

St. Lucy's Church

In the Heart of the Near West Side

**August First & Second, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Preparation for Fr. Jim's Retirement

A group met on July 16th and 30th to discuss how to prepare the parish for Fr. Jim's retirement. The group consisted of the four parish trustees, the two co-presidents of the Parish Council, the head of the finance committee, the Parish Associate and Fr. Jim.

In mid to late August, the group will give the parish an update on our discussions and plans to date.

Call Kip Hargrave, Parish Trustee, at 315-382-6443 with questions or comments.

432 Gifford Street, Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 475-7273 www.saintlucys.org
Pastor: Fr. Jim Mathews jdmgolfer@yahoo.com
Parish Business Administrator: eli Foulkes
email: info@saintlucys.org
Margot Grobsmith, Pastoral Associate
Food Pantry: Murray Gould, (315) 418-5241
Permanent Chaplain: Raymond Misita

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Chapel
located to the right the main altar
www.katerisyracuse.com

I don't think that we have to believe that Jesus literally fed 5,000 people with five loaves of bread and two fish to understand the meaning of this gospel, though we are certainly free to do so. The message is the same either way. Jesus shows that with faith and trust in Him, there is always an abundance, even in situations where human logic would dictate scarcity and lack. This event underscores the importance of having faith in God's ability to provide for all our needs, no matter how impossible the situation may seem. The phrase "He had compassion on them" reveals the depth of Jesus' empathy and love for the people, showcasing His divine nature and role as a shepherd to His flock. He challenged His disciples by saying, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves," Jesus prompts them to take responsibility and act in faith, teaching them to trust in Him.

Walt

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00

**Sunday - 10:00 - in person and on Zoom,
ASL interpreted, Gluten-free hosts available
*Full weekly schedule on page 2.***

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Food Pantry - open to residents in the neighborhood and staffed by volunteers

St. Lucy's Gym

Sundays 11 -12

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays - 11 - 1

Bread of Life - weekly luncheon for neighbors and parishioners

St. Lucy's Gym

Wednesdays - starts at 11am

Agape Shop - gently used items, open to all
422 Gifford in the basement of the school
(ring the bell)

Donations accepted during open hours and on
Sundays in the back of church

Wednesdays - 9:30 to 12:30

Pickleball - open to all ages and abilities

St. Lucy's Gym

Mondays - 4:00 - 6:00

Catholic Worker on Wheels - breakfast boxes
delivered to neighbors

<https://cwonwheels.com/>

Saturdays 8 - 9:30

Parish Office - in the rectory

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 - 3:30

Fridays: 9:30 - 3:00

Contact the Parish Office regarding the sacraments
of Christian Initiation, Reconciliation, Anointing the
Sick, and Matrimony

Bulletin items - send information

to mail@syracuseprintingcenter.com by Thursday at noon

Be part of the St. Lucy's Gift Economy!

At this weekend's Masses, 08/01-02, personal hygiene items for the Food Pantry and for Masses **08/08-09, jars of peanut butter and for 08/15-16, cans of tuna.**

PUSH BACK! on the federal cut-backs.
Thanks to all who bring items for our neighborhood ministry. It really helps!

Mass intentions

July 26th - (Sun) William Black Sr and family;
both living and deceased (*req. by daughter*)

August 2nd - Beth Putnam

Lectors

August 1st Beverly Hays

August 2nd Tom Anderson and Dan Bassano

August 8 Beth Bentz

August 9 Cathy Lunetta and Margot Grobsmith

Homilist

August 1st & 2nd - Fr. Jim

**The next Bible Study with Jim Bresnahan will
be held Mon August 03 @ 7 PM on zoom.**

Offertory from July 18th - 19th

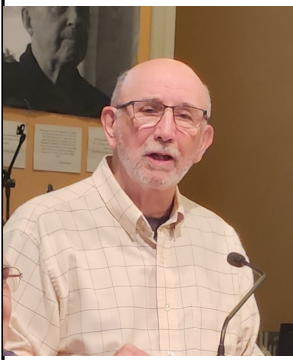
General: 2115

Rel Ed: 20

*Lord Jesus, your gift of the Eucharist is an invitation
to a deeper relationship with our God. How blessed
we are to be gathered at your table.*

We at St. Lucy's promise to be responsible caretakers of the Earth – both with our church grounds and the lands we individually impact. We commit ourselves to a path of truth, respect, and repair. We resolve to confront our ignorance and resistance, striving to become better stewards of God's Creation by learning from the wisdom of our Indigenous neighbors.

