



**January, February 2019**



#### **WHERE WILL ST. GALL BE IN 5 YEARS?**

For the last few months the St. Gall Pastoral Council has been preparing the groundwork for a 5 year strategic plan for the parish. Where do we want St. Gall to be in 5 years? We are working on a way to get feedback from parishioners so as to determine the needs of our parish. Of course, we will also draw from the timeless teaching of the Church, the teaching of the Second Vatican Council, the direction of the Diocese and Bishop Malloy, etc. We want to formulate clear goals and objectives so that we can be intentional about moving forward as a parish. We will require a few more months before we can finalize our strategic plan.

In the meantime, however, I have had a few people ask me what my vision is for St. Gall. While I will be waiting to get continued feedback from the Pastoral Council, the Finance Council, and our parishioners in order to formulate that vision, I can lay out some points that have guided my efforts as pastor so far and that I believe should be goals for St. Gall moving forward.

- 1) **A parish of DISCIPLES:** Our goal should be to help every parishioner, of every age, encounter Jesus Christ as our Lord who is living, personal, and passionately desiring a relationship with us. From that encounter we should all seek to be formed as disciples who will follow Christ throughout our lives. Going to Faith Formation and receiving the sacraments are essential, but unless those things lead us to encountering the Risen Lord and following Him as disciples then we are just engaging in spiritual window-dressing. Make no mistake: our Catholic faith will NOT be handed down to the next generation unless we are forming disciples.
- 2) **A parish with the mission to EVANGELIZE:** The basic mission of our parish should be Jesus' command from Matthew 28:19 – "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Once we are formed as disciples of Jesus Christ we need to spread the joy of the Gospel to the members of our family, to our friends, our co-workers, and the strangers in the street!
- 3) **A parish that is centered on the EUCCHARIST:** The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* calls the Eucharist "the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC 1324). Our celebration of the Eucharist at Sunday Mass should be focused on giving beautiful and reverent worship of Almighty God. The way that the Mass is celebrated should be guided not by the multitude of personal preferences that everyone brings but by the vision that the Church presents. This vision is found in the *Roman Missal* with its *General Instruction*, the relevant documents of the Second Vatican Council, and all of the treasures of our 2,000 year Catholic tradition. Some have struggled with changes to our liturgical music and we will continue to work towards helping each other better enter into sung worship.
- 4) **A parish where everyone engages in PERSONAL PRAYER and the PURSUIT OF HOLINESS:** While the Mass is the greatest prayer that the Church offers each week it cannot be the only time that we pray. We should have a goal of every parishioner engaging in some form of daily personal prayer so that we can continue to walk in intimacy with the Holy Trinity throughout the week and be strengthened to live the life of Christian discipleship. We will continue to promote the sacrament of confession as a privileged way where we can encounter the Lord and grow in holiness.
- 5) **A parish that supports REAL COMMUNITY:** The early Church "held steadfastly to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers" (Acts 2:42). St. Gall should be a parish that supports true Christian fellowship. The journey of faith is not one that we can walk alone. The Christian life is not meant to be lived by a lone ranger. We need the support and accountability of one another. We need the chance to mentor and be mentored, to encourage and serve. Community can take place in many different forms: large family gatherings at the parish, small group gatherings at parishioner's homes, Bible study groups, men's groups, women's groups, etc. Instead of a parish of people living isolated individual lives who come together for occasional moments and events we need to find a way to encourage and support real authentic community.

