February 28, 2017

Encuentro

What a powerful presentation Jack Jezreel gave us Monday! Wonderful insight into what faith as a journey really means, clarity about the Lord continually summoning us forth, insight into Pope Francis’ goal of completing the work of Vatican II – all with tremendous energy and a very engaging style. One theme he illustrated so effectively in gesture and movement was the notion that we are called by Christ to leave our comfort zones, to go and encounter others, especially those at the margins. I shall long remember his acting out: we leave the embrace of home, and ‘plop ourselves down’ over there, among people we do not know, whose needs we may prefer not to see, whose challenges are unfamiliar. What do we do when we move out in this way, missionary disciples, as Pope Francis would put it? First we encounter, listen, and begin to form a relationship.

I was delighted when Jack spoke of how since Vatican II, parishes have begun offering many opportunities for adults to learn, discuss and grow in faith. Certainly a priority here! He pointed out that since Vatican II, we realize more fully that all are called to ministry by virtue of baptism; ministry is not just for the ordained. Now his repeated comments about ‘bulletins the size of the New York Times’, made me nervous. But thinking about it, one goal embraced by our Pastoral Council and our Stewardship Team squares beautifully with what Jack had to say. Charity is not simply giving money to those in need, or tossing mattresses over the wall to people who need them (what an image!). It is love, which means relationship. (FYI: we deliver hundreds of mattresses to refugee families, but with relationship in the process!)

Here is our journey. Early on, a tithing committee met to determine where tithes would be sent. Key criteria: will the money be directed to service? Will our tithe really make a difference? Very good, but as Jack would say, not complete. More recently, tithing discussions have moved to our Stewardship Team. Recall the survey awhile back about places where you offer your time and talent? We are now trying to make the link between our tithes and relationship building much stronger. Encuentro. A favorite concept of Pope Francis. A culture of encounter. Gradually we are working to have hands, hearts and tithing linked, tithing to places where members of our community have ‘plopped themselves down’; encouraging others to make the same move. Let’s get to know others, who are outside our own comfort zones, to go and encounter others, especially those at the margins. I shall long remember his acting out: we leave the embrace of home, and ‘plop ourselves down’ over there, among people we do not know, whose needs we may prefer not to see, whose challenges are unfamiliar. What do we do when we move out in this way, missionary disciples, as Pope Francis would put it? First we encounter, listen, and begin to form a relationship.

After listening to Jack Monday, I’m going to go back and reread Pope Francis’ Joy of the Gospel, but now knowing better what to look for. Good Lenten reading! Blessings to you and your household, Fr. Bob.
**Mass Intentions for This Week**

**MONDAY - MARCH 20**
St. Joseph, Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or
Lk 2:4-51a
9:10 am St. Louis School Mass for
Feast of St. Joseph
11:00 am Mary Jean Herberger -
Husband, Bob
11:00 am John E. Bernacki, Sr. -
Julie, Timothy & Peter Bernacki
5:15 pm Harry Midgley -
Peggy

**TUESDAY - MARCH 21**
Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
6:45 am For the People of the Parish
11:00 am Eugene Penzimer -
Wife
5:15 pm Lois I. Buttino -
Friends

**WEDNESDAY - MARCH 22**
Jn 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
6:45 am Fernando Ruiz Jaen -
Lucille Newell
11:00 am Bernadette Nutley - Josie

**THURSDAY - MARCH 23**
Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
6:45 am for the People of the Parish
11:00 am John E. Bernacki, Sr. -
Julie, Timothy & Peter Bernacki

**FRIDAY - MARCH 24**
Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
11:00 am John E. Bernacki, Sr. -
Cindy Naas & Gary Wurth
5:15 pm Those in Hospice Care

**SATURDAY - MARCH 25**
Annunciation of the Lord
Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
9:00 am Seminarians of Our Diocese
4:30 pm Giles Wayland Smith -
Judy & Jerry Russi

**SUNDAY - MARCH 26**
4th Sunday of Lent
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
7:30 am Greg Haffen -
The Haffen Family
9:00 am John Bernacki -
Diane & Tom Witkowski
11:15 am Genevieve Martin -
Ramos Family
5:00 pm Gerald N. Murphy -
The Lippa Family

**Requiem Aeternam**

**Francis C. O’Connell**

**Mary Landry**

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**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 reserve a candle, 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
Maria Hoang Thi Phach
By Ho Tran & Family.

