

# THE CATHOLIC FAMILY OF CHEEKTOWAGA

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, ST. JOSAPHAT, RESURRECTION, QUEEN OF MARTYRS, & MARIA HILF CHAPEL

December 31, 2023

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*



## FAMILY CENTRAL OFFICE OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

4125 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY 14225  
Phone: (716) 276-9288 + Email: olhc.chapel@gmail.com  
www.cheektowagacatholicfamily.org  
OLHC Parish and Cemetery Office Hours:  
Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. ; 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

+

## ST. JOSAPHAT PARISH OFFICE

20 Peoria Ave., Cheektowaga, NY 14206  
Phone: (716) 893-1086 Email: stjosphat.office@gmail.com  
Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
St. Josaphat Food Pantry: (716) 893-1086

+

## RESURRECTION PARISH OFFICE

130 Como Park Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY 14227  
Phone: (716) 683-3712 + Email: rescheek@yahoo.com  
Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

+

## QUEEN OF MARTYRS PARISH OFFICE

180 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY 14225  
Phone: (716) 892-1746 + Email: qomParish@gmail.com  
Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Convent Phone: (716) 240-9159

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE (Effective 1/2/24)

**Saturday:**  
(Vigil)  
4:00 p.m. - OLHC Church  
4:00 p.m. - Queen of Martyrs  
5:30 p.m. - Resurrection  
(2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month)  
5:30 p.m. - St. Josaphat  
(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday of the Month)

**Sunday:**  
7:00 a.m. - OLHC Chapel  
8:00 a.m. - Queen of Martyrs  
9:00 a.m. - Resurrection  
10:00 a.m. - OLHC Church  
11:00 a.m. - St. Josaphat  
12:30 p.m. - Latin (Tridentine Mass)

**OLHC CHAPEL IS OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 8 A.M. - 2 P.M. FOR PRIVATE ADORATION**

**INFORMATION FOR ALL PARISHIONERS**

**Baptisms:** Every Sunday, during or after the weekend Eucharist. Please arrange two witnesses who will become the Godparents of your child. One of them must be a practicing Catholic and member of a Parish Church.

**Faith Formation:** Every child and youth need to be educated and continue to grow in faith by the help of parents, family members, and Church. Please call (716) 458-3130 to register your child for the Religious Education program.

**Confessions:** Our priests are available to administer this important Sacrament of Mercy 20 min. before every daily and vigil Masses. Also, call the office for a personal appointment. Every Catholic needs to go to Confession at least once a year. Holy Communion can be received during the Mass only in the state of grace (without mortal sin).

**Marriage:** The Sacrament for women and men in love who want to create a new Christian family. All couples who are choosing to serve the Church through the vocation of marriage are invited to schedule the ceremony with us at least 6 months before the wedding day.

**Anointing of the sick:** We administer the Sacrament of healing every Tuesday, after 12 pm Mass at Resurrection Church. Also, call us to request a home or hospital visit. Please do not postpone contacting a priest at the very moment of death but request the Sacrament when the sick person is still conscious and aware of the approaching final journey.

**Funerals:** Please arrange with the funeral home of your choice. They will contact our Church for you to schedule this very important Liturgical celebration for our beloved departed.

**R.C.I.A.:** The program of Christian initiation to become a member of the Catholic Church. Please contact us if called by the Holy Spirit.

**New Parishioners:** Always welcome to register and support us through time, talent, and treasure. Registration Forms are available in the back of our Churches. Please visit or contact our office to register or notify us when moving out of the Parish.

**Letter of Recommendation:** This is a testimony to the fact that you are a practicing Catholic. Please use contribution envelopes to indicate attendance. To be a sponsor, a person needs to be confirmed, registered at our Parish, and attending Holy Mass. Please call the office of your membership to receive a letter of good stands to become a Godparent for Baptism or Sponsor for Confirmation.

**Parishioners of the Latin (Tridentine) Mass****MASS INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY December 31 Sunday in the Octave of Christmas**

**12:30 pm OLHC Chapel** Parishioners of OLHC, St. Josaphat, Resurrection, and Queen of Martyrs

**SUNDAY January 7 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

**12:30 pm OLHC Chapel** +Lucy Missert—by the Missert Family

**Meetings for OLHC, Resurrection, St. Josaphat, and Queen of Martyrs**

**St. Vincent DePaul (QM)**—January 3rd at 7:00 pm—QM Church Hall. Thank you for your donations to the QM poor boxes. **\$917.17** was collected for the month of November.

