



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON
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**Jesus Christ is the same
yesterday, today and forever!**

Dear Friends,

Thank you all so much for your kindness to me during the past seven months which I have been blessed to serve at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. It has been a special privilege for me to be a part of this community.

This past Christmas was greatly affected by a significant blizzard. It made for a quiet Christmas here in Dunkirk. Not too many were able to make it to Mass, though the Masses were held with those who were able to attend and they were quite beautiful. I was able during those quiet days to watch the 40th Anniversary videos which are posted on our Parish website. Those videos contain about an hour worth of content regarding the approximately 170 year history of St. Mary's Parish, Sacred Heart Parish, and their merger into St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. It also gives quite a glimpse of the history of Dunkirk itself.

I was very moved as I learned of and thought about the history of the Catholic families who came to this community, forged lives of deep faith in this place, in their sacred Churches, by the attendance at Sunday Mass, in passing on from generation to generation a treasure so wonderful: the gift of everlasting life that is given in and through the Sacraments.

Amid times of joy and sorrow, peace and war, hope, disappointment, health and sickness, failure and success, and much more, our brothers and sisters, and we ourselves, have striven to remain near to the Lord who promised to remain with us always. And it is particularly beautiful to see that Catholics are still moving into this community, and they are bringing to our community a great fruitfulness. Thank you for letting me share in the beautiful faith of this community.

I promise to keep each of you in my daily prayers. Please pray for me too. As we move forward into a new Family of Parishes, let us work together with kindness, goodwill, and hope in God's grace. By the holiness of our lives may we preserve and pass on to others the gifts we have received.

In Jesus and Mary, Fr. Mark Noonan

Queridos amigos,

Muchas gracias a todos por su amabilidad conmigo durante los últimos siete meses en los que he tenido la bendición de servir en St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Ha sido un privilegio especial para mí ser parte de esta comunidad.

Esta pasada Navidad se vio muy afectada por una importante ventisca. Fue una Navidad tranquila aquí en Dunkirk. No muchos pudieron asistir a Misa, aunque las Misas se llevaron a cabo con los que pudieron asistir y fueron bastante hermosas. Durante esos días tranquilos pude ver los videos del 40 aniversario que se publican en el sitio web de nuestra parroquia. Esos videos contienen aproximadamente una hora de contenido sobre los aproximadamente 170 años de historia de la Parroquia de St. Mary, la Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón y su fusión con la Parroquia de St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. También da una Buena idea de la historia de Dunkirk.

Me conmovió mucho conocer y reflexionar sobre la historia de las familias católicas que llegaron a esta comunidad, forjaron vidas de profunda fe en este lugar, en sus sagradas Iglesias, con la asistencia a la Misa dominical, pasando de generación en generación un tesoro tan maravilloso: el don de la vida eterna que se da en y por los Sacramentos. En medio de momentos de alegría y tristeza, paz y guerra, esperanza, desilusión, salud y enfermedad, fracaso y éxito, y mucho más, nuestros hermanos y hermanas, y nosotros mismos, nos hemos esforzado por permanecer cerca del Señor que prometió permanecer con nosotros para siempre. Y es particularmente hermoso ver que los católicos todavía se están mudando a esta comunidad, y están trayendo a nuestra comunidad una gran fecundidad. Gracias por permitirme compartir la hermosa fe de esta comunidad.

Prometo tener a cada uno de ustedes en mis oraciones diarias. Por favor oren por mí también. A medida que avanzamos hacia una nueva Familia de Parroquias, trabajemos juntos con amabilidad, buena voluntad y esperanza en la gracia de Dios. Que por la santidad de nuestra vida podamos conservar y transmitir a los demás los dones que hemos recibido.

En Jesús y María, P. Marcos

**I will make of you
a great nation**
Genesis 12:2



The sung response for the intercessions during Lent will be:

Attende Domine, et Miserere Nobis

Catholic Charities Appeal 2023

Our Catholic Charities Parish total to date is \$9,280.00 from 52 donors.

