

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

The Crossbeam

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



Sunday, September 13, 2026
16th Sunday after Pentecost,
Year A

IN TODAY'S SECOND READING PAUL QUESTIONS WHY WE JUDGE ONE ANOTHER, SINCE WE ALL STAND BEFORE THE JUDGMENT OF GOD. YET WE DO SIN AGAINST ONE ANOTHER, AND JESUS' CHALLENGE THAT WE FORGIVE SEVENTY-SEVEN TIMES REVEALS GOD'S BOUNDLESS MERCY. WHEN WE HEAR THE WORDS OF FORGIVENESS IN WORSHIP AND SIGN OURSELVES WITH THE CROSS, WE ARE RENEWED IN BAPTISM TO BE SIGNS OF RECONCILIATION IN THE WORLD.



From the Pastor's Desk

ROMANS 14:1-12

1 WELCOME THOSE WHO ARE WEAK IN FAITH BUT NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUARRELING OVER OPINIONS. 2 SOME BELIEVE IN EATING ANYTHING, WHILE THE WEAK EAT ONLY VEGETABLES. 3 THOSE WHO EAT MUST NOT DESPISE THOSE WHO ABSTAIN, AND THOSE WHO ABSTAIN MUST NOT PASS JUDGMENT ON THOSE WHO EAT, FOR GOD HAS WELCOMED THEM. 4 WHO ARE YOU TO PASS JUDGMENT ON SLAVES OF ANOTHER? IT IS BEFORE THEIR OWN LORD THAT THEY STAND OR FALL. AND THEY WILL BE UPHELD, FOR THE LORD IS ABLE TO MAKE THEM STAND.

5 SOME JUDGE ONE DAY TO BE BETTER THAN ANOTHER, WHILE OTHERS JUDGE ALL DAYS TO BE ALIKE. LET ALL BE FULLY CONVINCED IN THEIR OWN MINDS. 6 THOSE WHO OBSERVE THE DAY, OBSERVE IT FOR THE LORD. ALSO THOSE WHO EAT, EAT FOR THE LORD, SINCE THEY GIVE THANKS TO GOD, WHILE THOSE WHO ABSTAIN, ABSTAIN FOR THE LORD AND GIVE THANKS TO GOD.

7 FOR WE DO NOT LIVE TO OURSELVES, AND WE DO NOT DIE TO OURSELVES. 8 IF WE LIVE, WE LIVE TO THE LORD, AND IF WE DIE, WE DIE TO THE LORD; SO THEN, WHETHER WE LIVE OR WHETHER WE DIE, WE ARE THE LORD'S. 9 FOR TO THIS END CHRIST DIED AND LIVED AGAIN, SO THAT HE MIGHT BE LORD OF BOTH THE DEAD AND THE LIVING.

10 WHY DO YOU PASS JUDGMENT ON YOUR BROTHER OR SISTER? OR YOU, WHY DO YOU DESPISE YOUR BROTHER OR SISTER? FOR WE WILL ALL STAND BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF GOD. 11 FOR IT IS WRITTEN, "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD."

12 SO THEN, EACH ONE OF US WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE.

QUOTATIONS ABOUT COMPROMISE:

"A COMPROMISE IS THE ART OF DIVIDING A CAKE IN SUCH A WAY THAT EVERYONE BELIEVES HE HAS THE BIGGEST PIECE."

—LUDWIG ERHARD.

"REAL LIFE IS, TO MOST MEN, A LONG SECOND-BEST, A PERPETUAL COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE IDEAL AND THE POSSIBLE."

—BERTRAND RUSSELL, MYSTICISM AND LOGIC AND OTHER ESSAYS

"STICK TO YOUR GUNS AND LEARN TO COMPROMISE."

—OSCAR-NOMINATED SCREENWRITER RICHARD CURTIS' TIPS FOR SUCCESS.

"LET US NEVER NEGOTIATE OUT OF FEAR. BUT LET US NEVER FEAR TO NEGOTIATE."

—JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, INAUGURAL ADDRESS, JANUARY 20, 1961.

