WE PRAY, WE FAST, WE GIVE.

THIS WEEKEND - 2nd Sunday of Lent
St. Patrick’s Day
Girl Scout Cookie Sale - All Masses
Food Collection for St. Andrews Food Cupboard

THIS WEEK AT ST. LOUIS (Daily Mass Schedule p. 2)

MONDAY - MARCH 18
6:30 am - Men’s Spirituality Group, Manse

TUESDAY - MARCH 19
7:30 am - Sunday Scripture Study, Manse
1:00 pm - Bible & Sacraments, Parish Meeting Hall
4:30 pm - Faith Formation Classes
6:45 pm - Knights of Columbus Meeting,
Youth Room
7:15 pm - Bible & Sacraments, PMH

THURSDAY - MARCH 21
7:00 pm Tri-Parish Care for Environment, PMH

FRIDAY - MARCH 22
7:00 pm - Challenge Teen Girl’s Group

SATURDAY - MARCH 23
Knights of Columbus Easter Lily Pre-Sale
9:30 am - EPIC, PMH
1:00 pm - Lenten Forgiveness Retreat, PMH (pg 8)
3:00 pm - Confessions
4:30 pm - Mass (Sign Language Interpreted)
5:45 pm - Vespers (Evening Prayer), Church (pg 8)

SUNDAY - MARCH 24
Knights of Columbus Easter Lily Pre-Sale
7:30 am - Mass
9:00 am - Mass
10:00 am - Faith Formation Classes
10:00 am - Catholic Conversations, Manse
11:15 am - Mass / Children’s Liturgy of the
Word / RCIA Dismissal
5:00 pm - Mass

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St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY www.StLouisChurch.org Phone: 585.586.5675 Fax: 585.387.9888

 Lenten Almsgiving, Plus

“Almsgiving” is a quaint and strange-sounding word in many ways. It conjures up visions of dirty, ragged beggars at the side of the road with their hands extended as people of means pass by. But apart from a few folks begging at an expressway exit or on the sidewalk, we in our part of the world are a long way away from such scenes. Besides, we have social agencies in our community to address the needs of the poor. So what does “almsgiving,” as a pillar of Lenten practice, mean in our time and place?

Our weekday readings in early Lent make it clear that we are really talking about all the works of mercy and justice (see Isaiah 58:1-9a, Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18, Matthew 25:31-46). Almsgiving is not just about contributing a few coins to the poor. It is the sharing of our financial and material resources with others, “paying forward” our blessings and recognizing that everything we think we have and own are really from God. One bishop of the early Church reminded his congregation that almsgiving is the responsibility of everyone, no matter how great or small our resources may be. We can all be equal in generosity of heart for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in need.

Saint Louis Parish is blessed with financial, volunteer and spiritual resources. So the happy decision was made some time ago to “tithe” our weekend collection and designate those monies for some charitable cause or service. So you hear the announcement each week at the end of the Prayers of Faithful, “This week’s parish tithing will help support ….” The parish doesn’t actually take a tenth (tithe) of the collection, but makes a donation of $1,000 to that named cause. In addition, we take a food collection each month to benefit each of three local food cupboards four times a year. Every three years or so we contribute money and work time to a Habitat for Humanity building project; we support Saint Damien Pediatric Hospital in Haiti; participate with Meals on Wheels; and of course support Saint’s Place, among other projects and agencies. So your contributions to the parish include our ministries and reach beyond them to help unknown numbers of folks in need.

We also offer the Operation Rice Bowls during Lent, asking you to participate in feeding the untold numbers of hungry people in our world through Catholic Relief Services. Some families put coins in the bowl each night at supper as they say grace and pray for the poor of the world; some put coins in the bowl, when they use bad words, or find themselves gossiping or speaking ill of others. (When those bowls are returned at Easter, they’re quite heavy!)

Lent is a good time, then, to review our commitments to charitable giving, locally and globally, to adjust them and increase them as we are able, and thus lift up to new hope our brothers and sisters who are in need. And as you do so, remember, God loves a cheerful giver!

