2017
St. Louis Church
Oldest Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Buffalo
Founded in 1829
Celebrating Our 188th 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.stlouisrchurch.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 Schoulpenkoff……………………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 CANDLE

The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and in memory of Gerald Stevens, requested by Isabelle Stevens. If you desire have a Memorial Prayer Candle lit in memory of a loved one or for your intention, please use the envelope available for that purpose.

HAIL FULL OF GRACE,
THE LORD IS WITH YOU

As our Christmas celebrations continue, today we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God which is also New Year’s Day. The Gospel reading tells us that Mary reflected upon the Christmas event in her heart. Most people begin their New Year by reflecting upon their lives as they have been and for what they hope them to be. We make resolutions that we hope to keep and hope will improve our lives.

Mary has a long tradition of being a role model for us. At the Council of Ephesus the Church Fathers affirmed that Mary is “Mother of God.” In showing reverence to Mary we honor her Son, Jesus, the “fruit” of her womb. St. Bernard of Clairvaux noted, “Let us not imagine that we obscure the glory of the son by the praise we lavish on the mother; for the more Mary is honored, the greater is the glory of her son.”

Through the willing obedience of Mary, a young Jewish girl from the obscure town of Nazareth, and through the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God became flesh. The fullness of God’s plan of redemption arrived when Mary responded to the angel Gabriel: “May it be done to me according to your word.” This began the reverence we have offered Mary through the centuries especially in the prayer we know as the Hail Mary.

May your New Year of 2017 be a time of grace and prayer modeled on the example of Mary.

Msgr. Manganello

VOCATION THOUGHT

Motherhood is a gift at the beginning of every life. After God, the first nurturing that we experience is from our mothers. Today we acknowledge and celebrate the motherhood of Mary, the Mother of God. Although the relationship that each of us has with our mothers on earth may be different, we can all count on the unfailing love and intercession of our Mother Mary. Pray with Mary as you discover God’s will in your life.

May 2017 be a time of grace and prayer modeled on the example of Mary.
SPRITUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

We warmly welcome all who come to St. Louis for Mass—tourists, visitors, parishioners and friends. Last weekend our regular collection was $4,463.00 and the Christmas Offering collection was $12,607.00. 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 31st
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Monthly Collection and Solemnity of Mary Collection
4:00 pm: St. Louis 2017 Calendars Available
4:00 pm: Western New York Catholic Available

SUNDAY, January 1st
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Monthly Collection and Solemnity of Mary Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: St. Louis 2017 Calendars Available
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Western New York Catholic Available

MONDAY, January 2nd—Parish Office Closed
7:00 pm: Pre-Baptismal Class—Sacristy

SATURDAY, January 7th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Maintenance and Repairs Collection

SUNDAY, January 8th
9:50 am—10:50 am: Pre-K—Grade 10—Church Hall
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Maintenance and Repairs Collection
After 11:00 am Mass: RCIA—Sacristy

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

The New Year is upon us. If you’re still looking for a resolution for 2017, consider having a goal of giving back to your community and volunteering with Catholic Charities of Buffalo. As the most comprehensive human service provider serving Western New York, Catholic Charities has a wide array of volunteer opportunities. Your talents can be put to good use helping others! To browse volunteer opportunities, visit www.ccwny.org/volunteer-with-catholic-charities.org. For more information on volunteer positions, email Lauren Maguire at lauren.maguire@ccwny.org or call (716) 218-1400, ext. 2006. For frequent updates from Catholic Charities of Buffalo, follow us on Twitter @ccbuffalo and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ccbuffalo. To browse our volunteer opportunities or services available, visit ccwny.org.

As we look back on 2016, we give thanks for all that we have been able to accomplish here at St. Louis by working together, praying together and sharing together. We pray that 2017 will be a year filled with good health, happiness and success. May we all be closer to God and to each other one year from now.

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, $30,695 has been donated.

IMMIGRATION EXHIBIT PLANNED

A new exhibit highlighting the great Catholic immigration of the 1840’s and 50’s is being planned for our parish museum. We are looking for any materials regarding our pioneer families and their journey to America. Photos of the immigrants are especially desired. Material would be duplicated and returned to you. Please contact Michael Riester, parish archivist via the rectory.

FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST EUCHARIST, & CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION AND CLASSES

Children receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, or Confirmation this spring at St. Louis must be registered to do so by February 1, 2017. Registration forms can be downloaded from the St. Louis website: http://stlouissrchurch.org. Contact the Director of Faith Formation, Ashlee Campbell (834-2439/stlouisfaithformation@gmail.com) with questions or for registration forms.

Sacrament prep classes are scheduled for 3 Saturdays: March 4th, March 18th, and March 25th. All classes will be from 9:30—11:30 a.m. in the church hall. Attendance at all three classes is mandatory.

ST. LOUIS 2017 CALENDARS

Your Saint Louis calendar is available this weekend. You will note there is no donor for these calendars. This cost is covered by our parish. An extra dollar in the collection today will help meet the expense. It is hoped that every day in 2017 will be a day of joy, health and happiness for you and yours.

RECEIPT OF TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

We will only issue year end contribution statements for 2016 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.

BUCKS 4 BOTTLES

Rainbow K is hosting a year long bottle drive. We need your help to achieve a big goal and it couldn’t be easier. Simply bring in your clean empty deposit bottles and cans to the Rainbow K School and Bucks 4 Bottles will take care of the rest. 100% of proceeds go to Rainbow K!!! Please drop bottles, cans at 433 Franklin Street.

10,000 bottles and cans is our goal.