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December 28, 2025 ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

FAMILY MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGILS

- St. Louis Parish: 4:00 pm
- Blessed Sacrament Church 4:30 pm
- St. Michael's: 5:30

SUNDAYS

- St. Louis Parish: 9:00 & 11:00 am
- Blessed Sacrament: 10:30 am
- St. Michael's: 12:00 pm

WEEKDAYS: MONDAY, TUES-DAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

- St. Louis Parish: 12:05 pm
- Blessed Sacrament: 8:00 am ~ (Tuesday & Friday only)
- St. Michael's: 6:45 am
- St. Joseph's: 12:10 pm (M-F)

CONFESSION: ON REQUEST AFTER ANY MASS

- St. Louis: Saturdays: 3:15-4:00 pm
- St. Joseph's Cathedral: Wed & Fri 11:45 am; Saturday 4:00 pm
- St. Michael's: after 6:45 am daily until 9:00 am, or by appt.
- St. Anthony's: 30 mins before all Masses

BAPTISMS:

New parents must participate in a virtual pre-baptismal instruction class. Information and registration forms are available on the St. Louis website for the Downtown Family of Parishes. Questions? Contact the Faith Formation Office at religioused@StLouisrcchurch.org.

WEDDINGS: AT ST. LOUIS OR BLESSED SACRAMENT

Registered parishioners should call the family office to discuss and check available dates. Arrangements should be made 8 months in advance.

NEW PARISHIONERS: AT ST. LOUIS OR BLESSED SACRAMENT

We welcome you to the Downtown Family of Parishes! Registration forms can be found on the websites.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anointing in preparation of surgery or illness can be done after any Mass. Communal anointing takes place the last Sunday of the month after the Noon Mass at St. Michael's.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Email to dbfpbulletin@gmail.com

December 28, 2025 ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

Week of December 28 [,] 2025		
Saturday, December 27		
St. Louis 4:00 pm	Downtown Family of Parishes Req by: St. Louis Parishioners	
Blessed Sacrament	Downtown Family of Parishes	
4:30 pm	Req by: Blessed Sacrament Parishioners	
Saint Michael's 5:30 pm	Downtown Family of Parishes Req by: St. Michael's Parishioners	
Sunday, December 28 - The Holy Famíly of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph		
Saint Louis 9:00 am 11:00 am	Intentions of Pope Leo Req by: St. Louis Parishioners Connie Kearns Req by: Patrick Kearns & Family	
Blessed Sacrament 10:30 am	Deceased Members of the Rogacki, Kopera, Kemp Families Req by: John Kopera	
Saint Michael's 12 noon	All Souls Req by: St. Michael's Parishioners	
Monday, December 29 ~St. Thomas Becket		
St. Louis 12:05 pm	All Souls Req by: St. Louis Parishioners	
Blessed Sacrament	NO MASS	
Saint Michael's 6:45 am	Intentions of Pope Leo	
	Req by: St. Michael's Parishioners	
Tuesday, December 30 ~		
St. Louis 12:05 pm	Susan Graber Req by: Evan and Trish Lewis	
Blessed Sacrament 8:00 am	Msg. Francis Garvey Req by: Richard Lehner	
Saint Michael's 6:45 am	Michelle Lehner Req by: Richard Lehner	
Thursday, January 1 ~ New Year's Day		
St. Louis 12:05 pm	Fayelois S. Grobe Req by: Grobe Family	
Blessed Sacrament	NO MASS	
Saint Michael's	NO MASS	
Fríday, January 2		
St. Louis 12:05 pm	Richard Neil Req by: Marilyn Neil	
Blessed Sacrament 8:00 am	Intentions of Pope Leo Req by: Blessed Sacrament Parishioners	
Saint Michael's 6:45 am	Philip Cantonise Req by:	



