PASTORAL STAFF
Rev. Msgr. John W. Madsen ............................................Weekend Assistant
Rev. Andrew R. Lauricella .............................................12:05 Mass—Friday
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 .....................................................John Beller
SECRETARY ......................................................................Dolores Vasi

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS
President ........................................................................Wendy Mistretta
Vice-President ................................................................John Zygaj
Secretary ........................................................................Keith Boerner

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.

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.

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 bi-monthly. Please call the Rectory for information.

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

PASPALEY
FUSS & JESS
131 William Street
Buffalo, NY 14203

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 Raffeiner ....................................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

HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

In the springtime, Pope Francis announced a Holy Year of Mercy to begin on December 8, 2015, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Holy Year will begin with the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter’s in Rome coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. The Holy Year will be concluded on November 20, 2016, the Feast of Christ the King.

On Sunday, December 12, 2015 in Rome, the Holy Door of the Cathedral of Rome, the Basilica of St. John Lateran, will be opened. On the following Sundays the other Holy Doors of the other Papal Basilicas will be opened.

Our diocesan observance of the Holy Year will begin on Sunday, December 13, 2015 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral. This celebration will include the opening of the Door of Mercy at the Cathedral. Other churches that will have a Door of Mercy are: Our Lady of Victory Basilica—Lackawanna; St. Leo the Great—Amherst; St. Hyacinth of Blessed Mary Angela Parish—Dunkirk; St. Mary of the Angels—Olean; Our Lady of Mercy—LeRoy; The Basilica Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima—Youngstown; and Corpus Christi—Buffalo. These churches are set aside as pilgrimage sites as a means to reflect on and experience God’s Mercy during this Holy Year we will contemplate the Mercy of God in our own lives and for the salvation of the world with the hope that we will be as merciful as God and extend God’s mercy to those around us.

Msgr. Manganello

During the Season of Advent, our diocese will be participating in The Light is On For You program. This program creates an enhanced opportunity for people to receive the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Every Wednesday during Advent, a priest will be available in parishes to hear confessions.

Many parishes will be open from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance. St. Louis Church will be open each Wednesday during Advent from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon for this opportunity. The Light is on for you, December 9th, 16th, and 23rd.

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Joyce McCracken, Sharon Warner, Herb Bucki, Larry DiGiulio, James Watson, Pam Arrigo, Kathryn Guise, Raymond Sharer, Gertrude Pouchey, Mamie Kate Johnson, Bob and Mary Dickerson, Spencer Daly, Niziti Ascela, Catalina Alo, Kathleen A. Walter, Kristina Lewis, Carlos Calhoun, Marie Miller, Tracy Abram and Margaret Foegen.

Please contact the Parish Office to have a loved one placed on the Prayer List. Names will appear for one month. If their condition continues to warrant our prayers, please call the office and we will gladly include them in one month increments as long as necessary.

We remember all those recently deceased, especially Arlene V. Nagel and our deceased parishioners and loved ones.

SCHEDULE OF LECTORS
Weekend of December 12th and December 13th
4:00 pm: Ann Dumansky
9:00 am: Wendy Mistretta and John Loss
11:00 am: Matt Glynn

SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION
Weekend of December 12th and December 13th
4:00 pm: Kevin Brayer, Jim Ferrini and Ron and Margaret Foegen
9:00 am: Rosemary Bloch, Susan Ministero, Al Bluemle and Jim Brigante
11:00 am: Pam Nordstrom, Carolann Besch and Keith and Kathy Boerner

MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLES
The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and in memory of Betty Warner, requested by Mary and Dick Agoston. The Pieta Candle burns this week in memory of Arlene V. Nagel, requested by Friends.

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.
SPRITUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

We warmly welcome all who come to St. Louis for Mass—tourists, visitors, parishioners and friends. Last weekend 374 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was $6,141.00 and the sandwich program collection was $1,915.00.

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.

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 5th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Monthly Collection and Christmas Flowers Collection
4:00 pm: Collection for Toys R St. Louis
4:00 pm: Western New York Catholic Available

SUNDAY, December 6th
9:50 am—10:50 am: Family Faith Formation Day
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Monthly Collection and Christmas Flowers Collecton
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Collection for Toys R St. Louis
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Western New York Catholic Available
12 noon: Baptism of Ellie Catherine Moore

MONDAY, December 7th
4:30 pm: Vigil for Holy Day

TUESDAY, December 8th—Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Holy Day of Obligation
Mass: 12:05 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, December 9th
11:00 am—12 noon: Confession

SATURDAY, December 12th
4:00 pm: First Collection: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Maintenance and Repairs Collection
4:00 pm: Second Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
4:00 pm: Collection for Toys R St. Louis, Warmth Tree and Response to Love Center

SUNDAY, December 13th
9:00 am & 11:00 am: First Collection: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Maintenance and Repairs Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Second Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Collection for Toys R St. Louis, Warmth Tree and Response to Love Center
After 11:00 am Mass: Christmas Party

SAINT LOUIS ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

The Annual Fund Drive will continue until December 31st. If you have not yet donated, please consider doing so, as every donation is needed and greatly appreciated. So far, $43,239 has been donated and $1,282 has been pledged.

CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to congratulate Ronald Loss who received Honors at Cardinal O’Hara High School and Madeline Burns, Helen Joyce, Cathleen Krabak and Madeline Smith who made the Honor Roll and Mary Collins, Bridget Degan, Bailey Mathien and Mary Wachter who made the Merit Roll at Nardin Academy High School during the 1st Quarter of 2015-2016.

TOYS R SAINT LOUIS

Parishioners are sponsoring our Annual Toys R St. Louis Program. All donated, new, unwrapped toys will be given to Brother Timothy of the Order of St. Francis for distribution to inner city boys and girls—ages 5 to 16. Imagine touching the lives of these sweet children on Christmas morning! Donations will be accepted the weekends of December 5th & 6th and December 12th & 13th.

ST. LOUIS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Annual Christmas Party will be held in the Church Hall on Sunday, December 13th following the 11:00 a.m. children’s Mass. Along with good company and good food, Santa Claus will indeed pay a visit. Back by popular demand will be our Gingerbread House Raffle. We are appealing to all our creative holiday bakers—both veteran and new—for gingerbread creations to be used in the raffle.

If you are interested in helping out the day of the party, please contact Lindsay McGowan at lindsay.ee@gmail.com or leave her a message at the rectory.

Handmade notecards to benefit The Immaculate Heart Sisters of Africa will be sold.

THE WARMTH TREE

St. Louis Church parishioners are once again decorating our gigantic Warmth Tree with colorful winter hats, mittens, scarves and gloves. These items will then be given to area families. Help us make this year’s tree the most festive ever. Donations will be accepted the weekends of December 12th & 13th and December 19th & 20th.

RESPONSE TO LOVE CENTER

The Response to Love Center provides a variety of compassionate programs that assist those in need and enable self-sufficiency. We asked them for a wish list and were told they are in need of baby food (small jars), diapers (sizes 2, 3 & 4), baby powder, baby shampoo and baby wipes as well as men’s and women’s toiletry items. As you can imagine, the list of items needed for those served is lengthy. If you prefer to make a monetary gift to the Center, please place your donation into an envelope marked: “Response to Love Center” and drop it into the collection basket during Mass. Donations will be accepted the weekends of December 12th & 13th and December 19th & 20th.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT APPEAL

Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, “As a Catholic School student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful.” Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.