

2017 St. Louis Church

Oldest Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Buffalo
Founded in 1829

Celebrating Our 188th Anniversary

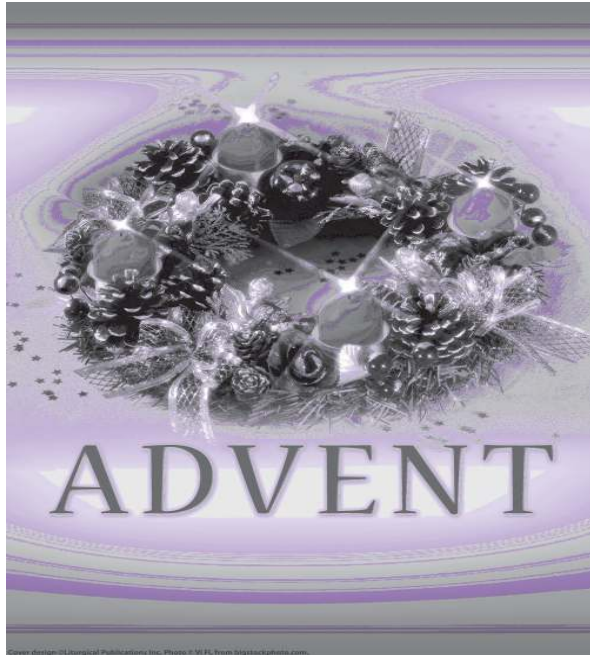
Rectory: 35 Edward Street • Buffalo, New York 14202-1505

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. Salvatore Manganello, J.C.L., S.T.L. Pastor
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.

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.

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

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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.

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 Rafffeiner..... 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. Laudenschach..... 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
Rev. Msgr. William A. Schwinger 1979-1995
Rev. Msgr. Robert A. Mack..... 1995-2002

Most Rev. Robert J. Cunningham, D.D., J.C.L., 2002-2004

Announced Masses of the Week

SATURDAY, December 23:

4:00 pm: VIGIL FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Albert Litto, by Ted and Mary Guzowski

SUNDAY, December 24: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 am: Jeanne Stark, by Kathryn Missert
11:00 am: Mark P. Harty, by Kevin Brayer and Family
4:00 pm: VIGIL FOR NATIVITY OF THE LORD
Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Louis Parish
Midnight: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Louis Parish

MONDAY, December 25: NATIVITY OF THE LORD

10:00 am: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Louis Parish

TUESDAY, December 26: SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

12:05 pm: Kathleen M. Graf, by Colleen Burke

WEDNESDAY, December 27: SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

12:05 pm: Msgr. Paul Hoelscher, by Estate

THURSDAY, December 28: THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

12:05 pm: The Crane Family, by Mary K. Crane Estate

FRIDAY, December 29: FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

12:05 pm: For the People of Saint Louis Parish

SATURDAY, December 30:

4:00 pm: VIGIL FOR THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
Living and Deceased of the Earl Young Family, by Marilyn Young

SUNDAY, December 31: THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

9:00 am: Florence Simpson, by Kathryn Missert
11:00 am: Vincey and Anthony Barone, by Family
4:00 pm: VIGIL FOR SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Rita Marie Rozbicki, by Estate

SCHEDULE OF LECTORS

Weekend of December 30th and December 31st

4:00 pm: Ann Dumansky
9:00 am: Tom Pirrung
11:00 am: Ed Kuzan



SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Weekend of December 30th and December 31st

4:00 pm: Kevin Brayer, Jim Ferrini and Debbie Guillow
9:00 am: Judy Perkowski, Robert Sprague, Rosemary Bloch and Al Bluemle
11:00 am: Pam Nordstrom, Debbie Beller and Keith and Kathy Boerner



CHRISTMAS



MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLE



The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God and in memory of **Michael Zawistowski, Sr.**, requested by Zawistowski Family.

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 TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

This year, the Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve. The Christmas season officially begins when we celebrate the birth of our Savior and continues until the Feast of Epiphany. These days came to be known as the 12 Days of Christmas.

Most people are familiar with the song the 12 Days of Christmas. However, it is more than a song. It originated as a teaching tool to help people learn the important aspects of the Christian faith. The days were celebrated in Europe since before the Middle Ages and were a time of celebration. The Twelfth Night was a celebration of people holding large parties. At the start of the Twelfth Night the Twelfth Night cake was eaten. This was a rich cake made with eggs and butter, fruit, nuts and spices. The modern Italian Panettone is the cake we currently have that is the most like the old Twelfth Night cake.

