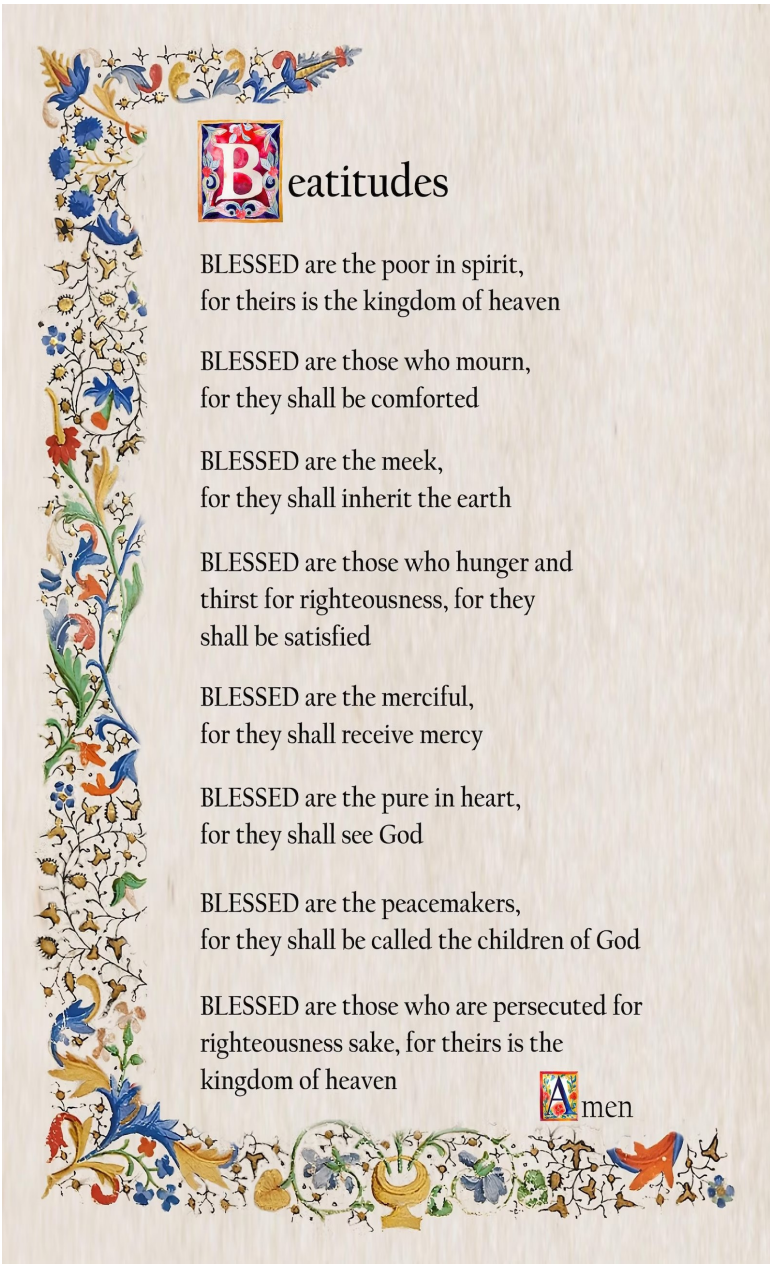
Annual HOPE Appeal

St. Lucy's Church

In the Heart of the Near West Side

October & 31st and November 1st, 2026
Solemnity of All Saints



432 Gifford Street, Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 475-7273 www.saintlucys.org
Pastor: Fr. Jim Mathews jdmgolfer@yahoo.com
Parish Business Administrator
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

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:00
Sunday - 10:00 - in person and on Zoom,
ASL interpreted, Gluten-free hosts available

Congratulation & a sincere thanks to **Corinne Driscoll, Corey Driscoll Dunham & Tracy Driscoll De Genova** for their great leadership in heading up our recent Fundraiser. Through their dedication in making this the best Fundraiser ever we cleared a ballpark figure of $40,000..On behalf of our Parish. Thank you Corinne, Corey & Tracy for an outstanding job..We are all grateful.

