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Mailing Address**

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**Nancy Kavanagh**

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Monday-Thursday  
8:00am-4:30pm  
Friday  
8:00am-11:00am

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**Tom Techman**

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**Richard White**

Parish Ministries  
Coordinator  
richard.white@dor.org

**Reconciliation**

Sacred Heart:  
Saturday 3:00pm  
St. Alphonsus:  
Saturday 3:30pm

**Sacraments**

*Baptism, Marriage,  
Ministry of the Sick:*  
Please Call Parish Office

**Sacred Heart Church**

90 Melrose Rd

**St. Alphonsus Church**

85 E. Genesee St.

**St. Ann Church**

4890 Twelve Corners Rd.

**Holy Family Church**

85 North St.

**The Catholic Community of  
Holy Family \* Sacred Heart \* St. Alphonsus \* St. Ann**

www.sacredheartauburn.org facebook.com/sacredheartauburn



**AT YOUR SERVICE**

**February 22, 2026**

Which would you choose: a debate with the tempter of souls or the sublime company of angels? Most nice people do not hesitate to voice their preference for the latter. That reflex, though, comes too easily, the “right answer” instead of the true one. The reality is, humanity has fundamentally and regrettably chosen the infernal side of the debate—and we choose it again, oh, at least once an hour.

The first conversation in the Bible is with God. God blesses the first couple in chapter 1 and gives the first commandment—thou shall not eat of that tree!—to the man in chapter 2. Yet neither man nor woman seek the companionship or council of God again in the story. They actively hide from their Maker in fact. It is God who seeks them out, significantly after their free betrayal of the sole commandment.

We imagine God might have interrupted the woman’s tête-à-tête with the serpent or insinuated the divine presence between the woman and man before the great betrayal was complete with the transfer of the forbidden fruit.

Respecting human freedom, God remains silent through both transactions. God, who speaks first in the story, awaits a response from us. Original sin is the unhappy result.

We still have choices to make daily: to embrace the guardians of heaven or to dicker with demons. When we choose violence, prejudice, judgment, falsehood, idolatry, or infidelity, we’re breaking commandments that deny us access to the blessings God freely bestows on us and wants us to have. Each time we cause harm to our neighbors or ourselves, we’re disregarding that primary commandment of Jesus to demonstrate our love for God in loving people. Every hour of history the solution is the same: Talk to God. Listen to the divine word. But each hour far too many of us incline an ear to that “Pssst! Hey buddy!” coming from the tempter’s direction.

In the synoptic gospel tradition, Jesus reenacts the Genesis moment of crisis—though not in a lush garden surrounded by creature comforts. No, Jesus stands in a wilderness, hungry and weary from fasting. And unlike the first couple who had each other for support, Jesus is alone. The evangelists show us Jesus effectively in the same position we are today: suffering the result of a fallen world that is no paradise, where each of us endures the profound isolation and hunger that is the literal fruit of sin. The debate with the tempter begins—but something is different this time. Instead of being swayed by his sweet lies, Jesus clings to the word of God. The devil finds such company intolerable. When he departs, the landscape is flooded with angels, and desert becomes a paradise. Good news as we enter the Lenten desert ourselves!

*Adapted from a previously published Exploring the word. Alice Camille is a religious educator, scripture commentator, and author of many books including **This Transforming Word** and other titles found at [alicecamille.com](http://alicecamille.com).*

**Intentions of the Holy Father Pope Leo**

**February:**

**For children with incurable diseases**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

## Calendar of Events Week of February 22, 2026

### Sunday, February 22, 2026

10:00am-11:00am(SH) Faith Formation  
Confirmation Y1 (SH) 3:00pm-5:00pm  
Confirmation Y2 (SH) 5:00pm-7:00pm

### Monday, February 23, 2026

### Tuesday, February 24, 2026

5:00pm(SH) 1st Penance/1st Communion Prep

### Wednesday, February 25, 2026

### Thursday, February 26, 2026

5:30pm(SH) Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, February 27, 2026

8:00am-8:00pm(SA) Adoration  
12:00pm & 7:00pm (SH) Stations of the Cross

### Saturday, February 28, 2026

9:00am-5:00pm(SH) Confirmation Retreat

### Sunday, March 1, 2026

10:00am-11:00am(SH) Faith Formation

The “**Pack the Pantry**” item for the week of  
Feb. 21/22-**Jars of Peanut Butter**  
Feb. 28/Mar.1-**Jars of Jelly/Jam/Preserves**

