WE BELIEVE. WE BELONG.

June 8, 2014

The Church on Fire

Calling him, God revealed himself to Moses in a burning bush. We read that a pillar of fire led the Israelites during the Exodus. In establishing the covenant at Mt Sinai, fire descended upon the mountain. Fire is an effective way to name powerful, holy experiences; it has a long history in the Scriptures. Luke wants to make sure we understand – upon receiving the Holy Spirit, the Apostles were ‘on fire’ with God’s love, on fire with a conviction about Jesus as the Savior of all, on fire with a message they just had to preach. (Recall Jeremiah 20:9 “But if I say, ‘I will not mention his word or speak any more in his name’, his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in, indeed, I cannot.” or 23:29 “Is not my word like fire, says the Lord… “)

After Christ’s resurrection, and the sending of the Holy Spirit, the early church was on fire. The church in Corinth was on fire as well: filled with enthusiasm, passionate about gifts of the Spirit, on fire with the Good News. Fire is hard to manage. Both Luke and St. Paul understood and experienced that challenge. So Luke tells us the tongues of flame, the fire, parted, to rest upon each of the apostles. Each was on fire, yet all from the same source. St. Paul tells us that there are different gifts, different forms of service, but all come from the same Lord. In both cases, the purpose for being set on fire was not for oneself, it was for the sake of others, to bring others into the light, the warmth, the fire of Christian community.

Fire is also a way to speak of purification: refining gold, burning away impurities. Sometimes prose just doesn’t do it, and poetry can help. In the 1400’s, Bianco of Siena beautifully captured the impact of fire, the Holy Spirit, God coming to us. Ralph Vaughn Williams later set the text to music:

Come down, O love divine, seek Thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing.
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, til earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let Thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illumining.

Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
And o’er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace, till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling.

Indeed! Come Holy Spirit. Set us on fire! Peace, Fr. Bob
Mass Intentions for This Week

**MONDAY - JUNE 9**
1 Kgs 17:1-6/Mt 5:1-12
11:00 am  Anne Dinkwoods - Loyola & John Connolly
5:15 pm  Michelle Altadonna - Eileen Wilmot

**TUESDAY - JUNE 10**
1 Kgs 17:7-16/Mt 5:13-16
6:45 am  Ruth Elaine Angert - Steven & Catherine Perez
11:00 am  Dr. Philip Bonanni - Angie & Joe Agriece
11:00 am  Mass at Heather Heights for the People of Our Parish

**WEDNESDAY - JUNE 11**
11:00 am  William Jessen - Family
5:15 pm  Ashley Gravelle - Feminists for Non-Violent Choices

**THURSDAY - JUNE 12**
1 Kgs 18:41-46/Mt 5:20-26
6:45 am  Thomas & Rosemary Connolly - John & Loyola Connolly
11:00 am  Edward Rooney - Joyce & Family

**FRIDAY - JUNE 13**
1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16/Mt 5:27-32
11:00 am  Dr. Elvis Shoales - Dr. Diamond
5:15 pm  Paul Spinelli - The Schreckers

**SATURDAY - JUNE 14**
1 Kgs 19:19-21/Mt 5:33-37
9:00 am  Barbara Yankowski - The Shine Family
4:30 pm  William & Elizabeth Hopsicker - Dick & Donna Jamison

**MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY - JUNE 15**
Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18
7:30 am  Edward & Lottie Connelly - Children
9:00 am  Rudy Siegl - Family
11:00 am  Al Mahar, Sr. - Son, Dick
5:00 pm  Raymond Mahar - Family

**Requiem Aeternam**

Barbara Yankowski
James Mattina
Maureen Schultz
Marjorie Bircher

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**Saturday & Sunday, June 14 & 15**  Thank you, faithful servants!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Eucharistic Ministers</th>
<th>Liturgical Assistants</th>
<th>Cantor</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>W. Martin B. Kammholz</td>
<td>R. Willison, K. Kammholz, M. Murphy, M. Kroll, D. McKeown, D. Schnell, P. Mersich, N. Roberts, A. Roberts, K. Mersich</td>
<td>K. Legawiec Children</td>
<td>F. Giovagnoli J. McAndrew J. Schnell</td>
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St. Louis Church

VBS 2014!
Monday, June 30th – Thursday, July 3rd
9:00am – 12:30pm
Sign up Deadline:
Monday, June 9th @ 5pm

Pick up Registration Forms in the Narthex Hallway or stop by the Ministry Center!
SET UP DATES:
Monday, July 7 thru Saturday, July 12:  9AM – 4PM
Monday, July 14 and Tuesday, July 15:  9AM – 4PM

Volunteer pre-shopping is Tuesday, July 15: 3PM – 5PM.
You must work five hours to qualify for pre-shopping.

