

Saint John Kanty Parish
101 Swinburne Street
Buffalo, New York 14212

Make Room for the Lord ...

WILL HE FIND ROOM IN YOUR LIFE? ? ?

I'm sorry but there isn't room . . . this year.
We're crowded . . . with places to go and things to do. But,
I'm sure you understand. I'd like to find place for you . . .
no time to listen . . . no time to plan . . . Please go some-
where else. Can't you see how crowded my life is already?
I have to shop. I have to clean. I have to cook and bake . . .
I have to decorate and celebrate . . .

I suppose it would be better if I did have room . . . then
maybe we would have more friendship, more peace, more laughter,
more time to share together - to watch a gentle falling snow -
the glow of a burning candle and listen to a carol or story.
To give what we can best give each other - like love,
understanding, forgiveness, peace.

You know - maybe if you could come back in a few weeks I
won't be so busy - so taken up with these Holidays. By then,
I will have taken the tree down - the gifts will be put
away - the decorations stored. I'll try to fit you in somewhere
. . . at that time . . . if I can. In the meantime . . . why
don't you try the stable out back . . .

Does this all sound familiar? Don't let this be you. Find
room for Him always and one day He'll find room for you.

A GIFT OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC

JOIN US THIS EVENING AT 7 P.M. (SUNDAY) AS OUR CHOIR PRESENTS
ITS' ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT DIRECTED BY DR. IRENEUSZ
LUKASZEWSKI.. ORGANIST - JOANN KUSHNER GRIMM.

A BEAUTIFUL WAY TO BEGIN THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS...

Rectory - 893-0412 Convent - 892-5949 School - 893-0042
Cafeteria - 896-8893 Lyceum - 896-9471



THE CHRISTMAS WAFER -- OPLATEK

The use of the "Christmas Wafer" is a custom cherished by Christians of Europe, especially the Polish People. Historically it is difficult to trace the origin of the Christmas Wafer; but it has been established that the custom had been in use already in the 15th Century.

At the appearance of the first star on the Vigil of Christmas the family assembles at the table for the traditional evening vigil meal which is preceded by the sharing of the Christmas Wafer. In this religious atmosphere the head of the house, wafer in hand, addresses his family; first, about the Christmas Yore, and then extending the Season's Greetings. Then he exchanges individual wishes as he shares his wafer with each member present. All the other members do likewise in turn, and the solemnity and reverence of the occasion make it a touching and memorable event. In this festive atmosphere human frailties are forgotten and personal offenses forgiven in honor of the newborn Savior who became man to redeem all mankind.

For the Christian, the Christmas Wafer is symbolic of our faith in the Eucharistic Bread, the true Body of Christ sacrificed on our altars and consumed at the Eucharistic Banquet in Holy Communion. It is a symbol of Brotherly Love. As the wafer is made of many grains of wheat, so all of us are to be one in Christ.

Especially Charity must prevail in the home, for our family claims our love before all others. With the Christmas Wafer in hand, the heart somehow softens and is willing to forget the frequent annoyances, indeed, even the serious offenses that can hinder our daily lives.

The snow-white wafer is also a symbol of purity of heart. It is unbecoming to approach the vigil table and share the bread of love if sin has become a barrier or obstacle in our hearts. It is only after sharing the wafer in Brotherly Love at the family table that we should be ready to approach the Lord's Table on Christmas Day and receive His Body and Blood as a sign of our oneness.

www.dns.org

RING IN THE "NEW YEAR"

St. John Kanty Lyceum

Music By -- THE KREW BROTHERS

\$20.00 per person. Free Beer, Chasers, Ice, Noisemakers --
Hot Buffet Dinner at 9 o'clock
Champagne Toast at Midnight

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY CALLING: 894-7845 895-8852 or
684-8424



THE GIFT OF LIFE

On Tuesday, December 20th from 3:30 to 7:00 P.M. the Red Cross Bloodmobile will be here at St. John Kanty Parish. If you are willing to share this very precious life saving gift with others the place to be will be the St. John Kanty Gym on Tuesday.

REMINDER!! SUNSHINE SENIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY THIS SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

HOLY NAME BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 23RD AT 8 P.M. IN THE HOLY NAME ROOM.

200 INVESTORS CLUB --

12th Week Winners are:

\$25.00 - #99
\$15.00 - #88
\$10.00 - #75

13th Week Winners are:

\$25.00 - #169
\$15.00 - #202
\$10.00 - #222

ADVENT NEWS -- WEEK IV

This is it! And so how did you do? Our final week in Advent. As Christmas quickly approaches our thoughts now should be centered on God's great gift of LOVE and HOPE. As we will deliver gifts, and share in caroling, and visit with family and friends, let us not forget that in all this we must also reflect on how Jesus Christ is above all God's gift to you. We pray that our hearts will be filled with His love and our attitudes be one of Hope in His coming again. As we conclude our Advent journey let us together pray in thanks to God for the gift of . . .

LOVE AND HOPE IN JESUS CHRIST!