Taize Prayer

Taize prayer will be offered each Sunday evening during Lent. Based on the prayer form developed by the Christian community of Taize, France during WWII, the service combines simple montra-like songs with Scripture and extended periods of silence for private meditation. Anyone wishing to deepen their personal prayer is welcome to come and experience Taize Prayer. Each service lasts about 45 minutes. Arriving a few minutes early and attending more than once may facilitate the experience. Taize prayer services will begin at 6:30pm on Sunday Feb. 26 and be held each subsequent Sunday through April 2 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

Oración de Taizé

La oración de Taizé se ofrecerá todos los domingos por la noche durante la Cuaresma. Basado en la forma de oración desarrollada por la comunidad cristiana de Taizé, Francia, durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial, el servicio combina canciones simples tipo montra con las Escrituras y largos períodos de silencio para la meditación privada. Cualquiera que desee profundizar su oración personal puede venir y experimentar la Oración de Taizé. Cada servicio dura unos 45 minutos. Llegar unos minutos antes y asistir más de una vez puede facilitar la experiencia. Los servicios de oración de Taizé comenzarán a las 6:30 p. m. el domingo 26 de febrero y se llevarán a cabo cada domingo posterior hasta el 2 de abril en la iglesia St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Tuition Assistance for Private Grammar Schools Now Available.

The BISON Children Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance to economically eligible children in grades K-8. New families can now apply for scholarships for the 2023-24 school year. To start the process, families can complete a preapplication form online at <http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarships>. If selected in our lottery drawing, the scholarships can be used at any private grammar school in WNY. The deadline to apply is March 15. The average scholarship is \$1,560 and the maximum award is \$2,500. For more information, contact Cindy at 716-854-0869, ext. 1 or cmcdonald@bisonfund.com.



Ask Jesus What You Can Do To Serve Him

Lent is here - time to challenge ourselves to be holier. Begin by asking Jesus, "What can I do to serve you?" If the answer is a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org

Please do not leave the bulletins in the pews.

St Gianna Gift Baskets

St Gianna is putting together gift baskets for their banquet in April. Anyone who would like to donate gift cards, monetary donations or gift basket items, contact Sally Keppel at 716-785-0149. Please leave a message. Deadline is April 14.

Cestas de regalo de Santa Gianna

Santa Gianna está preparando canastas de regalos para su banquete en abril. Cualquiera que desee donar tarjetas de regalo, donaciones monetarias o artículos de la canasta de regalo, comuníquese con Sally Keppel al 716-785-0149. Por favor, deje un mensaje. La fecha límite es el 14 de abril.

Pot Luck Send Off For Fr Mark Today

Please plan on attending a pot luck luncheon today 12:30pm in the NCCS gym. Please bring a dish to pass and your best wishes for Fr. Mark on his next adventure.

Pot Luck Despedida Para Fr Mark

Planee asistir a un almuerzo de pot luck el domingo 5 de marzo a las 12:30 p. m. en el gimnasio de NCCS. Por favor traiga un plato para pasar y sus mejores deseos para el Padre. Mark en su próxima aventura.

Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for March For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ken and Samantha Drozdziel on the birth of their first child, Colt Patrick Drozdziel on Monday February 27, 2023.

Mass Intention Book

Until the Family of Parishes new Mass times are set, we will temporarily stop booking Mass intentions. We will announce when the book reopens.

Libro de Intención de Misa

Hasta que la Familia de Parroquias establezca nuevos horarios de misa, dejaremos de reservar intenciones de misa temporalmente. Anunciaremos cuando se reabra el libro.

2nd Sunday of Lent—March 5, 2023

Weekly Masses

Saturday, March 4-
5:00 p.m. Tom Wlodarek by Jean, Jane & Janet
Sunday, March 5-
8:00 a.m. Begier Family by Norm & MaryAnn Begier
10:00 a.m. Carlos & Louisa Ruiz by Daughter Maria
11:30 a.m. Parishioners of SEAS
Monday, March 6-
7:00 a.m. Stanley Pacos (Ann) by Wife Pat
Tuesday, March 7-
7:00 a.m. Hector Rivera by Mom Wilma
1:40 p.m. NCCS Mass
Wednesday, March 8-St John of God
7:00 a.m. Communion Service
Thursday, March 9- St Frances of Rome
7:00 a.m. Arthur Budniewski by Wife Ann
Friday, March 10-
7:00 a.m. Frances Cole by Jean & Skip Cole & Family
Saturday, March 11-
5:00 p.m. Peter Brenecki by The Brenecki Family
Sunday, March 12-
10:00 a.m. Angela Schrantz by Len & Dorothy Schrantz & Family
11:30 a.m. Robert L. Berek (Birth) by Frederick Mackowiak

