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.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 Mroz
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 Deiers .......................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 CANDLE

The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and for the Recovery of Tracey Boryszak, requested by Bert Hyde. 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.

THE DAY OF REVELATION

Today we celebrate the Feast of Epiphany, a feast whose name is a Greek word meaning a manifestation or revelation. We celebrate that the child born in the darkness of the night in a lowly manger is revealed as the Light of the World. Christ is revealed as Lord, as King, a God made flesh.

What we celebrate in the Feast of Epiphany is the revelation of the plan of God for the salvation of the world. The Epiphany is not just about the three Wise Men finding their way to Bethlehem. They represent all the nations of the earth to whom God reveals himself. God’s love extends to all people and we are called to embrace God’s view and God’s universal love.

On Monday, we will celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord which concludes our Christmas celebrations. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord proclaims a revelation or manifestation of Jesus as the divine Son of God. This feast gives special meaning to all who are baptized in the name of Jesus. The baptism of Jesus proclaims that he is the Son of God. Our baptism proclaims that we too are children of God.

As Christ is the Light of the World, may we also be a light shining in our part of the world.

VOCATION THOUGHT

The Epiphany of the Lord

None of us are without gifts to share for the good of God’s kingdom. Could it be that your gift is a vocation to priesthood or religious life? If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Father Andrew Lauricella at 847-5535.

You can also check out the “Priest of the Month” stories on our website—www.buffalovocations.org!

In your prayers...

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Caitlin Kasberg, James Palka, Susan Bertin, Bernadette R. Crawford, Heidi Cornell, Niziti Ascela, Leah Manth, Donald Kopp, Geraldine Sliwinski, Sara Rimmler, Joan Taylor, Catalina Alois, George Calhoun, Miriam Tekie, Mary Almeida, Pam Arrigo, Debbie Buyers, Paul Sweeney, Ronald Beller, Kathleen Walter, Spencer Daly, 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, especially Anthony Tarquini 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 314 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was $8,639.00 and Solemnity of Mary collection was $892.00.

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.”

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, $32,155 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://stlouisrcchurch.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.

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. 10,000 bottles and cans is our goal!!!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Give the gift of food. Just as the three kings brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, you can give gifts to those in need. With eight food pantries in Buffalo, Franklinville, Getzville, Lackawanna and Wellsburg, Catholic Charities strives to assist those in need, regardless of their circumstances. The food pantries can always use assistance in sorting, stocking, and preparing food, but any help is welcome! Interested? Call (716) 218-1400, ext. 2005 for more information or to sign up to help for as little as four hours a week.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

If you are a victim of domestic violence and are in need of access to safety planning, spiritual care, legal assistance, limited medical assistance, counseling, law enforcement, the Family Justice Center of Erie County, Inc. “Where Families Come First” is for you! All services are free. All conversations strictly private. For more information, call 716-558-7233 or visit www.fjcsafe.org.

WORD OF LIFE BRIEF

We know what true, authentic love looks like. It looks like the man on the Cross. This deep, pure love that motivated Jesus to offer his life for ours, is the love that will answer the longing in our hearts, if we let it.

FAITH MOMENT REFLECTION

Light is often seen as a beautiful thing—a starry night, a magnificent sunrise. Light brings warmth to our days, encouraging growth and life. On the contrary, darkness hinders spirits and obstructs growth, making it difficult to function. As the Christmas season comes to a close, as we take down the lights and life returns to normal, the darkness of the winter nights may seem magnified. But instead of focusing on that, try asking yourself what light did God bring into my life this Christmas season? Precious time with family? A stronger relationship with my faith community? Thank God for His light in your life and commit to using His gifts to you to bring light to others throughout the year. Follow His Light wherever it leads you. When you choose to do God’s will you will find that the world’s darkness is a small price to pay for the gift of God’s glory shining upon you.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT LOUIS

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

MONDAY, January 9th
7:00 pm: Parish Council—Sacristy

SATURDAY, January 14th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection and Fuel Collection

SUNDAY, January 15th
9:50 am—10:50 am: Family Faith Formation Day
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection and Fuel Collection
12 noon: Baptism of Sebastian Joseph Lines
1:00 pm: Saint Louis Garden Society (SLGS)—Take Christmas Decorations Down