**Rosary Apostolate**—January 7th at 1:00 pm—OLHC Parish Hall.

**SPIRITUAL LIFE IN OUR CHURCHES**

- ◇ Daily Eucharist (see bulletin).
- ◇ Marie Hilf Chapel open daily from 8 am - 2 pm for private adoration.
- ◇ Sacrament of Confession - 20 minutes before every Mass except Sundays.
- ◇ Rosary - After morning Mass & 25 minutes before 12 pm daily & all weekend Masses.
- ◇ Novena to St. Joseph every Wednesday after 12 pm Mass at St. Josaphat.
- ◇ Anointing of the Sick - Every Tuesday after 12 pm Mass at Resurrection.
- ◇ Chaplet to the Divine Mercy - Every Friday 10 minutes before morning & noon Masses.
- ◇ First Fridays - Mass and the Sacred Heart devotion at 8:30 am in the Chapel and 12:00 pm at St. Josaphat.
- ◇ First Saturdays - Mass and Fatima devotion at 8:30 am at Resurrection.
- ◇ Eucharistic Adoration - Every Monday from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm in the OLHC Chapel and the First Tuesday of the Month at St. Josaphat from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm.
- ◇ Blessing of Sacramentals (rosaries, crosses, and other holy items) - Every First Saturday of the month after 8:30 am Mass.

**Eucharistic Adoration Volunteers**  
(Members of all 4 Churches are welcome)  
**Every Monday 9:00 am—6 pm (Chapel)**

**9-10 am**—Rosary Group & Sandy Smith

**10-11 am**—Susan & Timothy Cummings

**11-12 pm**—Connie DiPasquale & MaryAnn Blachowskiak

**12-1 pm**—Jan Thomsen & Geraldine Christel

**1-2 pm**—Patricia & Robert Kurdziel

**2-3 pm**—Marlene Stallone & Maureen Roos

**3-4 pm**—Mary Gorski

**4-5 pm**—Penny Moore and Daniel Vulaj

**5-6 pm**—Elizabeth Makula & Pauline Kinecki

**New volunteers are welcome for every hour.** If you are unable to attend and cannot find a replacement, please contact the Parish Office. Otherwise, please come and pray anytime between 9 am and 6 pm.

**Wedding Anniversary Mass**

The Diocese of Buffalo & The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo wishes to honor couples who will observe their 25th, 50th, 60th and 70th wedding anniversaries in **2023 and 2024**. A special Mass will be held on Sunday, **February 11th at 10:30 am** at St. Joseph Cathedral where couples will renew their marriage vows. Please call the OLHC Parish Office at 716 276-9288 by **Thursday, January 11th** to register.

**Queen of Martyrs Volunteer Needed**

The **Stewardship Pillar** that works on raffles, dinners and events (such as the 400th Anniversary celebration recently held at St. Josaphat) is in need of one more representative from Queen of Martyrs. If you are interested, please email Marie Zagara at buf123@hotmail.com or call the Queen of Martyrs Parish Office at 716 892-1746.

**MASS INTENTIONS****SATURDAY, December 30 Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**4:00 pm OLHC Church** +Margaret Frey—by Daughter & Family  
**4:00 pm Queen of Martyrs** +Frank Gajewski Anniv. of Death—by Daughter  
**5:30 pm St. Josaphat** +Marcia Stachewicz—by Larry & Maria Zamojski

**SUNDAY, December 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**7:00 am OLHC Chapel** +Allen Hammer—by Buffalo Grand Knights of St. John  
**8:00 am Queen of Martyrs** +Alice Burke Birthday Anniv.—by Carole Herod & Don Ligarzewski  
**8:30 am Resurrection** For Favors Received—by Kathy & John  
**10:00 am OLHC Church** +Matthew Cuthbert—by Friend, Karen  
**11:00 am St. Josaphat** +Alvarado & Medina Family—by Fortuna Family  
**11:00 am Queen of Martyrs** +Virginia Smaczniak—by Mbrs. of QM Bible Study

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God; New Year's Day****MONDAY, January 1**

**8:00 am Queen of Martyrs** +Dolores Ruda—by Iervolino Family  
**9:00 am Resurrection** +Blessings for Patrick Stites on his Birthday  
**10:00 am OLHC Church** +Okonczak & Radecki Families—by Kinecki Family  
**11:00 am St. Josaphat** +Dan & Helen Senker—by Daughter, Sue

**TUESDAY, January 2 Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen**

**8:30 am Queen of Martyrs** +Walter F. Guzek—by Estate  
**12:00 pm Resurrection** +Paul Kida—by Grandson, James  
**1:00 pm—3:00 pm St. Josaphat** - Eucharistic Adoration

