Preparing Children for Sacraments

Did you know that before 1910, when Pope Pius X issued Quam singulari, lowering the age of First Communion, First Penance and First Eucharist were usually celebrated in the teenage years? Back then, most Catholics received communion once or twice a year! It took about 50 years for Pius’ directive concerning frequent communion, and lowering the age of First Penance and First Eucharist, to take hold. Since then various approaches have been explored, occasionally with First Eucharist preceding First Penance, as in many parishes locally, including ours. Why explore that approach? Practically, children often exhibit a limited understanding of sin and reconciliation before fourth grade, yet may have a desire for the Eucharist, and understand Eucharist as special, around second grade. (Readiness and desire are criteria for reception, not simply age.)

Another consideration now prevails, the ancient tradition of Penance before Eucharist. Linking the two, right at the beginning, is believed to prove fruitful throughout the believer’s life. Consequently, effective this school year, 2014-2015, our First Penance and First Eucharist preparation programs will change, to reflect these directives. In this transitional year, as we adjust, we will provide age appropriate programs for these two beautiful sacraments. Accounting for age differences, and for children who have received First Eucharist, but not First Penance, we will offer a First Penance preparation program in October and November, encouraging any children who are ready, and have not yet celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation to enroll (any child in third grade or higher).

Our First Eucharist preparation program will be in March and April, for any child who is ready, traditionally second grade or higher. We ask that these children also prepare for the sacrament of First Penance, in a program especially designed for younger children, offered in January. Parents who believe their child will be ready to prepare for First Eucharist in March and April will have a choice of enrolling their child in the program in October and November, or the January program. After this transitional year, children will prepare and celebrate the sacrament of First Penance before they prepare and receive the sacrament of First Eucharist. Parents, please remember that all sacramental preparation is based on readiness of the child. As your child grows in knowledge and faith, their understanding and appreciation of the sacraments will naturally deepen. The yearly religious education of your child, through parish programs, or St. Louis School, will continue to remain separate from sacramental preparation, and will continue to assist and support parents as they educate their children in our Catholic Faith.

We will have two meetings to address any questions about these changes: September 7th, immediately following the 9 AM & the 11 AM Masses, in church. May God bless all our efforts to prepare children to live the faith! Peace, Fr. Bob
Mass Intentions for This Week

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS**

We invite you to have a Sanctuary Lamp lit at the Blessed Sacrament to have your very special intentions remembered for a week.

To arrange this, please call or visit the Ministry Center. The Thursday Holy Hour Ministry will offer special prayers for your intention.

One Lamp Will Burn
In Memory of
Alice McDonald Hartzell
by Family.

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**MONDAY - AUGUST 4**
Jer 28:1-17/Mt 14:22-36
11:00 am Ann Ring - St. Louis Stephen Ministers
5:15 pm Caroline Harber - Nancy & Wayne Harber

**TUESDAY - AUGUST 5**
Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Mt 14:22-36
or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
6:45 am Marie Wilkins - Bernard & Catherine Plansky
11:00 am Ann Ring - Bill & Marge Mancine

**WEDNESDAY - AUGUST 6**
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9
11:00 am Audrey Spiak - Little Rock Bible Study Group
11:00 am Mass at the Highlands Living Center for the Residents & Staff
5:15 pm Sigismund Ilgunas - Sue Tierney

**THURSDAY - AUGUST 7**
Jer 31:31-34/Mt 16:13-23
6:45 am Special Intention for James Sytsma
11:00 am John Tammaro - The Carcelli Family

**FRIDAY - AUGUST 8**
Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Mt 16:24-28
11:00 am Special Intention for 50th Anniversary for Fr. Al Delmonte-Lucille & Jim Newell
5:15 pm Marjorie Bircher - Kathy Mock

**SATURDAY - AUGUST 9**
Hb 1:12-2:4/Mt 17:14-20
9:00 am For the People of Our Parish
4:30 pm Jill & Frank Reichenbock - Family

**SUNDAY - AUGUST 10**
1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33
7:30 am Karl Borchardt - Family
9:00 am Joseph Ferrario - The Lanahan Family
11:00 am William H. Perham, Jr. (Anniversary) - Perham Family
5:00 pm Eleonora Thomas - Barbara Thomas