We recognize and respect the Two Row Wampum as a living treaty between sovereign nations. We support the Onondaga Nation in their pursuit of justice, including legal remedies for land claims and the fight against discrimination in employment, housing, education, health care, and the criminal justice system..*



Bob Sackel reflected on the gospel readings saying that the treasure mentioned is the Word of God that is more valuable than any of our earthly possessions. The merchant searching for the pearl of great price is God reaching out to us.

Bob said that because of God's love, all are saved and perfect, even with our perceived imperfections. He told a story of a mother of a boy with Downes Syndrome who was crying because someone had told her that it was a shame that her son couldn't understand anything at an event they were attending. The boy, seeing his mother's pain said; "Don't worry mom, God loves me just as I am."

Bob said that the past few weeks had presented him with several "punch in the gut" events. Feeling overwhelmed he spoke to his daughter, Bethany. She told him to "focus on something else." That's good advice for all of us. Bob recommends moving our focus outside of ourselves by loving those around us. Bob said that the greatest commandments, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself" sum up what we need to focus on. He goes further to say that if we keep that second commandment, we really don't even need the first one because by loving our neighbors as ourselves, we are showing our love for God.

With our many ministries at St. Lucy's, we are keeping our focus where it needs to be; loving our neighbors.

Walt



Fr. Jim recognized our Chaplain, **Raymond Misita**, on his Certificate of Graduation from Onondaga Community College.



We are continuing our visits with Scott and others on the streets of our city. Last Thursday I asked him if he had seen anyone else from St. Lucy's since I published his story. He said he wasn't sure but many people say they have seen it and he is definitely becoming better known. I told him

that I couldn't find him during last week's Art Festival. He said he was there, inside Plymouth Church volunteering to hand out dog treats to the visitors.

Scott told me that he had written a lot of poetry while he was in prison. He recited one poem, "Life is Hard" and it was very good. I would love to print some of them when he gets permanent housing and can retrieve his personal belongings. He said there is a possibility of getting a room at the YMCA fairly soon.

I told Scott that I had heard that Bishop Lucia, who lives on that same street, helps people in the area. Scott said that is true. He said that one day the bishop came to him and asked about his life. He later returned with a contribution. It's good to hear that our bishop is truly living his faith, not just preaching it.

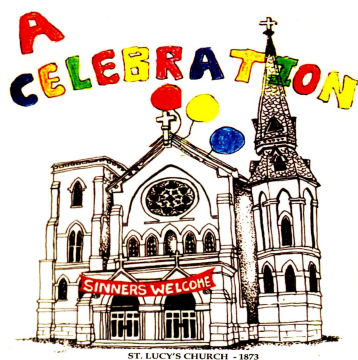
Walt

Celebrate With Us!

Jail Ministry's 50th Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Aug 9 - 9:45 a.m.

Mass
celebrated by
the Most Reverend
Douglas Lucia –
with a reception
to follow.



*Sip, Support & Celebrate
St. Lucy's*

SAVE THE DATE:
The St. Lucy's fund-
raiser will be on
Thurs Sept 24,
from 5:00-7:30
pm.

The cost will be
\$50 per person and
\$75 per couple.

We are looking for people willing to help
with some tasks for the event.

People can contact me
at: cdriscoll61@icloud.com
if they are interested.
Corinne Driscoll



On **August 1-2**, St. Lucy's will learn about the ministries of **Franciscan Mission Service (FMS)**. As a Catholic, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, FMS prepares and sends lay people to serve communities in South America, the Caribbean, and here in the United States—and the organization relies on the prayers and financial support of U.S. parishes to do this. In anticipation of this visit, Franciscan Mission Service invites parishioners to reflect on Pope Leo XIV's words from his first papal message: "Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever open to welcoming... all those who are in need of our charity, our presence, our readiness to dialogue and our love." How might you be called to mission, to dialogue, to presence? Some give by going on mission, and some go by giving—with both prayer and donations. To find out more and hear missionaries' first-hand accounts, visit www.franciscanmissionservice.org.

