 Conf. 5-6:30pm Year 2 Conf. 6-7:30 pm Rectory | 20 OCIA Class 7-8:45 pm—MC | 21 Free Pancake Breakfast 8:30-10am - Min Ctr Finance Meeting 5pm - Min Ctr | 22 CDA Rosary 9:30 am Huntington NH 10:15am Seneca NH BINGO—Ministry Center Gym 6:30 pm | 23 Seneca Nursing Home Mass 2:15pm 1st Reconciliation-Min. Center 5:30-7:00 pm | 24 | 25 |
| 26 RE—Family Day 6 10:30am-12:30pm Min. Center Year 1 Conf. 5-6:30pm Year 2 Conf. 6-7:30 pm Rectory | 27 OCIA Class 7-8:45 pm—MC | 28 Free Pancake Breakfast 8:30-10am - Min Ctr Liturgy Meeting 3:00pm - Min Ctr | 29 BINGO—Ministry Center Gym 6:30 pm | 30 1st Reconciliation-Ministry Center 5:30-7:00 pm | 31 | |



Go Forth With Christ

2023/2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Impact Report



My dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

I am pleased to share this Impact Report for our 2023-2024 *Catholic Ministries Appeal* (CMA). Inspired by the theme, *Go Forth With Christ*, nearly 20,000 individuals and families gave more than \$6.9 million to help our Diocese and parish communities, achieving 103% of the \$6,725,000 CMA goal. What a praiseworthy achievement!

For more than forty years, the CMA has been the Diocese of Rochester's vehicle for raising the necessary funds to invest in our parishes and ministries for fulfilling the mission of our Church. As you will see in this report, the CMA continues Christ's ministry of assisting the poor, the needy, and the most vulnerable in our communities. The CMA educates our seminarians and deacon candidates, and prepares them as our priests and permanent deacons. The Appeal also educates and trains our teachers, catechists and coaches who serve our children and young people. The CMA supports parish faith formation programs and Catholic schools, and most importantly fosters greater participation in the sacramental life of the Church. The CMA funds more than half of the diocesan operating budget, allowing the Diocese to ensure the strength of our local parishes, supporting our pastors, parochial and pastoral administrators, parish staffs, and vital parish ministries in the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the 12 counties of our Diocese.

It is my hope, and I believe certainly possible, that we can continue to increase participation in the Appeal by kind and charitable outreach to the wonderful people of our Diocese.

Thanking you once again for your generous participation in the CMA and assuring you of a continued remembrance in my prayers, I remain

Salvatore R. Matano

The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano
Bishop of Rochester

Debor in Possession

We are tremendously grateful to the nearly 20,000 donors who committed \$6,934,926 to the 2023-2024 CMA. Gifts contributed through the CMA covered nearly 60% of the Diocese of Rochester's \$11.5 million budget. Through your support, you have made it possible for the Diocese and your parish to continue the mission of our Church. Thank you for making a difference!

5



Seminarians in Formation
1 priest was ordained

840



Confirmations
From 67 parishes and faith communities

5



Deacons in Formation

2,331



Catholic School Students
Educated in diocesan Catholic schools, with another 3,017 enrolled in private (non-diocesan) Catholic schools

260



Hands of Christ Awards
High school seniors received the Hands of Christ award over 3 ceremonies acknowledging their ministry and leadership

5,023



Parish Religious Education – Youth
Through parish-based programs

250,000



Catholic Charities

People assisted by our Catholic Charities agencies throughout the 12 counties of the Diocese

CMA 2023-2024 Highlights

Evangelization & Catechesis

- Equipped, supported and engaged parishes during year three of the Eucharistic Revival
- Participated in the New York State Eucharistic Congress at Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville, NY
- Offered Mental Health First Aid Training to volunteers and professionals in the Diocese
- Organized Confirmations for 840 teens from 67 parishes and faith communities
- Supported and Organized 115+ adult confirmations, including full reception into Catholic Church, and 86 adult baptisms
- Prepared 275 engaged couples for the Sacrament of Marriage through Fully Engaged (at no charge to couple or parish)
- Supported 115 engaged couples through the Diocese's online Pre-Cana program,
- Organized 3 Hands of Christ Award Ceremonies recognizing 260 faith-filled graduating high school seniors
- Coordinated a pilgrimage for 115 high school youth and chaperones to the 2023 National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis
- Supported Catholic Scouting and young adult ministry through the production of e-newsletters and individual consultation with ministry leaders

