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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

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OUR PARISH SCHOOL
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Grades Pre-K to 8
1069 Delaware Ave. • Buffalo, NY 14209 • (716) 885-6111

HEARING ASSISTANCE
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MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLES

The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and in memory of Carmela, John, Mary and Carrie Arnone, requested by Family. The St. Joseph Candle burns this week in honor of Raymond Sharrer, requested by Family and Friends and the Pieta Candle burns this week in memory of Katie Zawistowski, requested by Son, David Zawistowski.

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-CHRISTMAS IS A SEASON OF JOYFUL WELCOME

At the beginning of the Advent season, our program People of Faith Living as Disciples, taught us about different traditions that people celebrate during the Advent-Christmas season.

The days between December 16th and 24th recall the difficult journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem, which tradition says took nine days. Mexican tradition observes the custom of Las Posadas, “lodgings.” At dusk each night, families travel together from house to house in their neighborhood seeking shelter for Mary and Joseph. Sometimes they carry small figures of Mary and Joseph or perhaps a boy and girl are dressed as the pilgrim couple. Candles light the way. The procession stops at each home to ask for shelter. From within, a rude voice tells them to go away. When someone outside explains kindly that Mary is about to give birth to Christ, the door is opened, everyone is welcomed in and the celebration begins.

Las Posadas helps everyone to remember that Jesus came as a poor and humble child. Every Christian is reminded that they are called to be a gracious host and a person of welcome. During the Advent season we have been preparing to welcome Christ into our lives as we celebrate the birth of Jesus once again. The Advent season challenges us to find ways to welcome others. Jesus welcomed all who came to him and in turn asks us to be welcoming people too. Unless there is hospitality offered to all, even strangers, unless we open the doors of our hearts, Christmas cannot come.

We make Christ present to others through gifts of generosity, kindness and politeness. These are gifts that cannot be wrapped and placed under a Christmas tree. They are priceless and the most meaningful gifts anyone can receive. May we all welcome Christ present in each other always.

Msgr. Manganello

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Loretta Rembold, Lynn Goslinski, Carla Latucca, Theresa Dixon, Desirea Moyica, Peggy Scott, Tracy Abram, Mamie Kate Johnson, Bud Vetter, Ben Cambria, Amy Vila, Raymond Sharrer, Deborah Buyers, John Zawistowski, Delores Needham, Barbara Yellen, Mamise Reaves, Spencer Daly, Joseph Acquino, Eleanor Brayer, Linda Campbell, Barbara Suffoletto, Caitlin Kasberg, James Palka, Susan Bertin, Bernadette R. Crawford, Heidi Cornell, Niziti Ascela, Donald Kopp, Geraldine Slivinski, Catalina Alois, Paul Sweeney, Larry DiGiulio, James Watson, Carlos Calhoun 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.
ANNUAL PRESERVATION FUND DRIVE
Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to our Preservation Fund Drive. So far, $35,060 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.

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.

Featured will be carols and anthems of Mendelssohn, Oord, Posten, Willcocks, Wood 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 for a lovely afternoon of great music.

THANK YOU
The St. Louis Parish Life committee would like to give a big THANK YOU to all of the volunteers and participants of this year’s Christmas Party! The church hall was more beautiful than ever and over 20 canned goods were collected to benefit the Friends of the Night People. We could not have made this party a success without all of your help!

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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 December 16th and 17th.

NEW VOLUNTEERS are always welcome!

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://stlouisrcchurch.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.