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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 Mrozek
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION ............................. Ashlee Campbell
BUSINESS MANAGER .................................................. John Beller
SECRETARY .....................................................................Dolores Vasi

PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS
President ........................................................................ James Reeves
Vice-President ................................................................ Jane Pelosi
Secretary ......................................................................... Robert Sprague

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 Scoulepnikoff ............................... 1864-1867
Reverend Joseph M. Sorg .............................. 1867-1888
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Dr. Paul Hoelscher ...................... 1888-1916
Reverend Michael A. Anstett ................................. 1944-1948
Reverend Howard J. Schwartz ................................. 1948-1964
Reverend Clarence Ott ................................................ 1964-1965
Reverend Alfred M. Mosack .................................. 1965-1979


2017
Announced Masses of the Week

SATURDAY, December 9:
2:00 pm: Wedding of Scott Kaiser and Lisa Vogl
4:00 pm: VIGIL FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Deceased of the Peter Berst Family, by Marilyn Young
5:30 pm: Wedding of Sean Algeo and Sara Shookus

SUNDAY, December 10: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00 am: Melanie Luongo, by Evan and Trish Lewis
11:00 am: Mikos Family, by Family

MONDAY, December 11: SAINT DAMASUS I, POPE
12:05 pm: For the People of Saint Louis Parish

TUESDAY, December 12: OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
12:05 pm: Mary Guzowski, by Gary and Sandy Witman

WEDNESDAY, December 13: SAINT LUCY
12:05 pm: Mary K. Crane, by Estate

THURSDAY, December 14: SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS
12:05 pm: John A. Kraus, by Estate

FRIDAY, December 15: ADVENT WEEKDAY
12:05 pm: Earl and Mary Young, by Marilyn Young

SATURDAY, December 16:
4:00 pm: VIGIL FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Mary Jane Luhr, by Ted and Mary Guzowski

SUNDAY, December 17: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00 am: Deceased Members of the Vetter Family
11:00 am: Carmela, John, Mary and Carrie Arnone, by Family

SCHEDULE OF LECTORS
Weekend of December 16th and December 17th
4:00 pm: Ann Dumansky
9:00 am: Clark Jordan
11:00 am: Ed Kuzan

SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL
MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION
Weekend of December 16th and December 17th
4:00 pm: Ron and Margaret Foegen and Frank and Jane Pelosi
9:00 am: Robert Sprague, Jim Brigante and Tim and Mary O'Shea
11:00 am: Ryan and Lindsay McGowan and Keith and Kathy Boerner

THE SEASON OF LIGHT

When God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, announcing his intent of leading the Israelites out of slavery, he visually manifested his presence with a burning bush. In Old Testament times illumination provided by some source of fire has been a part of divine worship. Within the context of Advent and Christmas light has a particular meaning.

The Scriptures repeatedly describe the first coming of Christ as a light overcoming the darkness. Isaiah announces that: “the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.” When Zachariah praises God for the birth of John the Baptist, his Canticle proclaims: “the daybreak from on high will visit us, to shine on those who sit in darkness and shadow of death.” And when the Gospel of John announces the incarnation the Evangelist declares: “the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

The use of candles in various ways to overcome the darkness of the night leading up to Christmas Day has a long history. In France, Germany and many other places light has played an important role in celebrating the season of Advent and Christmas. Since the 19th century, the lighting of four candles on the Advent wreath has marked the passage of Advent in many churches and Christian homes.

The announcement of Christ’s birth by the appearance of a star has in sense codified the association of light with the coming of Christ. As we go about decorating our homes with various lighted decorations, let us remember that Christ has come as the Light of the World and pause to pray Come, Lord Jesus.

Msgr. Manganello

VOCATION THOUGHT

We are urged to “prepare the way of the Lord!” God has called some men and women to show His children how to do this through their leadership as priests and religious brothers and sisters. If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Father Andrew Lauricella at 847-5535.
SPIRITUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

We warmly welcome all who come to St. Louis for Mass—tourists, visitors, parishioners and friends. Last weekend 376 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was $6,391.00 and Christmas Flower collection was $1,462.00.

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 9th
10:00 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: St. Louis Christmas Toy Drive
4:00 pm: Collection for Warmth Tree

SUNDAY, December 10th
9:00 am & 11:00 am: First Collection: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Maintenance and Repairs Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Second Collection: Retirement Fund For Religious Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: St. Louis Christmas Toy Drive
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Collection for Warmth Tree
After 11:00 am Mass: Christmas Party—Church Hall

WEDNESDAY, December 13th
7:30 pm: Canisius High School’s Choir to Present Advent Program

SATURDAY, December 16th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection
4:00 pm: Collection for Warmth Tree

SUNDAY, December 17th
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Collection for Warmth Tree
4:00 pm: A Festival Service of Lessons and Carols

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

If you are feeling overwhelmed with keeping up with your child’s medical care and physical, dental and/or mental health appointments, Catholic Charities can help. Catholic Charities is now a children’s health home provider through Encompass Family Health Home. Through the health home, children and their families are given a network of providers, health plans and community-based organizations that work to ensure the child’s needs are met, including physical, dental, mental health or simple support. To learn more about the program and eligibility requirements, visit ccwny.org/encompass_health_home or call (716) 218-1400, ext. 2012, or go to ccwny.org.

ANNUAL PRESERVATION FUND DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to our Preservation Fund Drive. So far, $35,060.00 has been donated. This year the Preservation Fund Drive will go toward the preservation of our beautiful stained glass windows. Your continued support for the preservation of our beautiful historic church is greatly appreciated.

CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL’S CHOIR TO PRESENT ADVENT PROGRAM AT ST. LOUIS

All are welcome to attend Canisius High School’s Advent music program to be held here at St. Louis Church on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:30 p.m. Join the CHS music ensembles in celebrating the mystery of Christ’s birth.

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 17th at 4:00 p.m. here in St. Louis Church.

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.

ST. LOUIS CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

By popular demand, St. Louis will again be accepting toy donations! This year, we will be collecting gift cards, new and gently used toys, and books (unwrapped, please) for Buffalo Public Schools’ Community Schools Saturday Academy Holiday activities. Please place donations in the boxes by the church entrances.

THE 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 9th and 10th and December 16th and 17th.

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, 2018. Registration forms can be downloaded from the St. Louis website: http://stlouisrccchurch.org or from the Director of Faith Formation, Ashlee Campbell (834-2439/stlouisfaithformation@gmail.com).

Sacrament prep classes are scheduled for 3 consecutive Saturdays: March 3rd, March 10th, and March 17th, 2018. All classes will be from 9:30—11:30 a.m. in the church hall.

Attendance at all three classes is mandatory.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Help religious communities. “Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry,” writes a religious sister. Your gift to today’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!