Lost No More

So what’s with Zebulun and Naphtali? Both figure prominently in the 1st reading and the Gospel this weekend. Never heard of either one? Well, Matthew’s Jewish readers would have known immediately, these were two of the patriarch Jacob’s (aka Israel’s) 12 sons. These two were given territory in the northeast region of the land of Israel. Among the 10 lost tribes, Zebulun and Naphtali were among the most lost. By the time of Jesus’ ministry, few folks of Jewish descent were left in this territory; it was predominantly Gentile/pagan. What is Isaiah saying? While long in darkness, there is tremendous hope for those living in these territories, this ancestral land. They will see God’s great light and love, and on that day there will be great rejoicing.

Matthew quotes Isaiah. Jesus begins his ministry among the most lost of the lost. He is the light that will dispel the gloom. Our take-home message? No one is lost to God’s love. God’s light shines in the darkest corners. Jesus will seek out those who sit in darkness. How encouraging this truth can be! When we feel lost, this is so important to remember. Not only encouraging, it is also a challenging truth, pushing us to repentance and conversion. While we might at times consider someone lost and sitting in darkness, it is to just such people and into such places that God longs to send a beacon of hope, a transforming light. Is that Good News, or what?

Want to get to know Jesus better? Think about him seeking out the most lost of the lost. Think about him loving you when you have been most lost, sitting in your darkest moment. Ask him to help you understand just how much he loves you. Not only encouraging, it is also a challenging truth, pushing us to repentance and conversion. While we might at times consider someone lost and sitting in darkness, it is to just such people and into such places that God longs to send a beacon of hope, a transforming light. Is that Good News, or what?

Meanwhile Paul begins his letter to the Corinthians by addressing a serious problem head on. The community in Corinth was divided, and it was a scandal. While Jesus’s mission was to bring all people together, even the relatively small new community of believers in Corinth were divided. Factions. Cliques. But how does Paul confront the community? A power play? No! He reminds everyone he was NOT crucified for them, the source of their salvation. He couldn’t even claim allegiance of those he baptized, since he baptized few if any. No, he reminds them it is all about Christ and his cross, not human wisdom and glory. If you want to follow Jesus, embrace humble self-sacrifice, self-emptying. Take that as your starting point, and there will be no room for pride and divisiveness.

Lord, help us appreciate and live the wisdom of your Word! Peace, Fr. Bob
Mass Intentions for This Week

Monday - January 23
Heb 9:15, 24-28/Mk 3:22-30
11:00 am Richard Knox - Family
5:15 pm Nora Bartlett - Cusker Family

Tuesday - January 24
Heb 10:1-10/Mk 3:31-35
6:45 am For the People of Our Parish
11:00 am Edward & Irene Shults - Mary

Wednesday - January 25
Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18
11:00 am John Housel - Family
5:15 pm Peter Galle - VFW Post 8495

Thursday - January 26
2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Mk 4:21-25
6:45 am For those Preparing for Marriage
11:00 am John Bernacki, Sr. - Jim & Ann Foley

Friday - January 27
Heb 10:32-39/Mk 4:26-34
11:00 am John Bernacki, Sr. - Eileen Ramos
5:15 pm Wendy Kavanagh - Patsy Beers

Saturday - January 28
Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Mk 4:35-41
9:00 am For Those Coming into the Church
4:30 pm Bernadette Fleming - Colorectal Surgery Group

Sunday - January 29
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/1 Cor 1:26-31/
Mt 5:1-12a
7:30 am Dan Hurley - Marcia & Dick Hilliard
9:00 am Dorothy Pastore - Mike Mason, Gerry Cala
11:15 am Fr. Raymond Booth - Catholic Charismatic Renewal Group
5:00 pm Louis Piazza - Michele Piraino

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 Bernadette Fleming
  By Colorectal Surgery Group.

- Two Lamps will burn
  In Memory of Pasquale & Cecilia Sgabellone
  By Family.