raining of rainsines		
Pastor	Permanent Deacons	
Rev. Raymond Corbin	Thomas LaBelle	
716-852-6040 x 202	deacon.labelle@gmail.com	
FrRayssp@gmail.com	Carmelo Gaudioso	
Famíly Clergy	Rev. Ben Fiore, S.J.	
Msgr. Salvatore Manganello	Rev. Richard Zanoni, S.J.	
smanganello@buffalodiocese.org	Please call St. Michael's Rectory at	
	716-854-6726	
Dír. of Religious Education	religioused@stlouisrcchurch.org	
Ashlee Campbell	443-744-0354	
Saint Louis		
35 Edward St		
Dír. Of Musíc	Cantors	
Frank Scinta	James Mrozek	
	Erin Peradotto-Terhaar	
Busíness Manager	Trustees	
Kevin Brayer	John Beller	
	Erin Peradotto-Tehaar	
Blessed Sacrament		
1035 Delaware Ave		
Dír. Of Musíc	Trustees	
Anthony Domzal	Paul F. Jones	
Cantor	Jim Knab	
Cory James Gallagher		
Saint Michael's		
651 Washington Ave.		
Trustees	David Granville Steven Nosek	
Musicians	Mark Di Giampaolo, Istvan Hernak	
Cantor	Michael Dobrasz	
DOWNTOWN FAMILY PASTORAL COUNCIL		

Peter Rizzo - President (BSC)

Dennis Burns - First Vice President (St. Louis)

Alyssa Zakroczemski, Second Vice President (BSC)

Anne Harrington, Secretary (BSC)





Louis

ANGEL TREE - THANK YOU FOR BLESSING OUR COMMUNITYTHIS ADVENT

I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to the St. Louis Church family for your generous support of this year's *Angel Tree Project*. Because of your kindness, compassion, and faithful giving, we collected and delivered 178 presents, serving 25 local families in Buffalo, Lackawanna, and Niagara Falls. Thank you to everyone who bought presents and those that delivered presents. And, thank you to the families in Faith Formation who wrapped, organized, and prepared the gifts to be delivered. May God bless you for being His hands and feet in our community.

Thank you,

Ashlee

THANK YOU, SORG FOUNDATION!

Thank you to the Sorg Foundation for agreeing to contribute to a second phase of the kneeler renovation.

Their generosity will make it easier for us to pray!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Fran Angelo, Diane Andriaccio, Gabriella Parisi, Rosemary Bloch, Laurie Hoehn, Tracy Allen Abram, Greg Joseph, Marcella Ng, Beverly Grover, Kim Bach, Bill & Donna Reeves, Richard Shepheard, Joseph Barba, Sr., Dr. Fred Luongo, Michael MacPherson, Patricia Guerra, Jay Deveau, Sondra Schreiber, Christine Maciejewski, David Marchetti, Frank Zawistowski, Bernadette R. Crawford, Carrie W., Joyce Persico, Jeanine L., Richard J. Wall, Sr., Gail Neil, Fred Wolf, Ed Kast, Linda Holben, Rachel Gaiser, Michael Hawkins, Allie Urbanski, Dr. William Fiden, Sharon Hunger, Fr. Drew Morgan, Larry Kennebeck, Denise Goodman, Jason Parks, Kienan Duggan, Margaret Foegen.

Please contact the Parish Office to have a loved one placed on the Prayer List. If their condition continues to warrant our prayers, we will gladly include them as long as necessary.

We remember all those recently deceased, Michael Zobel and especially our deceased parishioners and loved ones.

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.

OUR COLLECTION FOR 12/14/25 WAS \$5,269.00 RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT WAS \$971.00 OUR WESHARE COLLECTION WAS \$413.97. OUR TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK WAS \$6,653.97.

THE NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS WHO ATTENDED WAS 369.

MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLES

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Thomas and Sally Parks by Donna and Dennis Burns.

The Pieta Altar Candle burns in Loving Memory of Thomas and Sally Parks by Donna and Dennis Burns.

The St. Joseph Altar Candle also burns in Loving Memory of Thomas and Sally Parks by Donna and Dennis Burns.

If you desire to have a Memorial Prayer Candle lit in memory of a loved one or for your special intention, please use the envelope available for that purpose. We honor requested dates as they are available.

