### You Called?

Have you ever set your cell phone down, then gone to get something in the next room? The phone rings, but by the time you get to it, your caller has hung up. Luckily these days, we can sometimes check ‘missed calls’, and decide if we want to call back right away, or wait to see if the caller calls again. Young Samuel didn’t have a cell phone, but he did have Eli, who helped him with a potentially missed call. Thanks to his mentor Eli, Samuel learned to understand the Lord’s ways, got connected, and so began a long and fruitful ministry. Our 1st reading and Gospel this weekend are about being called. Wouldn’t it be great if we could set a special ring tone, just for calls from the Lord? No, it is not likely any of us will get a call on our cell, answer, and hear “Hello, this is God”. But stay with this flight of fancy. It may offer some insight.

With folks I really know well, often I am not surprised when they call. I have a sense even before I look at the phone. The time of day is sometimes a clue (our 1st reading hints at that: check out last week’s observations in the bulletin about the time just before dawn.) Sometimes I have a clue about who is calling because it has been awhile, and a call is overdue. Often then I think “and I was going to pick up the phone and call several times this past week – wish I had now!”) That too can happen in our relationship with Jesus. When we forget to connect for too long, the Lord will sometimes do something to get our attention. Then there is voice. When we pick up the phone, we recognize the voices of those we are close to. In that 1st reading, Samuel was young, and not yet familiar with how the Lord would speak to him. But over time, he became very familiar with the Lord’s ways. Remember, God can speak to us through others, through our dreams, through intuitions, through something we hear or read touching us deeply, and that is just a sampling of ways.

If God knew someone you love had a need, and wanted to give you a nudge about reaching out, would you recognize the ring tone? Would your cell be turned off? How does God get through? These readings provide a great opportunity to reflect on the most important part of the prayer dialogue. Not so much what we say and how best to say it, but how we listen, how we open the line when God is trying to get through. For our own faith to grow, out of love for others, to be faithful to our baptismal call, it is important to be able to have conversations with others about our conversations with God. Try sharing about how God speaks to you with someone this week! Peace, Fr. Bob
Not Just Chit Chat!
When Jesus asks a question in John’s Gospel, it is never just to pass the time of day. The question is always an invitation to go deeper, and to live deeper. Through John, Jesus is asking us the same question he asked the two disciples in today’s Gospel: ‘What are you looking for?’ This is not about whether or not we have misplaced something! He’s really asking, what are you looking for out of life? What are your deepest questions? Check out the ‘Scripture Insights’ in at Home with the Word for an excellent discussion of this Gospel, and pray, or journal with the questions posed there: What, deep down, do you want? Where, really, do you live?

Drop Those Nets
Simon and Andrew, James and John dropping their nets to follow Jesus will provide a great image in our Gospel next week. What does becoming a disciple require? We may not need to abandon our occupation, and drop our nets in the way that those disciples did, but there are definitely things one needs to leave behind if we are to truly follow Jesus. Between now and next week, talk with Jesus about things you have already left behind, and ask if perhaps there are one or two more things you might need to drop. Pray too for those who struggle to take the first step.

Detachment
The world of the Roman Empire in which the people of Corinth lived did pass away, as it turns out. The world, just as it is right now in 2015 will also pass away. St. Paul’s counsel in next week’s second reading points to an essential dimension of Christian life we also discover in Jesus preaching the Kingdom. Being too attached to the things of this world is an obstacle to embracing the Kingdom, and the path to eternity that the Lord lays before us. Great spiritual writers all speak of the importance of detachment. Could that be a message that will make a difference in your life?

Preparation for Next Weekend
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10
They turned from their evil way
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
This world is passing away
Gospel: Mark 1:14-20
They dropped their nets and followed him

A Whale of a Story!
The book of Jonah is not like any other prophetic book in the Bible, and reading it literally is seriously bad judgment. The author is clearly very skilled at using humor and outlandish situations and commands to under-line important themes. Reading it literally would be like listening to someone tell a joke about a priest, a rabbi and a minister going into a bar, and then asking ‘which bar was that? Did it happen recently?’ Bible study is one way to discover how to really appreciate the inspiration of Jonah. If you have a good study Bible, like the New Oxford Annotated Bible (with Apocrypha), just reading the introduction to the book of Jonah will help immensely. (If you aren’t familiar with Jonah, give it a read before next Sunday. Its short, and you’ll see how the one sent to preach repentance had some repenting to do!)

GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE TIMELINE RETURNS!
Reading the Bible should bring us closer to Christ, but understanding it is often difficult. The good news is that you can understand the Bible, and The Bible Timeline makes it easy.