Requiem Aeternam

Erica Cranston
Bob Nealon

Saturday & Sunday, January 28 & 29

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>Liturgical Assistants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>M. Conking, C. Herdklotz, M. Alongi, C. McManus, M. Mench, M. Quinn, S. Schrecker, E. Horey-Thiede</td>
<td>J. Raymondjack</td>
<td>C. Herdklotz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>A. Romeo, D. Kendricks, M. Murphy, J. Ruchhal, M. Cargill, J. Ferranti, C. Heffernan, K. Kammmholz, M. McGrath, C. Ray, D. Schnell</td>
<td>W. Martin</td>
<td>L. Magguilli</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sunday Communion Service - January 29
The Highlands - Darlene Huver        Heather Heights - Jim Haeftner

Page Two
St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY
January 22, 2017
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3
Anguish has taken wing

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10 – 13, 17
Be united in the same mind and purpose

Gospel: Matthew 4:12 – 23
Come after me

Praying the Scriptures
There are a variety of ways to pray the scriptures. One method is lectio divina, or ‘holy reading’ of the scriptures. That entails slowly reading a passage several times (3 is recommended) letting it sink in at deeper and deeper levels. On a second or third hearing, we notice words or phrases that come alive, speak to us, stir us in some fashion. Today’s passage from Isaiah lends itself well to this approach. What phrases come alive for you? Anguish has taken wing? You have brought them abundant joy? The rod of their taskmaster you have smashed? Believing God did these things, and can do them for us, what would that look like in your life; in the lives of those you love; in the lives of those in our world who are suffering? Starting with scripture can powerfully enrich the way we intercede for others.

Clique in Corinth?
While the word ‘cliques’ may not have been in vogue in Corinth, they had developed, and St. Paul needed to address the problem. Even though the church was likely very small, made up of a number of house churches, still there were factions dividing the community. As with selfishness, Paul saw forming factions as sin with a capital ‘S’. This was Sin, not as a specific single action, a ‘sin’ with a small ‘s’, but a tendency in human nature, which holds within it the seeds of destruction. Paul’s answer? Christ! If we truly center ourselves in Christ, and realize we are one in Christ, there is no room to divide into camps, pitting one group against another. Does Paul’s insight still apply? Has human nature changed? What do YOU think? How might we need to let Paul teach us today?

Another Way to Pray the Scriptures
Imaginative prayer, a foundational approach in Ignatian spirituality, can make the Jesus of the Gospels our Jesus. Here is how. We take a passage, like our Gospel today. We do our best to imagine the scene, picture it with as much detail as possible. Then we step into the scene. This can help us develop a unique and personal relationship with him. Hear the water lapping on the shore. Imagine that lakeside smell. Notice the fishermen on the water. Now see Jesus walking along. Watch his face, his body language. Tune in to the way he speaks, calling out to the boat. Marvel at how Peter and Andrew, James and John respond to him. The imaginative details bring us to know Jesus as more than a name or a historical figure in a book. He is a living person. We say what the villagers in John’s Gospel told the Samaritan woman: “We have come to know him ourselves, and not just from your report.”

Imagine, ordinary guys, fishermen from the village of Capernaum; two sets of brothers. We are not from Capernaum, and may not have a sibling, but we can still find ourselves in the essence of the story. To what did Jesus invite these first disciples; to what does he call and invite us? First, to follow him. Then, to apply our skills (in their cases fishing) to a divine mission, bringing others to the Lord (fishers of men). If being a ‘fisher of men’ doesn’t speak to you, what are your skills, and how could they be put to divine purpose? Are you a builder? The Lord can make you a builder of the reign of God. A teacher? Be a teacher in the ways of faith. In the medical field? Add to your skill set being a physician of souls. A singer? Sing people into a love of God!

Looking Ahead:
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12 – 13
Seek justice, seek humility

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26 – 31
God chose the weak to shame the strong

Gospel: Matthew 5:1 – 12a
Blessed are the peacemakers

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

Why not come and explore the idea through a series of classes on topics that are foundational to our faith? Join us for any and all of the following classes in January and February:

When: Sundays, 12:30-2:00 pm
Where: Parish Meeting Hall (where coffee hour is held)

Cost: Free!