Please remember to pray for the infirmed:

Matthew A. Banach, Janet Bonasera, Scott Collins, Sue Dietzen, Len Fijal, Jose Gambarelli, Keith & Kevin, Desiree Jones, John Maternowski, Frederick Mackowiak Jr., Mike McCarty, Peter Notaro, Joel Rivera, Javier Robles, Lenny Schrantz, Jessica Sinclair, Jack Van Dervort, Mollie Watkins, Kevin Washington and Fr Tom Wopperer.

Memorials

Joe Muscato by Leo & Sandy Bain

Weekend of February 25 & 26

Mass Attendance/Asistencia a Misa:	Collection/Collecta:
5:00 PM – 45	\$3,600.37
8:00 AM – 58	
10:00 AM – 85	
11:30AM– No Count	
Total	188

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

Wednesday, March 8-

3PM-Food Pantry
6:00PM-Soup & Scripture in Rectory Meeting Room

Friday, March 10-

Noon-Stations of the Cross

Sunday, March 12-3rd Sunday of Lent

9:00AM-Sacramental Prep Classes
10:30AM-RCIA English in rectory meeting room
6:30PM-Taize Prayer in Church

Parish Contacts:

Office Phone: 366-1750 / Fax 366-4398

Rev. Mark Noonan, Temporary Admin. - ext. 4
Deacon Mike Lemieux, deaconmike328@gmail.com- ext.3
Richard Donovan, Business Manager - ext. 2
Christine Sell, Administrative Assistant - ext. 1
- secretaryseas328@gmail.com
Natalie Hoebener, Faith Formation Coordinator - ext. 5
Mr. Kenneth R. Drozdziel, St. Mary's Cemetery - 366-2371

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday, Weds., Thurs. & Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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The Catholic Faithful of the Diocese of Buffalo mourns with all of our community the tragic loss of Jason Arno who demonstrated the greatest love – the laying down of his life for others. We embrace his family and the members of the Buffalo Fire Department with our prayers and the assurance of our full support in this time of immeasurable grief. I will be offering a Mass in Jason's memory and for the intentions of his family. May the Lord in his boundless love soothe the many broken hearts with His comfort and presence and may all of our First Responders who similarly put the care and concern of others before themselves be protected from every danger and harm.

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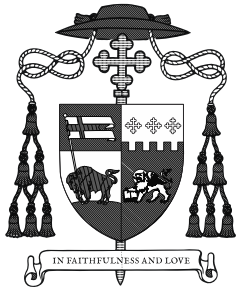
Bishop Michael W. Fisher

March 3, 2023

Advertising Spotlight:

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Add Lumber True Value in Dunkirk, NY is your locally owned hardware store. They are proud to be a member of the True Value family, and they are here to serve our community. Whether you're a pro or taking on a DIY home improvement project for the first time, They are right here in your neighborhood with the expert advice, tools, equipment and the products you need to get the job done. Add Lumber True Value in Dunkirk, NY, They are here to help. Come in and see them today. Please check out their ad in the back of the bulletin and consider them when shopping for any of your hardware needs.



DIOCESE OF BUFFALO
Office of the Bishop

February 28, 2023

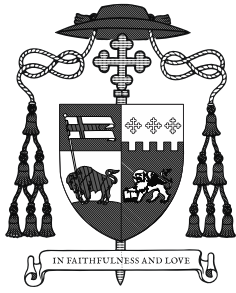
Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In recent days, you may have read news accounts of the ongoing process of the Diocese's Chapter 11 reorganization. Although the Diocese cooperated with the reporters and provided details relative to what has been asserted in several *Buffalo News* stories, very little of the information or perspective we provided was included. I wish to share with you some additional detail and context, knowing that this latest focus has likely given rise to questions and concerns about the Diocese's full commitment to resolving the many Child Victim Act claims in a fair, equitable and timely manner.