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



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



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12 @ 5PM
ADAM WOLFF- PREACHING
KEN KLOPPER- ASSISITING MINISTER



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 @ 9AM
LEE DELANEY- USHER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 @ 10:30AM
NANCY KESSLER- ASSISTING MINISTER
SANDY STANGO- USHER

ALTAR GUILD FOR AUGUST:
SONI SCHNITZER
DEB FOX

**SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN. PLEASE
REGISTER YOUR CHILD HERE:
[HTTPS://TITHELY-5ED939B212C2C-
1939424.ELVANTO.NET/ADMIN/FORMS/FORM/?ID=0DF741C1-
58BF-4FE5-9A2A-B2917176CEA2](https://tithely-5ed939b212c2c-1939424.elvanto.net/admin/forms/form/?id=0df741c1-58bf-4fe5-9a2a-b2917176cea2)**



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 13TH

RALLY DAY

9AM SERVICE W/SCS

10:30AM SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 17TH

BIBLE STUDY @ 6PM

SEPTEMBER 19TH @ 2PM

CANDY BAR BINGO

OCTOBER 3RD

BURCHFEST

OCTOBER 15TH

PENNY SALE

AGAPE MEAL DATES:

OCTOBER 4TH

NOVEMBER 1ST

DECEMBER 6TH

DINING OUT

DINING OUT IS BACK!

JOIN US THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 5PM

AT JP FITZGERALDS

SOUTH PARK AVE, HAMBURG

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE FOYER

THIS WEEK 9/13 - 9/19

TODAY:

9 A.M. WORSHIP W/ SCS
10:30 A.M. WROSHIP
11:30 A.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

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

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. TAI-CHI
6 P.M. PRAYER CHAIN & LABYRINTH
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP
6 P.M. PARKINSON'S GROUP

THURSDAY:

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

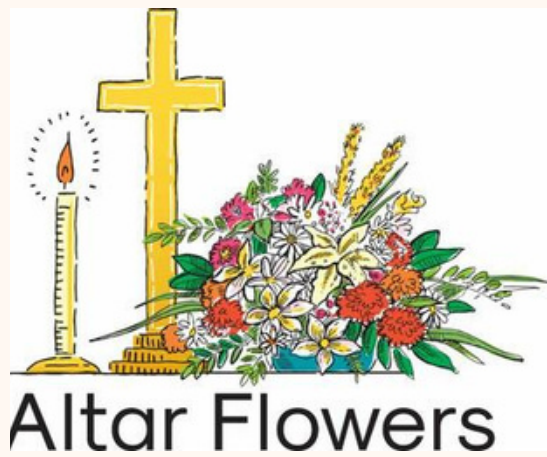
FRIDAY:

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

SATURDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
2 P.M. CANDY BAR BINGO
5 P.M. WORSHIP

WEST SENECA COMMUNITY OF CHURCHES CROP WALK/ROLL &
WEIDNER CHICKEN DINNER
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, FROM 11AM-3PM OR SOLD OUT.
ST DAVID'S CHURCH
3951 SENECA ST (BEHIND SOUTHGATE PLAZA)
TAKE OUT AND CASH ONLY - \$16.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ZACH!

LOVE MOM

KIM & BILL CROOKS

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ART & ROSE DOSTER**

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.

ITEMS NEEDED

ST. JOHN'S WILL BE HOSTING A TABLE AT BURCHFEST. THIS TABLE WILL CONSIST OF GARAGE SALE TYPE ITEMS TO SELL. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE WE ARE ACCEPTING ITEMS.

PLEASE NO CLOTHING!!!

LOOKING FOR NICE ITEMS.

ANY DONATIONS CAN BE PLACE ON THE BENCH IN THE SCHOOL HALL. ANYTHING NOT SOLD AT BURCHFEST WILL BE DONATED TOWARDS THE PENNY SALE.

PLEASE HAVE ANY ITEMS IN BY SEPTEMBER 20TH

PRAYER LABYRINTH & PRAYER CHAIN

WE WILL BE HAVING PRAYER CHAIN AND LABYRINTH TOGETHER ON TUESDAY 9/15. PRAYER REQUESTS CAN BE EMAILED TO PRAYERLABYRINTHWS@GMAIL.COM.

KAREN MAIER HAS RECENTLY MOVED INTO A MEMORY CARE FACILITY,
WHERE SHE IS SETTLING INTO HER NEW HOME. WHILE THIS IS A BIG
TRANSITION FOR ALL OF US, WE'RE GRATEFUL THAT SHE IS BEING CARED FOR
AND SURROUNDED BY OTHERS.

