



Mary, the Holy Mother of God January 1, 2012

Mary kept all these things,
Reflecting on them in her heart.

—Luke 2:19



St. Andrew's Parish

Connect with us! www.standrewsrccchurch.org

MASS

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am & 5:00 pm
Weekdays: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am & 12:00 noon
Sat. 8:30 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00-3:30 pm
Mon.-Fri.: 11:30-11:45 am
By appointment with one of the priests.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is administered every first Saturday of the month at the 8:30 am Mass and ANYTIME upon request. Please contact the Rectory.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Wednesday before noon Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday starting after noon Mass and ending at 5:00 pm with Evening Prayer from the Church's Liturgy of the Hours Benediction
The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary are prayed at 3:00 pm on Tuesdays.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Richard W. Siepka, *Pastor*
Rev. Vincent J. Ferraro, *Hospital Chaplain in Residence*
Stephen J. Swinarski, *Deacon*
Theresa Bornholdt, *Pastoral Associate*
Jean MacDonald, *Business Manager*
Carolyn Liarakos, *Director of Music*
Kathleen Johnson, *Ensemble Director*
Maryanne Snyder, *Director of Faith Formation*
Gerri Salay, *Coordinator of Elementary Catechesis*
Doris Johnson, *Coordinator of Middle School Catechesis*

RECTORY

1525 Sheridan Drive, Kenmore NY 14217
Phone: (716) 873-6716 Fax – 873-2214

Office hours:

Sunday: 8:00 am—1:00 pm
Monday-Friday: 8:30 am—Noon, 1:00 pm—7:00 pm

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

1545 Sheridan Drive, Kenmore NY 14217
Phone: (716) 877-3034

PRAYER CHAIN

(716) 873-6716 Ext. 9

St. Andrew Country Day School

Catholic Schools
The Start of Something Great



Susan F. Ferrio, *Principal*
Renee C. Pratt, *President, Home School Association*
Robert C. Augustine, *Chairperson, School Advisory Council*

SCHOOL OFFICE

1545 Sheridan Drive, Kenmore NY 14217
Phone: (716) 877-0422 Fax: (716) 877-3973
Visit our website! www.standrewscds.org

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"As St. Andrew brought St. Peter to Jesus, we strive to bring others into a deeper relationship with Christ through Sunday Eucharist, Community Outreach, Hospitality, and Catholic Education through lifelong learning and faith formation."



Saturday, December 31

8:30 Laura LaGree by David and Theresa Baxter
 4:00 Joseph Staniuszko by wife

Sunday, January 1—OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD; SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

7:30 Rosemary and Joseph Fiorella by Christine
 9:30 Bud Trapper by wife
 11:30 St. Andrew's Parishioners
 5:00 Genevieve Laurich by Coughlin family

Monday, January 2—Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

8:30 Joseph Graeber family by family
 12:00 Nathan Carducci by Christine Scibetta

Tuesday, January 3

8:30 Colleen Conlin by family
 12:00 All Souls

Wednesday, January 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30 Bernard Norget by Linda and Bill Pluff
 12:00 Mary Cicero by family

Thursday, January 5—St. John Neumann, Bishop

8:30 Irene Mazuchowski by family
 12:00 Penelope Victoria by Nanie

Friday, January 6

8:30 Samuel Agnello by family
 12:00 Living and deceased members of Short, O'Reilly, and Nolan families by Betty Short

Saturday, January 7

8:30 Henry and Jean Dorey by children
 4:00 Ann Stevens by family

Sunday, January 8—EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:30 Leo Lagree by Ethal Vento and family
 9:30 St. Andrew's Parishioners
 11:30 John Connelly by family
 5:00 Gennaro Serravalle by wife, Mary Jane, children, and grandchildren

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

NYS law prohibits hospitals and nursing homes/rehab facilities from notifying the parish when a family member or loved one is admitted for treatment. Please contact the rectory when a situation arises and request visitation and administration of the sacraments for a loved one, whether in an institutional or home setting.

Communion for Those with Gluten Sensitivity

The parish now has gluten-free hosts for those who have an allergy or sensitivity to gluten. Those wishing to receive a gluten-free host at a weekend Mass should contact the rectory the Friday before. Please be prepared to tell us which Mass you will be attending on the weekend so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Sunday Connection . . .

Today's reading is a continuation from the Gospel proclaimed at Christmas. In it the shepherds act upon the message they receive from the angel and go to find Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. In their visit to the manger, the shepherds find things just as the angel had said. The shepherds' visit, therefore, is a moment of fulfillment, manifestation, and the beginning of the salvation we receive through Christ.

In the context of today's feast, this reading also helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The reading tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby *Jesus* as the Angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation.

Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Our call to discipleship also includes these three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to a community of faith.

THE BLESSING WE RECEIVE

The blessing we experience in Christ Jesus is proclaimed in Numbers as the special blessing for the people of Israel. They and we are to be blessed by the invocation of God's loving kindness, the shining glory of God's face turned toward us in love, not away from us in anger. We are blessed by God's own peace!

