A Glimpse of Glory

Imagine St. Mark composing his Gospel, some 40 years after Jesus’ death and resurrection. He is writing for a community undergoing intense persecution. Some members had sacrificed to the emperor to save their skin. Some failed in other ways. Yet they wanted to be in the community of believers, even though ashamed of their failures. Keep that in mind. It will be easier to understand why Mark shows so clearly the failures of the apostles. Even those Jesus specifically chose failed, and needed to be forgiven. There is hope for everyone. There is hope for us, no matter how messy our lives can be at times.

What is Mark communicating as he paints a picture of the Transfiguration? That Jesus was both human and divine. His passion, the unfolding of his suffering and death, will reveal his human nature. His Resurrection will reveal his divinity. The Transfiguration teaches that the one who will soon die on the cross is both human and divine, even if the passion will challenge the most ardent believers. Note, the three who witness the Transfiguration will be the three who fall asleep in the garden of Gethsemane. That motif of failure yet again. Another theme in Mark’s Gospel — it is impossible to fully understand who Jesus is until after his death and resurrection. His readers know the end of the story. But as Mark tells it, he our understanding Jesus to grow. Witnessing the crucified, suffering servant raised in glory will be the final chapter. Then all will be clear.

Elijah and Moses? The earliest reflection and preaching on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, earliest efforts to understand how it fit together were by faithful Jews, whose outlook was steeped in the scriptures. Thus they could see connections between the Law (Moses) and the Prophets (Elijah). ‘All these things had to happen’. Moses and Elijah appearing with Jesus reveal those connections.

Does this apply to our own lives? Absolutely. The meaning of our life story is not complete until our last breath. We too are destined for resurrection. That hope sustains us, helping us through challenges, suffering, and times when our cross may reveal our humanity with painful clarity. We do get brief glimpses of glory. We may fail to understand. We may want to stay on top of the mountain. But like Jesus and the disciples, we need to head back down the mountain, into our human life, rough valleys and all, and head to Jerusalem. I would love to conclude singing ‘Jerusalem, My Destiny’. But bulletins are limited to written communication. So please go online and listen to “Jerusalem, My Destiny” It’s a great Lent reflection!

Peace to you and those you love, Fr. Bob
**Mass Intentions for This Week**

**Monday - February 26**
- Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
  - 11:00 am Victims of School Shootings - People of the Parish
  - 5:15 pm William Dennis - Family

**Tuesday - February 27**
- Is 1:10, 16-20/ Mt 23:1-12
  - 6:45 am Those in Hospice Care
  - 11:00 am Fr. George Norton

**Wednesday - February 28**
- Jer 18:18/ Mt 20:17-28
  - 11:00 am Homeless Families
  - 5:15 pm Lillian Jabbour - A Friend

**Thursday - March 1**
- Jer 17:5-10/ Lk 16:19-31
  - 6:45 am Fr. George Norton
  - 11:00 am Linus Wegman - Eileen Morris

**Friday - March 2**
- Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/
  - 11:00 am Stephen Shults - Aunt Mary
  - 1:00 pm Mass at the Highlands
  - 5:15 pm Lillian Jabbour - A Friend

**Saturday - March 3**
- Mt 7:14-15, 18-20/ Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
  - 9:00 am Michelle Peartree - Friends
  - 4:30 pm John Rubens - Jerry & Janice Rachfal

**Sunday - March 4**
- Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/
- 1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
  - 7:30 am Bernadette Vogt - Don & Carol Sheehan
  - 9:00 am Lillian Jabbour - DiLiberto Family
  - 11:15 am Judy Hagler - Terry & Bonnie Davenport
  - 5:00 pm Joan Kunz - McKnight 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.

One Lamp will burn for a Special Intention for the Nelk and Discenza Families by Aunt Jo and Children

One Lamp will burn for a Special Intention by Mom.

One Lamp will burn in Thanksgiving for a Special Intention by Peggy Midgley.

**Requiem Aeternam**

Lorreto Keck
Ambrose Utley

All are welcome to spend an hour this Friday, March 2, for First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament between 11:30 am - 4:00 pm. Join us at the Tabernacle Chapel.

