

OLC PARISH FAMILY NEWS

OCTOBER 2020

Dear Parish Family & Friends,

It's been awhile since our last newsletter. So much has happened in my life. Beginning with December and the back surgery followed by several trips by ambulance rides to the hospital followed by another surgery in January on the prostate followed by a stroke in May. What else! In spite of all of this there is a silver lining. All of my priesthood as Pastor I have always wanted religious sisters as part of my parish and guess what?! God has come thru. As of August 1st the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus from the diocese of Altoona-Johnstown are now part of our parish. Our diocese has welcomed them. In this edition is more about the sisters. I am so very happy. It goes to show you, something I always preach, If you wait long enough God will answer your prayers. Well we move along even with the covid we are going slowly with all of our programs day by day. Things change so fast so we always have a plan B.

I hope that all of you are safe and healthy. Please continue to pray for me as I do for you...

Shalom,

Father Gary



MOM'S CHILI

6 finely chopped onions
6 finely chopped med green peppers
2 or more minced garlic
4 lbs ground round or chuck
4-16 oz cans Italian style tomatoes
4 to 6 oz cans kidney beans
2-6 oz cans tomato paste
1 cup water
Salt & Pepper to taste
1 teaspoon red wine vinegar
3 whole cloves
2 bay leaves
2 tablespoons chili powder



In a large skillet brown onions, peppers and garlic in oil until golden.

In a separate skillet brown ground meat in batches,. Separate meat with a fork and cook until all meat is browned. Drain off oil.

Place onions, peppers, garlic and meat in a large dutch oven. Add tomatoes, kidney beans, tomato paste, red wine vinegar, cloves, bay leaves, chili powder and tabasco sauce. Cover and simmer over low heat for 1 hour. Simmer uncovered for another hour. Remove cloves and bay leaves before serving. Serve with crusty bread or crackers.



Enjoy.....

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Although we've had to cancel some things due to covid, we are planning some events.

Look for more details in upcoming bulletins and newsletters.

NEW-Sister Jacinta has started "Coffee with Sister Jacinta" every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9:15AM. You can either watch Sister Jacinta via Zoom or if you'd rather be face to face, you can meet sister in the parish hall. Contact Sister for more detail-call or text 814-505-2290 or email olcparishspirituallife@gmail.com.

MERRY MONEY RAFFLE has less than 50 tickets left to sell! The drawing is on Christmas Day after the 10AM mass. Ticket cost is \$50 and gets you a chance at EVERY cash prize, top prize being \$5,000 and in the drawing for our Lottery Ticket Basket containing \$200 of lottery tickets! Tickets are located at the entrance to church and are available at the Ministry Center, call 693-3822 for more information.

Polish Platter Dinner-it's baaaccckkk but with a few changes due to COVID. Dinners will be available on Nov 7th from 4 to 7PM. We will only be selling 200 tickets on a pre-sale basis ONLY. Dinners will be available via Drive Thru ONLY. There will be signs to guide you. Tickets are available in the Ministry Center. We wish we could all meet in the hall as we have done but until the virus is under control, all of our dinner type fundraisers will be via Drive Thru.

Olde World Cookie Shoppe-December 13th beginning at 11:30AM. Again, due to COVID, this event has a few changes. The Cookie Committee will be making various cookie recipes in our hall. We will not be able to accept any home made cookie donations as we have in the past. The cookies made will be available by tray size, small, medium and large. Each tray will include an assortment of the cookies made. The trays will be weighed and marked for sale. Trays are available via Drive Thru. This is traditionally a very popular event where people have stood in line well before the sale begins. This year you will have to line up in your car. There will be signs to guide you.

Other items on the calendar, subject to change:

January 30th, 2021 Pork chop dinner

February 14, 2021 Spaghetti dinner sponsored by Faith Formation

March-Lenten Fish Fry

Look for more information in future bulletins and newsletters. Also, check our website www.nt-olc.org and our facebook page.