**One Lamp will burn**
In memory of
Maria Nguyen Tih Tinh &
Dominic Hoang Phu Binh
By Ho Tran & Family.

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**Saturday & Sunday, March 25 & 26**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>Liturgical Assistants</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>A. Romeo</td>
<td>C. McManus, S. Ward, C. Check, M. Mench, E. Horey-Theide, P. Kessler, M. Quinn, S. Schrecker</td>
<td>M. Conking</td>
<td>C. Herdklotz</td>
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<td>A. Romeo</td>
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<td>S. Welch</td>
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<td>J. Schifferli</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>B. Best</td>
<td>C. Lanahan, B. Bullis, R. Calcagno, S. Carpenter, A. Daniele, J. Pippin, J. Wihlen, E. Ramos, M. Ramos, S. Payne</td>
<td>S. Payne</td>
<td>S. Mattina</td>
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<td>I. Best</td>
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<td>K. Calcagno</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P. Bernacki</td>
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<td>W. Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>C. Bergin</td>
<td>J. Roxstrom, E.K. Mancini, K. Hettrich, R. McNiffè, N. Tirabassi, J. Tirabassi, L. Sullivan, J. Roxstrom</td>
<td>C. Aroesty</td>
<td>P. Doerr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E. Bergin</td>
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<td>J. Doerr</td>
<td>J. Doerr</td>
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**Sunday Communion Service - March 26**

The Highlands - Pete & Gerry Shea
Heather Heights - Joe & Diane Salipante
**Third Sunday of Lent**

**1st Reading: Exodus 17:3 – 7**
*Water from the rock*

**2nd Reading: Romans 5:1 – 2, 5 – 8**
*The grace in which we stand*

**Gospel: John 4:5 – 42**
*Water welling up to eternal life*

**Water from the Rock**

Not unlike the Gospel today, the 1st reading begins with a practical, down to earth, physical need: folks were thirsty. In the hot, dry desert, naturally they were thirsty. God was calling forth faith. “I brought you this far with signs and wonders. Learn to trust me. I won’t let us die of thirst.” Instead, God got grumbling, complaining, and a desire to return to the way things were before, even though they had not long before been complaining about Egypt. After all that had transpired, they could still ask “Is God with us or not?”

As if to answer the question, through Moses God brought forth water from the rock. Unfortunately even that wasn’t enough. They went on to complain about not having bread, then complained about the bread that was given. God’s nature is to provide. Part of our fallen nature is to grumble and complain. Grace is breaking in when we learn to trust, and respond to everything with gratitude. Do you know anyone who is prone to complaining (maybe even someone in the mirror)? Pray for the grace, for someone else, or even for yourself, to take steps away from grumbling and more into gratitude.

**Not just water**

We have a beautiful baptismal font. Water is often poured over those who are baptized. In other cases they are immersed in the water. But Paul wants us to realize baptism is not just about water. The true significance is having the love of God poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, being immersed in God’s love. Once that happens, we begin standing in grace (God’s love). That love, proven through Christ dying for us, leads us to a peace with God, to hope for glory, and to gratitude. It also propels us to share the Good News!

**Journey to Easter, Journey to Baptism**

One of the gifts of the Second Vatican Council was restoring in a strong way the practice of Lent having a baptismal focus, a time to journey with catechumens on their way to the Easter sacraments. The Gospels this week, next week and the following are geared especially toward catechumens. Those preparing for baptism are invited to see themselves at the well with the woman from Samaria, conversing with Jesus as she did – yes, he knows everything about us. Soon, catechumens will receive the living water. They will also experience Jesus opening their eyes, as Jesus did the eyes of the man born blind (being born blind – original sin, perhaps?). Finally, as St Paul speaks of dying with Christ in baptism, and rising with him to new life, so too those who will be baptized will pass from death to life, like Lazarus. Sin = in the tomb; Jesus calling ‘Lazarus, come out!’ – the call to the sacrament of Baptism. The baptismal candle: Lazarus coming out into the light. Jesus instructing “Untie him” – we are all called to assist one another in finding freedom in Christ.