Christ’s peace to you, Father Bob Kennedy
Mass Intentions for This Week

Monday - March 18
Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
11:00 am  Shirley Ray - Fred & Karen
5:15 pm  Nikki Leonardo - Cecilia DeJoy

Tuesday - March 19
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
or Lk 2:41-51a
6:45 am  For the People of the Parish
9:10 am  St. Louis School Mass
11:00 am  Jane Donnelly Merkle - Margaret Geen

Wednesday - March 20
Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
11:00 am  Harry Midgley - Peggy Midgley
5:15 pm  Shirley Stone - Sue Barnes & Family

Thursday - March 21
Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
6:45 am  For Those Preparing for Marriage
11:00 am  Richard John Provazza - Sandra Provazza

Friday - March 22
Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
11:00 am  Gene Penzimer - Family
5:15 pm  Dick Brimmer - Daughter, Nancy

Saturday - March 23
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
9:00 am  For our RCIA Catechumens & Candidates
4:30 pm  Harold Redmond - Catalana Family

Sunday - March 24
Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
7:30 am  Richard Hendel - Anne & Gerry Shanahan
9:00 am  Robert Mack - Johnston Family
11:15 am  Stan Smith - Fred & Karen
5:00 pm  Maria Hoang Thi Phach - Ho Tran & Family

Special Intentions This Week:
We invite you to have a Sanctuary Lamp lit at the Blessed Sacrament to have your very special intentions remembered for a week.
To reserve a candle, please call or visit the Ministry Center.

Three lamps will burn in Loving Memory of William Kane by Mary-Ellen & Family

Requiem Aeternam
Michelle Redlinski
Angelita Uy

Saturday & Sunday, March 23 & 24

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>Sacristan</th>
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Sunday Communion Service - March 24
The Highlands - Darlene Huver
Heather Heights - Jim Haefner
Cutting a Covenant

Any robust religion includes sacrifice in some form or another. Self-centeredness and self-absorption are the enemies of spiritual growth, and a living relationship with God, however we understand God. Sacrifice can open us up to God in a powerful way. Our first reading includes a complex animal sacrifice that surely seems strange to us, but in the world of Abram, would not have seemed nearly so strange – animal sacrifices, even trances and visions were part of the warp and woof of the religious world view. Rather than trying to enter the scene, as we might do with a Gospel story, with this reading, try praying about the growth over centuries from animal sacrifices to Christ offering himself, to our offering ourselves with Christ in the Eucharist, a holy and living sacrifice.

Crown and Joy

Our second reading offers several phrases/images that are worth bringing to prayer. ‘Our citizenship is in heaven’. That certainly puts some of the things we give too much importance into a different perspective! Believing our citizenship to be in heaven also explains the phrase in the Salve Regina: ‘...after this, our exile’. Our lowly body being transformed into a glorified body can also be tremendously hopeful, especially if our lowly body has been failing us lately. Finally, savor Paul telling the Philippians, and by extension us, that we are his joy and crown. Soak in being a crown and a joy to the great apostle. Who might you consider your crown and joy? Do they know it? Here is an excellent Lenten activity ... think of some people who are your crown and joy, and prayerfully write them a letter or notecard to let them know. Now there is a way to imitate St. Paul!

Accomplishing His Exodus

Only Luke tells us that Jesus, Moses and Elijah were discussing his Exodus. Thus Luke weaves together the Passover and the Paschal Mystery even more explicitly than his source, Mark. As Moses led the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt, to freedom in the promised land, Jesus will lead his disciples and all believers out of slavery to sin and death and into the freedom of the Kingdom of God. Try to imagine the conversation between these great figures. Moses could share about the stubbornness of Pharaoh, and being pursued by Pharaoh’s army, along with the many other challenges he faced. Elijah could recount his showdown with the prophets of Baal, and Ahaz and Jezebel. Next, try to enter the conversation yourself.