6. **A parish where SACRED SCRIPTURE is known and read:** The Bible contains the very word of God! What a tragedy that we too often neglect it. How can we love a God that we do not know? St. Jerome said “ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” The Bible is God’s love letter to humanity. Our Mass is rich with Scripture (from the readings we hear to the antiphons that we chant). However, it is not enough to simply hear God’s word on Sunday. We must journey with the Word throughout the week. The Bible is not always easy to read or understand. However, it is well worth our effort to find ways to read, study, and pray with the Bible. We all want to be able to hear the voice of God giving us comfort and direction. So let’s take up his book where his voice speaks to us if we only open ourselves up to it!
7. **A parish that PROMOTES CHARITY AND JUSTICE FOR THE POOR AND SERVES THE WIDER COMMUNITY:** We already do great work through our Society of St. Vincent de Paul, food pantry collection, and Christmas Giving Tree. Our Respect Life ministry tries to work for justice for the unborn through prayer and spreading awareness. However, there is surely more that we can do. So important was service to the poor that Jesus taught that we will be judged, in part, on how we have served them (Matthew 25:31-46). One question that we have to ask is: “If St. Gall were to disappear from Elburn tomorrow, would the wider community even notice?” What is our impact on the wider community of Elburn and the surrounding area? How can we reach out more?
8. **A parish where our YOUTH have a home:** “Father, none of my adult children go to church anymore. They have all abandoned their faith.” As a priest I hear this all the time. Sometimes we end up blaming “the Church” for having failed the youth. The Church is not just the Pope and bishops and parish priests. We are all members of the Church and we all have an obligation to help build a culture of discipleship where young people can find times of rest, authentic friendship, and mentoring in the Christian life. We NEED continued involvement from families in our Faith Formation and Youth Ministry programs to make this a reality. If we do not make this a priority then there may no longer be a viable St. Gall parish in 20 or 30 years!
9. A parish that supports **MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY**: (more on this later...)
10. **A parish that is EQUIPPED FOR THE FUTURE:** We need to keep in mind our plans for the future. Are our church facilities welcoming to everyone who comes here? What improvements do we need to make? Are we saving money for a possible future expansion of the nave of the church and the building of a dedicated parish hall? Do we need to hire additional parish staff? We have already completed or begun several major projects that were not within the new church budget. We have completed our first phase of our landscape plan (which will look more beautiful as flowers are planted in the Spring and when we have our statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary completed). By the time that you read this you might have seen our brand new illuminated church sign on Route 47. The smaller sign for the Hughes Road entrance should be coming in January. We are also in the midst of finalizing our order of a columbarium that will go in the St. Gall Cemetery (the concrete pad is already in place). This will have over 80 niches for cremated remains. We hope to install this in January or February of 2019. We will be finalizing costs for columbarium niches and communicate those to everyone. Once these projects are completed we will be turning our attention to installing an automatic door opener at the main entrance to help those with walkers and wheel chairs. We would also like to order new cushioned chairs for the classrooms and cry room.

So much more can be said. I am probably leaving out important goals. What do you think? Feel free to write or email me at [frditomo@stgall.com](mailto:frditomo@stgall.com) or you can speak with the chair of our Pastoral Council, Dave Gatz.

I do want to say one more thing. I have received various feedback over the past two and a half years that I have been at St. Gall and I have valued it all. I think that it is important, however, when we give feedback that we also ask ourselves—“what am I doing or what can I do to be a part of the solution? What am I willing to do to help?” Feedback is helpful but commitment and generosity is what is really needed. Are we a parish that practices stewardship and sacrificial giving?

***“GLORIFY God, GROW in holiness, GIVE Jesus to others”***

~Fr. DiTomo





# 2018 ST. GALL CONFERENCE OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL REPORT

## Who We Are

In the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul leads women and men to grow spiritually through person-to-person service to those in need and suffering. Your St. Gall Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is one of 4,400 conferences in the U.S. and 44,600 conferences in 150 countries worldwide.

## What We Do

The members of our local conference donate their time and talent in fund raising events like Donut Sundays, St. Nicholas Breakfast and a Walk for the Poor. Then they visit individuals or families in need in the greater Elburn area to help determine their needs and how we can best assist them. Once a month, members also assist at the Elburn Countryside Food Pantry by picking up food at Jewel and delivering it to the pantry. Your food donations left at our church are also taken to the pantry. In 2018, our Vincentians provided a dinner and volunteered as mentors for the Society's Hope Takes Action Program, a specially designed class to help the poor help themselves move out of poverty.