So with these Gospels, we pray for those who will be receiving the Easter sacraments. Then, we too step into the scene. Go in prayer to Jacob’s well, and have a conversation with Jesus about living water. Next week, visit the Pool of Siloam in prayer. While our eyes were opened at Baptism, that doesn’t preclude the possibility that we still need glasses, or that periodically the prescription may need to be changed! And in Bethany, we might weep for our deceased loved ones with Jesus, as he did for Lazarus. We can pray for the faith Martha had that her brother would rise. We can reflect on our stepping out into the light. We might also ask the Lord ‘is there someone I should untie?’

**Looking Ahead:**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**1st Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6 – 7, 10 – 13a**
*The spirit of the Lord rushed upon him*

**2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:8 – 14**
*Live as children of the light*

**Gospel: John 9:1 – 41**
*I can see!*

**Preparing for Confession**

The diocesan Day of Mercy and Penance will take place on Tuesday, March 28. Ideally, the event is not simply a convenient added time to go to confession. The origin of the idea was to provide an opportunity for those who had been away from the church or the sacrament for a long time. While confessors do everything possible to help anyone through the process, that first step, opening the door of the confessional, can be huge. This Friday, March 24, we will try to make it much easier. We will have a prayer service geared toward forgiveness and reconciliation, but will also explain how the sacrament works, including time for questions. Do you know anyone who has been thinking about returning to the church? Please bring them Friday!

**Next weekend’s annual Collection for Catholic Relief Services provides funding for the USCCB Offices of International Justice and Peace, Migration and Refugee Services, and Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees; relief work of the Holy Father; and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.**
Good Stewardship

**Being in Community, Supporting Our Community**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tr>
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<td>$20,779.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
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<td>1,625</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>On-line Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Month-to-Date</td>
<td>$33,592.00</td>
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How Does That Work?

Thank you for your faithful support of our parish! Thanks to your generosity, we are able to tithe 10% of our Sunday collections to make a difference beyond our parish boundaries. Learning along the way, we have simplified the formula in the past few years. Previously, the entire 10% went to the designated organization. In order to adequately support our ministry to refugees (Saint’s Place), a commitment had been made that a designated number of Sundays would be assigned to Saint’s Place. Part of the problem: the size of the tithe varied significantly from Sunday to Sunday (the first Sunday of the month generally much larger), and a snow storm could really impact the amount an organization might receive. Two moves corrected the discrepancy, with side benefits as well. Each Sunday, the designated charity/organization receives $1,000. The remainder goes into a tithing fund, from which the amount promised to Saint’s Place is taken. This fund also serves as the emergency fund, which was periodically slated as a Sunday tithe in the past. In addition, because the fund always has a modest balance, when the bishop has requested parishes taking up a second collection for emergencies, (natural disasters, the request for money to assist poor families with heating costs, etc.), we can now write a check and get it to the emergency immediately. With support of the Parish Council, Finance Council and Stewardship Team, the changes have made the tithing process smoother and more equitable, and the thank you letters keep rolling in!

**This Week’s Tithing Will Support**
**St. Andrew’s Food Cupboard**

**Next Week’s Tithing Will Support**
**Ministries of Holy Family Catholic Church, Booneville, KY**

Holy Family Catholic Church is located within Owsley County, Kentucky. It is a member of the Diocese of Lexington. It serves the citizens of Owsley County in both a spiritual and mission based format. Owsley County is one of the poorest and most heavily drug ridden counties in the continental United States. According to the 2010 Census, Owsley County is “the poorest county in the United States.” The median family income is approx. $15,800. The county population is approximately 4,750 people and the church has established an open door policy to all county residents.

