Experiencing a Youth Conference in Steubenville

One of the challenges for the Church today, is how to approach middle and high school youth and develop fruitful ways of evangelization for them. In 1987, Pope Saint John Paul II initiated a worldwide encounter with youth that we know as the “World Youth Day” to unite youth from different cultures under the same faith. Many dioceses and conferences of bishops have also held these kind of events within their own diocese or nation.

Steubenville is a great example of these encounters with youth, and I had the opportunity, for the first time in my life, to attend this event. One of the things I could see was how this generation of young people is rapidly changing their ways to live their faith. The idea of “making the church cool” has been very prominent during the last few years, as many have thought that if we have cool modern music, lots of noise, lights and show; young people will be more interested in attending church. When I was growing up, this was the kind of church that many people wanted for youth; however, my friends and I often referred to this as a “church party”, another empty and superficial party, as meaningless as the parties at any bar or festival. So, why go to church if we can find the same thing somewhere else?

I had the opportunity to talk with many youth in Steubenville about their conference experience. Most of them agreed their favorite part was the night of Eucharistic Adoration that was accompanied by long moments of silence and a profound sense of reverence. Therefore, most of them were not really excited about the music, the lights and the show! In regard to this, I heard statements like: “We have a lot of noise going on”; “we do not come to church to attend another concert”; “there is fun, but nothing sacred there”; “we need more silence and less noise”; “it is attractive for a while, then it turns boring”; “it does not change anything in my life”; “I go to my home and feel the same emptiness”!

I think joy and entertainment are part of the lives of youth and we can also allow youth to have these opportunities in Church as we try to form community and strengthen friendship and solidarity. However, everything concerning liturgy and prayer must be treated with respect and reverence. We cannot lose the sense of transcendence and sacredness. Youth thirst for God and want to encounter Him in the silence of their hearts. They expect to fill their emptiness with the love of God while they experience it within a community of faith. We are called to provide a sacred and silent environment in which they can transcend and find Christ, receive Him in the Most Holy Eucharist, and become Christ for others.

Have a blessed week, Fr. Juan

(photo from Steubenville Conference on page 3)
Mass Intentions for This Week

**Monday - September 25**
Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18
11:00 am  Hilda & Russell Petralia - Family
5:15 pm  Joseph M. LoGiudice - The McCann Family

**Tuesday - September 26**
Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21
6:45 am  Perry Money - Vietnam Dog Handlers
11:00 am  SJP - Birthday Friends

**Wednesday - September 27**
Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6
11:00 am  Al & Marie Mahar (Anniversary) - Son, Dick
5:15 pm  Special Intention - Eugene Caccamise

**Thursday - September 28**
Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9
6:45 am  Dennis Stopen - Buffalo Based Sub Vets
11:00 am  Edward & Irene Shults - Mary

**Friday - September 29**
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or
Rv 12:7-12a/Jn 1:47-51
11:00 am  Special Intention - Eugene Caccamise
5:15 pm  Don Murphy - Family

**Saturday - September 30**
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45
9:00 am  Gary Legeer - Eisenhart & Legeer Family
4:30 pm  Robert Trimble - Gerri Morreale

**Sunday - October 1**
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or
2:1-5/ Mt 21:28-32
7:30 am  Francesca & Vincenzo Leonardo - Daughter
9:00 am  Erminia Endrizzi - The Mezzoprete Family
11:15 am  Filomena DiGiambattista - Mattina Family -
5:00 pm  Louis Leone - Lynn & Greg Sullivan

---

**Saturday & Sunday, September 30 & October 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>Liturgical Assistants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>L. Ansley-Purpura, B. Best, I. Best, S. Donlon</td>
<td>S. Payne, J. Pippin, A. Daniele, S. Carpenter, B. Bullis, C. Lanahan, E. Ramos, L. Sengenberger</td>
<td>D. Cadirao C. Sciortino</td>
<td>De. &amp; Di. Infantino</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sunday Communion Service - October 1**
The Highlands - Marge Mancine     Heather Heights - Peggy O’Neil Midgley
Learning Mercy

Opening the Scriptures:  
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6 – 9
Seek the Lord while He may be found

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20c – 24, 27a
For me, life is Christ

Gospel: John 20:1 – 16a
Generosity in the reign of God

That’s the Way!
For a picture of human ways and human thoughts, check out the news headlines just about any week. We constantly hear stories about scandals and scoundrels. Revenge and vengeance push forgiveness and mercy out of the headlines all the time. Isaiah invites us to discover the contrast between human ways, and God’s ways, human thoughts, and God’s thoughts. Mercy and forgiveness define who God is, where God is found, and the path on which the Lord invites us to journey. In less than a month, the Fall 1st Penance program will be kicking off. When was the last time you were part of a meaningful discussion on experiencing God in the way of mercy?

