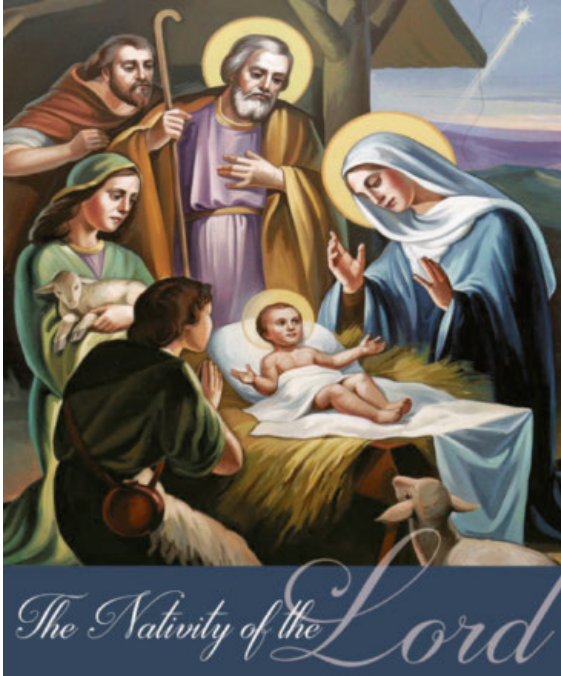


2022 St. Louis Church

*Oldest Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Buffalo
Founded in 1829*

Celebrating Our 193rd Anniversary

Rectory: 35 Edward Street • Buffalo, New York 14202-1505
Phone: (716) 852-6040 • Fax: (716) 853-9225
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Web address: www.stlouisrchurch.org
E-mail address: churchoffice@stlouisrchurch.org



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Salvatore Manganello, J.C.L., S.T.L. Pastor
TRUSTEES..... Rosemary Bloch, Michael Mikos
CURATOR OF 1903 KIMBALL PIPE ORGAN William Kurzdorfer
ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER Frank Scinta
CANTOR James Mrozek
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION Ashlee Campbell
BUSINESS MANAGER..... Kevin Brayer
SECRETARY Tom Pirrung

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President..... Timothy McCarthy
Vice-President..... Pearl Brown
Secretary..... Paul LaCroix

MASSES

Saturday 4:00 p.m. (Sunday Liturgy)
Sunday..... 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Eve of the Holy Day 4:30 p.m.
Holy Day 12:05 p.m.
Mon-Fri 12:05 p.m.
Confessions Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.

WEDDINGS

Registered Parishioners please call the Rectory for appointment. Arrangements should be made at least one year in advance.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

Call Rectory for date and time. Anointing of the Sick, anytime day or night.

BAPTISMS

First & Third Sundays of the month at 12:00 p.m. Parents must attend a Pre-Baptism class prior to scheduling the Baptism. Classes are offered by appointment. Please call the Rectory for information.

DEADLINE

All items for the weekly bulletin must be in the parish office by Monday at noon.

FAITH FORMATION

We offer a variety of religious education, Sacrament preparation, and adult faith formation programs. Please contact 853-1972 for more information.

OUR PARISH SCHOOL

The Catholic Academy of West Buffalo

Grades Pre-K to 8

1069 Delaware Ave. • Buffalo, NY 14209 • (716) 885-6111

HEARING ASSISTANCE

With our sound system we now have **the Phonic Ear**. This hearing assistance system is available to all who are hearing impaired. This system provides a transmitter with a headset and earplugs. Please come to the Sacristy for assistance.

PARISH MUSEUM & ARCHIVES: OPEN BY APPOINTMENT.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FORMER PASTORS

Reverend John Nicholas Mertz..... 1829-1836
Reverend Alexander Pax 1836-1843
Reverend Francis Guth 1844-1850
Reverend Joseph Raffener 1850-1851
Reverend William Deiters 1855-1861
Reverend J. E. Moshall..... 1861-1862
Reverend Francis Anthony Gerber 1862-1863
Reverend Sergus Schoulepnikoff 1864-1867
Reverend Joseph M. Sorg..... 1867-1888

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Dr. Paul Hoelscher 1888-1916
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Henry B. Laudenbach..... 1917-1944
Reverend Michael A. Anstett 1944-1948
Reverend Howard J. Schwartz..... 1948-1964
Reverend Clarence Ott..... 1964-1965
Reverend Alfred M. Mosack 1965-1979
Rev. Msgr. William A. Schwinger 1979-1995
Rev. Msgr. Robert A. Mack..... 1995-2002

