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.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................................................................James Reeves
Vice-President............................................................Ryan McGowan
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.

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

MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLES
The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and In Loving Memory of Diane Oczek Gentile, requested by Family and the Pieta Candle burns this week In Honor of St. Lucy.
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.

ADVENT—COME LORD JESUS
Many people will remember the days when people waited until after Thanksgiving to get ready for Christmas. Over the years it has inched up earlier and earlier. Now stores start preparing right after Halloween if not sooner.

It is interesting to discover that 1500 years ago people in France actually started preparing for Christmas on November 11th, the Feast of St. Martin of Tours. They weren’t busy shopping, but they prepared by fasting three days a week. A hundred years later Christians were fasting every day from November 11th until Christmas. This was known as “St. Martin’s Lent.” This is probably where Advent gets some of its penitential overtones.

This may have been the beginning of Advent. Many may also remember Advent as a time to do penance or give up things to prepare for Jesus’ birth.

Our world has changed and is so different now than it was. The aspect of spiritual preparation has slipped into the background while we busy ourselves with so many other projects to finish by Christmas. Commercialism has in so many instances caused us to shift our focus away from the spiritual side of what we celebrate.

Advent is a call to all to remember why we do the things we do to prepare for Christmas. Advent offers us the opportunity to enrich ourselves spiritually and to open ourselves more fully to God’s love while at the same time encouraging us to share that love with others through acts of kindness.

Advent is a busy time. Through prayer and reflection we can enjoy this holy time of year. Remember Advent Lessons and Carols next Sunday at 4:00 p.m. as a way to pray, reflect and prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Msgr. Manganello

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially James Palka, Tony Puglese Susan Bertin, Bernadette R. Crawford, Heidi Cornell, Niziti Ascela, Leah Manth, Donald Kopp, Geraldine Slivinski, Sara Rimmel, Joan Taylor, Catalina Aloï, George Calhoun, Miriam Tekie, Mary Almeida, Pam Arigo, Debbie Buyers, Paul Sweeney, Ronald Beller, Kathleen Walter, Spencer Daly, Raymond Sharrar, 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, especially Msgr. Thomas Walsh 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 365 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was $7,427.00 and the Christmas Flowers collection was $1,390.00.

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

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LOUIS

SATURDAY, December 10th
9:00 am: Decorate Church Hall for Christmas Party
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 Warmth Tree and Response to Love Center

SATURDAY, December 17th
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 18th
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
4:00 pm: A Festival Service of Lessons and Carols
12 noon: Baptism of Gordon Edward Young
1:00 pm: Baptism of Finnian Carter McGowan

ST. LOUIS PRESERVATION FUND

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the St. Louis Preservation Fund. The Preservation Fund is an important way for us to raise funds so that we may complete special projects that need to be done. Thank you for helping us with these special projects through your generosity.

So far, $20,120 has been donated.

CHOIR OF ST. 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 18th at 4:00 p.m. here in St. Louis Church.

Featured will be carols and anthems of Praetorius, Ord, 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 Advent and Christmas in scripture and song!

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 10th & 11th and December 17th & 18th.

RESPONSE TO LOVE CENTER

The Response to Love Center provides a variety of compassionate programs that assist those in need and enable self-efficiency. 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 10th & 11th and December 17th & 18th.

CONCERTS FOR THE SOUL

CHRISTMAS MAGIC AND MIRACLES: A MUSICAL—POETIC JOURNEY

EVENTS ARE BY DONATION

Concerts for the Soul presents Vocalist Cory James Gallagher and Writer-Poet Amy Gallagher. Join Cory and Amy for an evening of Music, Reflection and Beauty as we celebrate the Mystery and Magic of Christmas. Also view Father Roy’s display of 500 Nativity sets from around the world.

Thursday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m.
Wayside Presbyterian Church
5017 Lakeshore Road, Hamburg, NY

Friday, December 23rd at 7:00 p.m.
SS. Columba-Brigid Church—Off Clinton Street
75 Hickory Street, Buffalo, NY

FAITH MOMENT REFLECTION

How patient are we? Do we get annoyed when things don’t happen fast enough? Do we beep the horn impatiently in traffic or keep looking at the clock when waiting in line? Do we rush through life so fast that we miss the beauty around us? Our scripture readings today remind us of the importance of being patient. Contrary to the hectic pace of the holiday season, Advent is meant to be a time of calmness. It is a time to wait and prepare with hope and patience for the coming of Jesus Christ. If we’re only looking for a baby in a manger, we won’t recognize the true message of the season. We must learn to see the coming of the Lord in our own lives. The best way to prepare is with patience and trust in God. The best way to prepare is to love one another as Jesus taught us.

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