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**Saturday & Sunday, March 3 & 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>Sacristan/LA</th>
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</thead>
</table>

**Sunday Communion Service - March 4**

The Highlands - Darlene Huver
Heather Heights - Diane Salipante
Our Weekend Scriptures: 2nd Sunday in Lent

1st Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Obedience & blessing

2nd Reading: Romans 8:31b-34
Spared and on His prayer list

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10
Dazzled

Journey of a Text
When we first start reading the Bible, we naturally focus simply on the words in front of us and what they seem to mean. With time, we learn how important context is. We start looking at what precedes and what follows a passage. We also come to look at how it fits in the bigger picture of the whole Bible. At the 300 or 400 level, study can include how the passage came to be understood over the years. That level is important if we are to get beyond the shock value of today’s 1st reading. Early on, the key point was Abraham’s obedience. Secondarily, rejection of child sacrifice (practiced by neighboring cultures), and the idea of a substitutionary sacrifice, that is, redeeming one’s first born (God providing the ram). Remember the feast of the Holy Family, and Mary and Joseph’s offering for Jesus (pg 30 in At Home with the Word)? Over time, as rabbis reflected on this text, the focus moved to see in Isaac the willing sacrifice of Isaiah’s suffering servant songs. That perspective brings this text to us as we begin Lent. One beauty of our faith: the Bible brings with it centuries of wisdom gleaned from the text, and prayer and study with it over the centuries.

Reducio ad Absurdum
That is the logical argument St. Paul uses in our 2nd reading. Did you know that Tarsus, where St. Paul grew up, had a school of rhetoric/logic in his day? He is using here an established way of making a point: If God so loved us that he did not spare his own Son, how can we think he is going to charge us with our sin, and exact some extreme punishment? No, God is not looking to charge us but to redeem us, and his risen Son is praying that we will believe, and respond to the amazing mercy offered. How will we respond this Lent?

Two Mountains
If you like mountain climbing, or see this Lent as a time to climb out of the valley to a higher place, our readings today provide two fine mountains to scale. In the first reading we have Mount Moriah, which Abraham ascended with Isaac. Traditionally associated with the Temple Mount in the center of Jerusalem, it is the mountain of radical obedience to God. Abraham also discovered there that God provides the true sacrifice. How might we scale the mountain of obedience? In the Gospel, we have the Mount of the Transfiguration, where God reveals the reward for Jesus’ obedience, his transfigured, resurrected glory. There we celebrate Easter. The third mountain we can experience by making the Stations of the Cross: the hill of Calvary.

Looking Ahead: 3rd Sunday in Lent

1st Reading: Exodus 17:3-7
Water from the rock

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
We have peace with God through Jesus

Gospel: John 4:5-42
Give us Living Water

St. Louis School Technology Corner
Virtual Meditations
Stations of the Cross

This Lent, St. Louis School and Parish have teamed up to display cards with QR Codes for Virtual Meditations for the Stations of the Cross in the church posted under each Station.

Current iPhone cameras have the ability to recognize QR Codes that open YouTube to the Stations of the Cross Meditations.

Just aim your iPhone camera and follow the link. You will see beautiful images, text, and hear music - so wear ear buds or head phones.

If you don’t have a current OS iPhone then download a QR code reader from the App Store or Google Play store.

A unique way to merge faith and technology.
**Our Offering of Time & Treasure**

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<th>February</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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**Online Collection**

Month-to-Date 45,629.08

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Did you miss our State of the Parish Financial Report on our website? To see it, you can visit stlouischurch.org/state-parish or you can pick up a copy in the Narthex!

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**Urgent Needs**

Saint’s Place has an urgent need for baby girl clothing 0 – 6 months. We could also use crib sheets, receiving blankets, pack and plays, strollers, baby swings and bouncy seats. All items need to be clean and ready to deliver to needy families. Thank you.

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**Bethany House**

Bethany House, established in 1977, is a Catholic Worker House of Hospitality sheltering homeless women and children. Located on Joseph Avenue, Rochester, an area beset by poverty and violence, it also serves the needs of women and their children in that area. Some of the women have been victims of domestic violence, some have been evicted from their homes, some are trying to recover from alcohol or drug abuse, some have been recently released from incarceration or have been hospitalized for illnesses of the mind or body. Whatever the case, all find a welcoming and supportive "home" at Bethany House.

Bethany House provides emergency shelter, an emergency food cupboards, and maintains a clothing room, all for no cost. Bethany House is supported solely through private and institutional donations from the general public and various businesses in the Rochester area. The mission of Bethany House is to provide food, shelter, clothing, support, advocacy, and hospitality for women with or without children, and to serve homeless women and children who are often invisible and forgotten in our society. All come from experiences that radically deny their worth. Those served are not limited by race, religion or economic background. The door is always open to those in need.

Women in need of assistance are welcome to come to the food cupboard any weekday, once a month. It is available to the women and children in the shelter and also to women of the neighborhood two mornings a week. Bethany House also serves as a drop-in center for women and children during daytime hours Monday through Friday. Women can drop by for support, encouragement, advocacy, friendship, and comfort as the need arises in their daily life. Bethany House is always open to visitors, volunteers and donations. Many short term volunteer opportunities are available for individuals and groups. For more information email rbethani@rochester.rr.com, phone: 585-454-4197, or visit bethanyhouserocny.org.