Dates:
♦ January 22: The Sacraments
♦ January 29: The Eucharist
♦ February 5: Walk Through the Mass
♦ February 19: Penance

We’ll be providing lunch, a video teaching, and time to discuss, ask and answer questions, and pray. Please contact Kathryn McAlarney for further information and to register at KMcAlarney@dor.org or call 586-5675, ext. 224.
**We Give From God’s Good Gifts**

**Being in Community, Supporting Our Community**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>$28,991.00</td>
<td>1,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>$22,792.00</td>
<td>1,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>$26,631.00</td>
<td>1,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>$22,982.00</td>
<td>2,647</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Month-to-Date**

- December: $101,396.00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>$9,467.00</td>
<td>1,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$14,601.00</td>
<td>1,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>$16,780.00</td>
<td>1,310</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Month-to-Date**

- January: $40,848.00

Invited by the Lord to the Holy Table, we accept the divine invitation week after week. Thank you for choosing St. Louis as the place to respond to that invitation. Your presence itself is a gift. Thank you for joining us as we gather together, profess our faith together, pray for one another, offer the past week to the Lord, and offer ourselves in the coming week as well.

Thank you too for your generous support of the ministries here at St. Louis. Your contribution helps our community to be the light to others that Isaiah speaks of in the 1st reading today, not only sustaining the many ministries within the parish, but also making it possible for us to support other ministries through our weekly parish tithing. God bless you all!

**“I Was Hungry And You Gave Me Food”**

Many thanks to all who brought in food last weekend for the Pittsford Food Cupboard. Non-perishable food may be left anytime for Pittsford Food Cupboard. There is a drop off drawer in the entry way near the grand piano at the front of church. There is also a bin in the Narthex near the handicap door.

**This Week’s Tithing Will Support Project Rachel**

**Next Week’s Tithing Will Support Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network (RAIHN)**

Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network (RAIHN) an affiliate of Family Promise, is a not-for-profit, interfaith, culturally-competent organization that assists homeless families to achieve **sustainable independence** by supporting them with tailored services including shelter, food, personalized case management, and a diverse network of caring volunteers. Rochester is the 2nd poorest city in the United States with more than 600 homeless individuals each night in Rochester and its suburbs, including **100 families with children**.

The St. Louis faith community has been a supporting congregation since RAIHN’S inception more than a decade ago. The mission of RAIHN Homeless Ministry is to help families get back on their feet into a stable home and job. Parishioner Ann-Marie DeSantis coordinates the RAIHN Homeless Ministry for St. Louis with the help of about 20 dedicated volunteers. **Our hosting location is the Mary Magdeline House in East Rochester**, where we provide private and public space for families, safe overnight accommodations, home-cooked meals, and gracious hospitality for up to 15 families a week at a time, 3 times a year.

RAIHN provides families with support that includes: **At the congregations:** private bedrooms for evening shelter, breakfast, lunch and dinner, caring and compassionate volunteers, recreational family activities, Life Skills presentations on topics such as nutrition, parenting, and budgeting. **At the Day Center:** transportation assistance, access to shower and laundry facilities, access to computer/fax/phone, other daily needs such as food, clothing, toiletries, diapers. **Support upon graduation from RAIHN can include:** after care services for up to 1 year, moving assistance and furniture procurement, non-perishable food, cleaning and school supplies.

RAIHN has numerous volunteer opportunities ranging from greeting guests at a host location, cook or provide part of a meal, plan a children’s activity, shop for breakfast food and supplies, inflate/deflate air mattresses, drive the RAIHN van (no special license needed), maintenance, fundraising, guest mentor, office staff and much more! If you can share some of your time, please call our St. Louis RAIHN coordinator, parishioner Ann-Marie DeSantis at 406-6013 or email amdesantis@frontiernet.net. More information about RAIHN (and upcoming events) can be found at www.raihn.org.