Please bring these items to church and place them in our “**Pack the Pantry**” baskets or they can be brought to the:

### ST. ALPHONSUS FOOD PANTRY (PHYSICAL LOCATION)

**1579 CLARK ST. RD. FINGERLAKES MALL**

Monday-Saturday  
9:00 am-11:30 am  
315-252-0710

**PLEASE NOTE: Soup, Pasta Sauce, Coffee, Tea, Juice, Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, Tissues and Hand Soap are always needed and appreciated**

**All Correspondence should be addressed to:**  
**St. Alphonsus Food Pantry**  
**90 Melrose Rd.**  
**Auburn, NY 13021**

*Thank you for your continued generosity!*

**All Volunteers** in the parish and within the Diocese of Rochester are required to complete *Creating A Safe Environment* (CASE) training, acknowledge a Volunteer Code of Conduct, and complete a Background Check. Volunteers include but not limited to Ushers, Lectors, EMHC, Choir Members (if youth are in the choir). This is all in accordance with *the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* promulgated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in 2002 and revised in 2018. Thanks to all our volunteers for their cooperation and continued ministry to our faith community.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP FOR 02/15/25

### Sacred Heart Church

Regular Collection \$5604.00

### St. Alphonsus Church

Regular Collection \$3485.25

### St. Ann's Church

Regular Collection \$1160.00

*Thank you for your continued generosity!*

### Stations of the Cross

Every Friday 12:00pm & 7:00pm

#### February 27

Sacred Heart Church

#### March 6

St. Francis Church

#### March 13

Sacred Heart Church 12:00pm

St. Alphonsus Church 7:00pm

#### March 20

St. Hyacinth's Church

#### March 27

6:00 pm at SS Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church for the Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

### The Installation of *The Most Reverend John S.*

*Bonnici* as the Tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, The Solemnity of Saint Joseph, at 2:00 pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester. Since there is limited amount of seating at the Cathedral, admission will be by ticket only. So that all parishes can be represented at the Installation, a limited number of tickets, based on the December 2025 Mass attendance, will be allotted to each parish. More information to come.

### Dear Sacred Heart & St. Ann's Parishioners,

Thank you for continuing to collaborate with us on the St. Pauly Textile clothing drop off shed project! We are happy to report that 2025 was another great year. Over forty million pounds of clothing were donated to our clothing sheds- that is over 200,000 pounds of clothing collected every business day! Every clothing shed is important to us; here are some numbers to show you the impact your own sheds made. In 2025, 99,947 pounds of clothing were donated to both Sacred Heart and St. Ann's sheds, which was enough to clothe almost 18,400 people all over the world. Your congregation raised \$814 at St. Ann's and \$3183 at Sacred Heart through hosting the shed. Thank you so much for partnering with us on this. We genuinely appreciate all the support you continue to give to the clothing shed program! The Team at St. Pauly Textile Inc.

**During Lent**, we strive to free ourselves from all kinds of clutter-material and spiritual-in order to focus on God and turn back to him with our whole hearts. If this "turning back" is genuine, it will be a reorientation, a transformation. To help us enter into this season, we will be guided in exploring three key moments in the life and ministry of Jesus. Please join us for a Bible Study as we read **Lent: Season of Transformation** on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, & 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 7:00pm at Sacred Heart. Led by Liza Kelly. If you have any questions, please contact Ana at 609-575-9580 or ana.haff@dor.org.

**Father Karani and Devoted Parishioners of St. Ann,**

I write to express my most sincere gratitude for exceeding your assigned goal in contributions and pledges for the 2025-2026 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA), bearing the theme Together We Bring Hope...and Hope Does Not Disappoint.

Thank you for your exemplary dedication and leadership. Your commitment to supporting the mission of the Diocese, to love God above all things and to serve our neighbors in need, for love of Him, is deeply encouraging and inspiring.

I pray that the Lord will continue to bless your parish family. Be assured of my prayers for you, and please, in your kindness, remember me in your good prayers. Renewing my sincere gratitude,

Devotedly yours in Christ,  
The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano  
Apostolic Administrator

*Congratulations on this very fine accomplishment!*

**Catholic Ministries Appeal**  
Please make checks payable to:  
**Catholic Ministries Appeal**  
PO Box 6841  
Ithaca, NY 14851

02/02/26	Donors	Pledged	Goal	%
ANN	26	\$10,701	\$10,000	107.01%
SH	143	\$35,653	\$47,000	75.86%
SA	104	\$20,602	\$37,000	55.68%

*Thank you for your continued support and generosity!*



Please join us at our next Parish Life meeting on **Monday, March 2nd at 6:00 PM**. All are invited. We are looking for new ideas for fundraisers, social gatherings or any other ideas you may have for Parish Life.