Our wish and our hope are fulfilled in this blessing, which is made visible in the coming of Jesus. In Jesus, the image of the invisible God, God's face is shown to us and God's presence is made known to us in faithful and loving kindness.

Ladies of Charity

Come see the great selection of handmade winter ‘nighties;’ pajamas for ladies and children; knitted hats, gloves, slippers, afghans, children’s quilts, and much more. They’re all for sale in the Loyola room every Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm. All the proceeds assist people in need.

**St. Vincent dePaul Society
Food Pantry**

Our Food Pantry is in need of noodles, mayonnaise, peanut butter, oil and crackers. Thank you for your contributions to help fill our shelves.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesdays 12:30 pm—5 pm
3 pm Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
5 pm Benediction

Special New Year’s Day BINGO
Sunday, January 1 at 7 pm
Proceeds to benefit the St. Andrew’s Sports Program

Remembrance Tree

The parish’s Remembrance Tree is located in the prayer space near the Lowell Avenue doors of the church this year. This tree holds ornaments placed in memory of family, friends, and loved ones who have died. You are asked to remove your special ornaments from the tree by Sunday, January 8. Thank you.

Prayer Shawl Ministry


If you or a loved one are ill and in need of a prayer shawl, please contact the Rectory Office at 873-6716 so that one can be provided for you.

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St. Andrew’s 7th Annual Cash Drawing
Saturday, February 4, 2012

\$5,000 Cash—Grand Prize

\$1,000 2nd Prize
\$500 3rd Prize
\$300 4th Prize
\$200 5th Prize



\$150 Early Bird Drawing on January 15th
after the 9:30 am Mass!

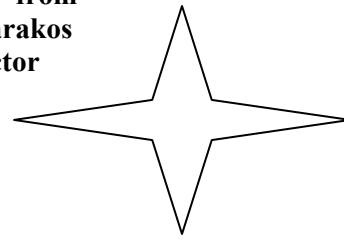
Tickets \$1 per ticket or \$5 for a book of 7

We ask each parishioner to purchase or sell 6 books of tickets to make this raffle a success!

Extra tickets are available at the rectory and the school offices or by calling Dominic Catalano at 694-8508

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**Music News from
Carolyn Liarakos
Music Director**



“Angels We Have Heard on High”

To our wonderful St. Andrew’s parish! We hope the music we made throughout the Christmas Season blesses and inspires you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the St. Andrew’s Music Ministries:

- Cantor Schola
- Choir Schola
- Faith
- Festival Choir
- Youth/Children’s choir

Sunday, January 8—the Feast of the Epiphany
Our “Youth Christmas Choir” will be at the 11:30 am Family Mass. Please come early and enjoy the short program of Christmas music before Mass begins.

Parish Volunteer Celebration

In appreciation of the ministry participants and volunteers, Father Rich and the staff of St. Andrew’s Parish and School invite you to a celebration.

If you volunteer for any parish ministry and/or school activity, then you are invited to the **Parish Volunteer Celebration** on Saturday, January 28 immediately following the 4 pm Mass. The celebration will be in McNulty Hall from 5-8 pm. There will be food and refreshments.

In order to know how much food to prepare, it is very important that we know if you are attending. If you will be attending, please fill out the attached RSVP and drop it in the collection basket or return it to the rectory no later than Monday, January 23. If you tell us you are attending and your plans change, please let us know that as well.

Please return to the rectory or drop in the collection basket by January 23.

I will attend the **Parish Volunteer Celebration** on
January 28 YES NO

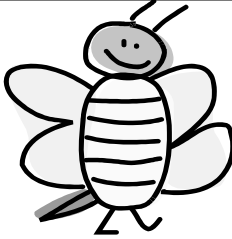
Number attending _____

Name _____

Ministry _____

SCHOOL BUZZ...

Welcome to 2012! School resumes on Tuesday, January 3. Friday, January 6 is an 11 am dismissal. The faculty, staff, and students will be attending the 8:30 am mass. Character traits will be given out to the students after mass. Don't forget the family mass on Sunday, January 8 at 11:30 am.



We are saving a place for you at our Open House on January 29 from 12 to 2 pm. Come see all that St. Andrew's School has to offer!

Additional Parishioners Receiving Honor Grades

Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart

✠ Samantha Hoar ✠ Julia Stankowski ✠ Madilyn Wiles

Retirement Fund for Religious

Religious Orders face rising costs. Your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious this weekend provides critical support to religious institutes in meeting the escalating costs of elder care. Please pray for all religious. Those parishioners who regularly contribute through the parish CPL program, your contributions are automatically made for you to this fund. A Second Collection will be taken this weekend for those who wish to make a separate or additional contribution. God bless you for your generosity!

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

On this feast, we can see how devotion to Mary has been a beacon of hope to the sick throughout history. In the new cathedral of Los Angeles, the faithful enter through a single door topped by a striking sculpture of Mary with arms stretched down in compassion. Sculpted into the massive bronze doors are the titles of Mary most treasured by various cultures. Many of them speak of how the sick are consoled by a sense of Mary's presence.

