

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS



Sunday, September 14, 2025
Holy Cross Day,
Year C

THIS FESTIVAL, WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE FOURTH CENTURY, CELEBRATES THE TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS. PAUL REMINDS US THAT CHRIST CRUCIFIED IS THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD. AS MOSES PUT A SERPENT ON A POLE TO BE A SOURCE OF HEALING FOR THE ISRAELITES, WE LIFT HIGH THE CROSS AS THE SIGN OF OUR HEALTH AND SALVATION. EACH TIME WE MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS WE REMEMBER OUR BAPTISM INTO THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.



From the Pastor's Desk

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-24

18 THE MESSAGE ABOUT THE CROSS IS FOOLISHNESS TO THOSE WHO ARE PERISHING, BUT TO US WHO ARE BEING SAVED IT IS THE POWER OF GOD. 19 FOR IT IS WRITTEN,

"I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE,

AND THE DISCERNMENT OF THE DISCERNING I WILL THWART."

20 WHERE IS THE ONE WHO IS WISE? WHERE IS THE SCHOLAR? WHERE IS THE DEBATER OF THIS AGE? HAS NOT GOD MADE FOOLISH THE WISDOM OF THE WORLD? 21 FOR SINCE, IN THE WISDOM OF GOD, THE WORLD DID NOT KNOW GOD THROUGH WISDOM, GOD DECIDED, THROUGH THE FOOLISHNESS OF THE PROCLAMATION, TO SAVE THOSE WHO BELIEVE. 22 FOR JEWS ASK FOR SIGNS AND GREEKS DESIRE WISDOM, 23 BUT WE PROCLAIM CHRIST CRUCIFIED, A STUMBLING BLOCK TO JEWS AND FOOLISHNESS TO GENTILES, 24 BUT TO THOSE WHO ARE THE CALLED, BOTH JEWS AND GREEKS, CHRIST THE POWER OF GOD AND THE WISDOM OF GOD.

THOSE WHO PROFESS TO FAVOR FREEDOM AND YET DEPRECIATE AGITATION, ARE PEOPLE WHO WANT CROPS WITHOUT PLOUGHING THE GROUND; THEY WANT RAIN WITHOUT THUNDER AND LIGHTNING; THEY WANT THE OCEAN WITHOUT THE ROAR OF ITS MANY WATERS. THE STRUGGLE MAY BE A MORAL ONE, OR IT MAY BE A PHYSICAL ONE, OR IT MAY BE BOTH. BUT IT MUST BE A STRUGGLE. POWER CONCEDES NOTHING WITHOUT A DEMAND; IT NEVER HAS AND IT NEVER WILL."

—FREDERICK DOUGLASS, "AN ADDRESS ON WEST INDIA EMANCIPATION," AUGUST 3, 1857.

SOMETHING TO PONDER TODAY.
PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.
PASTOR V.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY
9A.M.-IN-PERSON SERVICE W/ SCS
10:30A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM
BROADCAST ON OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\).](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

**SEPTEMBER 13TH
BURCHFEST**



**IN HONOR OF LOWELL
ROTHENBERGER'S 85TH BIRTHDAY
*BY KAREN, SCOTT AND PETER***

**CELEBRATING 54 BLESSED YEARS
*CHARLIE AND CONNIE ARNOLD***

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION BY ORDERING A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT USING THE ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13 @ 5P.M.
ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 @ 9 A.M.
NADINE BROWN- ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 @ 10:30 A.M.
NANCY KESSLER- ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 @ 9 A.M.
KRISTEN HOCHULSKI- USHER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 @ 10:30 A.M.
SANDY STANGO- USHER

ALTAR GUILD FOR SEPTEMBER
RHONDA DREZEK
CONNIE ARNOLD

THIS WEEK 9/14 - 9/20

TODAY:

9 A.M. WORSHIP W/ SCS
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

10 A.M. SPROUTS
1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP
6 P.M. KNITTING GROUP
6 P.M. SPROUTS
6:45 P.M. ZUMBA
7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. TAI-CHI
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP
6 P.M. PARKINSON'S GROUP
7 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. NA
5 P.M. ZUMBA
6 P.M. BIBLE STUDY
7 P.M. NA

FRIDAY:

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)
10 A.M. SPROUTS
7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

SATURDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
5 P.M. WORSHIP

UPCOMING AGAPE MEAL DATES:

OCTOBER 5

NOVEMBER 2

DECEMBER 7

LOOKING FOR EXTRA HANDS TO HELP WITH THE AGAPE MEAL.
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH AN AGAPE MEAL SERVICE
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE FOYER.