All of our tithing dollars will go directly to support the offerings of clothing, supplies, emergency building materials, and beds, basic necessities for children, spiritual guidance, family intervention and counseling. These are just some of the basic mission offerings performed by Sisters Marge Eilerman and Angie Keil (Franciscan Sisters). They are incredible servants of God who have a long tenure with both Owsley County and the Holy Family Catholic Church.

St. Louis Parish has sent participants the last few years to join in the Church of the Transfiguration Men’s Group annual mission trip to Holy Family Catholic Church. This mission celebrated its 30th annual trip in 2016. Everyone who attends this rigorous and spiritually revealing trip return enlightened and enriched. One of the sayings from the men’s group to new participants is that when you spend a week with the people of Owsley County and work with them hand in hand, “you are able to see the face of God.” It is an overwhelmingly true statement, and a wonderful joy.

**Sneakers for Haiti:** Dear Mrs. Barr, Laurie and Teachers, You will all be happy to learn that the St. Louis School children donated 150 pairs of sneakers to our beloved children in Haiti. (1/4 of that number were newly purchased!!) Thank you and may God bless our school children and their parents, the school staff and the Haitian children whose difficult walk on the road of life will be made so much easier. Gratefully on behalf of Father Rick Frechette at NPH (Our Little Brothers and Sisters), Marcia Mendola, St. Louis Haiti Team, chair

**Annual Good Friday American Red Cross Blood Drive Sponsored by St. Louis Parish**

**April 14, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**
**Reddington Hall Gym**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule an appointment. Please bring identification with you when you come to donate.

*Give the gift of life! Give blood!*
In Their Own Words: CYO basketball is a wonderful Ministry that so many of our boys and girls are involved in here at St. Louis Church. We have one of the highest numbers of teams in the Diocese, with 16 teams spanning grades 3 through High School. Catholic Youth Organization is a place where athletics and our faith collide, where talent is fostered at any skill level, and where team-building opportunities are endless. We have several dedicated coaches and assistant coaches who volunteer their time to guide our youth and develop their skills both on and off the court. On Thursday, March 2, 11 of our young athletes were honored with the Diocese of Rochester CYO Faith through Sports Award. These young men and women have exemplified their Catholic faith, commitment to their team, and overall superb sportsmanship throughout the 2016-2017 season. The athletes honored with this award are not only role models to their team and peers, but to all of us here at St. Louis Church. It’s an honor to be an Athletic Director here at St. Louis Church, simply because we have the very best caliber of young athletes, coaches, and all involved with making CYO possible. I look forward to many more seasons of CYO basketball here at St. Louis Church.

~ Leila Kaczmarek, Youth Ministry Coordinator

2017 First Eucharist Preparation Calendar

As a reminder, attendance at all sessions is expected.
Parent and child attend Family Sessions.

Parent only @ Kick-Off.

Monday, March 20th
Kick-Off 6:30pm-7:30pm Church
Monday, March 27th
Family Session 6:30pm-8:00pm Church
Monday, April 10th
Family Session 6:30pm-8:00pm Church
Monday, April 24th
Family Session 6:30pm-8:00pm Church

First Eucharist celebrations will be either:
Saturday, April 29th @ 11:15am & 4:30pm
or
Sunday, April 30th @ 11:15am
**Lent 2017**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Penitential Service of Reflection, Preparation for Confession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>12:30 - 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Day of Penance &amp; God’s Mercy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>St. Louis School Stations of the Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>11:30 am-1:00 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>First Friday in Lent Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td>1:50 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>St. Louis School Stations of the Cross</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Taize Prayer</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Good Friday Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Good Friday Tenebrae</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Easter Vigil Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Easter Sunday Masses: 7 (new time), 9 &amp; 11:15 am, 1 pm</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**FORMED**

Plug into FORMED.org for relevant Catholic resources.
Great ideas for children and adults on FORMED.org

**Opening the Word: Lent Through Easter**
Welcome to Opening the Word, a program offering prayer and insights for the Sunday Readings. Featuring a variety of experienced presenters including Dr. Tim Gray, Mary Healy, Scott Powell, Dr. Edward Sri, Fr. John Riley, Martha Fernandez, and Ben Akers, the fifty-two videos are designed to facilitate thought and discussion for personal faith formation or in the context of a group meeting. Personal Prayer Journals and a group Leader’s Guides are also available to make the most of these Sunday Readings.