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**Saturday & Sunday, August 9 and 10**
Thank you, faithful servants!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Eucharistic Ministers</th>
<th>Liturgical Assistants</th>
<th>Cantor</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>B. Lanahan, Jr. C. Rucci</td>
<td>D. Infantino, K. Engebret, B. Bullis, M. A. Monley, G. Gebbie, B. Knittle</td>
<td>S. &amp; G. Mattina</td>
<td>Children</td>
<td>I. Best B. Best</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>C. Aroesty P. Doerr</td>
<td>G. Burke, M. Lessard, K. Murphy, M. Murphy, G. Rooney, S. Rooney L. Sullivan</td>
<td>P. Lyne</td>
<td>D. Dwyer</td>
<td>J. Miller R. Regan</td>
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**Sunday Communion Service - August 10**
The Highlands: Jim Haefner       Heather Heights: Marge Mancine

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Ann Kirchoff

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Requiem Aeternam

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Page Two
St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY
August 3, 2014
And Then We Eat
How often do you think about food in the average day? Food is one of our basic, primal needs. Consequently, it becomes a rich symbol. A nursing child provides a perfect picture of contentment. Having someone over for dinner can seal the bond of friendship. A dinner date; bringing one’s fiancé home to have dinner with the family; Thanksgiving dinner. Each is overlaid with meaning. Food is also central to the world of spiritual life. Fasting, feasting, the Passover meal, the last supper, the great feast at the end of time. The idea of God setting a banquet begins early in the Old Testament, and breaks into several trajectories. There is the tradition of offering a sacrifice to God, and then sharing the meal with God. Another banquet image unfolds in the Wisdom tradition, with the idea of Lady Wisdom setting a banquet for all who would seek wisdom. Yet another trajectory: in apocalyptic literature the banquet is a symbol of the last days, when all the trials and tribulations come to an end, a victory feast. Jesus feeding the multitudes weaves these traditions together. Hence we hear Isaiah’s words today, an invitation to the banquet: the wisdom feast, the eschatological banquet. Reread the passage, and hear it as an invitation to the table of the Eucharist, which brings together so many layers of meaning!

The Victory Is Ours
No naïve words, this list St. Paul provides: anguish, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril or the sword. St. Paul had experienced all of these, and more (II Corinthians 11:23-28). His experience: trials and persecutions led him closer to Christ. This was so clear to him, that in contrasting his credentials with other so-called apostles who were upsetting the community’s unity in Corinth, he listed his hardships as credentials! Have you experienced any hardships for living the faith that you might list as credentials?

Our Daily Bread
When most of us think about the Mass, and Eucharist, our thoughts go to the Last Supper, and sacrifice. Some Christians get distressed hearing the altar referred to as a table, and see describing Eucharist as a meal as unworthy. Yet others point out the importance of Jesus sharing meals throughout His ministry and then with the apostles after his resurrection. Even in the Old Testament, sacrifice and meal were inextricably linked. Sacrifice the Passover lamb, then celebrate the Passover meal. The altar is a table, the table is an altar. When early Christians thought about Eucharist, it wasn’t just the Last Supper that came to mind. The multiplication of the loaves and fishes figured just as prominently. Most likely, there was the daily breaking of the bread, referred to in Acts 2, where the meal aspect may have been more focal; then weekly celebrations, which highlighted the last supper and sacrifice. But in either case, Jesus was the focal point; the bread of life, the sacrificial lamb. The readings we hear this weekend give a great opportunity to expand our understanding of Eucharist. In sharing with a non-Catholic why Eucharist is important to you, what would you highlight? Could you work the multiplication of the loaves & fishes into your explanation of this tremendous sacrament?

Preparing for Next Weekend: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: 1Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
Finding God in the tiny whispering sound

2nd Reading: Romans 9:1-5
St. Paul’s love for his fellow Jews

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33
Walking on water

Scripture Insights
The Scripture Insights in At Home for the Word this week point out that in Jesus’ time, under the influence of Rome, the poor were despised; subject to insult, blamed for their poverty, bereft of hope. Sound familiar? Perhaps the way of the world, but certainly not the way of the Gospel that Jesus lived and preached.

“A child is not something owed to one, but is a gift. The ‘supreme’ gift of marriage’ is a human person. A child may not be considered a piece of property, an idea to which an alleged ‘right to a child’ would lead. In this area, only the child possesses genuine rights: the right ‘to be the fruit of the specific act of the conjugal love of his parents,’ and ‘the right to be respected as a person from the moment of his conception.” Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2378
**OUR GIFT TO GOD**  
**LAST WEEKEND**  

**July 27, 2014**

*Attendance* .......... 1,501  
*Collection* .......... $12,681.50

Thank you for joining us in worship! Thank you too for contributing to the support of our parish, as well as the various ministries we support through our tithing. May the Lord take what we have, and multiply it, as he multiplied the loaves and the fish, for the nourishment of all.