Is RAIHN calling you? With so many opportunities for volunteering in a small or big way for RAIHN, consider attending an upcoming Volunteer Orientation Session to learn more about providing support for these homeless families. Two upcoming Volunteer Orientation sessions are **Tuesday, Jan 24, 6:30 pm at Artisan Church, 1235 S. Clinton Ave., and Wednesday Feb. 8, 6:30 pm here at St. Louis Church.** Please RSVP at 506-9050 or coordinator @raihn.org.

---

**Community Ministry Report**

The Green Room at St. Louis is a @raihn.org project. Erin Hein, RAIHN staff member, shared a special community service event at the Green Room last Saturday. A great event that is worth our support and time. Erin brought over 15 non-perishable items to the Green Room, a blessing to the local homeless community.

** RAHN Food Drop**

Please consider donating non-perishable items during this weekend’s Food Drop.

- **Non-perishable items**
- **Personal care items**
- **Hygiene products**
- **Children’s clothing and toiletries**
- **Any other items that may be needed for homeless families**

**Volunteer Orientation Session**

- **Tuesday, Jan 24, 6:30 pm at Artisan Church**
- **Wednesday Feb. 8, 6:30 pm at St. Louis Church**

**RAICHN Volunteer Orientation**

- **For more information, please contact Ann Marie DeSantis at 406-6013 or email amdesantis@frontiernet.net.**

---

**RAIHN Homeless Ministry**

- **Since RAIHN’S inception more than a decade ago.**
- **The mission of RAIHN Homeless Ministry is to help families get back on their feet.**
- **RAIHN supports families with tailored services.**
- **RAIHN has numerous volunteer opportunities.**
- **RAIHN provides families with support that includes:**
  - Private bedrooms for evening shelter
  - Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
  - Caring and compassionate volunteers
  - Recreational family activities
  - Life Skills presentations on topics such as nutrition, parenting, and budgeting.
- **Support upon graduation from RAIHN can include:**
  - After care services for up to 1 year
  - Moving assistance and furniture procurement
  - Non-perishable food, cleaning and school supplies.

---

**RAIHN Coordinator**

- **Ann Marie DeSantis**
- **Phone:** 406-6013
- **Email:** amdesantis@frontiernet.net
INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH

Want to help with VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL this Summer but not sure what’s available?? Our fun will be June 26 through June 29, 2017 and it’s time to get started! Check out some of our opportunities to help:

MUSIC AND MORE LEADER: Become familiar with the material and music, learn our fun songs and motions and lead our kids in several songs each day.

PROJECTS-WITH-A-PURPOSE LEADER: Choose from three awesome service projects and decide who will get the gifts that the kids make, collect all the listed supplies, and make a sample of the selected project and lead our kids in three sessions each day.

PLAYGROUND GAMES LEADER: Get familiar with the many game options available that tie into each day’s Bible Point in a fun, memorable way, collect all the listed supplies, and join in on the fun for 3 sessions each day.

SPOTLIGHT VBS LEADER: Circulate through Pets Unleashed snapping pictures of our kids as they participate in the FUN activities, set up a slide show for our last day to relive all the great memories of the week!

BIBLE ADVENTURES LEADER: Gather all the supplies and props for each day’s Bible Adventure activities, lead our kids through fun and interactive learning that really make the Bible stories come alive in 3 sessions per day.

TAIL END LEADER: Gather the supplies and props for the Tail End activities and set up for each day, be ready to lead an enthusiastic fun-filled activities to help our kids discover what it means to love and care for each other. Grab some friends and join in on all fun!

Please contact Michelle Andrews-Smith at 586-5675 or email at mandrews-smith@dor.org to be a part of our team!

Catholic Moms of Rochester invites YOU to their new members' breakfast at the St. Anne Church (Mt. Hope) on February 4 from 9:30 to 11:30AM. All Catholic moms are welcome! Please contact Liana Wolford at lianaew@catholicmomsroc.org by January 31 to reserve your space! For more information about our group, visit our website at www.CatholicMomsROC.org

FOUNDATIONS: Diocesan Leadership Training for High School Teens

WHO. Young people in High School are invited to attend FOUNDATIONS for Catholic Youth Leadership for youth who would like to explore leadership essentials and those who would like to learn more about leadership.

