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.

2018 St. Louis Church
Oldest Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Buffalo
Founded in 1829
Celebrating Our 189th 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 .....................................................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.

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 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
Rt. Rev. Michael A. Anstett ..........................1944-1948
Rt. Rev. Clarence Ott .................................1964-1965

MEMORIAL PRAYER CANDLE

The Sanctuary Light burns this week to the Glory of God. 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.

RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD

This week, Wednesday, February 14th, is not only Valentine’s Day, but it is also Ash Wednesday. Lent is our season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Ancient practices date back to the Israelites. A number of places in the Old Testament speak about the sprinkling of ashes, particularly the Books of Job, Jeremiah, Daniel and Jonah. The practice of fasting was the central gesture of sorrow and repentance for the chosen people.

The use of ashes for all the faithful at the start of Lent began in the tenth century. In many ways it is ironic that on the day we hear Jesus speaking of praying, fasting, and almsgiving being done in secret, we participate in what may be the year’s most public physical statement of our belief in Christ. As we are signed on the forehead with the Cross we are told to “Repent and believe in the Gospel.” Or we hear the words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return,” pointing to the urgency of recognizing and reconcile our sinfulness. We are reminded that with our Baptism has come the responsibility to live our lives for the Lord.

Ash Wednesday provides an opening for us to share our faith and to highlight that our lives as followers of Jesus should be those of humble service to others.

The practice of Abstinence on Friday’s in Lent invites us through self-denial to inner purification by God. The practice of fasting we undertake encourages us to consider not only that from which we want to fast, but the deep hungers we hope Christ will fill in us thus, bringing us closer to God.

Lent opens with the words of the Prophet Joel: “Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God.”

Msgr. Manganello

Please pray for all those who are sick, suffering, recovering and hospitalized, especially Joel Rivera, Norbert Slivinski, Norene Wesolek, Paul Setlock, 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, Marnise Reaves, Spencer Daly, Joseph Acquino, Eleanor Brayer, Linda Campbell, Barbara Suffiololetto, Caitlin Kasberg, James Palka, Bernadette R. Crawford, Niziti Ascela, Geraldine Slivinski, 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, especially Regina O’Connor 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 365 people attended Mass at St. Louis Parish. Our regular collection was $5,560.00. 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, February 10th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Maintenance and Repairs Collection

SUNDAY, February 11th
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
12 noon: Baptism of Luca Christopher Billoni

WEDNESDAY, February 14th—Happy Valentine’s Day
8:00 am & 12:05 pm: Distribution of Ashes

FRIDAY, February 16th
After 12:05 Mass: Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, February 17th
4:00 pm: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection and Black and Indian Mission Collection
4:00 pm: Coffee Hour

SUNDAY, February 18th
9:00 am & 11:00 am: The Regular Offertory Collection Including Pew Rent Collection and Black and Indian Mission Collection
9:00 am & 11:00 am: Coffee Hour

WORD OF LIFE

“The Church affirms the inviolable dignity of every person, regardless of the duration or extent of the person’s incapacity or dependency. Nothing diminishes the unchangeable dignity and sanctity of a person’s life, or the obligation to protect and care for it.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing”

VOCAITION THOUGHT

We hear today that Jesus healed a leper. Lepers in those days not only suffered great physical pain, but were exiled by the community. Jesus’ action pierced through many walls of division. How is Jesus calling you to help bring reconciliation to places of division? If God is calling you to a Church vocation call Father Andrew Lauricella at 847-5535.

OUR LENTEN SACRIFICE

Days of Abstinence—Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday for all who have reached their 14th birthday, no meat can be taken.

Days of Fast—Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for all who have reached their 18th birthday and have not as yet reached their 60th birthday, a limit of one full meatless meal.

Weekdays of Lent—No obligation to fast; however, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Easter Duty Obligation—Must be made from the First Sunday in Lent (February 18) through Trinity Sunday (May 27).

Self-Denial—Is encouraged on a voluntary basis. Acts may include daily Mass, spiritual study, Lenten Devotions, the Rosary, Stations of the Cross and deeds of mercy and kindness.

CHILI COOK-OFF

Saturday, February 24 after the 4:00 Mass. Enter your favorite chili recipe @ dlguillow@yahoo.com or call Debbie Guillow @ 465-6198. Side dishes and desserts are welcome!

ST. VALENTINE

Did you know who was Saint Valentine?

Valentine was a priest who lived in Rome in the third century. Because he assisted persecuted Christians, and refused to denounce his own faith, he was put to death. Legend has it that on the night before he died, he scrawled a message on a heart-shaped stone...“to those who love me, and to those I love, know that my heart is with you to the end”

He signed the message....

Your Valentine

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

“They have been my angels. They’re for me.” That’s how one client described her experience with our Project HOPE (Helping Older People Excel) program. Designed for older adults who’ve been diagnosed with a mental health illness and are at risk of out-of-home placement, the program provides services and linkages to keep them in their home. Care coordinators and nurses work with clients to develop individualized action plans to empower them to thrive in their home environment. Your gift to the 2018 Appeal ensures that Project HOPE can continue to make a difference in the lives of Western New Yorkers. To make a donation or find out more about the 2018 Appeal, call 716-218-1400 or visit ccwny.org/donation. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

“Love your neighbor” (Gal. 5:14)

FAITH MOMENT REFLECTION

In today’s reading, St. Paul urges the Corinthians to do everything for the glory of God, even if it means tolerance for those with different beliefs. This took great courage on the part of the Corinthians since they faced many people who were hostile to their Christian faith in those times. Things are not much different for us today. Like St. Paul, we are called to imitate Jesus for the glory of God. That means respecting others regardless of their culture or religion. It means having patience even when we disagree...promoting peace over controversy...putting the rights of others before our own. Like the Corinthians, it takes great courage and trust in God to do so. Winston Churchill once said, “It takes courage to stand up and speak; it also takes courage to sit down and listen.” Let the words of Jesus guide your actions of courage and tolerance. “Love one another as I have loved you.”