## What We Accomplished This Past Year

During the fiscal year ending September 30th, 2018, the 20 men and women that make up the St. Gall Conference made 26 home visits to the needy plus 3 non home visits serving the homeless, helping a total of 65 people; by paying for Com Ed bills, property taxes, home repairs, homeowner association fees, Village of Elburn utility bills, rent payments, temporary housing, emergency food, a medical expense, and car repairs, title, gas, and plates. None of this would be possible without the generous financial support of our St Gall parishioners. **Thank you!** Here is a summary of the 2018 Annual Report for SVdP:

<b>Fiscal Year 2018 Profit &amp; Loss Statement</b>			
<b>Receipts</b>		<b>Expenses</b>	
Donations from Members	\$ 723	Assistance to Needy	\$22,095
Donations from Parish Collections	\$ 9,101	Dues	\$ 225
Donut Sundays	\$ 1,176	Operating Expenses	\$ 367
Friends of the Poor Walk	\$ 1,565	Disaster Contribution	\$ 1,300
St Nicholas Breakfast	\$ 75	SVdP Hurricane Harvey Aid \$1,000	
Other Income	\$ 0	SVdP Indonesia Earthquake Aid \$300	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 12,640</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 23,987</b>

<b>Cash Flow</b>		
Cash on Hand at Beginning of Fiscal Year		<b>\$12,746</b>
Receipts	\$12,640	
Expenses	(\$23,987)	
Cash on Hand at End of Fiscal Year		\$ 1,399

## How You Can Help

You can help those in need in the Elburn area by joining the St. Vincent de Paul Society and providing financial, physical and spiritual assistance to those in need, contributing financially to SVdP through your Sunday collection envelope, attending a Donut Sunday event and making a contribution for your donut, coffee, juice and fruit or contributing to any of our local walkers during the "Friends of the Poor Walk" each autumn.

If you know someone in need of help, please have them call the parish office at 630-365-6030 during normal office hours or leave a message on our parish web site at [stgall.com/svdp](http://stgall.com/svdp) and select Request Assistance Electronically. We will get back with them ASAP and schedule a home visit to determine how we can help. All communication with the SVdP society is strictly confidential.

January, 2018

# ***Time to Make a New Year's Resolution!***

What better resolution could you make than to grow in your faith by learning more about it, putting it into action and getting to know Jesus better? Here are some suggestions:

## **Learn**

**Check Out a Book from the Parish Library**

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

**Tuesday Evening Bible study with Fr. DiTomo**

***That Man is You!* men's group Sat. mornings**

**Read the Bible regularly**

**Listen to the CDs and read the Books from the**

**Augustine Institute Kiosk in the gathering area of the Church**

## **Pray**

**Attend Daily Mass**

**Stop in for Adoration on Thursdays**

**Go to Confession**

**Pray the Scriptures regularly (Lectio Divina)**

**Pray every morning with your spouse**

## **Action**

**Become a Faith Formation Catechist or Aide**

**Become a Liturgical Minister – Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Altar Server, Usher, Cantor, Choir Member**

**Join the Evangelization Team**

**Join St. Vincent de Paul Team**

**Join the Respect Life Team**

**Know / Love  
God**

Mark 12:29-31

- God First in Everything
- Daily Quiet Time
- Daily Bible Reading
- Pray Throughout Day
- Journal: Value God's Word
- Love My Neighbor

**"Seek to know God" & "Who needs me Today?"**

## **ST. GALL'S CHRISTIAN SERVICE MINISTRY**

What an amazing show of generosity and compassion our St. Gall Parishioners bestowed on many, many families in need this past Christmas.

The Giving Tree was started 33 yrs. ago and each year the Committee concerns are, "Will the tags be taken..." This year we had 432 tags (the most ever) on the tree and not one was left. You provided for: 53 Children; 24 Families; and 10 Senior Citizens!

You may never:

**SEE** the tears of joy,  
the **AMAZEMENT** in a parent's face,  
nor the **HOPE** you have given to these  
families struggling but Jesus does,  
and He **SMILES**.

Thank you all for making this year a huge success. We also wish to thank the Knights of Columbus Council in Batavia for their most generous gift cards. It will help us help others as they come to us in need.