DINING OUT

DINING OUT WILL START BACK UP. WE WILL BE GOING TO FIELDSTONE
COUNTRY INN IN LOCKPORT ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH AT 5:30PM.
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE FOYER.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

3RD ANNUAL HARVEST HOUSE BABY SHOWER

AUGUST 10TH- SEPTEMBER 14TH

ST. JOHN'S WILL AGAIN FOR THE 3RD YEAR BE PARTICIPATING IN THE
ANNUAL HARVEST HOUSE BABY SHOWER.

IN 2024, HARVEST HOUSE WAS HELPING 600 CHILDREN PER MONTH.

THIS YEAR, THAT NUMBERS HAS SWELLED TO ALMOST 800
CHILDREN A MONTH.

FEDERAL POVERTY INCOMES WILL INCREASE BY JUST 5% IN 2025. BASIC
BABY SUPPLIES ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY 24% OR MORE. THIS
WILL FORCE FAMILIES TO DECIDE BETWEEN PAYING RENT, UTILITY BILLS
OR CARING FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

YOUR HELP IS CRITICAL!!

BRAND NEW ITEMS NEEDED MOST:

DIAPERS (SIZES 2-5)

SOCKS FOR CHILDREN AGE 3+

CLOTHING (NEWBORN TO 5T)

BOTTLES AND FEEDING SUPPLIES

BABY HYGIENE PRODUCTS (WIPES, CREAMS, ETC...)

BURCHFEST

BURCHFEST IS UPON US AND WE NEED VOLUNTEERS AND CUSTOMERS!
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH FROM 8:30 - 3:30.

ONE HOUR, TWO HOURS OR WHATEVER YOU CAN DO WILL BE
APPRECIATED.

STUDENTS WHO NEED COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS, PLEASE SIGN UP
FOR TEAR DOWN AND CLEAN UP AT 3PM,
WE ARE USUALLY DONE BY 3:45.

SUPPORT BURCHFEST AT ST. JOHN'S! WE'RE OPEN 10AM - 3PM ON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH! PLEASE VISIT OUR CRAFTERS & FOOD
TRUCKS! WE'D LOVE TO SEE ST. JOHN'S SUPPORT THIS WEST SENECA
WIDE EVENT!



BurchFest 2025

Celebrating the Charles Burchfield Family

Save the date!

Saturday, Sept. 13th

Be sure to check out the activities, tours, classes
and other events throughout West Seneca!



For more details, scan this code or visit
westseneca.org/burchfest



This event is sponsored in part by
Western New York Federal Credit Union and Kloc's Grove.

PRESCHOOL

ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL IS CURRENTLY ENROLLING
3 YEAR OLDS FOR ITS TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY CLASS.
PLEASE CALL 716-668-3584 TO ENROLL.

BURRITTO PROJECT

OUR NEXT TREK TO FEED AND CARE FOR THE HOMELESS IN DOWNTOWN
WILL BE ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH. TO PREPARE FOR IT, WE NEED
TO REPLENISH OUR SUPPLIES. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP, PLEASE DO.

SADLY, WE HAVE RECENTLY LOST TWO PEOPLE THAT WERE VERY
GENEROUS TO THE BURRITTO PROJECT. THAT LOSS WILL BE FELT.
WHATEVER YOU CAN DO TO PROVIDE AID IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED
BY THE HOMELESS PEOPLE WE SERVE. THE GREATEST NEEDS ARE FOR
THESE ITEMS:

CHAP STICK
HAND WIPES
PONCHOS

SANITARY PADS / TAMPONS

TOOTHPASTE
SHAMPOO
LADIES UNDERWEAR

THERE WILL BE A COLLECTION BOX IN THE FOYER TO RECEIVE YOUR
DONATIONS.
THANK YOU.