**Recycling the Bulletin**

Did you know that the parish bulletin could serve as an invitation? Once you’ve read it, consider giving the bulletin to a friend, along with an invite. ‘We would love to have you join us at St. Louis one of these weekends. Here is a bulletin, for a flavor of the place, and with the various Mass times. Seriously, I think you would be surprised at what you experience if you join us some Saturday evening or Sunday.’

**Mission Appeal**

The weekend of **August 16 & 17** is the annual summer mission appeal. Fr. Bob Bradler, along with Jamie Winebrake, will share with us their service for **Hands Together**, a ministry in Haiti.

Many thanks to Elizabeth Scheuerman for her years of dedication in helping me with the Children’s Choir. She was a member from 3rd grade to 6th grade. After that, she still came each week to sing with us and she eventually began assisting me. Elizabeth is a great role model. The children look up to her.

Now after all these years, she is moving on in her studies. She will be attending the University of Rochester this fall, with plans to major in English and Art History, and minor in Music. She is looking forward to being able to take classes on composition and conducting at the Eastman.

Thank you, Elizabeth, and Godspeed! Bea Hack

**MINISTRY CENTER MAIL**

If you are mailing any correspondence to St. Louis Church, please use the Ministry Center mailing address:

64 South Main Street  
Pittsford, NY 14534

(and **NOT** the rectory address: 60 South Main Street)  
This will assure you that the mail gets to the parish office.

**Thank You!**

**Dear St. Louis Parish and Tithing Committee,**

Thank you for the wonderful tithing gift of $2,762 from the St. Louis Church parish community to Nativity Preparatory Academy, which was received on February 16, 2014. This gift will be used to support the Educational Program for our 62 students.

The support of the Tithing Committee to recommend an investment in the education of our students is truly appreciated. The success of Nativity rests on those who believe in our mission and are willing to support our efforts to break the cycle of poverty through the education provided to the children attending our school.

We are grateful for your support of our efforts to transform the lives of these children. We realize that there are many wonderful endeavors that deserve consideration and we are appreciative that you find Nativity to be worthy of your support.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Suzanne F. Petronello, Director of Advancement
Deepen your faith through knowledge this fall at St. Bernard’s School of Theology and Ministry. Our featured Ministry Studies courses include Spiritual Formation, Pastoral Care, and Hospice Chaplaincy. Financial aid is available to new students. Classes begin August 21.

C 14 INTRODUCTION TO MORAL THEOLOGY
The Catholic life is guided by foundations of behavior that have come down to us from theology, scripture and philosophical reflection. This course explores the basic principles underlying the Catholic moral life. We will examine the role of the Church, individual conscience, and social custom as they inform and guide the Catholic perspective on morality. This course is required for those seeking a Certificate in Catechetical Leadership and Pastoral Ministry. Instructor: Patricia Schoelles, SSJ; Thursdays August 14, 21, 28 and Sept 4 from 2:00 – 4:30 PM.

Video conferencing is offered for each course in Auburn, Apalachin, Hornell, and Watkins Glen. To register for a course, go to www.stbernards.edu or call (585) 271-3657 ext. 289 for more information.
St. Louis Vacation Bible School 2014

Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind
Our Banquet At the Eucharistic Table

In our family life we can sometimes hear echoes of the disciples' excuses: “Five loaves and two fish are all we have here.” Sometimes this echo is heard from children squabbling about the last piece of cake. Sometimes it is heard in our concern about the limits of the family’s income or possessions. Sometimes this echo is heard in our complaints about the seemingly endless demands for our time and attention. Jesus understood these feelings and taught us to see beyond our limitations. Jesus modeled for us a compassion that reaches out to others, even when we would rather withdraw into ourselves. Jesus taught us that God blesses compassion offered to others with his grace. Today's Gospel reminds us that with God there is not only enough, there is an abundance!

What are some of the some of the stresses and demands for time and attention that your family members might feel. Acknowledge that we sometimes have to make difficult choices about how to use our time, talents, and treasure. In today’s Gospel reading notice how much Jesus cared for the crowds, healing the sick even though he wanted to withdraw to a quiet place. Notice how the disciples responded to Jesus' instruction to feed the crowd; they noted their limited supply of food. Jesus blessed this limited supply of food, and it was enough to feed the entire crowd, more than 5,000 people, and there were leftovers!

