WE BELIEVE. WE BELONG. WE PREPARE.

THIS WEEKEND -
GAUDETE SUNDAY (THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT)
Food Collection - St. Andrew's Food Cupboard

THIS WEEK AT ST. LOUIS (Daily Mass Schedule p. 2)

MONDAY - DECEMBER 17
6:30 am - Men's Spirituality Group, Manse

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 18
7:30 am - Sunday Scripture Study, Manse
4:30 pm - Faith Formation
7:00 pm - Blue Christmas Prayer Service, Church (pg 7)

WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 19
7:30 pm - Regional Charismatic Prayer Grp, PMH

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 22
3:30 pm - Confessions
4:30 pm - Mass (Sign Language Interpreted)

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 23
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:30 am - Mass
9:00 am - Mass
10:00 am - No Faith Formation
11:15 am - Mass / Children's Liturgy of the Word / RCIA Dismissal
5:00 pm - Mass

Christmas Mass Schedule
Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve
3:00 pm - Seating in Church & Gym
5:00 pm - Seating in Church & Gym
10:00 pm - Choir Mass, with Carols beginning at 9:30 pm

Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day, Masses at 9:00 & 11:15 am & 12:45 pm

Avoid the crush of Christmas Eve. Please consider coming to quiet, beautiful Christmas Day Masses.

Gaudete Sunday—
Third Sunday of Advent
Mass Intentions for This Week

Monday - December 17
Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17  
11:00 am Bob Irvine - Coworkers  
5:15 pm John Connelly - Family

Tuesday - December 18
Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25  
6:45 am Andrew Lynch - Peter & Pat Spinelli  
11:00 am Daniel Lindsay - Family  
and Frederick Lapple - Family  
7:00 pm Blue Christmas Prayer Service

Wednesday - December 19
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25  
11:00 am Tom Klotz - Ann Ryan  
5:15 pm Dennis & Mary Connelly - Family

Thursday - December 20
Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38  
6:45 am For the People of the Parish  
11:00 am Rosemary Petote - Eileen Ramos

Friday - December 21
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45  
11:00 am Fr. Robert G. Smith - Judith Kiehl  
5:15 pm Marie & Augustine Nolan - Family

Saturday - December 22
1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56  
9:00 am Tom Ferland - Darby Family  
4:30 pm Samuel Tasciotti - Family

Sunday - December 23
Mt 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45  
7:30 am Edward & Irene Shults - Mary  
9:00 am Marian Capuano - Joe & Gerry DiNoto & Family  
11:15 am Maria Hoang Thi Phach - Ho Tran & Family  
5:00 pm In Memory of the McGuiness Family - McGuiness Family

Special Intentions This Week:
We invite you to have a Sanctuary Lamp lit at the Blessed Sacrament to have your very special intentions remembered for a week.
To reserve a candle, please call or visit the Ministry Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>Sacristan</th>
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Saturday & Sunday, December 22 & 23
The Highlands - Jane Sutter  Heather Heights - Mary Ann Monley

Page Two  St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY  December 16, 2018
### Our Weekend Scriptures: Gaudete Sunday—Third Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
*He will renew us in His love*

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7  
*The peace of God will guard your hearts*

*Good news to the people*

### Looking Ahead: Fourth Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4a  
*I shall be peace*

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10  
*I come to do your will*

*The Visitation*

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### An Oracle of Salvation

Oracles were at the heart of the mission of the prophets. Simply put, an oracle is a message from God, spoken by the prophet. In the Old Testament we find 3 major types of oracles, oracles of judgement, warnings and admonitions, and oracles of salvation. Some oracles of judgement are against Israel’s enemies, ‘oracles against the nations’. Some are judgement upon Israel or Judah. In either case, the die is cast. Admonitions warn about the consequence of the failure to repent, and call for repentance; the disaster *can* be avoided. While much of Zephaniah is dark, with threat of impending disaster, today’s passage is tremendously hopeful, an oracle of salvation. What an image! “God will rejoice over you with gladness, renew you in his love, sing joyfully because of you…” But remember, ‘you’ is not about one individual, it is about daughter Zion, the entire nation. Fast forward to today, God doesn’t pull one of us out of the congregation and start to dance, God rejoices over us all, over a community. Try thinking about the people who sit around you, and the whole congregation that prays with you at Mass. Now envision God singing with joy over the whole assembly!

### An Antidote to Anxiety

If you are carrying particularly onerous burdens, if cares are weighing you down, and anxiety has the upper hand, the bubbly passage we hear from St. Paul today may be tough to take. But Paul was no Pollyanna. He experienced incredible hardships, attacks, beatings, sufferings, and was well aware of the hardships others had to endure. But he also knew a powerful antidote to anxiety: prayer, petition and thanksgiving. Bring our concerns to the Lord, give thanks for as much as we can, and rejoice as best we can in God’s blessings and goodness. Then, as Paul points out, the peace of God will guard our hearts and minds. Kindness is another antidote to anxiety. And when our kindness can be seen by others, it helps lift some of their anxiety too.