Cathedral Hosts Lessons & Carols

On Sunday, March 31, at 2:00pm, the Cathedral Community, along with the Rochester Chapter, National Association of Pastoral Musicians, will host Lenten Lessons & Carols at the Cathedral. Please join us as we reflect on the Letters of St. Paul heard during this Cycle C Lenten Season. Guest choirs will include Peace of Christ Combined Choir, St. Louis, St. Marianne Cope, St. Theodore, St. Pius Children’s Choir and the Cathedral Choir. At this time both High School Music Ministry Recognition Awards and adult continuing education scholarships will be awarded. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Narthex. All are welcome. For more information contact the Cathedral Office: 585-254-3221.

Seeking Music Makers

St. Joe’s House of Hospitality is seeking musicians to enhance their liturgy during weekly Mass (Thursdays at 6:30pm.) All ideas and instruments are welcome. For more information, please send an email to: rochestercatholicworker@gmail.com

St. Joseph’s House of Hospitality has been feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless for 75 years. Every day, they offer coffee, a telephone, shower facilities or laundry services to anyone who needs it. All of the programs offered -- a soup kitchen, an emergency homeless shelter in the winter, temporary housing, a free store with clothing and other goods, transitional apartments for individuals who suffer from substance addictions -- are provided through private donations, receiving no government or corporate funding.
Supporting Our Parish

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<th>March</th>
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Last weekend’s 2nd collection supported the Black, Native American, and Hispanic Ministries in the Diocese of Rochester.

The St. Louis Knights of Columbus Council will be holding their Easter Lily Pre-Sale next weekend after all Masses. Order an Easter Lily for $9.00 and pick it up after all Masses on the weekend of April 13 and 14.

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

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

Rochester Free Store

The Rochester Free Store, a collaboration between Saint Joe’s House of Hospitality and the South Wedge Mission, is a place for people to meet their needs in clothing, household items, small appliances, electronics and more, all at no cost.

You may drop off donations Wednesdays between 10:30am and Noon, and 4:30pm to 6pm.

The store is open for people to “shop” the third Saturday of every month, from 3:30pm to 5pm. If you have any other questions feel free to contact Jasmin Reggler at (585) 353-9882.

This Week’s Tithing Will Support St. Andrews Food Cupboard

Next Week’s Tithing Will Support Mount Carmel House

Providing Comfort Care for the Terminally Ill in an Atmosphere of Love and Prayer

Mount Carmel House was founded by several members of the Rochester Lay Carmelites to provide a peaceful home for those beyond medical treatment. This hospice-like facility offers warmth and comfort through the loving personal, pastoral and medical care given to the terminally ill who stay within its walls.

Mount Carmel House has been in continuous operation since 1984. It is a tax exempt, non-profit organization that relies totally on donations and volunteer services.

Mount Carmel House is always in need of loving people to volunteer to assist the staff and guests. Call Carol Cook at (585) 366-4949 for questions or to sign up.

Pope Francis’ Message for Lent 2019

“Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption…Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ’s victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.”

Please pick up a “Rice Bowl” found in baskets at all the entrances.

And please be generous in your giving to those who are truly hungry, both here and around the world. The booklet tucked inside the folded bowl includes information about the program, Lenten prayers, online resources and some great international recipes for meatless meals.
Coming Up!

St. Louis
Faith Formation
Family Event
“Walk with Jesus”

Saturday, March 30th
from 10:00-Noon

Location: St. Bernard’s
School of Theology and
Ministry, French Rd

This inspiring event follows Jesus through His last days on earth—and in our daily lives. “Walk with Jesus” engages both young and old alike, and is perfect for families to experience together. Each station includes powerful activities and you’ll take home special keepsakes that serve as reminders of Jesus’ tremendous sacrifice and love for you.

Register for this event at: stlouischurch.org/walk-jesus

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?
In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Hey Parents! Are you looking for a resource to aid, inspire and encourage you in your sacred vocation as spouse and parent? Try the Messy Family Project by Mike and Alicia Hernon!

Mike and Alicia Hernon are Catholic parents who help other parents discuss with one another how they can be more intentional in how they raise their children. They write blogs, produce podcasts and promote resources that can make a difference in your home.