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

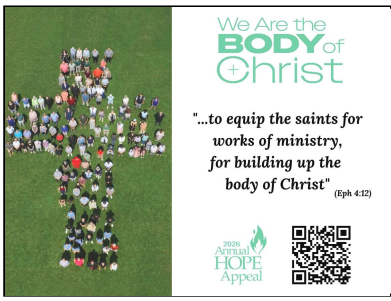
Pickleball Mondays at 4:00

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 - 1:00
Fridays: 12:00 - 3:00
Contact the Parish Office regarding the sacraments of Christian Initiation, Reconciliation, Anointing the Sick, and Matrimony

St. Lucy's Advocate/Points of Contact for Survivors of Clerical Sexual Abuse
Jim Boone: 315-427-2740, Sue Boone: 315-427-8923

Bulletin items - send information to mail@syracuseprintingcenter.com by Thursday at noon



Our parish has achieved a total of **$22,750** toward our Hope Appeal Goal of **$23,200.** Thank You for your generosity.

Mass intentions

Nancy Grant Noce requested by Alex Noce on Saturday, October 31.

If no specific intention is mentioned, the Mass is offered for our. parishioners

Lectors

Oct. 31 Mary Kay Burkett

Homilist
Dave Pasinski

Please save the date for a celebration of Fr. Jim's service at St. Lucy's which will be held on **Dec. 13** with Mass followed by a reception in the gym. Dec. 13 is the Feast of St. Lucy's, which makes it a fitting time for this event. Holding the event on Dec. 13 gives us time to extend our honor and praise to Jim before the final Advent services and Christmas

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.

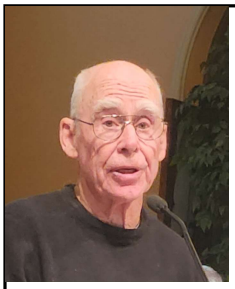
At this weekend's Masses, kindly bring boxes of cereal and/or personal care products for the Food Pantry! personal care products include items such as toothpaste, shampoo, dish soap, laundry soap, etc.
PUSH BACK! on the federal cut-backs.
Thanks to all who bring items for our neighborhood ministry. It really helps!

Mark Your Calendar - Nicaragua Trip Presentation on Nov. 8th

Come hear about the September 2026 trip to visit AMOS Health & Hope in Managua and our sister community in Villanueva, Nicaragua. All Saints' and St. Lucy's travelers will share photos, their experiences, and answer questions at the Coffee Hour on November 8, 2026.

A Heartfelt Thank You

The Parish Council extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has kept our parish operations running. These are the folks who have given time to staff the office, manage the books, organize the events, answer the phones and pay the bills. We are indebted to them for their efforts that go beyond simply being a parishioner.



Last weekend, **Kip Hargrave** spoke on the 2 main goals of the committees working to determine the future of our parish. The first, continuing our ministries to the people in our near Westside community, is pretty clear and generally has the support of all parties involved. The second, maintaining our worship space as an active house of prayer in this area, is a little less straightforward. While theoretically we could continue to worship in a different building, our absence would be a tremendous loss to **"Fr. Jim's Way"** as it's now officially named.

The impromptu visit from Jeremy and Brandon last Sunday is something not likely to happen in a suburban setting. Just as Fr. Jim learned more about what it means to be a follower of Christ by living among these people than he learned in the seminary, our interactions when we come to worship here can transform us.

Walt

On Wednesday, October 28th, my friend Scott, who I've written about in this bulletin several times, addressed the Syracuse Common Council on the plight of the homeless in our city. "I sit in Columbus Circle, and religious leaders and community politicians walk past me daily," Scott said. "I speak with them, and I'm honest with them, and it's like I'm blind to them." (FYI, our Bishop Lucia is not one of those religious leaders who ignore the homeless. Scott told me that the Bishop has given rides and financial assistance the him and others.)

Scott is initiating a "sleeping bag drive", to ask people to donate a bag that those without a home can use to keep warm. Catholic Charities does operate a "warming center in Columbus circle. The guests are required to sit in a chair, upright. The center frequently runs out of space. Our guest at Mass last Sunday, Jeremy, told me that he and other younger people will give up their space to allow older people to have shelter in these cold months. What a great example of doing God's work in their community.