The Bible Timeline is a Catholic Bible study that can help anyone to make sense of the Bible and to experience the life-changing power of God’s Word. The study takes you on a journey through the entire Bible and brings you deep into each period of salvation history, so that you can discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. The Bible Timeline has helped hundreds of thousands of people to have a better understand the Bible and a deeper relationship with Christ, and it will help you too.

We began this study during Lent of 2014 and completed the first 8 sessions. Now we will continue our journey and study the next 8 sessions. The study will include a series of eight videos presented by Jeff Cavins. Each video will be preceded by a lively group discussion.

If you did not participate in the previous study you can still join us for this eight week session. If you purchased materials for the first session we will be using those for these sessions as well. If you are just joining us the cost is $45 to cover The Bible Timeline study kit.

The study begins on Saturday, January 24 at 9:30am in the Parish Meeting Hall. If you have questions regarding the study or the materials please contact Kathryn McAlarney at mcalarney1@gmail.com. We look forward to taking this journey with you.
Mass Intentions for This Week

MONDAY - JANUARY 19
Heb 5:1-10/Mk 2:18-22
11:00 am Charlie Ramos - Family
5:15 pm Jim DeBloom - Family

TUESDAY - JANUARY 20
Heb 6:10-20/Mk 2:23-28
6:45 am Ginny Krieg - Men’s Spirituality Group
11:00 am Anna DuPré - Jim & Linda McCauley
11:00 am Mass at Heather Heights for the People of Our Parish

WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 21
Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Mk 3:1-6
11:00 am William Wackerman - Loyola & Jack Connolly
5:15 pm Annie Bott - Family

THURSDAY - JANUARY 22
Heb 7:25-8:6/Mk 3:7-12
6:45 am Lillian M. Bristow - Jeff Mason
11:00 am Therese I. O’Brien - Peggy O’Neil Midgley

FRIDAY - JANUARY 23
Heb 8:6-13/Mk 3:13-19
11:00 am Helen Bauer & Family - Monica Bauer
5:15 pm John McAlarney - Wife

SATURDAY - JANUARY 24
Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Mk 3:20-21
9:00 am Joseph Cleary - Paul & Geri Dolan
4:30 pm Teresa Huver - Cathy Danner

SUNDAY - JANUARY 25
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20
6:45 am Caitlyn Josephine Bissig - Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Coan
7:30 am Bryan Lanahan - William Kunz Family
9:00 am Officer Daryl Pierson - Officer Ryan Hickey
11:00 am Officer Ryan Hickey - Officer Daryl Pierson
5:00 pm Margaret Kunz Rand - The McKnight Family

Saturday & Sunday, January 24 & 25.   Thank you, faithful servants!

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 Rose De Traglia
By her Daughters.

Two Lamps will burn
In Thanksgiving
By Bill & Mary Ellen.

Requiem Aeternam
Andrew Eilertsen

Catholic Schools Week

Our St. Louis School Catholic Schools Week Mass will be Monday, January 26, at 9:10 AM. YOU are warmly invited to join the celebration!

Sunday Communion Service - January 25
The Highlands: Marcia & Dick Hilliard
Heather Heights: Richard Caruso
Are you visiting with us today? Welcome! We love to have you with us, and hope that you felt warmly welcomed, at home even. Let our home be your home. We pray your experience of liturgy here was uplifting, and helped you experience the Lord Jesus, speaking to us in the Word proclaimed, attending to our prayers, calling forth the song in our hearts, and inviting us offer ourselves, as he offers himself for us, in the Eucharist. If you were able to contribute, we are very grateful!

Tithing

The Bible and the practice of believers over the centuries gives clear witness to the value of being intentional about how we give back a share of our blessings to the Lord. We hope that all who call St. Louis their parish home give serious thought and prayer to their ongoing support of the parish. The Bible goal of tithing is 10%. Many would see that as 5% of one’s income in support of the church/parish, and 5% to support other charity, whether formal and informal. We live that commitment as a parish by tithing 10% of the Sunday collections. A portion of this goes to the various charities you see listed here each week, while a portion goes to support our Saint’s Place ministry to refugees here in Monroe County. Your contribution not only supports our parish facilities, staff and services, but helps us reach out to those in need, week after week. Thank you for helping us make a difference!

Have you considered EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer)?

