2015
St. Louis Church
Oldest Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Buffalo
Founded in 1829

Celebrating Our 186th 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.stlouisrcchurch.org
E-mail address: stlouischurch@verizon.net

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 Zyga
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.

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.

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 Raffeiner .....................................1850-1851
Reverend William Deiters ....................................1855-1861
Reverend J. E. Moshall ..........................................1861-1862
Reverend Francis Anthony Gerber ........................1862-1863
Reverend Sergus Schouлепnikoff .........................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

Announced Masses of the Week

SATURDAY, December 19:
4:00 pm: **VIGIL FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
    Esposito Family, by Hoffman Family

SUNDAY, December 20: **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
7:00 am: Kirk and Kathy Boerner
9:00 am: Emily and Thaddeus Mikos, by Family
11:00 am: Carmela, John and Mary Arnone, by Family

MONDAY, December 21: **SAINT PETER CANISIUS**
12:05 pm: For the People of Saint Louis Parish

TUESDAY, December 22: **LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY**
12:05 pm: Msgr. Paul Hoelscher, by Estate

WEDNESDAY, December 23: **SAINT JOHN OF KANTY**
12:05 pm: Emily and Thaddeus Mikos, by Family

THURSDAY, December 24: **LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY**
12:05 pm: Family and Friends, by James Palka
4:00 pm: **VIGIL FOR NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Louis Parish
Midnight: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Louis Parish

FRIDAY, December 25: **NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
10:00 am: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Louis Parish

SATURDAY, December 26:
4:00 pm: **VIGIL FOR FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**
Earl and Mary Young, by Marilyn Young

SUNDAY, December 27: **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**
9:00 am: Deceased Members of the Mikos Family
11:00 am: Piccillo and Burke Families, by Piccillo Family

SCHEDULE OF LECTORS
December 24th and December 25th
4:00 pm: Diane Randazzo
Midnight: Ann Dumansky
10:00 am: Matt Glynn

Weekend of December 26th and December 27th
4:00 pm: Diane Randazzo
9:00 am: Tom Pirrung
11:00 am: John Zygaj

SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION
December 24th and December 25th
4:00 pm: Pat Doyle, Kevin Brayer, Frank and Jane Pelosi, Debbie Guillow and Al Blumle
Midnight: Kevin Brayer, Paul Griffin and Tim and Mary O’Shea
10:00 am: Judy Perkowski, Rosemary Bloch, and Keith and Kathy Boerner

Weekend of December 26th and December 27th
4:00 pm: Robert Sprague, Mike Mikos, Kevin Brayer and Jim Ferrini
9:00 am: Susan Ministero, Judy Perkowski, and Fred and Marilyn Steffan
11:00 am: Debbie Beller, Carolann Besch and Ryan and Lindsay McGowan

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**MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLE**

The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and in memory of Carmela, John and Mary Arnone, requested by 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.

**ARE YOU READY FOR CHRISTMAS?**

At this time of year as Advent draws to a close and Christmas is so near, people commonly ask one another, “Are you ready for Christmas yet?” Most often what people mean when they ask us if we are ready for Christmas is: Have we bought all the presents we need to get? Are they all wrapped? Are all the cookies baked? Are all the decorations up? Are the Christmas cards addressed and sent? Trying to get all of these things done in a very short period of time can lead to a lot of stress and anxiety.

Yes, all of these things are necessary. Also necessary is our spiritual preparation for Christmas. Our spiritual preparation helps us to keep focused on what is most important about this time of year. We celebrate the birth of Christ our Savior given to us by God as the greatest gift we could ever receive.

Listening carefully to our scriptures today reminds us that Bethlehem is the place of Jesus’ birth. The Gospel story of the Visitation reminds us of the practical preparation needed for the birth of a child. Mary and Joseph celebrated the first Christmas and reflected on all the events in their hearts. We too are called to reflect upon the events of Christmas past and present. In order to do so we need to spend some time in quiet.

Perhaps one way to make our final preparations for Christmas this year would be to attend Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 20th at 4:00 p.m. here at St. Louis. In whatever way we celebrate the Birth of Christ again this year, may it be a source of blessing for you and your loved ones.