**NEW CATALOGS!!!** RADA Catalogs for Parish Life Fundraising are available in the vestibule of each of the Churches with instructions on the front for ordering online. If you have difficulty ordering or have any questions, please contact Karen Mahoney at 315-515-3151 or Missy Deyneka at 315-246-8945 for assistance. **\$5.00 Coupons** are now attached to the front of the RADA Catalogs for the Parish Life Fundraising that are available in the vestibule of each of our Churches!! Feel free to take advantage of this savings and know that you are helping our Fellowship events like the Picnic for free!! Thank you!

**Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl**

This Lent parishioners are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl as a means of almsgiving. Operation Rice Bowl is part of Catholic Relief Services. Contributions to CRS Rice Bowl benefits the hungry and impoverished throughout the world and our own St. Alphonsus Food Pantry. It is a way to share our goods and ourselves. Our Holy Father, Pope Leo, reminds us that "Love for our neighbor is tangible proof of the authenticity of our love for God." Thank you and have a blessed Lent 2026.

**The Secular Franciscan Order** (formerly known as the "The Third Order"), was created more than 800 years ago by St. Francis for lay people – married and single, and for priests and deacons who want to live out Franciscan spirituality in their daily lives. Our Lady of the Angels Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order regularly meets in Schrader Hall at St. Mary's Church at 2:15 p.m. for prayer and study of Franciscan spirituality. Visitors are welcome to see if they are called to this Franciscan approach to life. Our next meeting is this Sunday afternoon, February 22. For more information, contact Bernie Tomasso at 315-246-3440 or [olasfoauburn@gmail.com](mailto:olasfoauburn@gmail.com).

We would like to thank  
**Tesoro's Apparel**  
**315-253-2197**  
For Sponsoring an Ad  
In Our Weekly Bulletin

LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2026

**Saturday, February 21, 2026**

**4:00 pm Sacred Heart**

+*Jama Kessler* by Barbara Hartnett  
+*Phil Dello Stritto* by Mary Farrell  
+*Nancy Aldrich* by Bereavement Ministry

**4:30 pm St. Alphonsus**

+*Richard Boedicker & Deceased Family Members*  
by Chris & Bob Boedicker

**Sunday, February 22, 2026**

**8:30 am Sacred Heart**

+*Helen Oyer* by Family  
+*Ed Galka* by Marlene & Glenn White

**9:00 am St. Ann**

+*For the People of St. Ann's Parish*

**10:30 am St. Alphonsus**

+*Joanne & Tim Francis & Jim Salva*  
by Jeannine Larose

**11:00 am Sacred Heart**

+*Ed Galka* by Kathy & Brent Rhodes  
+*Robert McMahon* by Family

**5:00 pm St. Alphonsus**

+*Ormie King* by Joe & Sue Rusinko

**Monday, February 23, 2026**

**8:30 am Sacred Heart**

+*James Beer* by Family  
+*Linda Davidson* by Helen Delaney

**12:15pm St. Alphonsus**

+*Louise M. Janusz* by Lorraine & Donald Arliss

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026**

**8:30 am-Sacred Heart**

+*Lillian Sperduti* by Helen Delaney  
+*Clara Walsh* by Family

**12:15 pm St. Alphonsus**

+

**Wednesday, February 25, 2026**

**12:15 pm St. Alphonsus**

+*For the People of St. Alphonsus Parish*

**Thursday, February 26, 2026**

**5:15 pm St. Alphonsus**

+

**Friday, February 27, 2026**

**7:30 am St. Alphonsus**

+*For the People of Sacred Heart Parish*

**8:30 am Sacred Heart**

+*William Lee* by Bereavement Ministry  
+*Richard Palazzoli & William & Frances Keller* by Mary

**Saturday, February 28, 2026**

**4:00 pm Sacred Heart**

+*Stanley Kott* by Family  
+*Sheila Chayka* by Pat Keogan  
+*Gerlando DiMora* by Family

**4:30 pm St. Alphonsus**

+*Carli & Ted* by Mom (Aunt Jill)  
+*Judith A. Janusz* by Lorraine & Donald Arliss