Jesus' blessing brought abundance from the meager provisions of the disciples. In this action, Jesus offers us a sign of the Kingdom of Heaven that he has been teaching about in the parables. A feast results from the smallest of portions—remember the mustard seed and the yeast. In this miracle we witness an example for Christian life and ministry. Even the smallest of offerings can produce abundant results when placed in the service of the Kingdom of Heaven.

We find the story of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fish in each of the four Gospels. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus performs this same miracle on two separate occasions. The story of this miracle is an anticipation of the Eucharist in which we are fed by the abundant grace of God. The importance of the Eucharist has been a defining element of Christian life from the very beginning.

Annual Spanish Santa Misión 2014.

Families, the Diocesan Office for Cultural Diversity invites you to “LIVE THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL” at the Annual Spanish Santa Misión 2014. This year it will be held at St. Michael’s Church at 869 N. Clinton Ave from August 11-15. It begins with the Holy Rosary at 6:30pm and immediately to follow the presentations by the preacher, animated and worship-filled music for the whole family and prayer to enrich your spirituality from 7-9pm. On Friday a Mass of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Day of Obligation) will be celebrated. This year the preacher will be our very own Father Paul English, pastor of St. Kateri Parish in Irondequoit.

This year’s focus is THE FAMILY. We invite all families: with or without children, young and older married couples, couples that are married or not, youth, children, everyone. The first evening we will have the honor of meeting and receiving a special blessing from our very own Bishop Salvatore Matano. This year we challenge everyone to invite and bring along with you two new families (or more if you’d like). Don’t miss this opportunity. For more information call Elizabeth Muñoz Johnston at 585-328-3228 ext. 1358.

Someone Is Tossing You Rope! Take Hold!
Beginning Experience of Rochester is offering a 10-week hope and healing program for those who are separated, divorced or widowed. Weekly sessions are from 7-9 p.m. here at St. Louis that began July 15. The course will follow the book, “Rebuilding When Your Relationship Ends” by Dr. Bruce Fisher. For more information or to register call Bill (585-490-3040). For more information or to register on-line visit the BE website at www.beginningexperiencerochesterny.org. (Please note: Meetings are in the Parish Meeting Hall.)
For Sale

2002 Dark Green Dodge Caravan
Mileage 214,001
Power Windows, Power locks,
New tires
Current Inspection (June 2014 done)
Asking price $2,000
($2200 blue book value)
Great condition, well maintained
Call 385-6860

School Supply Time (again)

School supplies and backpacks are needed for refugee children who arrived in Rochester this summer and will start school for the first time in September. Saint's Place provides each school-aged refugee with a backpack filled with needed school supplies.

During the month of August, school supplies are at their lowest prices of the year. Many items such as notebooks are as low as 50 cents or one dollar. Each year Saint’s Place distributes about 300 backpacks filled with supplies.

If you can help by purchasing one backpack and/or supplies for a backpack, it would be greatly appreciated.

Don’t miss the sales! The following items are needed:

- Backwards
- Loose leaf paper
- Crayons
- Rulers
- Folders
- Pencil sharpener
- Composition notebook
- Spiral notebook
- Markers
- Scissors
- Calculator
- Pens/pencils
- Glue sticks
- Erasers

2014 Greek Fest

Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit
835 South Ave., Rochester

AUGUST 21-24 • FREE ADMISSION

THURSDAY 11 AM-10 PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11 AM-11 PM
SUNDAY 11 AM – 8 PM

Free Parking at Highland Hospital Garage, adjacent to the Greek Church
(Thurs. & Fri. after 5 pm; all day Sat. & Sun.)

www.highlandgreekfest.com
Info & Take-out Orders: (585) 271-3150

Music by the Aegeans, Greek dancing, delicious Greek food & pastries, baklava sundaes, boutique, & much more!

The Greek Church has been very generous to Saint’s Place by allowing us to use their facilities for tutoring the refugees for the past 8 years.

If you are able, please support them by attending the Fest or by ordering take-out.

Food
Music
OPA!
Summer is festival season in Rochester and the Abruzzese Italian Festival will generously include Catholic Family Center as one of their beneficiaries, but we need some volunteers. Whether you’re Italian or not, come join me as a volunteer at the festival on Sunday, August 24 at St. Theodore’s Church & Gates Memorial Park; 160 Spencerport Road; Rochester. Come early for Mass with Bishop Matano or stay late for Lou Graham and fireworks. If you have 4 hours to contribute, are at least 18 and able-bodied and would like to help with Food prep, Children’s games, Information booth, Set up, Clean up, Cashier, Security or Parking, please contact Claudia Gill, 585-262-7044 or CGill@CFCRochester.org. Thank you!
### Parish Staff Directory

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