WHAT. A 4 day/4 night experience in identifying personal strengths, learning styles, Catholic Identity and using leadership skills in the context of the Catholic Church — skills that last a lifetime.

WHEN. February 17 – 21, 2017. Check-in at 7:00 pm on Friday. Closing at 4:00 pm on Tuesday.

WHERE. Camp Stella Maris, 4395 E. Lake Road, Livonia, NY 14487

COST. $350 covers the cost of the entire 4 Days, and includes 11 meals, bunk, program, materials, presenters.

For more information visit youth.dor.org
St. Louis School
Academics Beyond Common Core

SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

PRESCHOOL
• Safe and Nurturing Environment
• Small Teacher-to-Student Ratio
• Flexible Scheduling
• Exploration and Discovery Through Structured Activities and Play

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 5
• STEM-Enhanced Curriculum
• Technology-Rich Classrooms
• Small Class Size
• Wide Range of Enrichment Programs

ABOUT US
• Faith-Based School
• High Academic Standards
• State-Certified Teachers
• Affordable Tuition
• Onsite Before and After Care for All Students

To learn more, call us at 585-586-5200 or visit SLSPittsford.org.
**Weekday Book Study**

**C.S. Lewis**

The WEIGHT of Glory

Join us Tuesday mornings for a dive into C.S. Lewis!

Come and make new friends, explore ideas of faith, and savor the beautiful mind of one of the most important Christian writers of the 20th century. The nine addresses in *Weight of Glory* offer guidance, inspiration, and a compassionate apologetic for the Christian faith during a time of great doubt.

**Dates:** Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, Mar 21, 28, Apr 4, 11

**Time:** 9:15-11:30 am

**Where:** Parish Meeting Hall

**Cost:** Free. Please bring your own book.

Please read the Preface and Chapter 1 before the first meeting.

Facilitator: Deb Donnelly. To register, please contact Kathryn McAlarney, 586-5675, ext. 224, KMcAlarney@dor.org.

---

**Open Book Discussion**

**Second Chance!**

Tired of winter? Grab a hot mug of something and curl up for a few hours with the book we handed out at Christmas. It will warm your heart! Then, let’s get together and share our reactions. Come have some wine, cheese, and good conversation with fellow parishioners as we talk about your favorite parts and what resonated with you.

**Come join us:**

**When:** Tuesday, January 31, 7:00-8:15 pm

**Where:** Parish Meeting Hall

For more info, contact Kathryn at KMcAlarney@dor.org or 586-5675, ext. 224. (I have a few more copies if you missed getting one!)

---

**JANUARY 22 – DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN**

One of the most compelling pro-life documentaries ever produced! 40 features inspiring stories and deeply personal interviews with many of the biggest names in the Pro-Life movement. (40: found under Programs, Special Topics)

[Image of a documentary with a subtitle: Pro Life]

There is no shortage of controversy related to the topic of life. This YDISCIPLE course untangles the issues in the light of Catholic teaching, which proves to be practical, relevant, and infused with the love and mercy of God. (ProLife: found under Programs, For Youth)

---

**JANUARY 25 – FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL**

Bishop Barron calls Peter and Paul “two indispensable men, the ones without whom the Church never would have emerged and survived.” In telling each man’s story, Bishop Barron shows how the Holy Spirit worked through all the Apostles and disciples to build the Church. (Catholicism, Session 5 The Indispensable Men: found under Programs, Exploring the Catholic Faith)

[Image of a documentary with a subtitle: The Footprints of God]

Join Stephen Ray as he takes you on the road with Saint Paul through Israel, Syria, Turkey, Greece, and Italy. (The Footprints of God, Session 6 Paul: found under Programs, Exploring the Catholic Faith)