### Keep It Simple

Reread our Gospel for today. Picture John the Baptist, the rugged, rustic prophet, preaching and baptizing. Given the impact he was having, those seeking advice on how to be saved may well have been looking for something really deep. He keeps it amazingly simple! If you have more than you need, share with people who don’t have enough. Be honest. Don’t be greedy or cheat. Be content. Simple goodness! Notice, it is never “What should I do?” it’s “What should we do”. So now picture you and some friends approaching John. Ask “What should we do”. In prayer, try to discover his response.

### Gaudete Sunday

Traditionally this Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. There is joy in the readings, joy in the prayers, and we pray for joy in our hearts as we get closer to Christmas, prepared ever more fully to celebrate the great Feast of the Incarnation. Joy to as we are ever more prepared to receive Christ in our hearts.

Unasé a nosotros este domingo 16 de diciembre a las 6:30 pm para una Novena de Navidad en español en Iglesia de St. Louis.

Please join us this Sunday, December 16 at 6:30pm for a Christmas Novena in Spanish at St. Louis Church.

### Cards for the Homebound

Address cards for our homebound and shut-ins are available at entrances so that parishioners can reach out to them with Christmas cards. If you have a close family member or friend who has become homebound or shut-in, please submit their names and addresses to the Ministry Center so they can receive Christmas greetings from our Church family.

### Victims of sexual abuse should always report to the civil authorities.

To report a case of possible sexual abuse and to receive help and guidance from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, victims are encouraged to contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator:

**Deborah Housel, victimsassistance@dor.org**  
(585) 328-3228, ext. 1555  
Toll-free: 1-800-388-7177, ext. 1555
We are all part of a diocesan family that does amazing good work around our diocese. The Catholic Ministries Appeal is the primary way we kick in our share of the family expenses. We would love to wrap up the appeal and reach both our financial goal, and our goal to increase the participation rate by the end of the year. PLEASE, if everyone makes a contribution, our campaign will be a success regardless of the dollar amount!

As of Month-to-Date $46,671.00

Thru Nov. 2 $105,344.00 243
Nov. 9 $12,905.00 29
Nov. 16 $7,325.00 8
Nov. 26 $10,380.00 26
Nov. 30 $11,670.00 26
Dec. 7 $9,795.00 24
Total $157,419.00 356
Our Goal $259,237.00 588
Percentage Of Goal 61%
What is a Manger Moment?

The Giving Manger, located on the Faith Formation bulletin board in the Narthex hallway, inspires your family to focus on giving gifts of service and good deeds. These small acts of kindness can spark lots of fun, heart felt conversations, and so many wonderful moments that you will treasure as a family. We rarely remember the gifts we received in the past, but we seldom forget when someone does something unexpectedly kind for us!

We invite kids of all ages 1-100 to write the acts of kindness your family is doing this Advent Season on pieces of “hay” to fill our manger in preparation of the arrival of the Savior.

Christmas Eve Youth Mass

Are you interested in singing, serving, being a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, or Usher? We need YOU! Join us Monday, December 24th at 3:00PM. Choir rehearsal begins at 2:15pm. To take part in Mass, please sign up at our link: tinyurl.com/yanqj9a or contact Fr. Juan at Fr.Juan.Benitez@dor.org.

Next Youth Mass: Sunday, January 6th at 5:00pm

On Dec 1st, some of the Challenge girls went to Focus Pregnancy Center for a service project. They learned how Focus helps women in need, and helped to organize the donated clothing and toys in the center so that they would be ready for any women who came for help. Many of the girls also brought clothing and other items from their own homes to donate to the center. Here are some things that the girls had to say about their experience:

"Thank you for letting us volunteer at Focus. We learned today that there are many people in the world who need our help and who will benefit from the volunteer work."

"I found that this experience was very eye opening to the work that goes into Focus and also to the work that they do for the community. I now understand why it is so important to volunteer and help those in need."

"Today we volunteered at Focus pregnancy center. It was a great experience because we really got to see people who devote their entire lives to helping the lives of others. It was an enlightening experience."

"Going to Focus was fun and the woman who worked there was very upbeat and cheery. I like organizing things and it was nice to do that to help other people."

"Today we volunteered at Focus. We sorted clothes and folded clothes and sorted toys. We do this to serve people who need some joy and love in their life. Some people have made some choices in their lives that have made being independent and having money hard for them. We help so they can have the things they need."

Challenge is a girls youth group (5th-12th grade), based at St. Louis church. For more info or to join the group, please contact Lisa Sengenberger at lisasengenberger@alumni.nd.edu or visit stlouischurch.org/challenge-girls-group.
LAST MINUTE SHOPPING MADE EASY!