Meet the Sisters

I was born in Brooklyn, New York, grew up and raised in central New Jersey. I am one of six children. Before, I entered the convent in 1985, I worked as a Licensed Practical nurse. I worked in orthopedics, which I very much enjoyed. The year before I entered the convent I resigned from nursing and took a simple entry job at AT&T, while discerning my vocation. I made my first vows in June of 1988 and my final vows in June of 1993. My first assignment as a Sister Servant of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus was as seamstress for our congregation. Starting August of 2005, I started working with small children in New Jersey, Wilmington, Delaware and Cresson and Harrisburg Pennsylvania.

I love my life as a sister of the Sacred Heart. I enjoy in my spare time making many different crafts as gifts for others. I am very happy to be here and want to thank everyone for such a loving welcome to my new parish family.

God Bless,

Sr. Monica Marie.

I was born in Poland, where after high school I entered the convent and in 1997 came to the United States. Since then, it has been such an enriching and blessed experience for me. I was privileged to serve as an educator, formator and in the administration office in our Sacred Heart Province in the USA. I am looking forward to being a part of this beautiful parish of Our Lady of Czestochowa in North Tonawanda.

Interesting facts: My vocation is linked with our Blessed Mother of Czestochowa and I was happily assigned for 5 years in Czestochowa, Poland. Belonging to the Community of Sisters who took care of St. John Paul II, I was able to meet him a few times. I was able to travel and visit 6 countries and 10 states that I never dreamed I'd ever be able to do. I like the ocean, dogs and horses and many more of God's creations and enjoy doing crafts. Above all I like being a Sacred Heart Sister and sharing the gift of our faith with others.

God Bless,

Sr. Ryszarda Wittbrodt, SSCJ

I am originally from Willingboro, New Jersey. I was blessed with a wonderful childhood where the gift of our faith, prayer, and a great love and respect for life were imparted to me. This was largely due to my parents who were open to life and allowed me to enjoy growing up with 12 siblings while making decisions always in the light of loving God and keeping His commandments as their guide. Having been aware of a religious call with a special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, I entered our Congregation of the Sister Servant of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus directly after finishing High School. I have been able to enjoy a variety of apostolates that include: religious instruction, enthronements of homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, music ministry, teaching, campus ministry, formation and administrative work in our Province, and organizing spiritual renewals and retreats for various age groups. I look forward to working at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish. The welcome and history of being engaged in all types of ministries to serve the people of God makes me feel privileged to be a part of this parish.

God Bless,

Sr. Jacinta Miryam Hanley, SSCJ

The Sisters sure have been busy since they arrived. Sister Ryszarda is our new director of Faith Formation. Classes began September 20th. If you would like to register your children please contact Sister at 814-525-4486 or olcparishff@gmail.com. Sister Monica is our new Ministry of Care coordinator. This is a new ministry for Sister but she is anxious to start bringing Eucharist to our homebound and nursing home residents when allowed. If you are interested in taking Eucharist to our parishioners or visiting them please contact Sister by calling the Ministry Center 693-3822. Sister Jacinta will be helping to enrich our spirituality as director of Spiritual Environment. This encompasses, retreats, events, guest speakers, any way to help us understand and grow in our faith. Sister Jacinta may be contacted at 814-505-2290 or olcparishspirituallife@gmail.com. See the list of additional spiritual events below in October. All 3 Sisters will be teaching in our faith formation program.

October Spiritual Events-(Contact Sister Jacinta for more info on any of the events listed)

Mary's Mantle Consecration-Begins October 28 thru December 12, 2020

It is about changing the human person to be more like God. This special retreat incorporates the following during a period of 46 days:

- * a 2 minute meditation on a virtue or gift
- * daily rosary
- * a day of fasting
- * weekly talks available on DVD or YouTube
- * discussion questions to follow the videos (optional)
- * a final consecration to the Mother of God

Fatima Movie-Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at Transit Drive In, 7:30PM

Gates open at 6:30PM. Group rosary at 7PM. \$10 per adult \$6 children 5-11

Sisters' Rosary Live and Virtual-Monday thru Friday during October at 4:30PM

All are welcome to join the sisters in OLC Church or through live streaming for the praying of the Holy Rosary, followed by Evening Prayer.