To register for these FREE relevant Catholic resources, go to FORMED.org, use the parish code: KMFHWV. Contact Kathryn McAlarney for help or suggestions. KMcAlarney@dor.org or 586-5675, ext. 224.
March for Life, Mass for Life – 2017

The St. Louis Consistent Life Ethic Team invites you to join others from around the Diocese in two January pro-life events. **March for Life in DC:** 7 buses will leave Thursday night, January 26 and return Friday, January 27 by midnight. Join Bishop Matano as he concelebrates 10 am Mass at the Basilica, and gathers near the Mall to march with Diocesan parishioners at 12:45 pm.

**Diocesan Mass for Life:** celebrated by Bishop Matano at 10:30 am on Sunday, January 22 (the 44th Anniversary of Roe vs Wade), at Holy Apostles Church, 7 Austin St., Rochester. This Mass is a local celebration to give thanks to God for the gift of human life and to pray for the legal protection of unborn children. Fr. Tony Mugavero says his parish is looking forward to hosting this, and to providing a reception for all afterwards!

For further information, please contact Suzanne Stack, Life Issues Coordinator, at (585) 328-3210, ext. 1304, sstack@dor.org, or contact Deacon Dave.

Saturday, January 21 - Sunday, January 29: **9 Days for Life** is an annual period of prayer and action focused on cherishing the gift of every person’s life.

PRAY for the respect and protection of each person's life; GATHER together in prayer, action, and fellowship with others; SHARE your stories online!

You can receive the novena prayers online, via text message or on the web. The novena intentions include an end to abortion, the death penalty and domestic violence; and that those near the end of their lives receive medical care that respects their dignity and protects their lives.

http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/2017-9-days-for-life-novena.cfm

**The Children’s Agenda**

Remember signing a petition in October, on Children’s Interfaith Weekend? “A total of 2,654 advocacy letters were signed in 75 faith communities during the Children’s Interfaith Weekend in October. The letters requested more County funding for child care assistance for low income working families. In response, County Executive Dinolfo included an increase of $100,000 for child care subsidies in her proposed budget. The County Legislature added another $52,000, for a total increase of $152,000 over last year. Though the amount is lower than what we requested, this accomplishment is a testament to the sustained and passionate advocacy of people of faith. Congratulations and thank you for speaking up for children.

Refugee arrivals are up more than 50% from this time last year.

**HELP!**

We need basic POTS & PANS for setting up kitchens!

Donations may be left at 46 S. Main Street.

Thank you for your on-going support of creating homes for families arriving in Rochester.

Phone: 585-385-6860 or saintlady@saintsplace.org or www.saintsplace.org Like us on Facebook: saintsplacercoc
All Lives Are Worth Living
God becoming one of us is the ultimate confirmation of the inherent dignity of human life. That dignity does not depend on how functional or productive we are. We have dignity because we ARE. Yet the elderly, the disabled, those who are not getting the care they need, are vulnerable in the face of the push to legalize physician-assisted suicide here in New York State. Learn more and advocate to protect the dignity of all human lives. Check out www.dor.org, click on Public Policy (lower left sidebar) for more info. Sign a letter or petition to your legislators opposing assisted suicide on Public Policy Weekend February 4-5.

Now and at the Hour of Our Death
Catholic Guidance for End-of-Life Decision Making
End-of-life decisions, for ourselves and for loved ones, are among the most challenging we will ever face. Our Church offers comfort and practical guidance. Visit www.CatholicEndofLife.org to watch the video and read the New York State Bishops’ document “Now and at the Hour of Our Death.” Learn why the Church favors palliative medicine and comfort care, and why the Church opposes physician-assisted suicide.

"The human person is always precious, even if marked by illness or old age." - Pope Francis

Make Your Voice Heard: Death with dignity means proper care, not a lethal drug dose. Our Diocesan Wide Public Policy Weekend effort to stop the legalization of physician assisted suicide in our state is February 4 and 5. We will participate by gathering signatures on a petition to be sent to New York State Governor Cuomo/New York State Senator/New York State Assembly Member.

