How Firm a Foundation

Although this year we are in the Year of Mark (Cycle B scripture readings), on this Nativity of John the Baptist, we hear from Luke’s Gospel. Luke was a very thorough Evangelist. He begins by telling us he is about to give a well-researched, orderly account of the story of Jesus. To provide a solid foundation, built on rock, he starts with two strong Old Testament figures, Zechariah, a priest in the Temple, and Elizabeth, his wife. Their son, John, whose birth is one of the first miracles in the story, will actually give us the first clues about Jesus even BEFORE Jesus’ birth, reacting in the womb when Mary comes to visit his mom. Later John will lay the groundwork for Jesus’ ministry, preaching about his coming, calling people to repentance, and then baptizing him. After Jesus’ baptism, and before beginning the account of his ministry, Luke gives his genealogy, stretching all the way back to Adam. Let there be no doubt, the Good News is set firmly on a foundation laid from the beginning of creation! Our faith rests on this tremendous foundation.

Now a quick shift to today for an analogy. Spring is pothole season, and summer is road construction season. Say a prayer and thank God for the hard workers who lay the roadbeds of our roads, then repair them after freezing, thawing and salt do their worst. Ask anyone involved with the process about what is most important. The quality of the roads we travel depends on how well the roadbed is prepared.

St. Luke wanted to make sure that the faith of Theophilus, any friend of God, and of all who hear or read his Gospel would be established on a firm foundation. Otherwise, the freezing and thawing as our life unfolds, and the corrosion of sin (like road salt) might quickly break the roadway of our journey of faith into pieces.

So, just as inspectors check out our roadways after winter has passed, now might be a good time to do the same with the road we are traveling on our journey of faith. How firm is the foundation? Our many adult opportunities, from Bible studies to Fruit of the Vine, to Christ Life can all help to ensure a solid foundation. It is also time for parents to give serious thought to the foundation you want your children to have. There will be thawing and freezing as their life unfolds, road salt as well. Will they have a firm foundation to withstand it all? For that matter, godparents and grandparents might consider too – should you encourage your godchild or grandchild’s parents to register them for faith formation?

Please always be sure to take a bulletin home, or check out our website. Opportunities abound for laying a roadbed for the journey of faith, for patching potholes, for more serious repair when it is needed, and for traveling on our journey to God. Peace to you and those you love, Fr. Bob
Mass Intentions for This Week

**Monday - June 25**
- **2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Mt 7:1-5**
  - 11:00 am: In Honor of St. Ann - Ann Ricci
  - 5:15 pm: Edward C. Marcoux - Post 16 VFW

**Tuesday - June 26**
- **2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Mt 7:6, 12-14**
  - 6:45 am: Charles Steele - Rody Krugh
  - 11:00 am: Kenneth Rizzuto - Terri & Steve Jupena

**Wednesday - June 27**
- **2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Mt 7:15-20**
  - 11:00 am: Susan Falcone - Marcy Schaarschmidt
  - 5:15 pm: Harold Burt - Post 947 VFW

**Thursday - June 28**
- **2 Kgs 24:8-17/Mt 7:21-29**
  - 6:45 am: Joseph Salipante - Diane Spiggle Family
  - 11:00 am: Jean Marie Coughlin - Spiggle Family

**Friday - June 29**
- **Acts 3:1-10/Jn 21:15-19**
  - 11:00 am: Susan Falcone - Marcy Schaarschmidt
  - 5:15 pm: Leroy Disanto - Post 947 VFW

**Saturday - June 30**
- **Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19**
  - 11:15 am: Stephanie Inguaggiato - Mathew Family
  - 5:00 pm: Georgiana Gallucci - Merante Family

**Sunday - July 1**
- **Acts 12:1-11/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19**
  - 7:30 am: Robert Brooks - Maria Leonardo
  - 9:00 am: Joseph Capuano - Wife and Mother

---

**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
  In Memory of Dorothy Dispenza
  by Nick & Marcia Mendola Family

- One Lamp will Burn
  for Special Intention
  for Dillon, Shane & Phillip
  by Wife and Mother

- One Lamp will Burn
  for Patricia Jeanne Fritschler
  by Al, daughter Mary & Rory

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**Requiem Aeternam**

**Barbara Fleckenstein**

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**Saturday & Sunday, June 30 & July 1**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</th>
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<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>E. &amp; M. Meyer, C. Wormley, K. Murphy, A. H. &amp; J. Gerstner</td>
<td>B. Bullis, M. Daniele, E. Ramos, A. Best, P. O’Neill Midgley, A. Daniele</td>
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**Sunday Communion Service - July 1**