MOMS Zoom Rosary and Holy Hour-Oct 2, Oct 7, Oct 16, Oct 23, Oct 30

Includes men and women from various parishes. ZOOM meeting ID 86900407600 Password 734322

Rosary Coast to Coast-Sunday, October 11, 218 Acqua Lane, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Gathering at 3:30PM Bring a lawn chair if you wish. Rosary begins at 4PM

Living Rosary-Sunday, October 25, 2020 at 9:45AM (weather permitting in OLC parking lot)

Hosted by Faith Formation Program. All are welcome!

**SISTERS, WE ARE VERY EXCITED THAT YOU ARE HERE AND HAVE
ALREADY SEEN THE POSITIVE IMPACT YOU HAVE MADE ON OUR PARISH**



Even with all the “business” of church to attend to, our Sisters had the chance to spend some time getting to know and enjoy our area. Father Gary took them to Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Lewiston. They were amazed at ALL the statues and the beautiful grounds and even climbed to the top of the dome. The next stop was to Niagara Falls. Unfortunately, they could not cross into Canada but were amazed at the size and natural beauty of the falls. They were especially surprised to see that an island in Niagara Falls was named for them, Three Sisters Island, lol :) They next got a brief tour of Buffalo. As you can see, Sr. Jacinta was very disappointed that Shark Girl was not available for a photo.

They are anxious to meet and get to know our parishioners and the community so when you see them please take a minute to say hello and welcome them to our parish family.



Want to Know a Bit More About the Congregation of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus?

It is an international religious community engaged in educational and charitable works. Founded in Krakow, Poland in 1894, by Saint Joseph Sebastian Pelczar and Blessed Klara Szczesna for the holiness of its members and works of mercy towards the poor, sick and marginalized, the Congregation spread throughout Europe. In 1959, Sisters of the Sacred Heart arrived on the North American continent to serve first in Erie, Pennsylvania. With the support of new American vocations, the foundation grew and was eventually named a Province in 1986, with Mother Amabilis Debicka the first Provincial Superior in the United States.

Presently, the Province has 25 members in various religious houses represented in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Dioceses of Altoona-Johnstown, PA, Wilmington, DE, Mandeville, Jamaica and now the newest house here at OLC Church in North Tonawanda!

The sisters dedicate their service to the elderly and needy at their personal care home, John Paul II Manor in PA. They do religious training, work with the poor, work with youth and children, since 2004 have been teaching and working in the clinic in Jamaica and above all bring the Love of the Heart of Jesus wherever they go.

The Sisters wear a full habit. For the youngsters that don't know what a habit is, think of it as a type of religious uniform.

Long black habit-Sign of our consecration and "putting on Christ"

Veil and Ring-Symbol of our call to be the Bride of Jesus

Scapular-Embroidered with the Sacred Heart of Jesus who is our Shield and Protector

Crucifix-Reminder of our share in the saving mission of Christ Crucified

Rosary-Mark of our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Franciscan Cord-3 knots representing the religious vows of chastity, poverty and obedience lived in Franciscan joy and simplicity

The Sisters Daily Schedule Includes- Holy Mass, 1/2 hour meditation, Divine Office (Morning, Evening and Night Prayer and Midday Office of Readings), Adoration and Rosary, The Angelus 3 x a day, Hour of Silence, 1/2 hour of Spiritual Reading, Common Meals, Recreation

Sisters (continued)

Below is the formation program a woman who is thinking about becoming a Sister follows:

Formation Program

Candidacy-After visiting and discerning her call to consecrated life, a young woman applies and is accepted for entrance.

Aspirancy-First 6 months, the candidate comes to live in the convent while joining in prayers and community life with the Sisters.

Postulancy-After receiving the postulant veil, the postulant is more involved in the prayer life of the Sisters and participates in formation classes.

Novitiate-2 years of intense prayer and study in preparation for the profession of vows of chastity, poverty and obedience.

Juniorate-The Sister, a bride of Christ, lives the vows and renews them each year for 5 years with continuing formation.

Final Professed-The Sister vows her life to God perpetually.