In her talk at St. Lucy's Friday night, **Margaret Pfeil** stressed that having a residence is the essential first step in restoring a person's dignity. Without a place where they can be reliably reached, they are effectively being denied services that they would have otherwise received. She also described the housing situation as a loss to our community since we are deprived of the gifts that they would be able to offer to society if their situation was more stable. Despite his many hardships, Scott is trying to help his people and will undoubtedly do much more once he has a home.

Walt

The next Bible Study with Jim Bresnahan will be held Mon November 2nd @ 7 PM on zoom. Peter Sarver is managing the zoom sessions, so please email him: **stlucys.syracuse@gmail.com** if you are interested in joining the group.

This Sunday, November 1st., the students, teachers and families from **All Saints Elementary**, the city's only independent Catholic school, will be joining us at the 10am Mass. We are celebrating our 21st year and because of our name, the Feast of All Saints has always been a special day for us. We hope that seeing us in person might be of interest to any parents or grandparents who may want a Catholic education for children in their families. We also hope and pray that some of our families who either do not attend a church or are dissatisfied with the one they do go to, just might like the way we "do church" here at St. Lucy's.

If you would like to know more about our school or support us in any way, see Walt at Mass or email: gemma@allsaintselementary.net
(Yes, she has her own email address)

2026-27 Faith Formation Schedule for St. Lucy's

Date	Room 1	Room 2
Nov. 1	Julia	Nancy
Nov. 8	Lorrie	Jim
Nov. 15	Julia	Nancy

FIRST SATURDAY CHURCH TOURS: Our Pope Leo proclaimed Jan. 10, 2026, through Jan. 10, 2027 as a special Jubilee "Year of Saint Francis," commemorating the 800th anniversary of the Saint's passing in 1226. In honor of this special jubilee, all are invited to discover our local Assumption Church, home to Franciscan friars since 1859, one of Syracuse's most beautiful and historic churches. Tours begin at 9am in the Grotto. The guide for the tour is **Fr. Nader Ata, OFM Conv.,** pastor of Assumption Church. He is extremely knowledgeable and will answer any questions. All are welcome.

Next tour date: Saturday, November 7th

Bulletin changes

If you like the recent changes or have other ideas or suggestions, please let me know.

My contact information is:

Walt McDermott
mail@syracuseprintingcenter.com
(please put Bulletin in the subject line, I get a lot of emails so this will help me to find it.)
315-491-1165 cell or text

Community News and Events

"What Does "Magnifica Humanitas" Mean for Us?"

Pope Leo's groundbreaking "**Humanity in Its Grandeur"** does more than examine the role of "artificial intelligence," as it illuminates and challenges us to consider how our technology can assist or enslave us and what are the moral issues it raises in this dangerous era.

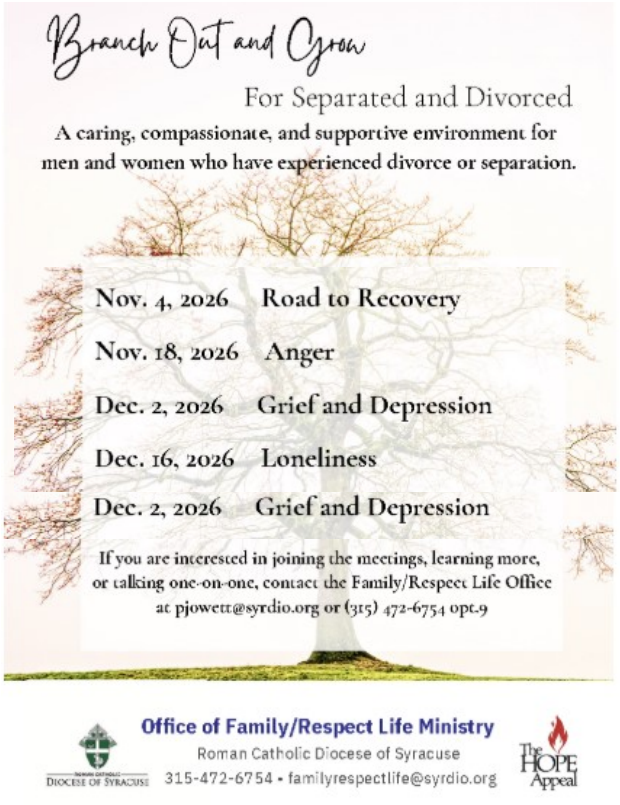
This four session course ($56) will be taught by **Dave Pasinski (M.Div, MA)** who is a regular instructor at OASIS. Mondays, November 16,23,30, December 7, from 10:00- Noon. Guest speakers, opportunity for discussion, and copies of text - if desired- available($2.00). Register at upstate.oasisnet.org