**WEDNESDAY, January 3**

**8:30 am OLHC Chapel** Blessings & Good Health of David, Aaron, Jesse  
**12:00 pm St. Josaphat** Parishioners of St. Josaphat, Resurrection, OLHC, and Queen of Martyrs

**THURSDAY, January 4 Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**

**8:30 am OLHC Church** +Dennis Pietraszewski—by John Podkladek  
**12:00 pm Resurrection** +Nick Tirone—by Mary Ann Borgioli

**FRIDAY, January 5 First Friday**

**8:30 am OLHC Chapel** +Mary Froehlich—by Fred Conway Family  
 (Divine Mercy Chaplet before Mass. Adoration with Prayer of Sacred Heart following Mass)  
**12:00 pm St. Josaphat** +Donna Hamm—by John & Donna D'Amato & Family  
 (Divine Mercy Chaplet before Mass. Adoration with Prayer of Sacred Heart following Mass)

**SATURDAY, January 6 First Saturday**

**8:30 am Resurrection** +Bebeann Brzozowski—by Estate  
 (Fatima Devotion after Mass. For Those Who Blaspheme against Mary's Immaculate Conception)

**SATURDAY, January 6 Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord**

**4:00 pm OLHC Church** +Matthew Wilk—by Wife, Cecilia  
**4:00 pm Queen of Martyrs** +Birthday of Janet Sieber—by Joanie  
**5:30 pm St. Josaphat** +Lucy Andrzejewski—by M/M Richard Andrzejewski

**SUNDAY, January 7 The Epiphany of the Lord**

**7:00 am OLHC Chapel** +Stephen Poliachik—by Sam Grillo  
**8:00 am Queen of Martyrs** +Charlotte Kowalski Anniv. of Death—by Maciejewski Family  
**9:00 am Resurrection** +Edwin Kantowski—by Caroline & Joe Puccio  
**10:00 am OLHC Church** +Violet Lochocki—by Bette Schuessler  
**11:00 am St. Josaphat** +Joyce Kwiatrowski—by Terry Owczarczak

**PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK & HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS**

Ron Walters, Linda Rebadow, Patricia Kubiak, Julie Korst, Connie Valentine, Emily Mizerkiewicz, Patricia Urbanczyk, Carol Robichaud, Jane Seifert, Beth Luther, Dave & Marian Dascomb, Patti Coyle, Geri Simoneit, Gary Johnson, Paul Schmid, Olga Valenta, Tom Mateczun, Gary Tschamber, Patricia & Clair Johnson, Linda Sperrazza, Larry Zadel, Flo Johnson, Barbara Brautlacht, Donald Brautlacht, Mary Ann Conroy, Mike Dirschberger, Kara Garlach, Ronald Heil, Dorothy Kracht, Ken Labenski, Joseph LoVullo, Patricia Mazur, Sharon Niklas, Rebecca Miller, Alice Nowak, Rita Piskorz, Theresa Pochylski, Gary Sieber, Diane Strausser, John Szczygiel, Shawn Szczygiel, Kim Utech, Pat Ward, Beth Warrington, Thomas Wnuk, Daniel Zotara, II, Alfred Wojciechowski, Carolann Andrzejewski, Schuster Family, Kathleen Connors, Nicole Schuster, Janice Piskorowski, Grace Tomasello, Carrie Hoestermann, Luisa Cerrato, Florence Ziarnowski, Timothy Nietopski, Jeffrey Nietopski, Vince DiJoseph, Janet Minotti, Nancy Sturman & all in need of healing.

**LET US PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

Shirley J. Mancuso and Kathleen Palma  
 †

**PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY**

Matthew Anthon, USAF, Mark Pastwick, USMC, Dan Donahue, US Army, Aaron Erdolino, Jr., US Army, Sean Michalski, US Army, Nathan Hafner, USMC, & Jacob Taft, LCpl., USMC; Matthew Carroll, USMC; Mark Morgano, USMC; Mark Moscicki, Sr. Mstr. Sgt., USAF; Austin Harmon, Seaman, USN; Jeremy Jeziorski & Colonel Randy Scott Wardak, USAF, Kevin Ardonetto, Matthew Baideme, Thom Brown, Anthony V. Burtick, Patrick Desmarais, Colin Dudziak, Barbara Fowler, Michael Fowler, Janet Glindeman, Julia Glindeman, William Glindeman, Justin Kasprzak, James A. Koller, Claymore Mac-Tarnaghan, Colton Marinelli, Christian Rachinger, Joe Seminatore, Jonathan Sicurella, Capt. Glen Taylor, and Christopher Wojcik