The Sister Servants of the Sacred Heart of Jesus are a Contemplative-Active Congregation, joining their life of prayer and reparation to works of mercy such as teaching, catechesis, nursing, work with girls, personal care, parish work, youth and retreat ministry, work with the poor and missionary work.





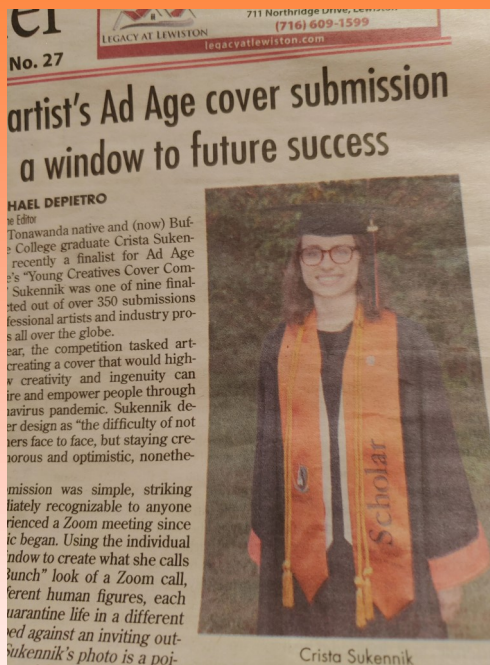
In left pic,
Sister Monica
Sister Ryzsarda,
Sister Jacinta



WELCOME SISTERS TO YOUR NEW HOME!

Normally, we would have a welcome reception for our Sisters but COVID is preventing that. Some parishioners have asked if our Sisters need anything for their convent which led to the idea of throwing a housewarming shower with a twist. We still cannot gather together but thought if anyone would like to give our Sisters a housewarming gift, it would be very appreciated. The Sisters are very humbled that the people of the parish want to have such a housewarming for them. If you would like to give a gift or gift cards, please drop them off at the Ministry Center, in the collection or give to the Sisters directly when you see them and please include your name so our Sisters know of your generosity.





GOOD NEWS!

As many of you are aware, the bullying incident at NTHS this summer was shocking and horrific. But, there are good people in this world as Simon and Anthony, 2 members of the NT wrestling team, stepped in to break it up. We are so proud of both of these young men! The two received numerous accolades but what was so striking was their responses. They were very humble and just did what they thought others would do. Sadly, not everyone would have acted as Simon and Anthony. This provides a good lesson to all of us but especially to the youth of this community. STAND UP to bullies and STAND UP for others who cannot. Thanks again guys!

Crista Sukennik was a finalist for Ad Age magazine's "Young Creatives Cover Competition". She was one of 9 finalists selected out of 350 submissions from professional artists and industry professionals all over the globe. Congratulations, we are so proud of you!.

Have you considered becoming a Eucharistic Minister? Prior to COVID, anyone interested had to attend a training class put together by the Diocese which was often held at Christ the King Seminary. There are no longer classes offered by the Diocese. Pastors are now allowed to conduct training classes in their parish. We will be scheduling a class for all those interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister. If you are interested, speak to Father Gary.

Have you considered becoming a Lector? There is no formal training class. Cozette Bayer will work with you one on one to review the parish procedures for lectors. If interested please call Cozette 692-2934.

Special Confirmation Ceremonies were held for Alejandro and Sophia.

Alejandro was one of our RCIA candidates. Sophia is the granddaughter of Steve and Chris Kurbiel



Formed.org-

The parish has subscribed to Formed. Every parishioner is able to access this website for free as a member of OLC. When you first sign up you will need to click the box that states you are a parishioner of a subscribing parish. Next, look up OLC from the drop down box. Lastly, enter your email. After your initial sign “up” you will sign “in” going forward. The site offers a wide variety of material in English and Spanish for every member of the family. There are movies, music, documentaries, talks on marriage/parenting/death/suffering/prayer/mercy/Mary, live events, audio books, special children’s section. It also deals with current events. The wide variety of resources this site offers is to help you in understanding and growing your faith. Give it a try!



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**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VETERANS
AND THEIR FAMILIES!!!**

Contact Us

Give us a call for more
information about our
church community

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Visit us on the web at
www.nt-olc.org

We're also on