Contrary to the reporting, the Diocese is not engaged in delay tactics in order to "drag out" the process in the hope of somehow wearing down the victim-survivors and forcing them to accept an unfairly low settlement. The primary reason that the Diocese entered Chapter 11 reorganization just over three years ago was to ensure that the Diocese's limited financial resources could be put toward a settlement for all survivors of abuse. At that time, there were already hundreds of lawsuits pending against the Diocese. We now know that nearly 900 survivors have come forward to assert claims against the Diocese. The rules of Chapter 11 help to ensure that all survivors will be treated fairly. If the Diocese had not pursued reorganization in bankruptcy, there was every likelihood that judgments in favor of early litigants would have completely depleted the Diocese's limited resources, leaving the Diocese without the ability to provide financial restitution to the vast majority of other survivors.

Unfortunately, the Diocese's entry into chapter 11 coincided with the beginnings of Covid-19 lockdowns, which unavoidably delayed progress early in the case. For some time now however, we have been actively engaged in good faith negotiations with both the Creditors' Committee representing survivors' interests, as well as the Diocese's insurance carriers, in an attempt to assemble a settlement fund that will provide as much justice to survivors as possible, while also ensuring that the Diocese can continue to carry out its mission. The Diocese recognizes that no amount of money can undo the harm survivors have suffered. Moreover, it is unlikely that the Diocese could ever gather sufficient assets (even with the benefit of insurance contributions) to fully satisfy survivors' expectations and demands. Nevertheless, the Diocese remains optimistic that it will ultimately be able to bring the Creditors' Committee and its insurers together to agree upon a settlement that provides fair compensation for all survivors, and is doing everything in its power to achieve that result as quickly as possible.

I also feel it necessary to refute the assertion that the Diocese is improperly withholding abuse-related documents and other information. The Diocese has produced voluminous records to the Creditors' Committee and other appropriate parties in its Chapter 11 case, as well as to the New



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Office of the Bishop

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York Attorney General. We are aware of no outstanding requests from any of those parties for additional records relating to acknowledged perpetrators or the Diocese's handling of reports of abuse. Due to the sensitive nature of these records however, including the need to protect the identities of survivors, it would not be appropriate to make them available to the general public. That said, no individual within the employment of this Diocese who has been credibly accused of abuse will ever be shielded.

Since arriving as bishop of this Diocese in January, 2021, I have made clear that my highest priority is to work toward the healing of victim-survivors of abuse. At the same time, I realize that there is little I can say to ease the pain caused by the unconscionable crimes they suffered or explain how these heinous acts were allowed to happen. Ultimately, it is in what we do - far more than what we say - that will demonstrate to survivors and all of our communities that the failures of the past cannot be repeated. It is why we have put in place [rigorous policies and protocols](#) not only to ensure that young people and other vulnerable individuals are safe, but to allow us to measure and to account for the effectiveness of our approach to legal authorities and to the community at large. As I have stated repeatedly, there is zero tolerance for any act of abuse by a bishop, priest, deacon, diocesan employee or volunteer within the Diocese of Buffalo. Moreover, we require all who minister and work in the Diocese to conduct themselves and their interactions at all times in a professional manner and in keeping with the requirements of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I am deeply grateful to all who continue to remain faithful throughout our parishes and who daily fulfill the many vital ministries that provide essential care for those in need, education for our youth, comfort to the afflicted and support for our elderly, hope for those who need it most. I recognize that this painful saga that threatens to obscure the good and holy work that the Church accomplishes each and every day on behalf of so many has tested your patience and perseverance. I plead with you to abide with us as we work toward bringing about true and lasting renewal of this Diocese and, most especially, some sense of reconciliation and healing for those who have suffered so greatly at the hands of individuals who betrayed their trust and violated their oath to God.

Let us not be afraid, nor lose hope in the One who offers us the only chance for forgiveness, healing and the possibility to make all things new.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael W. Fisher
Bishop of Buffalo

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**Happy New Year!
May 2023 be a
very Blessed Year!**

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