Dorothy Day once recalled St. Bonaventure's remark that after the Lord's long forty days of fasting in the desert, when he was diminished and weak from his struggle, the angels who ministered to him went first to the Blessed Mother's house. There they saw the soup that was on her stove, and took some to the Lord so that he would delight in it even more since his mother had prepared it. "Of course," said Dorothy Day matter-of-factly.

In praying the rosary and savoring the stories of Mary's steadfast love in the face of all suffering, the sick are strengthened by one of our tradition's most shining treasures, and the whole Church is enriched.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TIME

Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.

—Benjamin Franklin

ST. ANDREW'S CYO NEWS

Contact: Kathy Seel – kathy.seel@standrewscyo.com

Face book page: "St. Andrew CYO"

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." —1 Timothy 4:12

The 60th Annual Youth Convention

Friday, February 17 through Sunday, February 19

A weekend conference for high school aged teens and their leaders will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown Buffalo. Packets are available if interested – a commitment is needed by January 19. Contact Mrs. Seel at informationkathy.seel@standrewscyo.com for more information.

Middle School Dance

Saturday, January 7

Location: McNulty Hall inside the Donovan Center

Time: 8 pm – 10:30 pm

Admission: \$5

Appropriate attire and behavior required. Information is posted on the CYO website.

St. Andrew CYO Meeting

Sunday, January 8

Visit us at 7 pm in the school cafeteria, and sign up for the Overnight Lock In!!! Reunite in faith, fun, food and friendship!

2011 Contribution Letter

If you would like a letter stating your contributions to St. Andrew Church for 2011, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection, or bring it to the rectory. Receipt of Tax Deductible Contributions - by law, any contributions that are to be used as a 2011 tax deduction by the donor must be postmarked or in the hands of the parish no later than December 31, 2011. A check received by the parish on or after January 1, 2012 and dated for December 2011 is not eligible to be claimed for a 2011 tax deduction. Letters will be mailed out in mid-January.

2011 Contribution Letter

Envelope number (# above your name) _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____



Parish Information

Registration: New members of our congregation are received at “*Welcome Sunday*” held the third Sunday of every month after the 11:30 am Mass. Representatives of the various ministries and organizations in the parish will introduce themselves and explain what they do; thus giving new people the opportunity to learn about the parish and become involved in its life. Please call the rectory to inform us of your intention to attend a *Welcome Sunday*. Also, if you are leaving St. Andrew’s Parish please inform the rectory office.

Sacrament of Baptism: New life in the Risen Christ through the waters of baptism is celebrated regularly. It is recommended that parents attend a baptism preparation class prior to the birth of their baby. Call the rectory office to make reservations.

Sacrament of Marriage: When a couple realizes that God is calling them to a life long commitment in love and they have announced their engagement, they are asked to call the rectory for an appointment with one of the priests. The priest will discuss the steps to be taken in planning the wedding and preparing for married life, including Pre-Cana options. This needs to happen at least six months prior to the wedding.

Ministry to the Sick: If a member of your family becomes critically ill, call the rectory anytime of the day or night for a priest to come for the celebration of the sacraments. Inform the rectory of anyone in your household who is unable to attend Mass because of age or chronic illness. Arrangements will be made for that person to receive Holy Communion.

Letters of Recommendation: To act as a sponsor for baptism or confirmation, you must have a letter of recommendation from the parish. Letters will gladly be given to confirmed, registered parishioners who attend Mass regularly and are striving to live a good, Catholic life.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) This process is designed for **adults** who are: interested in becoming a Catholic or are baptized Catholics wishing to complete their initiation process by receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist. Interested individuals should contact the rectory.

Elsewhere

The Catholic Tour

The Catholic Tour, a 30 year old Catholic Pilgrimage Apostolate is pleased to announce its new pilgrimage for our “Special” to Rome, Italy, March 7 through March 13, 2012. The cost is \$999 and includes land arrangements, a superior tourist hotel near the Vatican, most meals, motor coach, guide, and air from JFK in New York. The tour is on a first-come, first-served basis with only 25 seats available. Please call 1-877-627-4268 (Marian Tours) for further information.

Need Assistance in the Job Interview Process?

The next free monthly seminar presented by the Catholic Charities Department of Workforce and Education will be January 18 from 3:30 - 4:40 pm at the Seneca Babcock Community Center, 1168 Seneca St., Buffalo, offering advice on how to convince an employer you are the right person for the job. The series of six monthly seminars are designed to enhance job-readiness skills and answer questions about college. For more information, to register or find out about upcoming opportunities, call 893-3500.

Our Lady of Fatima Shrine

1023 Swann Road (off Rt. 18E)—Lewiston, NY
(716) 754-7489 or
www.fatimashrine.com

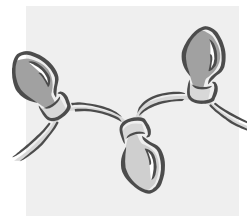
Festival of Lights

November 19 to January 6

Lights from 5 pm - 9 pm

Shrine open 9 am - 9 pm

Free Admission



Alzheimer’s Association Caregiver Support Group,
3rd Wednesday of every month, 11 am, St. John the Baptist Church, 1083 Englewood Ave., Kenmore, NY.



Welcome 2012