Your monthly contribution is automatically transferred from your checking or savings account to St. Louis Church. Benefits of giving through EFT: You control the amount and timing of your monthly offering to St. Louis Church, plus related Diocesan/National appeals as well as Holy Days. You can spread your contributions evenly over the entire year, and the Church can count on an even flow of contributions. You receive an annual statement by e-mail or regular mail, including Diocesan/National and Holy Day collection amounts, important for those who itemize contributions on their tax returns. To use EFT, please complete the Authorization Form and return it with a voided personal check. EFT forms are available in church; or you can call the Ministry Center (585-586-5675) to have one mailed; to download a form go to www.stlouischurch.org/parish-support.
**Silence: Shall We Talk About It?**

That sounds like an oxymoron, doesn’t it? Maybe we should just come together for an hour and experience it as Quakers do in their worship. Maybe we will do that in part, but not all silence is equally life-giving, so it’s worth talking about, and learning to “do” better.

Silence either helps or it hinders us in life. It is used as emphasis and sometimes a source of abuse. It enriches or drags down a relationship. It is one of the time-honored ways we enter into God and God into us.

On this evening, we will honor one another’s insights into this powerful gift shared by human beings throughout history but not necessarily relished by today’s culture.

**Tuesday, January 20, 7 pm**  
St. Catherine of Siena Church  
**Guide for the Evening: Sister Joan Sobala**

Joan Sobala is a Sister of Saint Joseph who has spent much of her life working in pastoral settings where issues of faith and life so often reveal the yearnings of the human heart for God.

**CONFERENCES NOT TO MISS!!**

**WOMEN: REGISTER NOW!**

The Rochester Catholic Women’s Conference is coming back on March 28, 2015. This year’s theme “Body, Mind and Soul” emphasizes God’s complete love for us and our joyful response to Him. Speakers will include Jeanette DeMelio, Editor-in-Chief of the National Catholic Register, and Sister Mary Gabriel of the Sisters of Life in New York City. Registration is now open online at RochesterCWC.org/

**MEN: MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

The Rochester Catholic Men’s Conference (RCMC) will offer its first-ever conference, Put Out Into the Deep, on Saturday, May 16, 2015, from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM, at St. John Fisher College, 3690 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618. The event will feature nationally known speakers, Tim Staples, Danny Abramowicz and Hector Molina. Included in the event are the Celebration of the Eucharist at 8:00 AM, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction at 3:45 PM, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which will be offered to participants from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM. A great opportunity, just down the street this Spring!

**LEARNING TO SAY GOODBYE AND HEAL**

The sessions will take place at Good Shepherd School, St. Marianne Cope, R.C. Parish 3288 East Henrietta Road. We will meet on Thursday evenings from 7-9 pm beginning January, 29, 2015.

The sessions will follow Dr. Bruce Fisher’s book, “Rebuilding When Your Relationship Ends”. Participants can receive hope, encouragement and support knowing they are not alone in their journey. The cost for the ten week session is $50 and includes Dr. Fisher’s book. A Rebuilding brochure with an overview and outline of the program, and application can be found at http://www.beginningexperiencerochesterny.org/Activities-Calendar.html.

For more information or to register call:  
Patti (585-425-8079) or  
Lynn (585-349-3091) or  
E-mail beofrochester@gmail.com

**Be My Valentine**

Mark your calendar now for a special night for couples, Friday, February 13, Valentine's Day Eve. A special Mass, renewal of vows, and reception.

**A TRANSFORMING WEEKEND!**

God gave us the greatest gift of love when He sent His son to redeem us. He asks us to love one another as He loves us. Take the time to grow deeper in love with God, your spouse and your family at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in the Western New York area is on Feb. 6-8, 2015 in Canandaigua, NY; for more information visit our website at: www.wwme-wny.org, email Applications@wwme-wny.org or call (877) 697-9963.

**RCIA: A JOURNEY FOR THE ENTIRE PARISH!**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey into discipleship for those participating in the initiation process, becoming a full member of the Catholic Church. It can also help the whole parish take further steps into discipleship! New life in Christ is a gradual journey of many steps and stages. Along the way parishioners have much to share with those looking to come into the Catholic faith. The more we all invest in the process of initiating others into the life of Christ, the more our community is renewed in Christ.

Have you ever considered a new way to share your faith with others? Would you like to walk with others in their journey to Christ? Please pray about it. Ask Fr. Bob or Cris Wensel if you have any questions. Another way to be a part of welcoming into the faith is our Baptismal Preparation ministry. Speak with Deacon Dave or Fr Bob about that great ministry.