Life or Death
Paul had a very deep affection for the church community in Philippi. Just read the first chapter of his letter to them; how he prays for them, how they bring joy to him over and over. This letter has a very personal quality. So do we know why Paul shared with this community that he was weighing the merits of living, and continuing the work of the Gospel, or going home to be with the Lord? Sure enough! 1) He was writing from prison, and his fate was far from certain. 2) The Philippians had sent gifts to Paul via Epaphroditus, who then became ill while he was with Paul, and nearly died. 3) Paul had plenty of time to think about such things. What a gift Paul’s faith was. Balanced with his passion to serve his beloved brothers and sisters in Philippi, was his trust in the Lord and his desire to be with Christ. Toward the end of October and as we move into November, we remember those who have gone before us, our own mortality, and the teachings of our faith about the last things. Paul pondering the last things in our second reading today can lay a groundwork for our own reflections in a month or so.

Where’s the Rewards program?
Jesus’ critics were quite troubled that he spent too much time with the wrong people. Why all the fuss over the poor and the outcast? What about the good and holy Pharisees, or the diligent Scribes, or the Sadducees who gave themselves to governing, administering and keeping order? So Jesus rolled out this parable. All are equal in the reign of God. The parable can poke at us too, living as we do in a world where there are reward cards for everything, and where everything is ranked, from children in school to colleges, companies; everything imaginable. Apparently in the reign of God, there aren’t 1st class, business class and economy sections. Think about it. How could there be more eternal bliss for some than for others? What would that even mean? Brings us full circle to the 1st reading, God telling us “My ways are not your ways”.

Looking Ahead:  
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28
Turning from sin, preserving life

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-11
Encouragement and joy

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32
A saving change of heart

Fr. Juan with Youth from the Diocese of Rochester at Steubenville Conference this summer
**OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEKEND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$18,533.30</td>
<td>1,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>$16,779.00</td>
<td>(correction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>$14,156.00</td>
<td>1,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-line Collection</td>
<td>$49,468.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THIS WEEK’S TITHING WILL SUPPORT HOPE HALL**

**NEXT WEEK’S TITHING WILL SUPPORT COMPASS CARE**

Compass Care is a Christ-centered organization dedicated to erasing the need for abortion by transforming women’s fear into confidence. Everything Compass Care does is geared towards reaching and serving women at-risk for abortion, in such a way that they go on to have their babies. Nearly 95% of Compass Care’s patients are at risk for abortion. Compass Care is reaching the right women at the right time. Abortion in Monroe County is down by 42%. Compass Care is based in Rochester, N.Y. on White Spruce Blvd. and can be reached at (585) 232-3894 for more information.

Thank you for your generous support for last weekend’s second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local anti-poor projects. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

“I Was Hungry And You Gave Me Food”

Many thanks to all who brought in food last weekend, to help keep the St. Andrew’s Food Cupboard stocked. If you miss the third weekend collection, food may be left anytime for Pittsford Food Cupboard. There is a drop off drawer in the entry way near the grand piano at the front of church. There is also a bin in the Narthex near the handicap door. Contributions of non-perishable food can always be donated.

**Pittsford-Mendon Tri-Parish Care of God’s Creation Ministry**

**Wednesday, September 27 (Kick-off for all 3 Parishes)**

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Transfiguration Parish Life Center

All are welcome, from teens to the “well seasoned” to the “Green Catholics.” We will meet on the third Wednesday of the month (except July & August), rotating our three parishes. October is at St. Louis, November at St. Catherine’s of Siena, December again at Transfiguration, etc. For more information, contact Stephen Heinzelman at sheinzel@gmail.com or Gerry Gacioch at onegreendoc@aol.com.