MOM HAS ALWAYS ENJOYED RECEIVING CARDS AND MAIL, AND WE KNOW
THEY WOULD BRIGHTEN HER DAY. IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEND HER A CARD, WE
WOULD ABSOLUTELY WELCOME THEM!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTINUES TO THINK OF MOM AND OUR
FAMILY. YOUR KINDNESS, LOVE, AND SUPPORT MEAN SO MUCH TO US. 💕

KAREN MAIER
2330 MAPLE ROAD
APT 188
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221

UPDATE

ISABEL HAS MADE IT TO REHAB AND SHE IS DOING PRETTY GOOD. SHE DOES
ABOUT 4-5 HOURS OF REHAB A DAY 6 DAYS A WEEK ITS AN INTENSE
PROGRAM. BUT SHE IS DOING IT AND SHE HAS BEEN SLOWLY PROGRESSING.
SHE HAS BEEN WORKING ON WALKING AGAIN, AND WHILE SHE ISNT
WALKING ON HER OWN, SHE IS MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. THE HOPE
IS SHE WILL BE WALKING BY THE TIME SHE LEAVES BUT WILL NEED TO
UTILIZE A WHEELCHAIR FOR DISTANCE FOR SOMETIME. SHE HAS STARTED
EATING AGAIN PUREED FOODS MOSTLY BUT WE ARE WORKING ON TRYING
SOLID FOODS AGAIN AND SHE GOT HER VOICE BACK ON FRIDAY! ITS WEAK
RIGHT NOW BUT ITS THERE AND ITS MUSIC TO MY EARS. I CRIED WHEN I
HEARD IT BUT I WAS SO HAPPY TO HEAR IT AGAIN. SHE IS SUCH A LITTLE
FIGHTER THATS FOR SURE. THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS KEEPING HER IN YOUR
PRAYERS.

BECKY AND ISABEL

BURCHFEST '26

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BURCHFEST 2026!

BURCHFEST IS BACK, AND WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS!

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026, ST. JOHN'S WILL WELCOME HUNDREDS OF SHOPPERS, ARTISANS, AND VENDORS FOR OUR ANNUAL BURCHFEST – FALL INTO THE ARTS! THIS COMMUNITY WIDE EVENT IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, YOUTH (COUNTS TOWARDS COMMUNITY SERVICE), AND FRIENDS TO HELP WITH TASKS SUCH AS:

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SET UP TABLES
LABEL VENDOR SPACES
VENDOR SET-UP AND CHECK-IN
WELCOME AND INFORMATION TABLE
HOSPITALITY FOR VENDORS
GENERAL EVENT SUPPORT
GARBAGE PICK UP
SECURITY
CLEAN-UP AT THE END OF THE DAY

WHETHER YOU CAN VOLUNTEER FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS OR THE ENTIRE EVENT, YOUR TIME AND TALENTS WILL MAKE A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE. BURCHFEST RUNS FROM 10AM TO 2PM. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT FROM 8AM TO 3PM.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HELPING, PLEASE CONTACT KATHY AT 716-208-9043 (TEXT OR VOICEMAIL) OR SIGN UP AT CHURCH.

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU AS PART OF THE BURCHFEST TEAM!

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK—AND TOGETHER WE'LL MAKE BURCHFEST ANOTHER WONDERFUL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!

BURRITTO PROJECT

WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS BACK IN JUNE. IT'S AMAZING TO SEE THE GRATITUDE THAT THEY HAVE FOR WHAT WE PROVIDE. HOWEVER THE NEED DOESN'T END. ONCE AGAIN WE ARE GOING TO GO DOWNTOWN ON THE FIFTH TUESDAY OF SEPTEMBER (THAT IS THE 29TH) TO PROVIDE A MEAL AND PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS.

THERE IS GREAT NEED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR US TO TAKE THERE. IF YOU CAN, PLEASE PLACE WHATEVER YOU HAVE IN THE COLLECTION TOTE LOCATED IN THE PARISH HALL.

**MEN'S UNDERWEAR, WOMEN'S UNDERWEAR, SOCKS, DENTAL FLOSS
BAR SOAP, MOUTHWASH, SHAVING CREAM**

POPE FRANCIS IS QUOTED AS SAYING "YOU PRAY FOR THE HUNGRY. THEN YOU FEED THEM. THAT'S HOW PRAYER WORKS." THAT IS WHAT WE ARE DOING. THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF IT.