SALE DATES:
Wednesday, July 16        9AM – 7PM
Thursday, July 17           9AM – 4PM
Friday, July 18                9AM – 4PM
Saturday, July 19            9AM – 11AM Bag Sale, then Clean Up

During the sale we need help in the holding area, carrying items to customers’ cars, being a cashier, door security, and assisting shoppers. Please consider volunteering - dates & times flexible. We recommend four hour shifts because the days are so long.

Call Michele Quinn, 585-385-6860, for sign up and information.
LAST WEEK AT ST. LOUIS

May 25, 2014
Attendance .......... 1,555
Collection .......... $13,431.00

June 1, 2014
Attendance .......... 1,629
Collection .......... $20,339.00

Thank you for your generous support!

This week’s second collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Our church can communicate the Gospel through Catholic social media, enriching our faith through Internet, TV, radio, and print, thanks to this collection. Half of your donation stays in our diocese to support communication needs here. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

SUNSHINE LUNCHEON A HUGE SUCCESS

Thank you to Lisa DePalma, Julie Testani, Joan Eisenhart and a cadre of 25 plus very willing helpers for another very memorable Sunshine Luncheon on Thursday, May 22. All of our 146 guests representing 14 area facilities and our homebound parishioners enjoyed delicious food, entertainment, conversation, and comraderie. A special thanks to all who baked, prepared chicken casseroles, assisted with parking and transporting the guests and did any other job that was required. St Louis students prepared the decorations, bookmarks, entertained with music, and our 6th graders helped serve the food.

Pastoral Care Committee members had a busy week as they hosted a reception following the May 24th Memorial Mass. Piroska Mersich and Betsy DeBloom coordinated this reception which was attended by approximately 45 persons, many of whom had suffered a bereavement this year. Thank you to all who helped.

PASTORAL COUNCIL AT WORK

This semester, Pastoral Council considered not only specific projects, like our use of technology, hospitality, community building, changes in baptismal preparation, etc., but also the way Council operates. A sub-committee studied our by-laws, their work in practice, challenges with the current approach, and the template the diocese offers for PC’s. The DOR, and common practice recommends 7 to 15 members for effective meetings, while we’ve often had 24 or more around the table. Having all the staff present at each meeting isn’t effectively using their time. Getting parishioners with specific skills/areas of knowledge or expertise around the table is daunting. Over the last two meetings, we’ve agreed to adopt the more flexible DOR template. We are reducing the number of people around the table so that all can be truly engaged, moving from committees sending a representative to members taking on a particular area/committee as a liaison, and doing major strategic planning on June 14th. Come, Holy Spirit!
Miracle of Understanding
The Bible is filled with miracles. Does that mean we should expect similar miraculous interventions in our day? Should the Pope be able to preach in St. Peter’s Square to people of many different nations and languages, with each hearing the message in their own native tongue? Even early Church Fathers understood that beyond the literal understanding of a miracle, there is often a deeper, spiritual meaning. Jesus healing a man born blind was not just a medical wonder; it pointed to a spiritual truth about human blindness, and Jesus’ power to open our eyes to whole new worlds. Jesus raising Lazarus was not just about one dead person being brought back to life. It set the stage for the resurrection; Jesus would conquer death, and have the power to give eternal life.