We don’t discourage suicide by assisting suicide. Excerpted from: Every Suicide Is Tragic, http://www.uscb.org/about/pro-life-activities/respect-life-program/2016/every-suicide-is-tragic.cfm

Doctor Assisted Suicide Escalates Suicide
Advocates of assisted suicide claim it is a private decision, an exercise in personal autonomy that does not affect others. But there is a well-studied "social contagion" aspect to the behavior that can't be ignored.

A recent study, which controlled for other factors that could account for the rise, showed that the permissive assisted suicide laws in Oregon and Washington have caused at least a 6% rise in overall suicide rates in those states. Additional data, although limited, enhances this distressing picture. After suicide rates had declined in Oregon in the 1990s, they rose dramatically there between 2000 and 2010—the years following the legalization of assisted suicide in 1997. By 2012, suicide rates in Oregon were 42% higher than the national average.

We know that suicide is among the health-related behaviors that tend to spread from person to person. When a person ends his or her life, it can affect the choices of that person's friends, as well as the choices of people at least three degrees of separation away: the friends of his or her friends’ friends. Additionally, publicized cases of suicide lead to clusters of copycat cases—known in social science as the Werther Effect. A 2003 Swiss study, for example, showed evidence of suicide contagion following media reports of doctor-assisted suicide. No one is an island.

Legalizing Doctor-Assisted Suicide Wrongly Communicates That Some Lives Are Not Worth Living
Finally, the law itself is a teacher. Our laws shape cultural attitudes toward certain behaviors and influence social norms. Laws permitting assisted suicide communicate the message that, under especially difficult circumstances, some lives are not worth living. This tragically false message will be heard not only by those with a terminal illness, but by any person struggling with the temptation to end his or her life.
PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

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:
Rev. Robert Ring, Pastor,
ext. 225, ring@dor.org
Rev. Peter Mottola, Parochial Vicar
ext. 237, fmottola@dor.org
Deacon David Snyder,
1deacondave@gmail.com
586-5675
Stephanie Honz, Pastoral Associate for
Liturgy and Liturgical Music,
ext. 251, shonz@dor.org
Bea Hack, Liturgy Coordinator,
ext. 231, bhack@dor.org
Pat Spinelli, Parish Visitor,
ext. 232, pspinelli@dor.org
Kathryn McAlarney, Pastoral Associate for
Evangelization
Ext. 224, kmacalarney@dor.org

Michelle Andrews-Smith,
Director of Faith Formation,
ext. 233, mandrews-smith@dor.org
Lorrie Fairey
Faith Formation Administrative Assistant
ext. 230, lfairey@dor.org
Leila Kaczmarek,
Youth Ministry Coordinator
ext. 234, ikaczmarek@dor.org
Laurie Martin, Finance Director,
ext. 222, lmartin@dor.org
Sally Schrecker, Operations Manager,
ext. 235, sschrecker@dor.org
Birdie Proctor, Secretary/Bookkeeper,
ext. 227, bproctor@dor.org
Shannon Toot, Administration Support,
ext. 223, stoot@dor.org
Barbara Thomas, Bulletin Editor,
ext. 236, bthomas@dor.org

Suzy Ward, Chair,
Pastoral Council, 746-5676

Brendan Donnelly, Chair,
Finance Council, (585) 267-7338

Debbie Hoeft, Chair
Stewardship Team, 734-9705
debbie53hoeft@yahoo.com

Elizabeth Ministry, 586-5675, ext. 345

Isabel Miller, Executive Director,
Saint’s Place, 46 S. Main St.
Phone: 385-6860
saintlady@saintsplace.org

In Residence at the Rectory:
Msgr. Gerard Krieg

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

Dick Hilliard, Grand Knight,
Knights of Columbus
Phone: 585-943-1106
bwgolf@hotmail.com

Like us on Facebook:
http://www.facebook.com/
stlouischurchpittsford

Page Ten
St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY
January 22, 2017