**LOTS OF LOVE**

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JOIN US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE:
Tuesday, Jan. 27, 9:30 am-2:30 pm
OR
Wednesday, Feb. 4, 9:30 am-2:30 pm
Contact us for more information at 585-586-5200 or visit slspittsford.org

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE NEWS

The Pastoral Care Committee will be meeting on Thursday, January 22 at 9:30 am in the Parish Meeting Hall to review our activities during Advent and to plan upcoming events during the spring. Some topics for discussion include: the distribution of flowers to homebound parishioners during Holy Week, the annual Sunshine Luncheon, communion ministry, pastoral care visits, and the bereavement ministry. If you have any other suggestions, please notify either Cris Wensel at cwensel@dor.org or 586-5675 x224 or Peggy O'Neil Midgley at pemidgley@yahoo.com or 383-8879. New members are always welcome.

Get a Jump on Fat Tuesday!
Join together with your parish friends for

Mardi Gras Bistro Night
Creole Food, Jazz, Beads & Masks!
Saturday, February 7th @ 5:30pm

Call Birdie to pre-pay and reserve your spot
586-5675
$15 per person, BYOB

At St. Louis, we teach the whole child—to cultivate intellectual, social and spiritual growth. First and foremost, we prepare students for academic success.

Smaller classes allow for more individual attention, and computer literacy starts in kindergarten. Equally important, at every grade level, we emphasize character development.

Affordable: Tuition ranges from $1,500 to $6,400.
January 2015

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

I write to update you on our state-wide advocacy efforts in concert with my brother bishops of the New York State Catholic Conference to enact the Education Investment Tax Credit proposal and, more importantly, to ask for your help.

Despite our best efforts to enact our education tax credit proposal in 2014, we were unsuccessful. We are presented with a new opportunity in 2015 to enact a program to assist tuition-paying families with the education of their children. The proposal will help families afford tuition at Catholic and other parochial schools by generating an additional $150 million in scholarships. The bill also provides an equal level of support to public schools.

Because the measure stands to help children in all schools, it enjoys the support of the overwhelming majority of our state Senators and Assembly members – Democrats and Republicans alike. Governor Cuomo, who is focusing much of his attention on improving education in this state, also supports the proposal and even told supporters during his re-election campaign, that “the Education Investment Tax Credit is a matter of justice…that’s the way I see it.”

However, despite this expressed support for our proposal, a state budget was enacted last year that included a substantial increase in support for charter schools and public schools while failing to address the needs of tuition-paying families. While we support all educational options for families, taxpayer support for public and charter schools without support for tuition-paying families is unjust and unacceptable. We simply cannot ignore the needs of low- and middle-income families who want a religious and independent school education for their children.

Governor Cuomo is preparing his 2015 Executive Budget proposal for release on January 27. I ask that you join my brother bishops and me in contacting Governor Cuomo’s office, no later than January 21, 2015 (Tel. 1-518-474-8390). Simply ask that the Governor include the Education Tax Credit proposal in his Executive Budget.

Our efforts to seek assistance for tuition-paying families have not and nor will not cease and enactment of Education Tax Credits remains our top legislative priority in education. With your help, we can ensure that Catholic schools continue to serve children and families for generations to come. Please join us in praying that our elected leaders will serve the needs of all God’s children.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+Salvatore R. Matano

The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano
Bishop of Rochester
Hi Teens,

This week a group of high school students and adults from St. Louis will be traveling down to Washington D.C. for the annual March for Life. This event takes place every year on January 22, the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade making abortion a constitutional right. Catholics and other pro-life supporters will gather from around the country to peacefully protest this decision and pray for all life, especially the unborn and those grieving from the pain of a past abortion.

For those of us unable to physically join in the march, we can join in prayer. Please take some time this week (particularly on Thursday) to reflect on how precious life is!

Mr. McBride and Molly

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Sunday, January 18, 5:00 pm Teen Mass; 6:00 - 7:30 pm Dinner and Youth Group Mtg.
Wednesday, January 21-23, March for Life in Washington, D.C. Leave Wednesday after school & return late Friday night
Saturday, January 24, at 1:00 pm until Sunday at 4:00 pm, Diocesan Retreat at Camp Stella Maris
Saturday, January 31, 5:30 - 7:00 pm Ice Skating Party at Manhattan Square Park

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 13-17, Foundations Youth Leadership Retreat, Camp Stella Maris
Wednesday, March 4, Hands of Christ Awards
Friday, Saturday, March 20-21, Parish Teen Retreat
June 26-28, Franciscan University Youth Conference, Steubenville, Ohio
November 19-21, National Catholic Youth Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana

Baptism Congratulations!!!

We rejoice with these families who have brought their children to be initiated into the faith of our Church community. May God’s love & light grow ever stronger within them, and may their families always be a place of blessing.