Come and learn about our "magnificent humanity" and how we are called to respond.

SAVE THE DATE....On **November 14-15**, 2026, Peg Barnett will bring her imaginative, colorful, useful crafts to St. Lucy's for your holiday shopping and then to All Saints Church on November 21-22, 2026. As she has done for many years, Peg plans to donate 100% of her sales to our joint parish project with AMOS Health and Hope to support community health work in Villanueva, Nicaragua.

PEACE PRAYER Saturday, November 7th, 9-10 in the Chapel, at the front and right of the Sanctuary. *All Are Welcome!*

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER FOR FOOD ACCESS IN OUR NEIGHBOR-HOOD! This Election Day, **Tuesday, November 3,** All Saints Church will be holding a bake sale to support food access initiatives in our community, including Interfaith Community Collective, St. Lucy's Pantry, and Syracuse Community Fridge. We are looking for volunteers to donate baked goods for our bake sale table while the polls are open in our All Saints Parish Center (1342 Lancaster Avenue). Baked goods should be dropped off at the parish office on Monday, November 2 between 9am-5pm. Please sign up to bring baked goods at allsaintssyracuse.org/bakesale or by contacting Michael at msoner@syrdio.org or 315-466-8482. Thank you for helping make a difference in our neighborhood!



Meeting with Fr. Fred Daley

On Monday (10/20), Fr. Fred Daley met with the St. Lucy's Transition Team, which is composed of our four trustees, the Parish Council co-presidents, our Parish Associate, the Chair of our Finance Committee, and Fr. Jim. This was our first meeting with Fr. Fred since he was named the Administrator of St. Lucy's Church while maintaining his role as pastor of All Saints beginning on January 1. Our communication with Fr. Fred and coordination with him and All Saints will continue as we navigate our path forward, while also recognizing that this is new for all of us.

It is important to note that Fr. Jim will continue to celebrate our Masses through the end of December. Following Fr. Jim's retirement, effective January 1, Fr. Fred – working with each Parish Staff – will ensure that priests are scheduled to celebrate Masses at each Parish. In addition to Fr. Fred, some members of the Jesuit Community at Le Moyne as well as several retired diocesan priests have already committed to assisting in covering Masses at St. Lucy's and All Saints as part of the Costello Project Vision.

Please save the date for a celebration of Fr. Jim's service at St. Lucy's which will be held on Dec. 13 with Mass followed by a reception in the gym. Dec. 13 is the Feast of St. Lucy's, which makes it a fitting time for this event. Holding the event on Dec. 13 gives us time to extend our honor and praise to Jim before the final Advent services and Christmas celebrations consume our attention. More details will follow.

SUPPORT ST. LUCY'S & ITS MINISTRIES

Every Saturday or Sunday, each of us has the opportunity to contribute whatever we can to keep the lights on, things repaired, and staff working to maintain our buildings and services, and to meet our diocesan responsibilities for insurance, pensions, etc. Whether you attend in-person or via Zoom, thank you for your regular donations to the parish General Fund as well as your donations of time and talent.

When you're not able to attend in person, remember you can still put your donation "in the basket" in two ways:

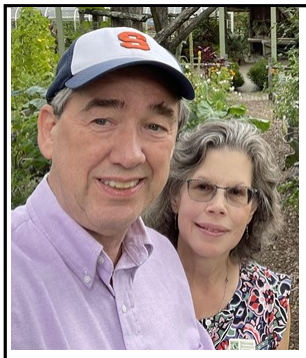
Write a paper check to St. Lucy's Church and mail it to the rectory at 432 Gifford St., Syracuse, NY 13204. Put "General Fund" in the memo line on your check.