Please help St. Louis earn the $25,000 matching challenge grant that is again being offered to help Haiti. Shop GIFTS OF LOVE ornaments at the merchants (listed below) and while you are there — thank them for us.

37th Edition Ornaments supporting the effective efforts of St. Louis parish friend Fr. Rick Frechette, Passionist Priest and physician at St. Damien Pediatric Hospital, Haiti’s only children’s hospital with its multifaceted outreaches free to the indigent (NPHUSA.org/stdamien)

These are thoughtful and meaningful gifts that not only help Haiti but also Rochester’s young people who hand-make them. Ceramic ANGELS (imprinted with the Manger Scene) are made by Holy Childhood where developmentally challenged Rochesterians learn to become contributing members of society. Wood TREES are handmade at St. Michael’s Woodshop, a 50 year old effort to help Rochester inner city teens learn the marketable skill of woodworking while being mentored in life skills.

Available now (pro bono) until New Year’s Day:
in Pittsford: St. Louis Ministry Center (only place where Save Around Coupon Books are also offered - $25 each), Pittsford Dairy, See Her Shine, Salon Industry, Chandeliers Boutique, Pittsford Canandaigua National Bank, Pittsford Florist, Pittsford Tailor and Dry Cleaners, One World Goods, Pendleton Shop
in Rochester: Parkleigh, Wisteria, The Creator’s Hands, Sayari, Canandaigua National Banks at Henrietta/Brighton
in Webster: Hagedorn Market, Warren Decorating Center, Gootie Shoppe, Danwin Pharmacy
in Fairport: Lu’s Back Door, Lombardi’s Gourmet Imports in Greece: Rockcastle Florist
in Canandaigua: Edelweiss Properties, Realtors

The donation is $8 each (no tax). Cash or, please write checks to: St. Louis Hunger
For large orders or information on becoming a participating merchant, call: Marcia Mendola 381-6872

God Bless you!

Take an Angel Home!

It’s hard to think about, but thousands of refugees wake up every morning wondering why the world has forgotten them. This is a reality that Saint’s Place can’t accept. We are devoted to changing this by going to great lengths to ensure that these people are not forgotten once they finally arrive in the United States. All year, we work hard to establish relationships and partnerships with schools, companies, churches and community groups to organize drives so that we can achieve this goal of not only welcoming the refugees but ensuring they know we care.

The Angel Trees provide new items to deserving people and even more it brings joy and encouragement that the future is promising. Each angel represents the wishes and desires of a real child or adults. This special tradition that has been so successful here at St. Louis for twenty years has brought smiles and joy to countless refugees. Please take an Angel and help us continue this caring tradition of sharing the true Spirit of Christmas, giving to those less fortunate.

THANK YOU

Saint’s Place, 46 S. Main St., Pittsford, NY 14534, Isabel Miller Executive Director.
Saint’s Place Ministry Hours: 46 S. Main St.: Mon. through Thurs.: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Closed Fridays.
St. John of Rochester: Mon., Tues., Thurs.: 9:15 am until 12 noon; Wed.: 9:15 am to 2:30 pm.; Closed Fridays.
Phone: 585-385-6860. Fax: 585-385-3963 or saintlady@saintsplace.org, or www.saintsplace.org

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St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY
December 16, 2018
Christmas Blues
On Tuesday, December 18th
at 7:00 pm we will hold a
Blue Christmas prayer service.

Despite the joyful sights and sounds of Christmas, for many folks, Christmas can surface some deep sadness. It may be the first Christmas without a loved one. Or perhaps one very dear to us has been gone for longer, but the pain of Christmas without them is still there. It may be some other loss, or broken relationship. Perhaps a loved one is overseas, and not able to be ‘home for Christmas.’ Come to a peaceful, prayerful, healing time of prayer this Advent. Pray with others who know why a bit of blue is part of Christmas this year. If you were not able to make one of the All Souls Remembrance Masses, this may be a perfect prayer service for you. Or perhaps you know someone who could really use some quiet, peaceful, healing time of prayer. Invite them and bring them on the 18th. It is also the Feast of the Expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us pray that Mary intercedes on our behalf for renewed hope this Christmas season. All are welcome!

Christmas Prayer Service & Caroling
Thursday, December 20, 1:30 pm
Gymnasium

The students and faculty of St. Louis School wish you the peace and hope of Christ’s birth now and in the days ahead.

THANKSGIVING PIE SALE A SUCCESS!

Thanks to parishioner generosity, St. Louis exceeded last year's pie sales by selling 180 pies. In combination with other churches in our Habitat coalition, the Habitat Interfaith Partnership (HIP), we raised a record $2,820 in profits. These funds, together with pie sale proceeds from 2017 and 2016, will be used to help fund construction materials for our upcoming 2019 house build.