Pastoral Services

- Provided resources for building a culture of life through an integrated approach to education, prayer, advocacy and support for Human Life through the Office of Life Issues and LifeROC
- Served as liaison for the reinstatement of the Knights of Peter Claver Council and Court #106
- Promoted the growth of Walking with Moms in Need, an initiative from the USCCB to accompany and provide important resources for pregnant women and mothers
- Expanded Migrant Ministry in our 12-County Diocese based now in 6 faith communities and 2 migrant centers

Catholic Schools

- Organized a Spring Conference for teachers and principals with professional development sessions to enhance their skills and grow as educators
- Implemented the iReady Program, a computer-based tool for teachers to monitor student academic progress and provide interactive math and reading lessons
- Provided a New Teacher Coach to work with new teachers in our schools on Catholic identity, classroom management, lesson planning, and instruction
- Established a New Principal Mentor to work with our new school principals on skills to help them successfully lead our schools
- Implemented the FACTS Student Information System to offer a platform for schools to organize student information and communicate with families on a regular basis regarding schoolwide programs and activities, as well as student progress
- Coordinated 175 soccer and basketball teams through our CYO Program to provide opportunities for children in schools and parishes to participate in sports throughout the diocese

Seminarian, Deacon & Pastoral Leader Education, Ministry and Support

- Educated 5 seminarians:
- Educated 5 men in the Diaconate program at St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry

Information Technology

- Implemented new procedures and technology to respond quickly to cybersecurity incidents in Catholic Charities agencies, parishes, and schools
- Covered labor costs for wiring allowing for security camera systems for Catholic Charities agencies, parishes, and schools
- Migrated parishes and Catholic Charities agencies to cloud based systems
- Facilitated the acquisition of technology from a New York State grant for Catholic Charities



The final accounting for CMA 2023-2024 will be available for review in November at www.dor.org/about/financial-reports.

All monies raised in the CMA are only used for the programs, services, and ministries for which they are designated. No gifts to the CMA are used to satisfy settlement costs associated with abuse.

RESPECT LIFE MONTH STATEMENT October 2025

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

With great joy we celebrate October as Respect Life Month amid the Church's Jubilee Year of Hope. This Jubilee Year "offers us the opportunity to appreciate anew, and with immense gratitude, the gift of the new life that we have received in Baptism, a life capable of transfiguring death's drama."¹ The life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation of our hope. Through Christ, our sins are forgiven, death is overcome, and life is victorious.

Yet, the daily headlines remind us of how desperately our world is thirsting for the hope that only God can provide. Every day we witness the overwhelming disregard for human life: through rising rates of abortion and assisted suicide; the killing of innocent school children, even at prayer; the mistreatment of our immigrant sisters and brothers as they endure an environment of aggression; and political and ideological violence inflicted against unsuspecting victims. These attacks threaten life precisely when it is most vulnerable and in need of protection.

Despite these realities, the gift of human life exists as a sign of hope to our world today, defying the powers of darkness and the culture of death. It is of the utmost importance that we work to ensure that every life, in every stage and circumstance, is protected in law.

Earlier this year, history was made when Planned Parenthood and other big abortion businesses were banned from receiving federal Medicaid dollars for one year. I thank Catholics across the country who have embraced a nationwide call to prayer for the end of all taxpayer funding of abortion centers, and I ask that we continue those prayers throughout the month of October.

This Jubilee Year we are challenged to be agents of hope to those whose hearts are burdened by trial, difficulty, or suffering, offering them the hope that comes from Christ Jesus alone. *Walking with Moms in Need* and *Project Rachel Ministry* are just two examples of how the Church continuously reaches out with love, compassion, and mercy to those most in need of a message of hope.

As we begin Respect Life Month, together we embrace the words of Pope Leo XIV, "How important it is that each and every baptized person feel himself or herself called by God to be a sign of hope in the world today."² Each of us is called to be a witness to the Gospel of Life, proclaiming in word and deed the innate goodness and dignity of every human person.

For information on Respect Life Month, visit <https://www.respectlife.org/>.

¹ Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 20.

² Pope Leo XIV, Vatican News, May 26, 2025: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-05/pope-leo-xiv-africa-day-pilgrimage-blessing-vatican-basilica.html>.



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JOSEPH L. LUCCHESI

Attorney At Law
141 Fall Street
Seneca Falls, NY
315-568-5168

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