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**Fruit of the Vine Conversation**

with Fr. George Heyman

**The Lord’s Supper**

1 Corinthians 11:18-26

The early Church gathered for a simple meal. Meals, and the ritual components of sharing bread and wine, have long possessed an abundance of meaning and value for participants. This lecture/discussion, based on the Scriptural texts, helps us understand the origins of the Eucharist as a covenant meal, steeped in its Jewish roots as a saving banquet for us today.
Living Stations of the Cross
On Friday March 2, at 7 PM, members of the youth group of Blessed Trinity Parish in Tioga County will present the Living Stations of the Cross here at St. Louis. This program is a long-standing tradition of St. Margaret Mary Church. These live meditations on the Stations of the Cross greatly impact audiences by getting them to see Christ in a very real way. The Living Stations cast is comprised of youth from grades 7 – 12 from all of the parish churches of Blessed Trinity Parish and is coordinated by St. Margaret Mary youth ministers. All are welcome to attend this program. More information and a link to a slideshow of a past presentation may be found at stlouischurch.org.

Lent Can Change Your Life
In fact, it’s meant to.
Join us this Sunday!

Learn how choosing a meaningful Lenten penance can be easier and more profound than you think.

We’ll use Fr. Mike Schmitz’ videos and Resisting Happiness as our starting points.

Sunday, Feb. 25
10:00-11:00 a.m.
The Manse
(O’Connor Library)
Saint Louis Church would like to congratulate all the recipients of this year’s Hands of Christ Award. The Criteria to receive this very special recognition:

- Has consistently demonstrated a Christian attitude by word and example.
- Has been actively involved in the parish as well as their school or community.
- Has been a positive role model to their peers, younger children and adults.
- Is a practicing Roman Catholic in a parish in the Diocese of Rochester and attends Mass.
- Is currently a high school senior.

Jessica Aldred  Brendan Kepes  Joanna Parker
Caroline Dehn  S. Michael Lippa  Connor Pulli
Alexander Denzak  Evan Mancini  Danny Skelton
Seth Denzak  Claire Martin

We are excited to announce this year’s theme:

**LEGO and Let God!**

Monday, June 25 –
Thursday, June 28

**What is Vacation Bible School?**
VBS is a four-day program for students who have completed grades K-4 by June 2018. Filled with crafts, songs, activities, and lessons about God, Vacation Bible School gives students a creative and fun way to connect to faith!

**How do I sign my child up?**
You may register online through the parish website: stlouischurch.org
($50 charge per child)
Can you remember your fun filled field trips - to the planetarium, an exciting day at the amusement park or a visit to the fire station?

How about a field trip to the Saint’s Place Clothing Closet to get needed clothing? Students have outgrown their boots. Their winter jackets are old and worn, hats and gloves have gone missing, and to purchase new clothing would cost money - and their families have very limited resources. So their school - the Rochester International Academy - arranged to send a bus filled with happy, excited students on a field trip to the Saint’s Place Clothing Closet.

The students, most middle and high schoolers, have been doing these “field trips” for over a year. Their enthusiasm and appreciation are demonstrated in the awesome thank you notes we receive. They thank us for being respectful, nice and good people. They wish us blessings. Several mentioned how they liked their warm winter coats, boots and gloves. They were no longer cold. A few mentioned how they shared their new items of clothing with family and friends. One young lady said, “Thank you for giving us clothing and loving us.”

It is so easy to make them happy; one smile, one kind gesture, a word of encouragement/friendship, one act of kindness, one helping hand, and an ear to listen. The positive effects of “one-on-one” are countless.

The Lord has an unwavering love for the poor. By supporting Saint’s Place you are showing refugees they are not forgotten.

Deeply Moved for Pastoral Care?
Ever consider a sacrifice of love for Lent? A sacrifice of time and talent in the Pastoral Care Ministries brings us closer to Christ through His loving presence that you bring to those who may not be able to come to him on their own. Love has a way of growing the more it is given. As you bring the loving and living presence of Christ to others be prepared to be touched by His loving and living presence for you! Interested in learning a few avenues St. Louis Church offers its sacrifice of love? Please contact Cathy Malik, Pastoral Associate for Pastoral Care at 586-5675, ext. 228 or via email at Catherine.Malik@dor.org.
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER PERMANENT DIACONATE: The deacon is a man of faith, who is called from the community that already recognizes his dedication to service. He makes a lifetime commitment to serving the People of God by proclaiming the Word, assisting and presiding at liturgies, and ministering in the areas of charity and social justice. A deacon gives witness to his availability to the community by addressing present and emerging needs of the Church. The Diocese is inviting interested men of strong and active faith, who can demonstrate a record of service in the communities in which they live, work and worship, who may wish to explore a possible call to ordained ministry as a permanent deacon, to first speak with their pastor for an initial conversation. They may also contact Deacon Edward Giblin, Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, at Edward.Giblin@dor.org, for additional information. A potential candidate must be at least 35 years of age and no older than 62 years of age at the time of ordination after a five (5) year period of formation. He must be in good health, emotionally mature, have stable relationships and must have the wholehearted support of his wife (if married) and family to enter the phase of inquiry. Because the parish is the primary experience of Church for most inquirers, the parish community is asked as well to invite from among its members men who exhibit strong faith and a spirit of service and encourage them to consider a possible vocation to the permanent diaconate.