Most Rev. Robert J. Cunningham, D.D., J.C.L., 2002-2004

Announced Masses of the Week

SATURDAY, December 24th Christmas Eve: Vigil for the Nativity of Our Lord

4:00 pm: Ladd Campbell, by the Campbell Family
 9:00 pm: For All of the Living & Deceased Members of St. Louis Parish

SUNDAY, December 25th Christmas Day: Nativity of Our Lord

9:00 am: For All of the Living & Deceased Members of St. Louis Parish
 11:00 am: For All of the Living & Deceased Members of St. Louis Parish

MONDAY, December 26th: St. Stephen

12:05 pm: For the People of St. Louis Parish

TUESDAY, December 27th: St. John, Apostle

12:05 pm: God's Blessings for Avery Marie Griffis & Steve Griffis, by Family

WEDNESDAY, December 28th: Holy Innocents

12:05 pm: Larry J. & Marie E. Schieber, by the Marie Schieber Estate

THURSDAY, December 29th: St. Thomas Becket

12:05 pm: Larry J. & Marie E. Schieber, by the Marie Schieber Estate

FRIDAY, December 30th: Feast of the Holy Family

12:05 pm: Herbert Bucki, by the Bucki Family

SATURDAY, December 31st: Vigil for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

4:00 pm: Living & Deceased Members of the Earl Young Family, by Marilyn Young

SUNDAY, January 1st: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 am: Mary Ball Pirrung, by Family
 11:00 am: Larry J. & Marie E. Schieber, by the Marie Schieber Estate

SCHEDULE OF LECTORS

Weekend of December 31st & January 1st:

4:00 pm: Diane Randazzo
 9:00 am: Joyce Persico
 11:00 am: Mike Riester



SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Weekend of December 31st & January 1st:

4:00 pm: Marilyn Neil
 9:00 am: Mary O'Shea
 11:00 am: Jim Ferrini



"BODY OF CHRIST"

MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLES



The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and in memory of Richard Agoston, requested by his family.

If you desire to have a Memorial Prayer Candle lit in memory of a loved one or for your intention, please use the envelope available for that purpose.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

In the name of our Trustee's, Parish Council Officers and Members, our Staff, and in my own name, we wish you and yours a most blessed, happy and joyous Merry Christmas. We pray that the Christ Child, the Prince of Peace, will fill every corner of your hearts and homes with His Peace, Power and Presence.

THE GIFT OF GOD

Today we rejoice. God has become one of us. He is born as a child so that we could be born into and share God's own life. God's love greets us today in a new way. It is a gift freely given. If we accept this gift, we become children of God, members of the divine family like all those who participated in the first Christmas.

Gifts at Christmas mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of His Son.

A Christmas card describes the meaning of Christmas:

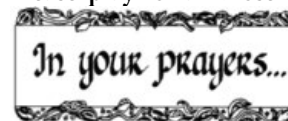
The meaning of Christmas is always emerging
 The one who was born on that day
 To bring forth the message of peace and good will
 And show He is the Truth and the Way.
 The meaning of Christmas is sharing and caring
 And living in love all year through,
 It's showing forgiveness and helping each other
 With Kindness in all that we do.
 It's blessing the lives of the strangers we meet
 As well as the ones we hold dear -
 And these are the reasons the meaning of Christmas
 Is meant for each day of the year.

May God bless you and your families during this most holy season of God's love. May God bring you blessings of peace, hope, and joy in the New Year.

Msgr. Manganello

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Laurie Hoehn, Tracy Allen Abram, Pasual Yauzzi, Greg Joseph, Claire Meyers, Marcella Ng, Joan Smeader, Beverly Grover, Billy Jacobbi, Kim Bach, Bill & Donna Reeves, Richard Shephard, Joseph Barba, Sr., Maria Madden, Dr. Fred Luongo, Michael MacPherson, Patricia Guerra, Jay Deveau, Sondra Schreiber, Christine Maciejewski, David Marchetti, Frank Zawistowski, Bernadette R. Crawford, and Margaret Foegen.

We remember all those recently deceased, especially Isabelle Stevens and all of our deceased parishioners and loved ones. We also remember Sheila Murphy and her family at this season.



SPIRITUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

We warmly welcome all who come to St. Louis for Mass—tourists, visitors, parishioners and friends.

Your generosity is deeply appreciated. It enables the preservation, ministry and maintenance of our historic church. It assists us in reaching out to the people of our neighborhood.

The dates for submission of our Bulletin have varied during the months of November and December to assure sufficient time for shipping during the holiday rush. Figures for last weekend were not available by the time this Bulletin was submitted. Please note figures for the preceding week end, December 10th and 11th, noted that 292 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was \$5745.00. Our online donations totaled \$315.00. The Retirement Fund for Religious collection totaled \$2895.00.

You can also support your parish by mailing your donation or using our pay pal account on our web page.

Thank you for your support.

Please remember St. Louis Parish in your will. A bequest may be worded in this fashion - "I give to St. Louis Roman Catholic Church of Buffalo, NY the sum of _____ to be used for its general purposes."

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LOUIS

SATURDAY, December 24th:

4:00 pm & 9:00pm: Weekly and Christmas Offering Collection

SUNDAY, December 25th:

9:00 am & 11:00 am: Weekly and Christmas Offering Collection

SATURDAY, December 31st:

4:00 pm: Regular Offertory including the Weekly & Monthly Offering and Solemnity of Mary Offering

SUNDAY, January 1st:

9:00 am & 11:00 am: Regular Offertory including the Weekly & Monthly Offering and Solemnity of Mary Offering

VOCATION THOUGHT

"I proclaim to you good news of great joy!" God has been calling us to rejoice from the very beginning. This news is so good, the whole world pauses to rejoice in it on Christmas Day. Find the fulfillment of all joy in God's plan for your life. Consider the religious life or priesthood, and contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716 847-5535 or visit www.buffalovocations.org

COVID SUPPORT GROUP

Catholic Health has organized a Support Group for individuals dealing with COVID related changes and anxiety. An in-person group has been started at Kenmore Mercy Hospital while an online group is hosted by Sisters Hospital. To learn more or to register, call 716 447-6211.



ANNUAL PRESERVATION FUND DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to our Preservation Fund Drive so far. As the structure of our church ages, there are always items that need attention, repair or upgrade. Thanks to your generosity in the past, we have been able to maintain our beautiful church in remarkable condition. With your support we will continue to be able to keep everything in good repair.

So far, as this Bulletin goes to print, \$65,589.62 has been donated.

RECEIPT OF TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

By law, contributions that are to be used as a 2022 tax deduction must be postmarked or in the hands of the parish no later than December 31st. As in past years, we only issue year end contribution statements if requested.

Anyone that wishes to have a tax statement may contact the rectory at 716 852-6040 or write "TAX STATEMENT" on the front of your church envelope.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

"The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world." John 1:9. As we celebrate the wonder and joy of Christ's birth, we hope your hearts and homes are filled with peace, happiness, love and the light of Christ our Savior. ***Merry Christmas from all of us at Catholic Charities!***

WORD OF LIFE

"The infant Christ came into our world in a state of great vulnerability. He needed to be defended, protected, cared for and raised by Joseph (*Patris Corde* 5). The humble and often hidden carpenter of Nazareth accompanied Mary in her pregnancy, assisted at the birth of the Messiah in a stable, presented Jesus in the Temple, fled with his family far from their homeland to protect them, and lovingly raised Jesus as his own son in the years to come ... Joseph's devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us."

USCCB Respect Life Reflection: *St. Joseph Defender of Life*

2023 ITALY PILGRIMAGE

Join Fr. Peter Karalus, Vicar General, on a 2023 Italian Pilgrimage "Faith & Flavors" August 28– September 8, 2023. Celebrate Mass at historical locations, 4-star centrally located hotels, breakfast daily, some lunch/dinners included, ground transportation, guides, and all tips and taxes. From the city of Rome, to the Umbrian and Tuscan countryside, to the "Italian Riviera", and to the Alps, this journey includes a wide variety of the flavors of the beauty of Italy. Integrated into the journey are experiences of Italian specialties including wine tastings and an extraordinary pasta making experience. This trip will be rich in the faith, history and culture of the different flavors and beautiful regions of Italy. For a detailed itinerary, go to <https://bit.ly/KaralusItaly>. Early registration discounts available and register early to ensure your spot. For more information, call 716 847-5500.



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