**WEEKLY INCOME****December 11 - December 17, 2023**

(Collections, Donations, Other)

- Resurrection — \$ 5,235.01
- St. Josaphat — \$ 4,640.20
- OLHC — \$ 9,198.22
- Queen of Martyrs — \$ 6,179.35

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Thank You from the Families of QM St. Vincent de Paul!**

Because of your generosity and compassion, we were able to provide 32 needy families in our Parish neighborhood with food and gift cards for Christmas. You have brightened the holiday season for all – thank you for helping in our mission to serve the poor face-to-face, and may you have a Blessed Christmas Season and New Year!

**Sanctuary Lamp at Resurrection**

December 31st - January 6th

*Aloysius & Rita Wisniewski* by Family and Friends

### Upcoming Events for Our Church Family

**January 7th** The Epiphany of the Lord, Three Kings arrive to Bethlehem to worship the Savior of the World.

**January 8th** The Baptism of the Lord ends the Liturgical Season of Christmas in the Church. We will keep the Christmas trees & decorations for 1 more week in our Parishes. Because we celebrate the Latin Mass in the Chapel, the Christmas decorations will be kept until February 2nd according to their calendar.

**February 14th** Ash Wednesday. Beginning of 40 Days Season of Lent. Mass schedule will be announced after Christmas. Stations of the Cross will be celebrated every Friday of Lent. Details to come.

**March 10th, Sunday** Resurrection Church Polish Dinner. Mark your calendar! More details to follow as we get closer to the event.

**March 24th** Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week.

**March 31st** Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of the Lord!

**April 7th** Sunday of Divine Mercy. From Good Friday until the Sunday of Divine Mercy, we will celebrate the Novena to the Divine Mercy with Chaplet and special prayers after Mass.

**April 7th** First Reconciliation for the Second Grade children.

**May 5th.** The celebration of the First Holy Communion for the Third Grade children.

### The Epiphany of the Lord

The blessing of your home is an ancient custom on the feast of the Epiphany. Next weekend, as we celebrate The Epiphany of the Lord, incense and chalk will be available in all of the Churches. Please take 1 per family.

*"May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek to serve Christ in everyone we meet."*

### Additional Parking at OLHC

During our busier Masses, please keep in mind there is additional parking in between the OLHC Chapel and the school building that is available.

### Chapel Seniors

Thank you for the Christmas Gift of \$200.00 to Our Lady Help of Christians. This gift will be used towards the repair of the Grotto steps.



### Welcome to Queen of Martyrs!

Phil & Stephanie Bochorski and  
Roy & Carol Marciniak

### Money Counters Needed

**Resurrection** is looking for volunteers to count the weekend collection. If you are able to help, please contact the Resurrection Parish Office during business hours at 716 683-3712.

### Christmas Decorations

Thank you to all our Parishioners, Our Lady's Helpers and workers who helped decorate all of the Churches. A special thank you to Mr. Mike Hora and his team for all their hard work in setting up the Managers and Christmas trees both inside and outside of the Churches.

All of the Churches in The Catholic Family of Cheektowaga look beautiful!

### Important information For Our Family of 4 Parishes

1. Each of the particular Parish Pastoral and Financial Councils will no longer officially meet in December and January. We are preparing to form one Family Parish and Finance Council that will meet for the first time in February. We will rotate our meetings with our 4 Churches each month. Both Pastoral and Finance Councils will be built out of representatives from each Parish community and our Priests. Existing Parish or Financial Councils are welcome to continue to meet regularly but without our Priests to discuss the needs of their Parish and bring it to our Family meetings through their representatives.

2. The new schedule has been announced and officially begins on January 2, 2024. The schedule was established by the liturgical pillar consisting of parishioners from each of our 4 communities. We remind you again that no matter what building you attend the Eucharist, your donation will be returned to the parish of your membership. We humbly ask our parishioners not to leave us because of a schedule change but to try to adjust your personal life schedule with our Mass times. Everyone who leaves will make us weaker in our church, but most of all, it hurts his own spiritual well-being.

3. Everyone is asked to be kind and nice to our Priests and do not express negativity towards those who are not responsible for all the changes or problems that we are experiencing now in our local churches. Our Priests always want to help and lead us out of crisis. We will achieve more spiritual fruits and lead more people to heaven only by loving and respecting each other. Thank you for your understanding that we all struggle and feel pain because of the new challenges and changes but we also hope that God will help us to sustain faith In Christ in our Churches.