**I Can Give a Couple of Hours**

Without our faithful money counters, how would the collection ever get prepared to go to the bank? How would we be able to send contributions statements out at the end of the year? Recall when St. Paul wrote that the body has many parts? Our counters are a very important part of the Body of Christ! Several have either retired after years of service, or moved out of the area. Is this a way you could give back to the Lord for his goodness to you, contributing a few hours of your time? It need not be a long-term commitment. Try it, see if this might be a way to give back. Pray about it, and consider giving Fr. Bob or Laurie Martin, our Finance Director, a call to find out more about how it works (contact information on page 10 of this bulletin).
CYO REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

CYO Athletics
If anyone is interested in registration for CYO Athletics as an athlete, keep your eyes peeled for updates. Registration on our website opened on September 18 and will be open until Monday, October 23. We will have in-person registrations on an upcoming weekend following all the masses. Keep on the lookout for emails and updates.

CYO Coaches
We need Coaches! All Coaches will have to be background checked and CASE trained. Please contact Leila Kaczmarek for more details at Leila.Kaczmarek@dor.org or 586-5675 Ext. 234.

Philosophy
Our philosophy at St. Louis is that athletics and recreation are important to the well-being of the person. Sports and competition can help us to grow into a better person, but we must always put people before competition. We do not have any team that requires making cuts or limiting the participation of many in favor of the few. We recognize the competitive world our young people are raised in, and we believe that our Church must be a safe haven where kids and youth are free to play and enjoy, and where families can refresh.

CYO Basketball
Pope Paul VI said: "Sports well understood and practiced … contribute to the development of the whole person because it demands generous effort, careful self-control, mastery and respect for others, complete commitments and team spirit. These values contribute to the building of tomorrow’s well-ordered society which we have characterized as the ‘civilization of love’.

It is with great pleasure that our parish provides constructive opportunities that lead to positive youth development through CYO Athletic Services. It is our mission to provide a program that emphasizes the proper ideas of ethical conduct and sportsmanship. We want to offer all children in the parish and school the opportunity to develop their spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being as a team player. We emphasize that an athletic event is "just a game" and we provide coaches and adult role models who instill the proper respect, courtesy, and leadership that our young people need and deserve.

Together, the parish, young St. Louis players, and all our generous volunteers will work together to build a program we are proud of and is worthy of the St. Louis name!!!

CYO Basketball Seeks Players From Grade 3rd to 12th!
St. Louis has a terrific program for youth in grades 3 through 12 for boys and girls. The CYO Basketball Program starts in October and runs into February. It is a program whereby teams will play other parishes throughout the Diocese. This is a program primarily for parishioners and St. Louis School families. Non-parishioners are allowed to play when the need arises to round out a team, and may make up only 1/3 of a team’s roster.

Play will be on Saturdays and Sundays (dates and teams TBD).

Our philosophy is to learn the game, teamwork, sportsmanship, as well as have fun. There are no cuts as everyone has an equal opportunity to enjoy being involved.

We need coaches, managers, team parents & volunteers to work with the young people as well as help in the administration of the program.

Please contact Leila Kaczmarek at leila.kaczmarek@dor.org if you would like to become involved in this exciting ministry.
Annual Pet Blessing
We invite you to bring your favorite pet for a blessing on Sunday, October 1. We will have a brief service on the front steps of the church at 12:30 pm to honor the feast day of St. Francis, our patron of animals.

Calling all teens with musical talent!
Please consider joining us for the 5:00 pm mass on the first Sundays of the month. We practice at 4:00 pm and sing at 5:00 pm just once a month. Our first teen ensemble liturgy this year will be on Sunday, October 1st. If you would like to join us, please give Stephanie Honz a head's up that you will be coming so she can have music ready for you. We take all singers and are in special need of flutes, violin and guitars. Contact: shonz@rochester.rr.com. Hope to see you!

SAVE the DATE!
Dedication of the O'Connor Parish Library
In the Manse
Sunday, October 8, 1:00 pm

Get Your Lederhosen Ready!

We are celebrating Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 21, 6-10 p.m. in the Parish Life Center at the Church of the Transfiguration. Ticket prices are ($25 per adult, $12 per child age 12 & under).