The Highlands - Richard Caruso
Heather Heights - Diane Salipante
Our Weekend Scriptures: 
**Nativity of John the Baptist**

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:1-6
*Called from birth*

2nd Reading: Acts 13:22-26
*Heralding the Messiah*

Gospel: Luke 1:57-60, 80
*All were amazed*

Looking Ahead:
**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Destined for eternity*

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15
*Sharing among the churches*

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43
*Healing and giving life*

---

**The 2nd Servant Song**

The nation had been defeated, the Temple destroyed, the people taken into exile. But God sent a word of hope to Second Isaiah (chapters 40-55), promising restoration and more! Included in the powerful prophecy of hope are the four Servant Songs. Throughout salvation history, God raised up unlikely servants to move the divine plan of salvation forward. As Isaiah spoke, his message was this: God takes seriously Israel’s painful exile. But God doesn’t get stuck in that particular tragedy. Just as exile would not be the end of the story, neither would restoration. The big picture of God’s story points toward the restoration of all creation. God’s servant did restore Israel. Sadly, the sins of human pride led to other calamities. God intervened again. Today we celebrate one of the many Servants, John the Baptist. God doesn’t get stuck in the tidy resolutions to one crisis or another that we think end the story. God’s will to save all people stretches far beyond our brief timelines. So-called endings are beginnings, each a new horizon of possibility. New possibilities for us, new creation for the world God loves so well.

**Entry Points**

How might we move from Paul’s summary about the coming of Jesus to material for our prayer? The preparation for the coming of Jesus in history was John the Baptist, who led people to repentance. That preparation still operates today – our repentance opens the door of our heart to Christ.

**What Will This Child Be?**

How can one make it clear at the beginning of the story – pay attention to this person. Amazing things are soon to happen. In the Bible, and in other traditions as well, we hear of unique circumstances surrounding the birth of those who, as adults, had a dramatic impact on world events, or in God’s plan for salvation history. Luke frames it well – “What will this child be?” But the question can apply far beyond the birth of such extraordinary people. Isn’t that a question that many parents and family members had when a new child is brought into the world. Someone probably pondered that question when YOU were born. Not only that, the answer may yet have a surprising ending. Good material to bring to prayer!

---

St. Louis Junior Troop #60948 thanks our Parishioners for a very successful 2018 Girl Scout Cookie Sale!

We sold 535 boxes at the church on St. Patrick’s Day weekend!

We are happy to report that 231 boxes were sent to U.S. Military troops that are based out of Western New York.

Our overall boxes sold for this cookie season, (including the Church Sale), was 1,800 boxes.

Thank you for all of your support!
Welcome!
Are you visiting with us this fine summer day? Welcome! We love to have you with us! Having a spiritual home is like building your house on rock. We would love for you to find here at St. Louis a true spiritual home. We pray that your experience of liturgy here today was uplifting, and helped you experience God’s presence in the sense of welcome and in our community, in the Word proclaimed, the prayers prayed, the music sung, the Eucharist, offered and shared. If you were able to contribute, we are very grateful. But most importantly, please join us often!

“If faith becomes tangible when it finds its expression in love and especially, in the service of our brothers and sisters in difficulty.”

~ Pope Francis

**Supporting Our Parish**

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**Online Collection**

| Month-to-date | $51,901.50 |

**THIS WEEK’S TITHING WILL SUPPORT ST. ANDREW’S FOOD CUPBOARD**

**NEXT WEEK’S TITHING WILL SUPPORT SAVE THE STORKS**

In 1979 former abortionist Bernard Nathanson, stated “Fewer women would have abortions if wombs had windows”. The vision of “Save the Storks” is to offer women that window at the most critical place of decision. These fully equipped ultrasound vans, staffed by nurses, park near abortion providers like Planned Parenthood, while compassionate sidewalk advocates encourage women not to go through with their abortion until they are fully informed.

**4 out of 5 women who enter a Stork Bus for ultrasounds choose life for their child**

“We believe the command to love is a call to action. We work with our pregnancy center affiliates to provide expectant mothers with the spiritual, physical, financial, and emotional support they need to choose life. And we do it in a generous, compassionate, and loving way.”

Please like and follow “Save the Storks” on Facebook!

**ARE YOU A FATHER OF AN ABORTED CHILD?**

There are 55 million men in America who bear the scars of abortion.

For many fathers, Father’s Day was a day filled with joy, gratitude, and celebration. But for millions of men, it’s a yearly reminder of a decision that has haunted them for years. These men struggle with the trauma and regret from past abortions but they have not talked about it because abortion is perceived as only a women’s issue, and they’ve never been given permission to do so. This silence is the true villain in the abortion conversation. Young men need to know that their quick decision has deadly and lifelong consequences.