Community News and Events



American Martyr: The Stanley Rother Story gives eloquent testimony to the courage, faith and dedication of an otherwise very ordinary man who loved passionately the people entrusted to his care and placed their welfare ahead of his own. An excellent documentary and an inspiring witness to the power of faith and love when put to the test in a time of extreme danger.

Showing August 25 & 26th at the Regal Destiny Cinema at 7:00 and the Marcus Syracuse Cinema at 7:15



Join St. Matthew's as we gather in faith and community to celebrate the **Feast of Mary, the Virgin Mother of Jesus**. Come together for a meaningful Mass honoring Mary, followed by a potluck cook-

out where everyone is welcome! Bring a dish to share (optional) and enjoy fellowship with neighbors and friends.

All are welcome. No exceptions.

Saturday, August 15, 5:00 PM 7:30 PM



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE

Formation For Ministry Information Session

The Office of Adult & Ministerial Formation would like to invite the faithful to our final Formation for Ministry Information Session for this year on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at 7PM on Zoom.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Formation for Ministry provides the platform for adult Catholics who wish to elevate their knowledge of our faith as well as become better equipped to actively serve in the various ministries of our Church. For more information or to register, visit our page on the Diocesan website.

Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki



Honoring victims of the past. Committing to a peaceful future.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7
Gather at 4:30 pm
UUMC
1085 E. Genesee



InterFaith Works of CNY, The Lender Center for Social Justice, and Hendricks Chapel at Syracuse University are reaching out to local faith communities to invite you to our **first annual Faith Expo**. We are gathering local leaders to explore how we can better support our neighborhoods together.

Wednesday, August 12, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Hendricks Chapel, Syracuse University
Free (Includes a complimentary light breakfast and lunch)

Identify unique strengths and challenges when addressing critical human needs like housing, food, health, and employment. Inspire collective action for social good and highlight the vital role faith plays in uplifting our region.



We were happy to welcome **James** and his husband **Bruce** to our Mass last Saturday. Bruce is the pastor of St. Matthews church in Liverpool. **Rev. Steve Moore** was also at there with his wife, **Erin** and their children. Having two Episcopal priests at a service is an example of what makes our church so special.

Our **Christmas Giving Program** is requesting secure storage space (about the size of a 1 car garage) to store the thousands of Christmas presents. If you have or know of a space,
Contact —Nick 315- 748-1428
Or Marie—315- 657–2415



We took a tour of **Assumption Church** on Saturday. It was a beautiful, informative experience. The next scheduled tour is Saturday, September 5th at 9 am.

I will have more information and pictures in next week's bulletin.

Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki Honoring victims. Committing to nuclear abolition.

Antinuclear activism of faith communities helped lessen the risk of nuclear war in the past: Faith-based activists helped create the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign and sponsored national and local programs for disarmament. This movement set in motion U.S.-Soviet negotiation that slashed nuclear weapons levels by more than 80%. **NEARLY EVERY FAITH** group in the U.S. endorsed the freeze campaign. We can do it again!

81 years ago an atomic weapon was used to destroy the city of Hiroshima, unleashing a degree of wartime horror never before seen. Three days later, another atomic bomb devastated Nagasaki. For a brief period, through determined activism and a few enlightened leaders, risks of nuclear war were reduced via treaties and nuclear weapons reduction. Today, however, many treaties have been allowed to expire, and the 9 nuclear nations are re-building their nuclear arsenals, while additional countries attempt to acquire them. New weapons are far more destructive than those used 81 years ago. A few countries, including the US, have recently threatened nuclear weapon use, an act generally considered taboo.

Join us to say "NO NUKES!"

University United Methodist Church | 1085 E. Genesee St.

Friday, August 7, 2026 | 4:30-6:00pm

Procession: Gather at 4:30, route is 1.2 miles

Reception: 6 pm - 6:30pm

It is time to raise our voices once again. Stand up! Fight back!

Lee Cridland (she/her)

Coordinator

2013 E. Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13210

315-472-5478 peacecouncil.net

Instagram: syracusepeacecouncil_spc

Facebook: syracusepeacecouncil1936

Speakers:

Youko Yamamoto, main organizer of the Bon-Odori Dance Festival for Peace in Kingston, NY, is well known as a peace activist, cultural ambassador, and owner/chef of Tanma Ramen Restaurant.

