



DIOCESE OF BUFFALO
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

As Bishop of Buffalo, I am pleased to offer my support to the Morning Star Family Holy Hour ministry and to *Fatima: The Musical*.

The Morning Star Family Holy Hour is based out of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels in Olean, NY. This ministry is dedicated to supporting families in prayer and adoration. For over 16 years, families have been gathering together for quality time that is authentically Catholic. Morning Star Family Holy Hour is dedicated to supporting families in prayer and adoration by offering Holy Hours that combine prayer, singing, silent reflection and catechesis that is relevant for children and parents alike.

Fatima: The Musical was composed by Michael Cygan, who has been working on this original musical for over four years. A recent graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, Michael double majored in Philosophy and Theology with a minor in Sacred Music. Michael is a remarkably talented musician and composer with a deep faith and love for the Catholic Church. Through his Fatima musical, Michael seeks to share his belief in the importance of Eucharistic Adoration and the Rosary. The musical draws from the book *In Lucia's Own Words* in which Lucia recalls the events which took place in her early life. Most of the cast members have been a part of Morning Star Family Holy Hour from a very young age. The spirituality and catechesis which Our Lady of Fatima teaches is deeply rooted in their hearts.

Fatima: The Musical brings to life the story of Fatima with great simplicity and beauty. During the month of October, there will be several public performances of this musical:

- Thursday, Oct. 5th, 2017 – 7:00 pm Archbishop Walsh Academy Olean, NY
- Saturday, Oct. 14th, 2017 – 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm Fatima Shrine, Youngstown, NY

A free will offering will be taken at these performances. I encourage everyone to consider attending one of these performances as a unique way to experience and celebrate the centennial of the Fatima Apparitions. For more information, you can visit the following websites: <https://www.fatimathemusical.com/shows> and <http://www.morningstar2001.com/>.

+ Richard J. Malone