**Joseph of Nazareth**
The first feature film ever on the story of St. Joseph – carpenter, husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that St. Joseph was a “just man” and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man – to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the Messiah and the father and protector of this Holy Family, the man closest to Christ. Plug into FORMED.org for relevant Catholic resources.

To register for these FREE resources, go to FORMED.org and use the parish code: KMFHWY.
Contact Kathryn McAlarney for help or more suggestions. KMcAlarney@dor.org, 586-5675, ext. 224
Save the Dates

Annual Super Sale

Tues. July 11th  Preview Evening  4-8 PM  $25 a person
Wed. July 12th Opening Day  9AM — 6PM
Thurs. July 13th  9AM — 5PM
Fri. July 14th  9AM — 5 PM  1/2 price day
Sat. July 15th  Bag Sale  9AM – Noon

More details to follow.

Saint’s Place, 46 S. Main St., Pittsford, NY 14534. Isabel Miller Executive Director.
Saint’s Place Ministry Hours: 46 S. Main St.: Mon. through Thurs.: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Closed Fridays.
St. John of Rochester: Mon., Tues., Thurs.: 9:15 am until 12 noon; Wed.: 9:15 am to 2:30 pm.; Closed Fridays.
Phone: 585-385-6860. Fax: 585-385-3963 or saintlady@saintsplace.org, or www.saintsplace.org

This Lent, Explore Forgiveness!
Forgiveness is a cornerstone of our faith, but can be the hardest thing to accept or give. How well do you understand forgiveness and allow it to change your life? Join us for a four-session study that explores God’s mercy, the sacrament of Confession, and our ability to forgive others and ourselves. Don’t we ALL need some of that! Make this part of your journey through Lent.

When: Saturdays, 2:00 – 3:00 pm
Dates: March 18, 25, and April 1
Where: Parish Meeting Hall
Cost: Free

To register and order the book, please contact Kathryn McAlarney at 586-5675, ext. 224 or KMcAlarney@dor.org

Bishop Robert Barron’s CATHOLICISM: The Pivotal Players is a multi-part film series that illuminates a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization.

Make this fascinating series part of your Lenten journey.

Time: Tuesdays, 1:00 - 2:30 pm OR 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Dates: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25
Where: Parish Meeting Hall
Cost: $20 for book, Praying with the Pivotal Players

To register and order the book, please contact Kathryn McAlarney at 586-5675, ext. 224 or KMcAlarney@dor.org
New Hymnal DedICATIONS

After over 15 years of wear and tear, and due to the changes in the Order of Mass, we must replace our current hymnals. We need 750 hymnals for our parish and hope to raise the money and purchase new Gather hymnals before Easter Sunday 2017.

Each hymnal is valued at approximately $20.00. You can donate as many hymnals as you like. Each hymnal you donate can be dedicated to the memory of a loved one or in honor of your family or friends. A nice remembrance!

Your generosity and commitment will ensure our success, and anything you can give toward the purchase of our new hymnals will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for considering a donation toward the purchase of our new hymnals.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me. I will follow up with a phone call in the next couple of days. Sincerely in Christ,

Stephanie Honz, Pastoral Associate of Music and Liturgy
585-586-5675 ext.251 or shonz@rochester.rr.com.
Beginning Experience is a peer support group for separated, divorced and widowed adults. The weekend program helps deal with the natural grief process and offers an opportunity, through God, for dealing with the pain and loss and moving into the future with renewed hope. Our next weekend will be held at Camp Stella Maris on Conesus Lake March 31 - April 2, 2017. Contact Beginning Experience at (585) 987-1750 or visit www.beginningexperiencerochesterny.org, for more information.