## **MASS FOR THE UNBORN**



Jan. 22th marks the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. Please join us as we Pray for the Rosary for the Unborn on that evening at 6:00 PM followed by Holy Mass at 6:30 PM.

This is **"spiritual warfare"** and only through prayer, sacrifice, and hard work will we see an end of killing of the child in the womb.

Please join us!

# Save the date

## Be photographed for our new family directory



Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 photograph & free directory for participating.

Photography dates:

APRIL 23rd-APRIL 27th

APRIL 30th-MAY 4th

2019

**Lifetouch.**

More information on scheduling coming soon

## HAVE YOU LOOKED UP LATELY?

Mr. Richard House designed the scripture verses on the half wall in the narthex just as you walk out of the church. The one where our risen Christ statue is. The risen Christ was on the altar at our site on Shannon St. Look up when you exit the Church!

**“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations in English on the right and Latin on the left. Be sure and thank Richard for his hard work and excellent craftsmanship. It is beautiful. Richard will be adding starburst to the statue at a later date.**

Our faith formation children took part in the celebration too.

“Always keep your eyes on Jesus and shine for him daily...KEEP LOOKING UP!

**“I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.”** Psalm 121:2



# JANUARY-RESPECT LIFE MONTH

During January, the Church sets aside the entire month for “Respect Life.” From the time of conception until natural death we recognize we are all made in the image and likeness of God and all life is sacred. We, as Catholics, have the responsibility to show respect for life not only through prayer but also through our actions. St. Gall Respect Life Team has much going on during January and we cordially invite you to attend/participate in any (or all) of the events listed:

- 1) **The first Saturday of every month** we will be attending the Planned Parenthood Facility in Aurora to pray quietly and peacefully for those entering the facility seeking an abortion, and for the medical staff to have a conscience change of heart. For those wishing to carpool, we will leave St. Gall parking lot at 9:15 AM. The prayer vigil is from 10:00 AM-11:00 AM. **(Jan. 5th & Feb. 2nd)**



**Waterleaf Clinic –Life Center** owns the property across the street from Planned Parenthood and will soon be building a new clinic. Keep them in your daily prayers as they begin building their new site. An answer to prayer!

- 2) **MARCH FOR LIFE in Chicago on Sunday, January 14th from 2:00-4:00 PM.** We will take the commuter train at 12:25 PM at the Elburn Station and catch the returning train at 4:40 PM. If you haven't attended this annual event, you are missing an astounding experience. Especially seeing all the young people attending, the guest speakers and walking down the streets of Chicago to the Federal Building. We encourage our teens from St. Gall's to join us as well.



- 1) **9 Days for Life begins Jan. 14-22.** This is a “digital pilgrimage” of prayer and action focused on cherishing the gift of every person’s life. Go to: [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com) for daily reflections, suggested actions and multi-faceted novena. **PRAYER, PENANCE, PILGRIMAGE!**



- 2) **Baby Bottle Campaign and Tiny Soles Display** will be set up the weekend of **Jan 19/20**. We encourage you to take a baby bottle and fill it with loose change, cash or write a check to TLC Pregnancy Center. We ask that ALL bottles be returned the weekend of **Feb. 9/10 (FILLED OR EMPTY)** as they travel to various parishes to help fund other Life Centers in our area. The “Tiny Soles” baby booties display represents the tiny feet of an aborted child that will never have the chance to walk, talk, laugh or live to be the “special child” that God created because of the Roe vs. Wade decision to legalize abortion in 1973.



- 3) **Attend the Tuesday evening Mass on January 22, at 6:30 PM** (anniversary date of Rowe vs. Wade) as Fr. DiTomo celebrates a special Mass to “Give Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life.” The Rosary for Life will be prayed at 6:00 PM before the Mass. Please join us.