Everyone is important and asked to pray and work together.

4. The financial statements from each parish for the fiscal year of 2022/2023 will be announced in our Bulletin during the month of January.

5. The Faith Formation program will merge into one Family Discipleship Faith Formation program as requested by the Diocese beginning June 1, 2024, after all Sacraments are received and present school year ends. Beginning September 2024, we will teach our children, youth and adults who want to deepen their knowledge of faith in one location decided by our administration pillar and approved by our Diocese. The details will be given to all parents, catechists and parishioners after Easter.

Thank you for your faith, love and cooperation. Let's celebrate Christmas and the 2024 New Year with joyful hearts.

Blessings to all!

Fr. Jozef

# FAITH FORMATION



## OLHC, Resurrection, and St. Josaphat 4125 Union Rd., Cheektowaga, NY

**Office Hours:** Monday 1:30-5:30 pm  
**Office Phone:** 716-458-3130  
**Email:** [Olhc.faithformation@gmail.com](mailto:Olhc.faithformation@gmail.com)

(Renée is available to meet outside of office hours by appt.)

**Blessings** to all as we welcome a **New Year!** Parents and students, please plan on attending the Faith Formation Mass at Resurrection to support our 8th grade class.

<b>January 6</b>	Class 9:30-10:30 am
<b>January 13</b>	No FF class—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
<b>January 20</b>	Class 9:30-10:30 am
<b>January 21</b>	Faith Formation Mass 9 am-Resurrection Coffee and doughnut social to follow—all Parishioners welcome!
<b>January 27</b>	Class 9:30-10:30 am

### New Years Prayer

Dear Lord,

We pray that this New Year will bring us closer to You.  
 May we take the time to get to know You.  
 Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have graciously given us  
 and use them to serve You and spread Your word,

May we also see and love You in all the people we meet,  
 so that in turn, they can see You in us.

We know that all human relations take time  
 if they are to grow and deepen.  
 This is also true of our relations with You,  
 the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
 which must grow over the course of our lives.  
 In this new year,  
 let us realize that every action of ours  
 no matter how great or small  
 enables us to be in touch with You.  
 Let us accept You in our lives,  
 in the way it pleases You,  
 as Truth, to be spoken,  
 as Life, to be lived,  
 as Light, to be lighted,  
 as Love, to be followed,  
 as Joy, to be given,  
 as Peace, to be spread about,  
 as Sacrifice, to be offered among our relatives,  
 friends, neighbors and all people.

Amen.

## Queen of Martyrs 180 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY

**Office Hours:** Available by appt.  
**Office Phone:** 716-895-2162  
**Email:** [gmre121@verizon.net](mailto:g mre121@verizon.net)

The fifth monthly session of our program begins on **Saturday, January 6, with the 4:00 pm Mass.** After Mass the family meal and program continues until 7:00 pm in the Church Hall (below the Church). This month the theme is: Living as a Disciple. Our adult speaker will be Barb Mogle. It is Soup and Sandwich night, so please bring in your favorite Soup and/or cut sandwiches. After class we will have our annual Coloring Contest.

### Religious Education Classes for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Classes begin in January for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 am to 10:45 am in the Music Room (School Building) next to the Religious Education Office. Sacramental classes will be held for 2nd Grade Religious Education students (ONLY) on January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4, 11, from 9:30 am until 10:45 am. All classes are MANDATORY!!

### Confirmation Classes for Students

Confirmation Classes begin on Monday, January 8, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm in the Music Room (School Building) next to the Religious Education Office. The class schedule is 1/8, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/26. Please have all of your Confirmation packet material completed by the first class on January 8th.

### First Friday Devotion

Masses are at **8:30 am at OLHC Chapel and 12:00 pm at St. Josaphat** with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers to the Sacred Heart.

*"I promise you, in the excessive mercy of my Heart that my all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the first Friday for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance; they shall not die in my disgrace nor without receiving the sacraments; my divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in that last moment." ~Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary*

How to complete the First Friday's Devotion:

1. Receive Holy Communion on each First Friday;
2. The nine Fridays must be consecutive;
3. They must be made in honor and in reparation to His Sacred Heart.

### First Saturday Devotion

Mass is at **8:30 am at Resurrection.** Our Lady requested each of us to do Five First Saturdays with the intention of making reparation to Her Immaculate Heart.

The practice of the devotion of Five First Saturdays consists of:

1. Going to Confession (before First Saturday)
2. Receiving Holy Communion on the First Saturday
3. Reciting five decades of the Rosary
4. Keeping Mary company for 15 minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary.



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