Born in Yokohama, Yamamoto moved with her family to Hiroshima at age 10, where the devastating legacy of the city's 1945 nuclear catastrophe became a lifelong impetus for her work for peace. She will share with us her most recent conversations with aging Hiroshima atom bomb survivors after a spring trip to Japan, and the inspiration for her continuing work that she gained from these interviews.

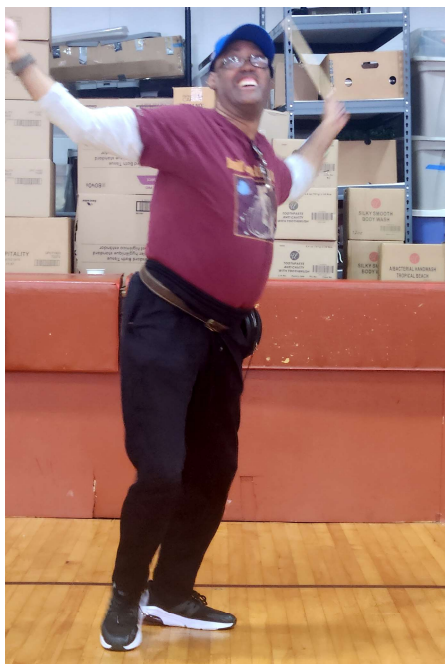
Joshua Reno is a socio-cultural anthropologist, who researches various forms of waste and their impact on lives, economies, and social movements in the contemporary U.S. In a "spoken word" manner, he will make real the connections between military waste and how it weaves into the uncanny, uncountable scale of the Hiroshima bombing, offering us a powerful, somatic reflection on the true monstrosity of the weapon.

Josh is a professor at SUNY Binghamton, and author of *Military Waste: The Unexpected Consequences of Permanent War Readiness* (2019,).

The **David Clark Band**, a program of Access CNY, performed at our **Bread of Life** last week. They are an inspiration to all. The staff at the center are a unique group of folks who are very dedicated to helping each member enjoy music, art, gardening, etc. to the fullest. They had a great medley of songs and showed great energy, (and volume). Only taking one short break in the 2 hour show, they were creative and energetic. The people there really enjoyed the show.



It is a very large group with members who have a wide range of talents.



One of the band members not only played instruments and sang, he got up and danced during songs. Gemma was a big hit with the guests. We were happy to see **Carol Powless** there. Although she is no longer able to attend Mass, she loves St. Lucy's and is a faithful reader and fan of our bulletin.



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on Sunday for a
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North and West Area Athletic & Education Center, Inc.
dba North Area Athletic Club, Inc.
Raymond M. Rinaldi
Executive Director

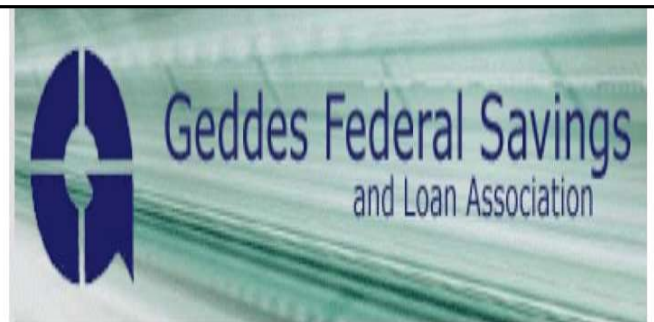


Eat-in,
Take Out, or
Delivery

4326 E Genesee St, Syracuse, NY
Open 7 Days! 11am to 8pm

*Neopolitan & Sicilian Pizza,
various appetizers, salads, chicken
wings, subs, sandwiches, Italian
specialties, desserts, and more!*

*Winner in Syracuse.com's 2024 CNY Pizza Tour
of 52 area pizza shops!*



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Syracuse, NY 13219
468-6281

The Alden Street Foundation
<https://aldenstreetfoundation.org>
*Catholic Charities asked us recently for
support to convert
a garage at Our Lady of Pompeii-
St. Peter into space for
a much-needed food pantry on the
Syracuse Northside. We responded with
a grant of \$7,000.*