Save the Storks is releasing a series of videos called #choosefatherhood in which brave men step out of the shadows to express what happens to men after their involvement in having their child aborted.

They understand how much is at stake for these men to speak out publicly, and that is why they’ve created a place for them to share their stories anonymously. Men are beginning to speak out!

Visit savethestorks.com/choosefatherhood to see their stories and share your own anonymously.

**THIS WEEKEND’S Peter’s Pence Collection**

enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid the neediest throughout the world - those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. It likewise provides the faithful with a tangible opportunity to not only empower the weak, defenseless, and voiceless, but also sustain those who suffer.
S A I N T’S  P L A C E

Annual Super Sale
July 10th—14th

It keeps getting bigger and better!!!

DUE TO OUR ANNUAL SUPER SALE PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF ANY ITEMS ON OUR BACK PORCH STARTING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27TH.

LAST DAY TO DROP ITEMS OFF IS TUESDAY, JUNE 26TH
We do not accept donations at the sale.... CALL AFTER JULY 18TH TO SCHEDULE PICK UPS.

WE WILL BEGIN ACCEPTING DROP OFFS AND SCHEDULING PICKUPS ON THURSDAY, JULY 19TH.

WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

In honor of our 20th Anniversary, Saint’s Place is raffling off a 3 year lease on a 2019 Subaru Outback. Lease and all maintenance generously donated by Van Bortel Subaru. This weekend, the car will be here and raffle tickets will be available after all masses. Tickets are $50 each. Only 500 Tickets will be sold! You could be the lucky winner. For more information, please visit our website: www.saintsplace.org.

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Faith Formation
Register today!!

DEADLINE APPROACHING!

K-5 Faith Formation
6-12 Youth Ministry
Eucharist
Penance
Confirmation 1 & 2

Please visit StLouisChurch.org/ff for registration and information

To keep shipping and material costs to a minimum,
the deadline for all registrations is July 15th.

Eucharist and Penance Sacrament registration:
All children must have completed either Grade 1 or one full year prior of Faith Formation or attend a Catholic School to prepare and receive both First Penance and First Eucharist. Both Sacraments are celebrated in Grade 2. Families need to register for both Penance and Eucharist for the upcoming year.

Confirmation Year 1 and Year 2 Sacrament Registration:
Year 1 Confirmation candidates must have completed one year prior of Youth Ministry or attend Catholic School to prepare for year 1 and year 2. Registration is required yearly for both years of preparation.
Help children love Confession

All children need reassurance that they are loved even when they make mistakes. That’s why Jesus created the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He wanted to give us an outward sign of his unconditional love and forgiveness. Try these tips to help children appreciate God’s special, forgiving love:

“Who, Me?!?” Children often think of sin as relative. “It was okay to hit her because she hit me first.” “I took his pen because he took my glove.” Children need to know that God’s rules are the ones to follow. Use the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes as guides.

“Say you’re sorry.” Even young children can understand the need to say they’re sorry when they do something wrong. That’s the first step toward taking responsibility for our actions and changing our behavior.

Change. Avoiding future sin means deciding to change. The priest may have suggestions, but you can also help your child figure out how to keep from “messing up” in the future.

Remember – forgiving sin is what God loves to do most.

Scripture Lesson

Take God at his word.

Sometimes God has to take drastic action to get our attention. Before John the Baptist was born, his father, Zechariah, was visited by an angel and told that his prayers for a son and his prayers for a savior would be answered in a miraculous way. The angel’s appearance should have convinced Zechariah, but he was still unsure the message was true. So, God shut Zechariah’s mouth to open his mind and heart to the truth.

After the angel’s visit, Zechariah silently watched his wife’s body swell with her miraculous pregnancy. After the baby’s birth, Zechariah demonstrated his obedience. His decision to name his son John according to the angel’s message shows the growth of his faith in God. Having learned his lesson, his mouth was opened. Zechariah’s first words showed praise on God and told the people around him of God’s faithfulness and awesome love.

What can a parent do? We can always trust God’s love and care. He will never fail us. Help your children listen for God’s voice and remember that all things are possible for God.

Feasts & Celebrations

June 3 – Corpus Christi Sunday (1264). On this feast, we celebrate the transformation of the bread and wine into Jesus’ Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist. St. Juliana of Bocquem had a vision of the full moon, representing the Church, with a dark spot in it, representing the missing solemnity. In 1264, Pope Urban IV ordered a Church-wide celebration for Corpus Christi, and asked St. Thomas Aquinas to compose the Office for the feast.