Ticket includes a German feast, soft drinks, dessert and dancing to a 9-piece polka band. Cash bar for select German Beers with ID (21 & older). Ticket sales begin the weekend of September 30. Tickets can be purchased at the Transfiguration Parish Office, or an order form can be printed on-line from the Transfiguration home page (http://www.transfigurationpittsford.org) and sent to the Transfiguration Parish Office (mailing address on form) with payment.

All ticket sales are in advance, tables of 8 can be purchased, ticket sales end October 18th, no tickets will be available at the door.
Welcome to the Church, Welcome to Deeper Faith!

Why Be Catholic? (RCIA)

Come and See!

Are You Curious About What Catholics Believe?

Have You Thought About Becoming Catholic?

Join us Wednesday evenings to explore the Catholic faith.
You are welcome here, whether you are Christian or non-
Christian, a believer in God or not, or even if you are a
Catholic but are unsure of what we believe.

If you are seeking something more, come and see.

Dates: Wednesdays starting September 27
Time: 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Where: Location change to Parish Meeting Hall

Please register!
kathryn.mcalarney@dor.org, 586-5675, ext. 224

PRAYER

Your life has changed since you were a child. Has your prayer life? Deepen your spiritual life with different kinds of prayer, learn how to listen to God, overcome common obstacles in prayer.

Tuesdays, September 19 – December 5
@ 1:00 – 2:30 pm or 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

We will meet in the Parish Meeting Hall.

For more information or to register contact Kathryn McAlarney @
Kathryn.McAlarney@dor.org or (585) 586-5675, ext. 224.

Bible Study with Jeff Cavins

Acts of the Apostles

Join us! Our Saturday morning group is fun, casual, and welcoming! This fall we’re diving into the book of Acts as it shows the Church, enlarged by the Holy Spirit, teaching, preaching, healing, in the same way that Jesus did on earth.

Dates: Saturdays, Sept 16 - Nov 18
Time: 9:30 - 11:15 a.m.
Where: Parish Meeting Hall
Cost: $30 online – includes access to view course videos

- See how the Gospel witness spread outward in waves, from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria, and finally to the ends of the earth.
- Share with the early Christians the joys and struggles of living the life of Christ, and learn how these apply to us today.
- See your place in Christ’s Church, and how you should live day-to-day as a disciple of Christ.

Register and purchase materials through Ascension Press. Go to ascensionpress.com, click “Join a study” and put in our zip code: 14534, click on the balloon for Pittsford, click “more information” and then choose “Acts”. Contact Kathryn for help at Kathryn.mcalarney@dor.org, or (585) 586-5675, ext. 224.

discovering CHRIST

a seven-week experience

We’re inviting YOU to consider what your life would be like in a deeper relationship with Christ.

When: Thursdays, Sept 21-Nov 2, 6:15-8:45PM
Retreat: Saturday, Oct 21, 10:00AM-4:00PM
Where: St. Bernard’s, 120 French Rd.
Cost: FREE!

Register now:
- online at stlouischurch.org
- by calling the Ministry Center at 586-5675
- by returning registration form to bulletin board at church entrance

Free Supper! Great teaching!
Inviting discussions! New friendships!

For more information, contact Kathryn at
Kathryn.mcalarney@dor.org or 586-5675, ext 224
**Welcome to Our Parish**

**Come One! Come All!**

**Bistro Nights Are Back!**

Saturday, September 30, 5:45 p.m.  
Parish Meeting Hall  
$12 per person – BYOB  
Reservations Only Please

If you would like to participate in the planning, please call Cathy Malik in the Ministry Center at 586-5675, ext. 228.

Please make your reservations by calling Shannon or Sue at 586-5675, no later than Wednesday, 9/27/17.

---

**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 the Notre Dame Retreat House, overlooking Canandaigua Lake, October 13th-15th, 2017. For more information contact Beginning Experience at (585) 987-1750 or visit www.beginningexperiencerochesterny.org.

**THE MASS IN SLOW MOTION**

Sundays: September 17 – November 12  
@ 10:00 – 11:00am

The Mass is the main point of contact between Catholics and their faith. Come and learn the purpose and meaning behind each part of the Mass. Enter more fully into this communion between heaven and earth.