LECTORS/EUCHARIST MINISTERS JANUARY 1, 3 & 4, 2026

Lectors:

Thursday, January 1 12:05 Michael Reister

Saturday, January 3 4:00 Bob Sprague

Sunday, January 4 9:00 Ed Kuzan

Sunday, January 4 11:00 Tom Caraher

Eucharistic Ministers:

Thursday, January 1 12:05 Pam Nordstrom

Saturday, January 3 4:00 Marilyn Neil

Sunday, January 4 9:00 Mary O'Shea

Sunday, January 4 11:00 Pam Nordstrom, Lisa McCarthy









The Catholic Academy OF WEST BUFFALO 1069 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14209 716-885-6111

Mr. Earl Schunk Principal

COLLECTION FOR DECEMBER 21, 2025

The collection report for last week is as follows:

E-giving - \$2,173.00

Weekly - \$1,335.01

Total - \$3,508.01

There will be one collection next week

Conference

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM AT ST. STANISLAUS 389 PECKHAM ST., BUFFALO, NY

Enjoy a day filled with presentations, interactive small-group conversations, music, and a lunch with fellow participants.

Keynote Speaker: FR. (ARL GALES, SVD



Father Gales, who was born in Baltimore, was a musical prodigy. In his youth, he performed as a concert pianist at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In 2021, he professed Final Vows with the SVD and was ordained to the priesthood in 2022.

Current pastor of Our Lady of Africa, Fr. Gales helped merge together five parishes through the Archdiocese of Chicago's Renew My Church process.

REGISTER AT



DEADLINE TO REGISTER BY JANUARY 14

LECTOR/EM SCHEDULE - JANUARY 2026

Lectors **Eucharist Ministers**

Sat. 4:30 pm Sat 4:30 pm

January 3 - R. Lehner D. Russell

January 10 - L. Urbanski-Farrell C lones

January 17 - D. Galucki M. Mierszwa

January 24 - M. Cusack F. Conti January 31 - F. Conti C. Jones

Lectors **Eucharist Ministers**

Sat. 4:30 pm Sun. 10:30 am

January 4 - A. Wulf J. Knab

January 11 - M. Biedny M. J. Carroll

January 18 - G. Riedel C. Pitek

January 25 - M. J. Carroll N. O'Rourke

JOIN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION

Start the New Year by reading and then joining a discussion of Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM's latest book "The Tears of Things-Prophetic Wisdom in an Age of Outrage" (Convergent Books, 2025, 208 pages).

Discover the ancient prophets - Amos, Elijah, and Jonah - along with modern prophetic voices. Encounter those whose wisdom and actions shaped their world and continue to call us toward deeper transformation. All are welcome to join the discussion on Monday, January 26th at 10:30 am in St. Joseph's Hall.

For questions, contact Bonnie Blum at blumfam7@gmail.com.

The book is available at Barnes and Noble, Amazon, Target, and Walmart.



COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

In America, where a major pastime is watching television, it is very easy to fall into the subconscious habit of comparing ourselves - our wealth, age, beauty, living quarters, apparel, possessions, and social status - with the people we see on TV.

Instead of comparing our lives to the "hand-picked segments of American life" that television producers choose to show us, we need to take a realistic look at where we, Americans, stand in comparison to the rest of the world. Looking at this global "bigger picture" will place our lives into proper perspective. If this doesn't make us grateful, nothing will!

- If you woke up this morning with more health than illness...you are more blessed that the 1 million who will not survive this week.
- If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation...you are better off than 500 million people in the world.
- If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death...you are more blessed that 3 billion people of the world.
- If you have food and a refrigerator in which to keep it, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a warm place to sleep...you are richer than 75% of the world!
- If you can read this article, you are more educated than over 2 billion people in the world who are illiterate.
- If you have money in the bank, currency in your wallet, and more spare change in a dish someplace...you rank among the 8% of the world's wealthiest people.

Compared to the rest of the world, we live like royalty! So the next time we begin to compare our standard of living with anyone else's, lets remember that we really have much for which we can be thankful, including blessings that money can't buy. **PEACE**

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MICH&EL'S

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ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH ATTENDANCE & COLLECTIONS

12/14/25 \$2,085.00

Immaculate Conception \$40.00

Religious Retirement \$339.00

12/14/25 104

Weekly Collection needed to cover expenses— \$3,200.

Registered Families - 45

IN YOUR PRAYERS FOR ST. MICHAEL'S

Evan, Fran, and Mo Angelo, Judith Barone, Alexander & Michael Brickel, Lorraine Brown, Alonso/Caceres/Rios Santa Cruz, Peter Caruso, Annie Feldman, Phyllis Galie, Mary Biuttner Gutierrez, Gloria Knight, Ben Lisiecki, Elain Love, Dr. David Marchetti, Jean McCarthy, Tom Passmire, Cheryl Radwan, Arlo Thomas Stadler, Jack Stepniak, Mark Szpakowski, Angelo Tomsello, Ann Weihing.