June 8 – St. William of York (1154). Born into a noble family in England, St. William was named archbishop of York, but was slandered by political opponents. Despite this, St. William was never bitter or resentful. He died about two months after his consecration, probably poisoned.

June 16 – St. John-Francis Regis (1640). Born in France to a rich merchant, St. John-Francis joined the Jesuits when he was eighteen. Once ordained a priest, he was sent to southern France to start missions. He convinced his hearers to follow Christ more faithfully.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith® and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 Fax
http://www.partnersinfaith.com
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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We Need to Get the Word Out. Can You Help?

Adult Formation and spiritual growth is going strong at St. Louis, but so many parishioners still need to hear the invitation.

Would you like to be part of a team that communicates through our bulletin, webpage, Facebook, or eBlasts? We use everything from personal invitations to whatever is effective in social media. If you’re good at anything from making a phone call to instant messaging, we need your help in making the invitation heard.

If you are interested, please contact Kathryn at Kathryn.McAlarney@dor.org to let me know you’re interested.

Do You Like to Cook? We Need You!

We are forming a Cooking Team to help with three ministries:

- **Priests’ Gathering Dinners** (Roughly once a month a group of ~20 local priests gather at St. Louis’ rectory for a dinner and fellowship)
- **ChristLife Dinners** (An important part of this vital parish program is offering a dinner for participants.)
- **Ecumenical Lunches** (Monthly gathering of ministers and priests from various faiths in Pittsford)

If you might be interested, please come to a planning meeting to see how this can bless your life with fun, friendships, and a feeling that you’ve helped nurture your parish! With a large team, the work is divided and service becomes a joy.

**When?** Wednesday, June 27 from 7:15-8:15 p.m.

**Where?** The Manse (the brick building between the church and Saint’s Place)

Please contact Kathryn.McAlarney@dor.org or call 586-5675, ext. 224 for information or to let me know you’re coming!

Ode to Saint Cecilia

The Story of a Holy Muse

Meet an inspiring woman with fierce courage and unwavering faith, willing to follow the path of beauty and truth—no matter the cost. Saint Cecilia’s remarkable story will come to life in Augustine Institute Radio Theatre’s most recent audio drama featuring award-winning actors and cinematic sound and music.

Listen on formed.org

“Beautifully written and acted! It really makes the people and events come alive in a way that is both engaging and thought provoking.”

—Rosalin S. Edgeley, ND

Catholic Conversations

Explore faith topics over a cup of coffee with a great group of folks.

This week’s topic: Why Non-Catholics Can’t Receive Communion

**Where:** The Manse

**When:** Sunday, 10:00-10:50

Catholic Conversations will not be meeting during July, so join us this week!
Some of our young adult parishioners had a triple-play afternoon last week, which opened our eyes and hearts to the state of homelessness in Rochester.

First we attended a memorial for the homeless who had died on our streets. Each name was read, a candle lit one by one and if anyone knew one of the deceased, a brief statement was made. Halfway through the memorial, the name was read "Unknown". Our presence at the service was to honor those whose lives were hidden from all but God.

After the memorial we delivered donations that we had collected from parishioners here at Saint Louis. First we took bags of towels and toiletries to the House of Mercy and then we took blankets, clothing and toiletries to Saint Joseph’s House of Hospitality.

At the end of the end of the afternoon we knew we had indeed pleased God and helped to extend His hand into this hurting world.

If you have a vegetable garden? Consider donating some of your harvest to food banks!

Thanks to Father Bob's planting and care of his vegetable garden, Kathryn and Cynthia were able to harvest two bags of lettuce to take to Pittsford Food Cupboard, just down the street from our parish.

Small gestures, offered up by many, will change lives all around us.

Mary, Queen of Peace International Rosary Project

If you can single crochet, double crochet, and read a pattern, please consider crocheting one international bead of this rosary.

If you die homeless, your death goes unnoticed, just like your life. This is a way for us to notice.

The “Giant,” Mary Queen of Peace International Rosary project is a Catholic initiative for peace. Founded by Gina Marie Mangiamele, a passionate needle crafter, the giant rosary will be used to assemble prayer warriors to say the rosary in a public setting with the intention for international peace. Each bead of the rosary is crocheted in a country’s flag colors. It is intended that the Rosary will travel from parish to parish across the country. For more information on how to get involved and to download the crochet pattern for your selected country please contact Gina Marie at gmangiamele@rochester.rr.com or (585) 481-0566.
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St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY

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