St. Louis Knights of Columbus Council Easter Lily Sale

March 3rd and 4th
At all church entrances
Before and after all Masses

Order an Easter Lily for $9.00

Pick up your Easter Lily after all Masses on Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25

You can also order an Easter Lily and raise the spirits of a person in the Monroe County Meals on Wheels program, to be delivered by a member of the St. Louis Knights of Columbus Council.

Proceeds from the sale are for the benefit of vocations in the Rochester area.

Lily Sale Order Form

Name ___________________________________    Phone ______________________________________
Address  ______________________________________________________________________________
Email ________________________________________________________________________________

Order:                        Quantity:                        *Please make check payable to St. Louis Knights of Columbus*
Easter Lily - Pick Up ________
Easter Lily - Meals on Wheels ________
Total: $_______

Return your completed order form and payment to the Ministry Center by Sunday, March 18.
Grow Spiritually this Lent!

We have many events offered in church this Lent, but if you are looking for something more, it’s all available on our Adult Formation webpage!

Check out online Lenten reflections, studies, apps for your phone, prayers, and other highly recommended resources.

Visit: StLouisChurch.org/lent or StLouisChurch.org/resources

Theology on Tap Lenten Four Pack
Monday Nights at 7:00 pm

Three Heads Brewing
186 Atlantic Ave.
Rochester, NY 14607

March 5, IT ALL HANGS ON CONSUBSTANTIALITY
Mike Sauter, Retreat House Manager at the Abbey of the Genesee

March 12, ANSWERING THE CALL: A YEAR OF SERVICE IN A PHILADELPHIA SOUP KITCHEN
Jessica Tette, Coordinator of Children Ministries, St. Kateri

March 19, CAREER, CALLING, & CHRISTIAN VOCATION
DCN. Ed Giblin, Director of Deacon Personnel, Diocese of Rochester

March 26, MY LIFE WITH THE SAINTS
Fr. Kevin Mannara, CSB, Director of Campus Ministry, St. John Fisher College

Theology on Tap is an opportunity for young adults to discuss and reflect on issues of faith.

Sponsored by The Diocese of Rochester Department of Evangelization & Catechesis. Theology on Tap is a copyrighted program of Review International. Used with permission.

The February mission at St. Louis School is “Sneakers for Haiti.”

This ministry collects shoes for mentally and physically challenged children in Haiti who have been shunned, discarded and/or neglected.

Please send in new or gently used sneakers for this important ministry. Please tie the shoelaces together so that we can keep them set as a pair!

Collection bins are located at the back of church and in the lobby of St. Louis School.

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi, meaning rediscovery) is a program for married couples who feel disillusioned, frustrated or angry in their marriage.

♦ Some experience coldness.
♦ Others experience conflict in their relationship.
♦ Sometimes life-changing events occur (car accident, illness) and most don’t know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouses about it.

This world-wide Catholic program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage.

For confidential information about the Spring program beginning with a weekend at Notre Dame Retreat House on March 23-25, 2018, please call 585-293-1552 or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com

St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY
February 25, 2018
PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICES - Ministry Center
64 S. Main Street, 14534
(585) 586-5675; Fax 387-9888

MINISTRY CENTER SUMMER HOURS ARE:
MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

PASTORAL STAFF:
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ext. 225, Fr.Bob.Ring@dor.org
Rev. Juan Benitez, Parochial Vicar
Fr.Juan.Benitez@dor.org
Deacon David Snyder,
1deacondave@gmail.com, 586-5675
Stephanie Honz, Pastoral Associate for
Liturgy and Liturgical Music,
ext. 251, Stephanie.Honz@dor.org
Cathy Malik, Pastoral Associate for
Pastoral Care
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Brendan Donnelly, Chair,
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Stewardship Team, 734-9705
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Isabel Miller, Executive Director,
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saintlady@saaintsplace.org

In Residence at the Rectory:
Msgr. Gerard Krieg

Fran Barr, Principal,
St. Louis School, 11 Rand Place
Phone: 586-5200 Fran.Barr@dor.org
http://slspittsford.org/

Michael DeCocq, Grand Knight,
St. Louis Knights of Columbus
Phone: 585-314-8835
depesi@twc.com

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http://www.facebook.com/ stlouischurchpittsford

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