**Sunday, March 1, 2026**

**8:30 am Sacred Heart**

+*Barbara Wallace* by Family

**9:00 am St. Ann**

+*Carli Bitterman & Ted Tomandl* by Jan & Bill

**10:30 am St. Alphonsus**

+*Ernest, Richard & Freda Zammett*  
by Deb & Dave Sikora

**11:00 am Sacred Heart**

+*Tom Donovan* by Joanne Szot  
+*Antonina Leone* by Marcia Redmond

**5:00 pm St. Alphonsus**

+*Peggy Kolo* by The Talbot Family

**The Memorial Candles  
Week of  
February 22, 2026**

**Sacred Heart Church  
Tabernacle Candle**  
*Cathey & David Kowal*  
by  
Patty, Joanne, Lorraine,  
Mary, Cheryl

**St. Alphonsus Church  
Tabernacle Candle**  
*James Mendzef*  
by  
Wife and Daughter Julie

**1st Sunday of Lent**  
**Matthew 4:1-11**  
**February 22, 2026**

In our Gospel reading, we learn about why we have the season of Lent, the forty days before Easter. Jesus shows us by His example how important it is to take the time to fast and pray. During His forty days in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil. We too can be tempted, whether by the devil or worldly desires or the weakness of our sinful nature. But Jesus shows us that we can overcome these temptations through the grace of God. Jesus tells Satan to "Get away!" This is what we too must say to these temptations: get away! Don't give into them. Jesus can—and will—help us in our trials and tribulations. He will always walk with us! We simply have to invite Him. With Jesus at our side, we need not be afraid of anything!

**Activities:**

This Lent, show God YOU desire to draw closer to Him by your actions this Lent. What can you do though His grace to grow closer to Him?

Do you ask for help, perhaps from Jesus or your guardian angel, when you face temptation? What can you do to remind yourself that they are there to help?

What are you afraid of? Discuss as a family how Jesus desires to set you free from your fears.

**SUNDAY GOSPEL ACTIVITY-COLORING PAGE**



He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry.

In His Service,  
Ana Haff  
Director of Faith Formation  
ana.haff@dor.org

## Sunday, Feb 22, 2026

Pray for your fellow travelers

Now is the time to become aware of your parish's catechumens or candidates. Assure them that you are walking with them all through the season. At the Easter Vigil the assembly will witness their Baptism into the Lord. Make room in your daily prayer for these people who are taking significant steps to orient themselves toward the cross and Resurrection of Jesus. Ask them to pray for you. Let the joy of being a companion brighten your own journey as well as theirs. They are soon to be your sisters and brothers in Christ. Recognize today that you have a role to play to provide encouragement and example to the elect on their path toward the Paschal Mystery. FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT; RITE OF ELECTION Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19; Matthew 4:1-11 (22). *"Through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all."*

## Monday, Feb 23, 2026

Bring Christ into focus In our Creed, we profess faith in "all that is seen and unseen." The unseen is not only the parts of the created universe we've yet to discover but the Spirit's workings we've yet to comprehend. Jesus tells us he can be found in the least of our brothers and sisters, yet most of us squint and strain and still find our vision blurred. Next time you pass one who is hungry and thirsty, try to see your father, mother, child, spouse, or friend in the face looking up at you. Could you pass that person by? No? Now see in that face the one who saved you for all eternity. Can you refuse to lend him a hand? Seeing is believing. LENTEN WEEKDAY Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46 (224). *"Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?"*

## Tuesday, Feb 24, 2026

Heaven is at hand Think about the Lord's Prayer and the words "who art in heaven." Those words are not referring to heaven as a distant place. It is the place we can enter here and now. The "Our Father" reveals not so much where God is but who God is and how God acts. God is holy. God is in charge. God hears and responds to the needs of those who call for help. God offers forgiveness and shows us how to forgive. God does not abandon us to temptation but rather delivers us from the prison of evil. God is the one on whom we rely, because Jesus taught us to trust no other. The Lord's Prayer invites us to get our daily dose of the divine.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (225). *"Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name."*

## Wednesday, Feb 25, 2026

Relapse and restart Just one week ago, each of us vowed to avoid temptations and distractions and turn our attention toward God. How's it going? Remember change is a process—as one psychology professor put it: "It's a marathon, not a 100-yard dash." No doubt you still have many moments each day when you forget who loves you and who deserves your love. Don't worry. The key is to not give up when you slip up. Remember the words of Saint Josemaría Escrivá: "A saint is a sinner who keeps trying." Let your relapses strengthen your resolve to be all the more aware of your need for God. Indeed, you are powerless without the power of God. LENTEN

