2016
St. Louis Church
Oldest Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Buffalo
Founded in 1829

Celebrating Our 187th 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.stlouissrchurch.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 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.

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.

PLEAE 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. Mosshall .......................................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

**CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

This weekend we are celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is the Feast of Pentecost. The Greek word for Pentecost means “fiftieth,” and in early Christian times referred to the entire Fifty Days of Easter. Pentecost has its roots in the Jewish festival of Weeks which is the fifty day celebration following Passover. It was a harvest festival in which the first fruits of the harvest were offered to God in gratitude. It eventually became associated with the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. Early Christians reinterpreted the Jewish festival as a commemoration of the coming of the Holy Spirit because the Acts of the Apostles records that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples when the festival of Pentecost was fulfilled.

This Feast of Pentecost still celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit into our lives particularly for those who will be confirmed Sunday afternoon at the Cathedral by Bishop Richard Malone. Among those who are being confirmed are the 7 members of St. Louis Church. The Gift of the Holy Spirit will be conferred upon Thomas “Aquinas” Comacchio, Clark Gerald “Robert” Jordan, Jenna “Anastasia” Lukomski, Leah “Frances” Manth, Daniel “Vincenzo” Maywalt, Ann Valentina “Elizabeth” Stenhouser, and Shannon Kathleen “Elizabeth” Wischerath.

We congratulate the members of our parish who have given witness to their faith by preparing themselves for the sacrament of Confirmation through prayer, study and works of charity. We thank their parents and sponsors who have been their first teachers in the ways of faith by their example and witness to the faith.

Thank you to all who have helped prepare our parishioners for the Sacrament of Confirmation along with Ashlee Campbell our Director of Faith Formation and Wendy Mistretta their instructor.

**FAITH MOMENT REFLECTION**

The readings today for Pentecost Sunday give us two different descriptions of the Holy Spirit descending upon the apostles of Jesus. The first reading from Acts, written by Luke, describes in powerful terms a strong, driving wind coming and tongues of fire appearing. The Gospel from John is quite the opposite. We hear gentler terms used as Jesus appears to the disciples saying, “Peace be with you,” breathing the Holy Spirit upon them. What we can take away from this contrast is that both qualities characterize the disciple who has received the gift of the Holy Spirit. On the one hand, the Holy Spirit empowers us, giving us the strength we need to live as children of God, especially as we help those in need. On the other hand, the Spirit provides the gentleness required to love one another with patience and compassion, as Jesus did. May the peace of Christ be with you.

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Mary Almeida, Pam Arrigo, Debbie Buyers, Paul Sweeney, Ronald Beller, Kathleen Walter, Spencer Daly, Kathryn Guise, Raymond Sharrer, John Zawistowski, John Forsythe, Amy Vilz, Paulette Snively, Sharon Warner, Larry DiGiulio, James Watson, 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 409 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was $7,970.00, Holy Day collection was $692.00 and Mother’s Day collection was $871.00.

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, May 14th
4:00 pm: First Collection: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection
4:00 pm: Second Collection: The Msgr. Schwinger Memorial Sandwich Program Collection

Sunday, May 15th
9:00 am & 11:00 am: First Collection: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Second Collection: The Msgr. Schwinger Memorial Sandwich Program Collection
12 noon: Baptism of Asher Raymond Rabb, Samantha Madison Moore and Matthew Alan Leslie
1:00 pm: German Class—Church Hall

Saturday, May 21st
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Church in Latin America Collection

Sunday, May 22nd
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Church in Latin America Collection
12 noon: Baptism of Abigail Mae Sanchez

Msgr. Schwinger
Memorial Sandwich Program
This weekend there is a second collection for the Msgr. Schwinger Memorial Sandwich Program. Many people come to our door every Monday from Monday through Friday and we are able to feed them through your generosity. Your continued support of the Sandwich Program helps keep hope alive in the hearts of many “unknown faces” living in our own backyards. Thank you for helping to make tomorrow a little bit better for some of the most vulnerable in our city.

Catholic Charities
Appeal 2016 has not met its goal. Our deadline is June 30. Please help us to Find Good Within. Open hearts follow Jesus’ lead. Finding good within involves opening our hearts and finding generosity within ourselves to give. Please help us to complete our goal so that Catholic Charities can continue to help people across Western New York find ways to empower their lives and build a better community. To donate today, or for more information, visit ccwny.org or call (716) 218-1400, or place your 2016 gift or pledge in the offering.

St. Louis Choir to Present Spring Concert
The Choir of St. Louis Church will present a spring choral concert on Thursday, May 26th at 7:30 p.m. here in St. Louis Church.

The program is free and open to all. Featured will be works of Farrand, Bruckner, Ouseley, Friedel and others. Please join us for this lovely hour of great choral music.

The St. Louis Choir is an all-volunteer ensemble composed of members of the parish and other area music lovers. The choir rehearses each Thursday evening and leads the musical worship at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday. Its repertoire covers nine centuries of sacred music and nearly every style of western composition.

In past years, members of the choir have performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Ars Nova Musicians, Greater Buffalo Opera Company, Opera Sacra, Camerata di San Antonio and the Dave Brubeck Quartet.

Saint Louis Garden Society (SLGS)
The Saint Louis Garden Society (SLGS) will meet Wednesday, May 25th at 6:00 p.m. Weather permitting, this will be a working evening, along with a planning meeting to discuss this year’s flowers and plantings. New volunteers are most welcome. Come and spend your Wednesday evenings helping to beautify God’s little green acre at Main and Edward.

The SLGS—Alive in Christ and growing!

Commitment Weekends for Upon This Rock at St. Louis
This weekend and next weekend are what are called “commitment weekends” for the Upon this Rock initiative. We will be asking everyone who is at Mass to consider making a commitment to the Upon This Rock effort. We have a chance of reaching $1.35 million dollars with the continued support of all parishioners working together.

Since the total raised by our parish has grown to more than $1.2 million dollars St. Louis receives 55% for every dollar collected toward the Upon This Rock effort. That translates into $.55 for every dollar stays here at St. Louis.

Letters have been sent to all parishioners inviting them to be a part of this historic initiative. A pledge card was also included in the mailing you should have received that can be returned to the parish on or during the commitment weekends.

We will continue to focus on supporting the mission of St. Louis Parish while at the same time assisting the mission of Catholic Charities and the ministries of the Diocese.

Church in Latin America Collection
Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. In Peru, the 14 villages of Chazuta, in Moyobamba, are all located away from the city center, with the most remote only accessible by boat. The faithful in these communities do not have access to catechetical formation, and members often feel separated from the life of the universal Church. Through a grant from the Collection for the Church in Latin America, the religious congregation of the Missionaries of Jesus was able to provide faith formation, spiritual retreats, and workshops to nearly 250 people. Upon completion, participants were better equipped to help others deepen their faith and answer questions. The program also renewed their sense of commitment to their parishes and created stronger bonds within their own families. Through this program, members of the Chazuta villages felt the love and support of the universal Church. Please support programs like these and give generously in next week’s collection. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.