Young Adults, Don’t Miss Out

Theology on Tap Lenten Menu
Monday Nights at 7:00 pm

Otter Lodge Pub & Grill
1776 Monroe Avenue
Rochester, NY 14618

March 20, A LENTEN JOURNEY: IS IT ABOUT JUSTICE OR JUST ABOUT US?
With Sr. Donna DelSanto, SSJ, Director of Vocations for Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, NY

March 27, HOPE IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD
Deacon Kevin Carges, Our Lady of Peace, Geneva

Theology on Tap is an opportunity for young adults to gather to discuss and reflect on issues of faith.

Sponsored by The Diocese of Rochester Department of Evangelization & Catechesis. Theology on Tap is a copyrighted program of Review International. Used with permission.

JustFaith Information
Jack Jezreel, our Tri-Parish Lenten retreat leader will be holding meetings about his JustFaith program. Transfiguration will be offering the JustFaith program this fall. The information meetings are at the Church of the Transfiguration in their Parish Life Center on TODAY, Sunday, 3/19/17 at 10:15PM or Monday, 3/20/17 at 7:00PM in the Parish Life Center. Please contact Margie Benza with interest or questions: margie4@frontiernet.net or 248-2427, ext. 244.

RAISE THE AGE
When RocACTS members traveled to Albany to deliver postcards encouraging legislators to “raise the age” so that juveniles are no longer incarcerated as adults in New York, all our local legislators agreed to support the bill except Sen. Rich Funke. If you are in Sen. Funke’s district, please call (585 223-1800) or email (Funke@nysenate.gov) Sen. Funke to ask him to support the “Raise the Age” Bill. Only New York and North Carolina incarcerate juveniles with adults.

St. Louis Knights of Columbus,
Next Meeting, Monday March 20, Parish Mtg Hall Rosary at 6:45 pm, 7:00 pm - Business Meeting

The St. Louis Council thanks Fr. Peter for his talk at February’s meeting about his vocation to become a priest.

The St. Louis Council will hold a Lily Sale with proceeds to benefit the cost of New Choir books for the St. Louis Adult Choir. The St. Louis Knights Membership drive will be announced. There will be a third degree exemplification on April 1st at St. Joe’s in Rush, New York.

It is great to be a part of an organization that is strong in our church and community.

Men of the Parish interested in becoming a Member of St. Louis Council or any who have questions about Knights of Columbus, please contact our Membership Director, Joseph DiPrima at drdiprima@gmail.com. or Grand Knight Dick Hilliard at Cell: 585-943-1106 or e-mail: bwgolf@hotmail.com.

Encounters of Hope

Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers

Catholic social teaching inspires and guides how we are to live and work in the world. In this principle, Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers, we remember that Jesus spent years working as a carpenter. Work is important to help people live good lives, and so people must be paid a fair wage to provide for themselves and their families.

Encounter Fernando

Fernando dreams of becoming a businessman. He also dreams of a better future for his family, and this motivates him to sell cookbooks on San Salvador’s buses. It’s dangerous work for $10 a day — gangs frequently stop and harass drivers and passengers — but he keeps going, determined to achieve his dreams. It was his dreams that led him to YouthBuild, a six-month, CRS-sponsored program that trains young people in business. There, he found a positive community to help him pursue his passion, despite the challenges of life in El Salvador. “When I tell my classmates that I want to do something, they tell me to try it and to not hold back.” Training for six months with YouthBuild wasn’t easy on Fernando or his family. Without his wife to support him and care for their two young daughters, the early mornings and long days might have been impossible. “YouthBuild is a family because families help you realize your dreams,” Fernando says. It’s a fact he knows well. Fernando is putting his newfound skills to work. After graduating from YouthBuild in 2016, he took part in a series of entrepreneur workshops organized by CRS and is currently working on a new business plan. He is also a part of the YouthBuild network of graduates, youth leaders who mentor other young people and look for new opportunities for employment and growth. “We have a saying,” says Fernando. “Once a YouthBuilder, always a YouthBuilder.”
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St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY
March 19, 2017