ST. MICHAEL'S INFORMATION

Email: StMichaelChurchBuffalo@gmail.com

Musicians: Mark Di Giampaolo, Istvan Hernak

Cantor: Michael Dobrasz

Holy Hour: Join us Sundays for a Holy Hour starting at 1pm, featuring exposition, adoration, rosary, and silent prayer until 2pm at which time the church will close.

St. Michael's Update:

The Vatican has upheld the Diocese's decision to merge St. Michael's with St. Louis. An appeal has been filed to a higher Vatican Court. There is a 60 day waiting period for a decision. Updates forthcoming.



The Downtown Family of Parishes



ADORATION WITH ROSARY AND DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE

Adoration with Rosary and Devotion to the Holy Face will occur Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm at Blessed Sacrament Church, Delaware Ave.

All are invited to come and spend time in prayer and reflection before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament



BONNETS FOR BABIES

Bonnets for Babies is a non-profit organization looking for your help. We work with children birth to five to keep them warm and comforted.

Please help us keep them warm by going to our website or making a monetary donation.

- Visit the Bonnets for Babies Amazon Wishlist by going to Bonnetsforbabies.com. Press the Amazon link,
- 2. Select the item(s) you'd like to donate and add them to your cart.
- 3. Important: at checkout the items will automatically be shipped to us.

We are grateful for your support. Thank you and God Bless.

WHY DID YOU COME, LORD, THE WAY YOU DID?

Poor, homeless, God among us?

Born, not among the leaders and princes whose names are long since forgotten, except for Herod;

Who wanted to kill you;

Born, among the outcasts of society;

Within the love of Joseph and Mary;

Why did you come like this?

Maybe the silence of your birth broken by the hymn of the angels'

The Cry of a baby and the noise of an animal says it all;

That God is as simple and as complex as a child;

And always on the side of the poor.

Why did you come, Lord, the way you did?

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

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716-854-5855

Cathedral@BuffaloDiocese.org

ORATORY OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

160 Court St

716-854-2563 StAnthonyBuffalo@yahoo.com

COME, LET US ADORE HIM DID YOU EVER WONDER WHY -

The carol "A Partridge in a Pear Tree" is sung at Christmas? It's because the twelve days between Christmas Epiphany were used by English Catholics in 1558 after the religious persecutions to explain their faith without exciting suspicion.

The "true love" of the carol is God; the partridge is a symbol of Christ. The two turtle doves represent the sacrifice Jewish parents made in the temple - the Mass is the new sacrifice. The three French hens symbolize the Magi and their gifts but also faith, hope and charity, the prime virtues. Four calling birds mean the four Gospels, while the five gold rings hint at the first five books of the Bible. The six geese-a-laying are the six days of creation. The **seven swans a-swimming** are the seven gifts of the Spirit and seven works of mercy, The eight milk maids are the eight beatitudes, while the **nine ladies dancing** are the nine fruits of the spirit. The ten lords a-leaping symbolize the ten commandments and the eleven pipers the eleven apostles, without Judas. The twelve drummers point to the twelve beliefs of the Apostles' Creed.

How's that for a catechism!

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 28,2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

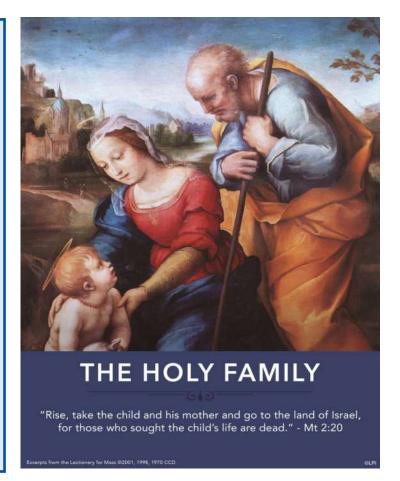
(Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23)

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realize our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love. In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..." (Matthew 2:13, 20). First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee into God's presence.

~ Father John Muir ©LPi



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