Do people sometimes speak in languages they never learned? It has happened. But Luke means something far greater in our 1st reading today. This opening story sets the stage for what he will illustrate through the remainder of the Acts of the Apostles. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, these simple fishermen will be able to convey the message of Jesus and the kingdom he preached in a way that will attract and be understandable to Gentiles throughout the known world. And yes, the message of Pope Francis, his way of bringing the Gospel to life is understood across many languages and cultures, even by those who are not in the Catholic family of faith. By the way, this miracle is not confined to the Temple area in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago, or St. Peter’s Square. It happens in families, and classrooms, and wherever there is openness to the grace of the Spirit. Miracle of speaking, miracle of listening, miracle of understanding: all of these are in the Holy Spirit’s toolbox.

No Translation Is Perfect
The New American Bible is a great translation, but no translation is perfect. Our 2nd reading today states ‘to each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.’ Many translations render the Greek much more clearly, and put a sharper point on a key thought in St. Paul: ‘to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.’ One problem Paul is addressing in Corinth is spiritual gifts being used, not to build up the community, but to puff up the user. Chapters 12 & 13 in 1 Corinthians are quite clear, and worth reading often. Gifts are given to the whole community, for the community. Individuals are given gifts for the benefit of others. No gift should be prized more highly than others, and no gift should be distained. All come from God, and are to be put to the service of God’s kingdom. The idea of the ‘common good’ is a core principle in our Catholic social justice teaching. Can you name the other core principles? What gifts might you have been given for the common good?

It All Works Together
Receiving the Holy Spirit, forgiveness of sins, and peace—they all work together. Often we can’t truly forgive without the help of the Holy Spirit. But rely upon the Holy Spirit, ask the Spirit’s help, and sure enough, when we truly forgive, both we and the person forgiven can experience Christ’s precious gift of peace. Even the peace of the family and the community benefit.

Looking Ahead:
FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

1st Reading:  Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9
Lord, do come along in our company

2nd Reading:  2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Encourage one another, live in peace

Gospel:  John 3:16-18
That all might have eternal life

Men’s 89 Looking for a powerful retreat experience that can open your eyes to all that faith can provide, and truly change your life? Want to discover what life in the Spirit and life in grace might look and feel like? The team has been preparing the next men’s Cursillo for months already. Fr. Bob and Fr. Ed Palumbos, together with the other 25 members of the team, invite you to Men’s 89, the evening of July 24th thru July 27. What is Cursillo? Ask Cursillistas Fr. Ray, Msgr. Krieg, Victor or Fr. Bob (Victor can tell you about Cursillo in Columbia).

Answer: Life & Dignity of the Human Person; Call to Family, Community & Participation; Rights & Responsibilities; Option for the Poor & Vulnerable; the Dignity of Work & the Rights of Workers; Solidarity & the Common Good; Care for God’s Creation
PENTECOST AND MORE

A Big Day at St. Louis

This Sunday, the Sacrament of Holy Orders will be front and center. At the 11:00 am Mass, our Pentecost celebration will include marking the 50th Anniversary of Fr. Al Delmonte’s ordination to priesthood. A reception will follow in the gym, as we wish Father well, and thank him for his 50 years serving our diocese as a priest.

At the 5PM Mass, our Pentecost celebration will include celebrating Carlos Sánchez’ ordination to the Diaconate, and his first Mass serving as a deacon. A multicultural reception will follow, with food, music and south-of-the-border festivities. Join the celebration of Holy Eucharist, and the reception at 6:15 pm in Reddington Hall Gym.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR NEXT FRUIT OF THE VINE, TUESDAY, JUNE 10

Q & A in the Parish Meeting Hall at 7:00 PM. A sip of wine, fun with friends, and an engaging discussion, on topics of your choice. Learn about what it means to be Catholic and all the Church has to offer!

“Ask the Pastor” Fruit of the Vine. Check it out!

SAVE THE DATE~~ AUGUST 23~~ AN EVENING WITH BISHOP MATTHEW CLARK!

Gather with Bishop Clark on Saturday, August 23 at the 4:30 pm Mass and a special conversation and discussion following at 5:30 pm.

Bishop Clark will be our Celebrant at the Mass and will join us for refreshments afterward. Save the date, you won’t want to miss this very special evening. Watch the bulletin for more details!

BABY BLESSING MASS

On Sunday June 15, our Elizabeth Ministry invites all families of recently baptized infants to the 9:00 am Mass for a special blessing of children and parents, followed by a light reception. Please enter it on your calendar now!