- Peter Darrow, Jr., son of Peter and Lauren Fox
- Mia Paladino, daughter of Jason and Sara Delaurentis
- Kennedi Joy, daughter of Isaac and Kristi Stappas
- Alida K. Meyer, daughter of Martin and Christine Koster
- Lindsey Grace, daughter of Jeffrey and Amanda Hands
- Bella Aurelia, daughter of Charles and Jennifer Henderson
- Fiona Alice Veron, daughter of Dade and Erin Kelly
- Carly Jane, daughter of John and Rachel EIertsen
- Ana Sabina, daughter of Sergio and Susana Campos Barba
- Thomas Julian, son of Thomas and Ashley Frye
- Lily Marie, daughter of Jeremy and Rachel Jarmusz
- Caroline Brennan, daughter of Michael and Emily Boynton
- Cameron Michael, son of Steven and Kristy Law
- Gabriella Teresa, daughter of Michael and Amalia Carbone
- Davis Quinn, son of James and Renee Roland
- Stephen Edward, son of Stephen and Francie Wehry
- Jacqueline Jeanne, daughter of Stephen and Francie Wehry
- Brennan Richard, son of Gregory and Kate Nearpass
- Vivienne Baker, daughter of Chris and Katie Fox
- Henry Asher, son of James and Heather Sytsma
- Patrick Rider, son of Jeffrey and Elizabeth Charles
- Emilia Maurer, daughter of Michael and Bridgett Ryan
- Peter Hryhoriy, son of Oleg and Megan Litvinenko
- Tanner James, son of Ian and Courtney Grace
- Amelia Charlotte, daughter of Scott and Danielle Mead
- John Dominic, son of William and Katherine Payne
- Capri Rose, daughter of Gregg and Brittany Genovese
- Lilliana Jade, daughter of Jake and Allison Fricano
- Maeve Tierney, daughter of Joseph and Kathleen Ryan
- Liam Michael, son of Jason and Alyson Andrus
- Ari Ayerst, son of Jayson and Theresa Rosenberg
- Addilyn Marie, daughter of Kenneth and Courtney Abramo
- Blake Thomas, son of Brian and Lauter Matthews
- William Lucas, son of William and Elizabeth Simrell

LIFE! in Focus

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile."
~ Mother Teresa
“What Are You Looking For?”

In today's Gospel we learn about one of at least two family relations that appear among Jesus' first disciples. We know from the letters of Paul and other witnesses to the early Church that it was a common occurrence for an entire household to be baptized together. From the very beginning of the Church, families helped one another to know and follow Jesus. We hope and pray that this continues to be true in our family life.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him Peter, which means “rock” in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. In the passage that follows,

John's Gospel tells us how Jesus took the initiative in calling Philip and Nathanael.

Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, “What are you looking for?” This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. John the Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?

Look around your house and gather some items that your family might have that remind you of your faith. Perhaps you have a cross or crucifix displayed in your home, a statue of Mary, or statues or other art depicting saints. In today's Gospel we learn about how Andrew led his brother, Simon, to Jesus.

In our family life, we also help to lead one another to Jesus. Talk together about the items that you gathered, discussing what these items mean to you and how you might use them during the day for prayer. Pray that your family will continue to help one another grow in our faith in Jesus.

Winter Skating Party

Come join us at downtown’s Manhattan Square Park (next to the Strong Museum) for the St. Louis Church Family Skating Party!

Saturday, January 31
5:30 - 7:00 pm

The parish has rented the rink for the evening. Bring your own skates or rent them for $3.

We’ll provide the hot chocolate, bring some cookies if you like. Stop on down and bring some friends. Don’t miss out on the fun!

Any questions, contact Dan McBride at Stlouisyg@gmail.com.

Diocesan Public Policy Priority: Women’s Equality Act

One of the life-affirming points of the Woman’s Equality Act would protect pregnant women from job discrimination. Pregnant women, especially low-wage women in physically demanding jobs, frequently are pushed out of their jobs or must take unpaid leave when they request a modest, temporary accommodation, like a stool to sit on, more frequent restroom breaks, or temporary relief from heavy lifting. This point provides reasonable accommodation as is already required for other employees with a medical condition. Our Diocesan Public Policy Committee advocates passage of the 9 points that support every woman’s inherent human dignity; Diocesan Public Policy weekend, Feb 7-8, will be our opportunity to let our state legislators know we support 9 of the key points but oppose the 10th. mailto:sstack@dor.org

Our Lady of Guadalupe “She was great with child….”
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January 18, 2015