You can sign up for these free programs at messyfamilyproject.org/resources/
**Let’s Talk!**

Have you joined *Best Lent Ever*? Have you read *The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity*? Maybe you’d just like to come and hear a discussion about Lent.

**Join us for two discussion nights!**

**When:** Thursday, March 28 and April 11

**Where:** Parish Meeting Hall

**There is still time to register for Best Lent Ever at:** Stlouischurch.org/best-lent-ever

For more information or suggestions contact Kathryn at Kathryn.mcalarney@dor.org or 586-5675, ext. 224.
The Beatitudes create heaven here on earth. Jesus teaches us a way of living, loving and being that help us to “live life to the full”. Shaped by the Beatitudes, we learn how to welcome into our broken world the gifts of healing, wholeness and well-being. As a Christian people we are called to become a beacon of light especially for those who suffer in darkness or who lost a loved one, experience unresolved grief from past offenses or suffer from painful memories. This three-nighttime parish retreat/mission will provide tools and techniques to help each person to become a generous distributor of God’s healing mercy and love.

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**Monday-Wednesday Transfiguration 9 am Mass with talk following**

Mon: St. Louis 7 pm / Tues: St. Catherine 7 pm / Wed: Transfiguration 7 pm
OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW SPIRITUALLY

Forgiveness Retreat
Do you really know what forgiveness is?
Do you want to forgive, but don’t know how?
Do you struggle to accept God’s forgiveness?
Are you able to forgive yourself?
Do you turn and forgive others?

Come and explore the crucial topic of forgiveness. Open your heart and allow God to pour his life-giving mercy into your life and begin to find the answers to these questions.

Where: St. Louis Church, Parish Meeting Hall
When: Saturday, March 23rd
Time: 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Please register! Contact Kathryn at kathryn.mcalarney@dor.org, or 586-5675, ext. 224.

Vespers
Join us for Evening Prayer

When: Saturdays during Lent
5:45-6:00 p.m.
Where: Church sanctuary

What do we do in evening prayer?
We remember our day before God and ask him to forgive our sins and our faults.
We give thanks that Christ has come into the world and now, as the sun sets, we pray for the redemption of the world.
We take up Mary’s song of praise, the Magnificat, and we say to God, “Let it be done to me according to your word.”

The Knights of Columbus from our parish sponsored a presentation by Fr. Bob Kennedy and now are working to bring us this part of the beautiful prayer of the Church called “Liturgy of the Hours”.

For more information, contact Kathryn at Kathryn.mcalarney@dor.org or 586-5675 ext. 224.

What are Keystone Penances?

Penance during Lent can transform our inner selves. How? It can set us free. Maybe with that hope in mind you’ve decided to give something up for Lent and you are fasting from it. Why that particular thing? What’s the goal?

Try choosing penances that will address the things in our hearts that actually need to be addressed. This Lent are you choosing any wise penances that will remind you of your dependence on God and that draw you more deeply in love with Him? Are you choosing Keystone penances?

Check out our videos about fasting at stlouischurch.org/fasting or come to Catholic Conversations this week (Sunday 10-11 a.m. in the Manse) and join the discussion about this topic! We have coffee and a whole lot of fun listening to each other’s ideas.
Community

Building Community

Girl Scout Cookie Sale
This Weekend March 16 & 17
St. Louis School Girl Scouts will be selling Girl Scout Cookies at all masses. Cookies are $4.00 per box. Your purchase supports the Girl Scouts.
You can also purchase cookies that will be donated and sent to military troops that are based out of Western New York. Thank you for your purchase and your support.

St. Joseph’s Day Mass
March 19th
9:10am
All are welcome.

Saint’s Place welcomes 7 new refugees

As the doors of the Clothing Closet opened on an early, cold winter morning in February, five Congolese brothers, their father and uncle quickly entered seeking refuge from the cold and rain. They had arrived in Rochester less than a week before to begin a new life. The young men ranged in ages from 10 - 32 years old. They had fled their village in the middle of night because of the fighting and they feared for their lives. The father told us that his family had been in the refugee camps in Uganda for seven years. His pregnant wife and a sister are still in the camp waiting to be allowed to enter the United States. His only comment about the refugee camp was “it was very, very bad”. They were ready and eager to move on.