2014-2015 REGISTRATION AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND SACRAMENT PROGRAMS

Our registration for the 2014-2015 school year for religious education and sacrament programs has just begun. Please register now!! Registration forms were distributed through your child’s program on their last day of class and are available at the Faith Formation bulletin board in the Narthex hallway and at the Ministry Center.

The packet of registration materials includes a cover letter with general information, a detailed sheet of information about our religious education and sacramental preparation programs and the registration forms.

If you have any questions please contact Sue Payne at 586-5675 (Ext. 233) or email spayne@dor.org

Pray together
Learn together
Grow together
Stay together

FAMILY FAITH

~Generations Growing Together in Faith~
An at-home religious education workbook program designed for busy families!

Contact Peggy Lynge @ plynge@dor.org for more info.

Page Seven St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY June 8, 2014
Peace Be With You

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, the domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and how to accept forgiveness. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to do both. Today is a fitting time to share a family celebration of reconciliation.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, this Gospel reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

As you gather together as a family, sit quietly for a few minutes, inviting everyone to reflect upon their need to forgive and to receive forgiveness. If there is a situation or an issue within the family that needs attention, spend some time reflecting on how your family might address it. Talk together about how Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in the work of forgiveness and to bring us peace.

Me Too!

The energy of the Holy Spirit blowing through our readings, a celebration of the birthday of the church: do these stir something inside? Have you had thoughts about becoming Catholic, but just haven't taken the first step yet? For those who are not baptized, there is a wonderful process that will provide a place to ask your questions, help you learn more about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, prayer, the Bible, the church. It also provides a place for discernment – is now the right time? Am I ready to welcome Jesus into my life, and embrace the Christian way of life?

For those who are already baptized, but in another tradition: there is also a process for coming into communion with the Catholic church. Do you feel at home with us, and feel called to share in the sacraments? Give it some thought. Speak with Fr. Bob or Cris Wensel is you want to know a bit more.

Help Needed:

We NEED adult teachers for our Vacation Bible School program. VBS will be June 30th through July 3rd from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm everyday. Our guarantee to you: fun, knowledge that you have given back to the community, and have done something that will touch some of our children’s lives, and a guarantee that you will not only see many smiles, but will be able to take one home with you. Please contact Sue Payne at spayne@dor.org or phone, 586-5675 if you can teach.

Attention All Members of St. Louis Council Knights of Columbus

We have an opening for both the Deputy Grand Knight and Chancellor to be voted on at our next council meeting, Monday, June 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Meeting Hall. We will vote by paper ballot as set forth by the Supreme Council. We will say the Rosary at 6:45 pm followed by our business meeting.

Not Where I Expected!

The search for peace in our lives can take many twists and turns. The journey can include introspection, searching for peace inside. At other times we may seek outside: a place we will find peace, or a teacher, or a community or a relationship that will bring us peace. Check out Jesus’ words in our Gospel today. ‘Peace be with you’, followed immediately by ‘as the Father sent me, so I send you.’ One path to peace is to go forth, sharing the Good News and serving others. As we put our gifts to use for the Lord and for others, next thing we know, the peace is there!
**CATHOLICISM 101**

**10 REASONS TO GO TO MASS ~~ PART 1 OF 3**

Summer is a great time to step back and relax from the day-to-day rush we often find ourselves in. However, when deciding what to cut from our weekly schedules to help us slow down, Sunday Mass should not be one of the cuts. Sometimes it feels like a chore, but a closer look allows Catholics to see their obligation as a choice they want to make, freely and responsibly. This week, let’s look at 3 of the 10 reasons our attendance at Mass is so important.

1) Why go to Mass? Because I “owe” God ~~ not a very appealing reason, but it’s rock bottom. God is behind it all. God created everything, and keeps everyone and everything in existence. God not only does this, God does it with love. God ~~ mystery of mysteries ~~ created everything in order to have children to love and who could love in return.

2) Why go to Mass? Because I believe in Jesus ~~ I believe that Jesus is God’s will for me. I believe that Jesus is the definite, precise way God has given us to come to salvation. By God’s grace I can enter into Jesus’ life, death, resurrection and spirit (Spirit) and that is what God wants me to do. Jesus told us to continue celebrating his “Last Supper”. The Mass, the Eucharist, is the last Supper, the death and resurrection of Jesus, his Spirit made present to us, so that we can enter into it and be alive with God’s life.