We will meet in the Manse. (The building near the main entrance of our church).

For more information or to register contact Kathryn McAlarney @ Kathryn.McAlarney@dor.org or (585) 586-5675, ext. 224.

---

**St. Bernard’s**

**Special Event**

**Physician Assisted Suicide in New York State**  
An Update and Reflections of a Catholic Physician

Presented by: Thomas M. Carroll M.D., Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor, General Medicine & Palliative Care

Wednesday, September 27, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
St. Bernard’s, 120 French Rd., Rochester

Sponsored by The Finger Lakes Guild  
A guild of the Catholic Medical Association, serving the Diocese of Rochester

---

**Wedding Bells …**

We pray for these couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

♦ Katherine Valentine & Zachary Heifferon, September 30  
♦ Christine Mooney & Daniel Dunigan, October 8  
♦ Ashley Versaggi & Brian Zeberl, November 11
Diocesan Respect Life Mass

Celebrate Respect Life Sunday with Bishop Matano on Sunday October 1 at 4:30 PM. Bishop Matano will celebrate Mass at Our Lady of Victory/St. Joseph Church on 210 Pleasant St. in Downtown Rochester. This year’s USCCB Respect Life Program theme is *Be not afraid:* “Behold I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20). Our Lord’s assurance gives us courage to be a witness LIFE, from the moment of conception to natural death. Kick-off your witness during Respect Life Month at this Mass. Contact Suzanne Stack, Life Issues Coordinator with any questions at 585-328-3210, ext.1304 or suzanne.stack@dor.org.
PARISH STAFF DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICES - Ministry Center
64 S. Main Street, 14534
(585) 586-5675; Fax 387-9888
MINISTRY CENTER SUMMER HOURS ARE:
MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

PASTORAL STAFF:
Rev. Robert Ring, Pastor,
ext. 225, Fr.Bob.Ring@dor.org
Rev. Juan Benitez, Parochial Vicar
Fr.Juan.Benitez@dor.org
Deacon David Snyder,
1deacondave@gmail.com, 586-5675
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
Kathryn McAlarney, Pastoral Associate for
Evangelization
ext. 224, Kathryn.McAlarney@dor.org
Pat Spinelli, Parish Visitor,
ext. 232, Pat.Spinelli@dor.org
Michelle Andrews-Smith,
Director of Faith Formation, ext. 233,
Michelle.Andrews-Smith@dor.org
Lorrie Fairey
Faith Formation Administrative Assistant
ext. 230, Lorrie.Fairey@dor.org
Leila Kaczmarek,
Youth Ministry Coordinator
ext. 234, Leila.Kaczmarek@dor.org
Laurie Martin, Finance Director,
ext. 222, Laurie.Martin@dor.org
Sally Schrecker, Operations Manager,
ext. 235, Sally.Schrecker@dor.org
Shannon Toot, Accounting & Media Admin.
ext. 227, Shannon.Toot@dor.org
Sue Whitaker, Administrative Assistant
ext. 223, Suzanne.Whitaker@dor.org
Barbara Thomas, Bulletin Editor,
ext. 236, Barbara.Thomas@dor.org
Bea Hack, Liturgy Coordinator,
ext. 231, Bea.Hack@dor.org
Suzy Ward, Chair,
Pastoral Council, 746-5676

Brendan Donnelly, Chair,
Finance Council, (585) 267-7338
Debbie Hoeft, Chair
Stewardship Team, 734-9705
debbbie53hoeft@yahoo.com
Isabel Miller, Executive Director,
Saint’s Place, 48 S. Main St.
Phone: 385-6860
saintlady@saintsplace.org
In Residence at the Rectory:
Msgr. Gerard Krieg
Fr. Peter Mottola,
Fr.Peter.Mottola@dor.org
Fran Barr, Principal,
St. Louis School, 11 Rand Place
Phone: 586-5200 Fran.Barr@dor.org
http://slspittsford.org/
Michael DeCocq, Grand Knight,
St. Louis Knights of Columbus
Phone: 585-314-8835
depepsi@twc.com
Like us on Facebook:
http://www.facebook.com/
stlouischurchpittsford

Page Ten  St. Louis Church, Pittsford, NY  September 24, 2017