Msgr. Manganello

**RECEIPT OF TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS**

By law, contributions that are to be used as a 2015 tax deduction by the donor must be postmarked or in the hands of the parish no later than December 31. We will only issue year end contribution statements for 2015 if requested.

Anyone who requires a tax statement may contact the rectory at 852-6040 or write “Tax Statement” on the front of your church envelope.

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**In your prayers...**

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Joyce McCracken, Sharon Warner, Herb Bucki, Larry DiCecco, James Watson, Pam Arrigo, Kathryn Guise, Raymond Sharrar, Gertrude Fouchey, Mami Kate Johnson, Bob and Mary Dickerson, Spencer Daly, Niziti Ascela, Catalina Alois, 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 and 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. Last weekend 444 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was $7,920.00 and the Retirement Fund for Religious collection was $6,386.00.

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 19th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection
4:00 pm: Collection for Warmth Tree and Response to Love Center

SUNDAY, December 20th
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Collection for Warmth Tree and Response to Love Center
12 noon: Baptism of Caroline Garvey Clifford
4:00 pm: Festival Service of Lessons and Carols

WEDNESDAY, December 23rd
11:00 am—12 noon: Confession
6:00 pm: SLGS—Decorate Church for Christmas

THURSDAY, December 24th—Parish Office Closed
3:40 pm: Christmas Music Program
4:00 pm: Vigil for Nativity of the Lord
4:00 pm: Christmas Offering Collection
11:30 pm: Christmas Music Program
Midnight: Mass for Christmas
Midnight: Christmas Offering Collection

FRIDAY, December 25th—Merry Christmas
Parish Office Closed
10:00 am: Christmas Offering Collection

SATURDAY, December 26th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection

SUNDAY, December 27th
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection
12 noon: Baptism of Michael Everett Regelski

CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT
A Musical Poetic Journey Through the Magic of the Season
Tenor Vocalist—Cory James Gallagher
and Poet—Amy Gallagher Present
Sunday, December 20—6:00 p.m.
Wayside Presbyterian Church
5017 Lakeshore Road
Hamburg, NY
Event is by donation and a reception will follow.

In the name of Msgr. John Madsen, our Trustees, Parish Council and 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.

Msgr. Salvatore Manganello

CHOIR OF SAINT LOUIS CHURCH TO PRESENT LESSONS AND CAROLS
The Choir of St. Louis Church will present a Festival Service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 20th at 4:00 p.m. here in St. Louis Church.

Featured will be carols and anthems of Praetorius, Ordi, Posten, Willcocks, Iseler and others.

The service of Lessons and Carols traces, in scripture and song, the Nativity story as foretold by the Old Testament prophets and narrated by the Gospel writers. Begun in King’s College Chapel, Cambridge University, nearly a century ago, the service of Lessons and Carols is repeated in churches of nearly every denomination worldwide.

Please join us as we celebrate the season of Advent/Christmas in scripture and song.

DECORATE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS
The Saint Louis Garden Society (SLGS) and Christmas decorators will meet in the church on Wednesday, December 23rd at 6:00 p.m. to decorate our beautiful church for Christmas. New volunteers are always welcome.

PRE-BAPTISMAL CLASS
The January pre-baptismal class will be held on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.—there will be NO class in March - the next class will be on May 2, 2016.

from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon for the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Penance.

The Light is on for you, December 23rd.

CATHOLIC ACADEMY CORNER
• Tennis just ended and girls’ basketball is in full swing, under the direction of coach Lisa Ehlers and Asst. Coach Javon Byrd. Boys’ in grades 5 & 6 will be participating in intramural basketball to practice skills and team-building.

• Christmas season is very busy at Catholic Academy. We begin every day with prayers and song around the traditional Advent wreath. Grades 5, 7 and 8 will be working on Christmas ornaments for patients at ECMC. Several classes will be visiting residents at the Delaware Center Nursing Home to sing Christmas carols. Students in Pre-K are working on their Christmas presentation and grades K—2 are practicing for their Annual Christmas pageant.

• Please visit and like us on Facebook and Twitter and look at our website at cawb.org for current events at the school.

• Our very popular International Festival will be returning on February 5, 2016. Stay tuned for further information.

For unto us a child is born