WEEKDAY Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32 (226). *"No sign will be given it, except the sign of Jonah."*

## Thursday, Feb 26, 2026

What should we ask for? Even those who rarely think of God know how to pray in case of emergency. We are readily moved to pray when someone we love is sick or in need, or when we ourselves are lost or scared. But is there a prayer for other times, when the immediate concern is not so pressing? The church recommends this formula: Pray first for the universal church and its leaders. Second, pray for the world and global concerns. Next, intercede for the sick, remember the dead, and pray for your faith community. And finally, pray for yourself and what you need to become whole, healthy, and holy. LENTEN WEEKDAY Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12 (227). *"Ask and it will be given to you."*

## Friday, Feb 27, 2026

Leave your gift and go be reconciled While Lent is about being turned around and setting things right with God, it is not only a matter of regular churchgoing. In fact, Jesus says that offering a gift, a ritual sacrifice to God, definitely takes second place to being in right relationship with one another. Because, as Pope Francis says, "Outside of forgiveness there is no hope; outside of forgiveness there is no peace." Today's a day of abstinence. Hunger pangs may be useful as physical reminders that we have fence-mending to do. Become reconciled with family members, friends, coworkers, not only asking forgiveness (which is hard enough), but also offering forgiveness—whether it's requested or not. That will be a worthy Lenten turnaround. LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26 (228). *"Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court."*

## Saturday, Feb 28, 2026

The secret lives of our enemies Love your enemy. It's a simple statement. Clear. Concise. Direct. But oh, how it makes us squirm. Yet this commandment is the heart of Jesus' message: love has no cut-off points. There is no end to loving. No time when we get to say, "Now you've done it. No more love for you." Without God, unending love is impossible. It is only in God—living inside the mind and heart of God—that loving our enemies becomes possible and, indeed, the most natural way to live. Consider this insight from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow as you turn to face your enemies today: "If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we should find in each man's life sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility." LENTEN WEEKDAY Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48 (229). *"Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you."*

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**Remember our Sick:**

Kevin Jessie, Kathryn Lane, Eleanor Hudo, Patricia Ricci, Anthony Alberici, Evelyn Gagliano, Sue, Carl Jr. & Cheryl Moore Festa, Tim Grazsko, Jamie Mazza, Pat, Jim Podolak, Mary Manuel, Olivia, Kathleen, Bruce, Marilyn Castiglione, Allyza, John Salva, Stacy, Danielle, Lucy Pagano, Kevin & Maryanne Festa Leonard, Cortney Fedyshyn, Briana Dewitt, Joyce Blowers, John Clark, Cheryl Bellnier, Colleen Pinckney, Pat Gallagher, Gloria Cuddy, Tim Daly, Sue Daly, Carol Aldrich, Thomas Didio, Dave, Don & Joan Zeleznik, Mary Campbell, Mark Cole, Jonathan Arrowsmith, Lucas Mallory, Joe Schubach, Mary Warter, Gina DelPiano, Caleb Jones, Michael Fronzek, Carter Hergert, Joan Komanecky, Elizabeth Lane, Frances Lane, Siobhan Phillippe, Donna Romano, and those listed in our Book of Petitions.

*"We pray for all those who are sick, especially those on our parish prayer list, those in nursing homes, assisted living, the hospital or the homebound. May they receive comfort, healing, and strength from God's grace."*

***Please call Nancy at 315-252-7271 to have names added or removed. Thank you!***



**We pray for the men and women of our Armed Forces serving U.S. and abroad:**

LCpl Brian Baxter USMC, Capt. Gregory Baxter USMC, Capt. DJ Benzing USAF, Lt. Col Joseph E. Brooks USAF, SSgt Tom Ellis Sr. USA, SSgt Angel Gonzalez USA, Col Eddie Gonzalez USMC, Pvt Zachary Gonzalez USMC, CWO4 Roger Graf USA, 1SGT Zachary Howell USA, SSgt James Johnson USMC, SFC Jason Mero USA, Pvt Justin Miller USA, E3 David Mirales US Navy, Lt Jg Richard Nelson IV, USN, E4 Adam H. Brooks, Airman Sarah Pasternak, USAF, Lt. Jack Hogan, USN, Airman Alex Gonnella, USAF., Major William Griffin USMC

*"We pray for the protection and safety of all military personnel, including police, fire, and corrections serving both at home and abroad, especially those deployed in dangerous situations."*