Each of the 12 gifts has a special meaning for the Christian faith: A Partridge in a Pear Tree is Jesus The Christ; Two Turtle Doves is God's self-revelation in history and creation; Three French Hens are the Theological Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love; Four Calling Birds are the Four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; Five Gold Rings are the first Five Books of the Old Testament-Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy; Six Geese-A-laying are the six days of creation; Seven Swans A-swimming are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit; Eight Maids A-milking are the eight Beatitudes; Nine Ladies Dancing are the fruits of the Holy Spirit; Ten Lords A-leaping are the ten commandments; Eleven Pipers Piping are the Eleven Faithful Apostles; and Twelve Drummers Drumming are the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed.

Each day is also associated with a special feast day. Let us rejoice and be glad that we have these beautiful days of celebration. May your Christmas celebrations be filled with God's many blessings.

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 Vilz, 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 Sliwinski, Catalina Aloj, 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.

SPIRITUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

We warmly welcome all who come to St. Louis for Mass—tourists, visitors, parishioners and friends. Last weekend 384 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was \$5,625.00.

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 23rd

4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection

SUNDAY, December 24th

9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection

4:00 pm: Vigil for the Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Offering Collection

11:30 pm: Christmas Music Program

Midnight: Mass for Christmas

MONDAY, December 25th—Merry Christmas

10:00 am: Christmas Offering Collection

SATURDAY, December 30th

4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection

4:00 pm: St. Louis 2018 Calendars Available

SUNDAY, December 31st

9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection

9:00 am & 11:00 am: St. Louis 2018 Calendars Available

4:00 pm: Vigil for Solemnity of Mary
Solemnity of Mary Collection

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

May you enjoy a blessed Christmas! We rejoice with you in the birth of Jesus, signifying God's immeasurable love for us. In allowing his Son to descend to earth as a man, He gave us the hope and promise of salvation and peace on earth to those of good will. Catholic Charities, in service to the eight counties of Western New York, wishes you a very Merry Christmas! Find Catholic Charities at ccwny.org.

FAITH MOMENT REFLECTION

The annunciation story in today's Gospel is one of the most beloved in Christian scripture. God announces to Mary through the angel Gabriel that the infant she will conceive will be no ordinary child, but his word made flesh—the Son of God. Although Mary is uncertain what this will mean for her, she trusts and readily accepts God's will with her "yes". The annunciation has inspired countless works of art throughout history including famous paintings by Sandro Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, and Peter Paul Rubens. Do a search for these annunciation paintings online and take a moment to admire their beauty. Reflect on Mary's answer to God. Draw your own inspiration from the paintings and think about how you might answer God and his will for you. The annunciation reminds us nothing is impossible for God. Mary said yes. May we find the courage to do the same.



In the name of Msgr. John Madsen, our Trustees, Parish Council and our staff and in my own name, we wish you and yours a most blessed, happy and joyous Merry Christmas. We pray that the Christ Child, the Prince of Peace will fill every corner of your hearts and homes with His Peace, Power and Presence.

Msgr. Manganello

ANNUAL PRESERVATION FUND DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to our Preservation Fund Drive. So far, \$36,760 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. Donations and pledges will be accepted until December 31, 2017.

RECEIPT OF TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

By law, contributions that are to be used as a 2017 tax deduction by the donor must be postmarked or in the hands of the parish **no later than December 31. We will only issue year end contribution statements for 2017 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.

FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST EUCHARIST, & CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION AND CLASSES

Children receiving the Sacrament of 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.

CATHOLIC ACADEMY CORNER

- * Tennis just ended and girls' and boys' basketball is in full swing. Both teams have had impressive starts.
- * Our Handbell choir performed at St. Joseph Cathedral for the Lessons and Carols and did a wonderful job.
- * Science, Art and Spanish Culture Clubs have all had a record number of students enroll.
- * Christmas season highlights all the community service projects our students have been involved with and continue to do. They raised over \$750 for Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief. We had an overwhelming response in collecting coats for the Colvin Cleaners Coats for Kids drive. 8th grade sponsored a very successful food drive for the St. Vincent De Paul Dining Room. 8th grade will be singing Christmas carols at the Sheehan Residence. Several grades will be visiting the Buffalo Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing to sing carols and 3rd grade continues to visit monthly to cheer-up the residents. Many classes have Christmas projects planned for various charities. Tis the season for giving!
- * Visit our website at cawb.org, for information about our school. Please check us out on Facebook and Twitter.

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