The group was fluent in French and their English was quite good. Now, we had the task of dressing each one of them. Several of them were basketball height, the others were muscular but all of them were so engaging. Their enthusiasm was contagious. Saint’s Place was able to give each man a new winter coat, hats, gloves, boots and socks.

The bantering between the brothers, as they selected sweatshirts, baseball caps, coats, and boots, was typical of any family with a dose of sibling rivalry. The older brother does all the cooking and he requested more pots and pans. The younger ones were looking for soccer balls and shoes!

The father told us that his dream was to “lead the boys,” to make them be proud and the most important thing he could do was to ensure that they were educated. We asked each of the young men what was their dream, what did they want to do now. The responses were wonderful. We began with the oldest and ended with the youngest. Each one wanted to focus on their education to follow their individual dreams. The careers were diversified: two doctors, two mechanics, one business man, one teacher. The youngest wanted to be a professional soccer player. His father smiled when he announced his intended career.

It was such a wonderful day at Saint’s Place. We witnessed firsthand the process of fulfilling the American dream. There is also a bittersweet feeling, knowing that so many more good people are waiting to be allowed to enter the United States as refugees. Please keep them in your prayers.
**Parish Staff Directory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINISTRY CENTER HOURS ARE: MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Parish Offices - Ministry Center**
64 S. Main Street, 14534  
(585) 586-5675; Fax 387-9888

**Pastoral Staff:**
- Rev. Robert Kennedy, Parochial Administrator  
ext. 225, Fr.Robert.Kennedy@dor.org
- Rev. Juan Benitez, Parochial Vicar  
Fr.Juan.Benitez@dor.org
- Deacon David Snyder  
1deacondave@gmail.com
- Michelle Andrews-Smith, Director of Faith Formation, ext. 233, Michelle.Andrews-Smith@dor.org
- Cynthia Clarke, Pastoral Associate for Social Justice & RCIA  
ext. 234, Cynthia.Clarke@dor.org
- Lorrie Fairey, Faith Formation Admin. Assistant  
ext. 230, Lorrie.Fairey@dor.org
- Bea Hack, Liturgy Coordinator  
ext. 231, Bea.Hack@dor.org

**Pastoral Staff:**
- Stephanie Honz, Pastoral Associate for Liturgy and Liturgical Music  
ext. 251, Stephanie.Honz@dor.org
- Cathy Malik, Pastoral Associate for Pastoral Care  
ext. 228, Catherine.Malik@dor.org
- Laurie Martin, Finance Director  
ext. 222, Laurie.Martin@dor.org
- Kathryn McAlarney, Pastoral Associate for Evangelization  
ext. 224, Kathryn.McAlarney@dor.org
- Suzanne Montanye, Admin. Assistant  
ext. 223, Suzanne.Montanye@dor.org
- Dominic Salamida, Youth and Young Adult Minister  
ext. 234, Dominic.Salamida@dor.org
- Sally Schrecker, Operations Manager  
ext. 235, Sally.Schrecker@dor.org
- Pat Spinelli, Parish Visitor  
ext. 232, Pat.Spinelli@dor.org
- Shannon Toot, Accounting & Media Admin  
ext. 227, Shannon.Toot@dor.org

**Pastoral Staff:**
- Shannon Toot, Bulletin Editor  
PSLouis.Bulletin@dor.org
- Chris Lyng, Chair, Pastoral Council, 967-0057
- James Schnell, Chair, Finance Council, 267-7295
- Debbie Hoeft, Chair, Stewardship Team, 734-9705, debbie53hoeft@yahoo.com
- 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, Fran.Barr@dor.org, www.slspittsford.org
- Michael DeCocq, Grand Knight, St. Louis Knights of Columbus, Phone: 585-314-8835, depepsi@twc.com

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

March 17, 2019