3) Why go to Mass? To be a ‘live member’ of a community~~ We live in a very mobile society, and people might live in five or six parishes in a lifetime. Belonging to one parish (not parish-hopping) is one of the essentials of Christianity: belonging to a community. Not just the big, worldwide Church, but one church, this body of believers. The Mass is not like a movie, where hundreds of people can enjoy themselves and never look at another person. It’s not like a cafeteria, where I can pick what I like and pass up everything else. Rather, it’s what the Last Supper was – a gathering of friends, or at least of people who care for one another, a family meal. Here people humbly admit their weakness, accept and support one another.

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**FOOD AND OTHER ITEMS FOR ST. ANDREW’S FOOD CUPBOARD, NEXT WEEKEND! JUNE 14 & 15**

- Cereals, Rice
- Canned/boxed soups
- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, Spam)
- Canned pastas (Spaghetti-O’s, etc)
- Pasta & Spaghetti sauce
- Salad dressings, Salt & Pepper, Sugar, Flour
- Prepared meals (mac & cheese, etc)
- Peanut Butter, Jam & Jelly
- Gravies (canned or boxed mixes)
- Canned fruits (peaches, pears, etc.)
- Canned vegetables (corn, peas, tomatoes)
- Canned Beans (pinto, kidney, etc.)
- Feminine products
- Diapers
- Toiletries: Shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorants
- Paper Goods: toilet paper, napkins, tissues, towels

Recycle bags are always welcome & appreciated!

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**ST. BERNARD’S SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY**

**Open House** at St. Bernard’s School of Theology and Ministry on June 14 from 9-11am.

Want to deepen your faith through knowledge? Come meet faculty and current students, take a campus tour, and learn about our fall courses, admissions process and financial aid. Registration is not required but helpful for planning. Contact Christina Schmidt for more information or to register at admissions@stbernards.edu or (585) 271-3657, ext. 289. St. Bernard’s is located at 120 French Rd. Rochester, NY 14618.

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**St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY**

**June 8, 2014**
PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

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

PASTORAL STAFF:
Rev. Robert Ring, Pastor, ext. 225
ring@dor.org
Deacon David Snyder,
1deacondave@gmail.com
586-5675
Victor Manuel Sánchez Durán,
Pastoral Year Seminarian
Victor13_64@hotmail.com
Stephanie Honz, Pastoral Associate for
Liturgy and Liturgical Music, ext. 251
shonz@dor.org
Christine Wensel, Pastoral Associate,
et. 224, cwensel@dor.org
Bea Hack, Liturgy Coordinator, ext. 231
bhack@dor.org
Pat Spinelli, Parish Visitor, ext. 232
pspinelli@dor.org

Susan Payne,
Director of Faith Formation, ext. 233
spayne@dor.org
Peggy Lynge, Leader of Family Ministry,
et. 230, plynge@dor.org
Dan McBride, Youth Minister
stlouisyouthgroup@rochester.rr.com
Robin Hill, Middle School Youth Minister,
586-0598, walimu@hotmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:
Sally Schrecker, Operations Manager,
et. 235, sschrecker@dor.org
Birdie Proctor, Secretary/Bookkeeper,
et. 227, bproctor@dor.org
Elizabeth Finn, Secretary, ext. 223
efinn@dor.org
Barbara Thomas, Bulletin Editor, ext. 236
bthomas@dor.org

Jeffrey Std, Chair,
Parish Council, 752-8272

James Schnell, Chair,
Finance Council, 267-7295
Suzy Ward, Chair
Stewardship Council 746-5676
Stephen Ministry,
Confidential Hotline, 586-5675, ext. 324
Elizabeth Ministry, 586-5675, ext. 345
Isabel Miller, Director, Saint’s Place
46 S. Main St.
Phone: 385-6860, Fax: 385-3963
saintlady@saintsplace.org

In Residence at the Rectory:
Fr. Ray Booth
Fr. Al Delmonte
Msgr. Gerard Krieg

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

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St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY
June 8, 2014