Many thanks to the following parishioners who helped conduct, or provided special support to, the pie sale: Curt and Mary Ellen Anderson, Fran Barr, Rick Cusker, Mary Sue, Frank, Michael and Brendan Dehn, Monica Kingston, Chuck and Nancy Polizzi, Jerry and Nancy Rachfal, Bob and Rosemary Scholl, Sally Schrecker, Shannon Toot, Louise Vanni, and Kathy Vanderzwaag.
FORMED

A GIFT TO OPEN EARLY! CHECK OUT THESE DECEMBER FAVORITES ON FORMED.ORG

FORMED PICK

The Story of the Nativity
Explore the Birth of Christ
This fast-paced look at the true story of the Nativity clears away misunderstandings about Jesus’s origin and is invaluable for learning more about the truth of Christmas. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus’s miraculous conception, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and more.

Watch on formed.org

Brother Francis: O Holy Night
Celebrate the Birth of Jesus
Recall the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation that will remind you Who we celebrate during the Christmas season!

Watch on formed.org

Check out this resource to learn more about the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12th.

1531: A Story That Is Not Finished Yet
Our Lady of Guadalupe Came to Change the World
1531 shares the history of why millions of Aztecs converted to the Catholic Faith and the little known truth that this incredible story is not finished yet.

Watch on formed.org

To register and access these resources go to stlouischurch.formed.org. Contact Kathryn.McAlarney@dor.org for help or more adult formation resources.
**GIVE A CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT TRULY MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

Catholic Relief Services... Yemen Humanitarian Crisis Response

The poorest country in the Middle East is devastated by war, hunger and a cholera crisis. Now heavy fighting has broken out in Hodeida—one of the main ports of entry for humanitarian supplies—displacing families and cutting off access to clean water. Conflict and a lack of aid has triggered a humanitarian disaster, leaving 70 percent of the population in need of assistance and children facing acute malnutrition. Hunger is on the rise, and basic services like education, water, health and sanitation have deteriorated. When you donate to Yemen relief, CRS will assist with the humanitarian response in Yemen. In Hodeida, where fighting is heaviest, CRS local partners are providing critical food and living supplies to families. Your gifts will provide medication and treatment, improvements to hygiene and sanitation, and lifesaving nutrition for children. To donate and support Catholic Relief in Yemen go to:

crs.org/donate/yemen-crisis

**St. Louis Knights of Columbus**

During the month of December, the Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest. Posters are being accepted now through December 18th.

**It is great to be a part of an organization that is strong in our church and community.**

Men of the Parish interested in becoming a Member of St. Louis Council or who have any questions, please contact the Membership Director Joseph DiPrima by email: drdiprima@gmail.com. Or Grand Knight Michael DeCocq, 314-8835, email: depepsi@twc.com

Thank you, and God Bless, Michael DeCocq, GK.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Rochester Catholic Women’s Conference will be held at the Aquinas Institute on March 9, 2019. This year’s theme is “Full of Grace.” Our speakers are Karlo Broussard and Sr. Anne Catherine, OP. Registration is now open at Rochestercwc.org.

Catholic Family Center’s micro enterprise, Healthy Sisters Soup and Bean Works, is in great need of volunteers to help pack soup & coffee for the holiday season. The program serves women in recovery and they desperately need volunteer support between now and Christmas to meet seasonal demand. We can use up to 10 volunteers at a time serving in three hour blocks between 8 AM and 3 PM during the week from now until right before Christmas. They can do this one time or as often as they would like.

The minimum age is 16 with an accompanying adult. The location is 500 Lee Rd, Rochester NY 14606 and the program contacts are Ken Zablotny and Kathy Previte. They can be reached at 546-2784 during the hours above or by email at kzablotny@cfcrochester.org or kprevite@cfcrochester.org

This is an excellent volunteer opportunity for families, especially when teens need community service hours.

**House of Mercy Toy Drive**

Help local families & children have a joyous Christmas! Please drop off new, unwrapped toys to House of Mercy by 12/20 for our Christmas Toy Drive. Thank you for your support!

House of Mercy, 285 Ormond Street, Rochester, NY 14605
585-544-2580
www.houseofmercyrochester.org

Sr. Grace Miller founded the House of Mercy 33 years ago to serve the homeless and the poor of Rochester. The House of Mercy provides emergency shelter, hot meals, a food pantry, counseling services, clothing and at this time of year, Christmas gifts for the homeless and impoverished families in our city. Questions? Please contact Francine McAndrew at francine@houseofmercyrochester.org. God bless you!
PARISH OFFICES - Ministry Center
64 S. Main Street, 14534
(585) 586-5675; Fax 387-9888
MINISTRY CENTER HOURS ARE:
MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

PASTORAL STAFF:
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