Go online at www.saintlucys.org/contact to make a secure donation to the General Fund Offertory using the parish Vanco Account.

2026 CNN Hero of the Year: CNN Heroes has recently announced the five finalists for 2026 CNN Hero of the Year. One of these finalists is our friend **Andrew Lunetta**, founder and Executive Director of A Tiny Home for Good. As many know, A Tiny Home for Good has a mission of ending homelessness in Syracuse by building quality homes on vacant lots or renovating derelict properties. Each unit is rented to an individual or family who has faced homelessness. Andrew's creation of this Syracuse-based nonprofit has built 23 tiny homes and refurbished almost two dozen other properties for people experiencing homelessness. Let us unite and vote for Andrew for 2026 CNN Hero of the Year – which can bring up to $100,000 to this important ministry! Vote here: 2026 CNN Hero of the Year voting | CNN. You can also access this link on our website at www.allsaintssyracuse.org NOTE: You get 10 votes every day. Voting ends on Nov. 29th with the winner announced on Dec. 5th at 8pm!

Parishioner Spotlight

By Beth Bentz



Craig Polhamus

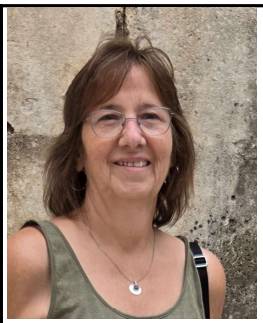
Craig and his wife, Katherine, attended many churches before finding their home church at St. Lucy's.

Craig said he stays at St. Lucy's because it offers him the opportunity to help people in the community and to promote the Holy Spirit.

He is married and has three daughters: two live in Syracuse, and one lives in Boston. Craig is also blessed with two grandchildren.

Craig and his wife ran the Agape shop for ten years. He also served as a trustee and as a member of the Parish Council. Craig is responsible for the St. Lucy's float, which appears in the St. Patrick's Day Parade every year. Craig has served on the Finance Committee for 20 years and continues to lead it. He leads the Building and Grounds Committee and has served on the Costello project committee since its inception. He started the Zoom Masses during the COVID-19 pandemic and has never missed a Mass since they began. Craig is also on the Hope, Healing, and Solidarity Committee and on the steering committee for Niagara.

For the past 10 years, Craig has spent his leisure time as a canoeist in French and Indian War, Civil War, and Revolutionary War reenactments. For St. Lucy's future, Craig would like the parish to continue making a difference in people's lives for many years to come.



Beth Kazel

Beth has attended St. Lucy's since she was a young girl. She grew up on Seymour Street, and because of her Mohawk heritage, her family chose St. Lucy's as their home church. After her marriage, she moved to Baldwinsville. While living in Syracuse's northern suburbs, she tried several churches, but none felt like her Family Church on Syracuse's Near West Side. She returned to St. Lucy's after the Labor Day storm in 1998 and has remained there ever since.

Beth remains at St. Lucy's because of the people and the Church's Mission to serve its neighbors. She began her career as a teacher in the Head Start program in Fulton, NY. Beth was soon promoted to Education Coordinator, then to Director of Education Services. She is currently a Grantee Specialist, providing training and technical assistance to Head Start programs across New York and New Jersey.

Beth has volunteered with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) since 2012. She is a former board member and currently advocates at the state and federal levels for legislation that supports people affected by suicide and mental illness. Beth leads outreach meetings for families affected by the loss of a loved one to suicide. She is the Director of our St. Kateri Tekakwitha and has held this position since 2014. Beth's passion is to support families in both her volunteer work and her professional life.

Her wish for St. Lucy's is that it remains a vibrant community that serves its Neighbors with love and respect. Beth exemplifies the qualities of a true Lucien—dedication, volunteerism, and a welcoming spirit—that will help St. Lucy's continue its mission of serving God's children.

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Raymond M. Rinaldi
Executive Director

The Alden Street Foundation
aldenstreetfoundation.org

Over the past nine years we have donated a total of $29,300 to Catholic Worker on Wheels. This organization is closely associated with St. Lucy's and provides vital outreach to families on the Near Westside.

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