*“Every pregnant teen,  
Every unborn child,  
Every broken woman with an abortion in her past,  
Every frightened guy who finds out he is a father,  
is loved by the Creator.”*

*TLC Life Center, Elgin*

## ***Tuesday Morning Bible Study***

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will be ushering in the New Year with a study on the "Angels of God" for 5 weeks starting on *Tuesday the 8th of January*. Everyone is invited to attend! We will be in rooms 5 and 6 from 9:30-11:00 AM. If you have any questions you can email Jane at [jane smith@yahoo.com](mailto:jane smith@yahoo.com) or Rick at [3drick@ameritech.net](mailto:3drick@ameritech.net).

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>LESSON #</u></b>	<b><u>THOUGHTS TO PONDER</u></b>
<b><u>January 8th</u></b>	I Angels of God	What does Angel Mean? What and Who are they? What do they look like? When were they made?
<b><u>January 15th</u></b>	II Why Angels?	What is their purpose?
<b><u>January 22nd</u></b>	III Are Angels Smart?	Are Angels Intelligent? Are All Angels the same? What are the Choirs of Angels? How many Angels are there? What are Guardian Angels?
<b><u>January 29th</u></b>	IV Archangels –Who are they?	Archangels in Scripture! What are fallen Angels? Should we worship Angels? Saints to Ponder!
<b><u>February 5th</u></b>	V Stories!	Angel Stories in Scripture! What are your Angel Stories? Any Saint Stories?



# CATHOLIC MEDIA

**EWTN**

**LIVE TRUTH-LIVE CATHOLIC**

**RELEVANT RADIO**

**TALK RADIO FOR  
CATHOLIC LIFE**

**Ask Yourself:** “What am I watching and listening to”?  
“What are my children watching and listening to”?

**See below** the listing of Catholic media programs to help you grow spiritually and keep you energized to defend your Faith. This information, via Catholic Radio, Television and Internet, is right at your fingertips.

**Available** will be Mass and the Rosary three times a day, world news, talk shows, interviews, support for life, church history, theologians explaining dogma, spiritual direction, Vatican updates, children’s TV and much more. For the Youth, there will be a solid listing of Catholic apps they can download on their cell phones.

## **Catholic Media**

***Spiritual Food for Heart and Soul***

<b>Cable Provider</b>	<b>Channel #</b>
<b>Mediacom</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>Dish</b>	<b>261</b>
<b>Direct TV</b>	<b>370</b>
<b>Comcast</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>ATT/VERSE</b>	<b>562</b>

Relevant Radio	AM 930/950
EWTN	www.ewtn.com
Ave Maria Radio	avemariaradio.net
Sirius XM	130



# JANUARY SCHEDULED EVENTS



Jan 1 Holy Mother of God –Holy Day of Obligation  
8:30:00 AM, 12:10 PM, 7:30 PM  
**OFFICES CLOSED**

Jan. 2 1:30 PM Rosary Prayer Group  
**OFFICES CLOSED**

Jan.5 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
9:00 AM Art & Environment  
9:15 AM Carpool to Planned Parenthood

Jan. 6 8:30 AM LOWC/Joyful Sun. (Pre-School-5th Gr.)  
5:00 PM Confirmation Preparation (Grades 7-9)

Jan. 7 7:00 PM Rosary for Life

Jan. 8 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Rm 5&6)  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms. 5 & 6)

Jan. 9 4:30 PM & 6:00 PM Faith Formation

Jan. 10 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION  
7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul (Room 7)  
7:30 PM Venturing Crew (Rms. 5-6)

Jan. 11 5:00 PM Jump Start-Faith Formation (Gr. 3-5)

Jan. 12 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
9:00 AM Art & Environment  
4:30 PM National Appeal Announcement

Jan. 13 8:30 AM LOWC & Joyful Sun. (Pre-School-5th Gr)  
10:30 AM First Communion Parent Workshop  
12:25 PM Elburn Train to Chicago for March for Life in Chicago-Return Train at 4:40 PM  
5:00 PM Confirmation Preparation (Gr.7-9)  
**National Appeal Announcement at all Masses**

Jan. 14 7:00 PM Rosary for Life

Jan. 15 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Rm.5-6)  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms. 5 & 6)

Jan. 16 4:30 PM & 6:00 PM Faith Formation  
6:30 PM Respect Life Meeting (Break Room)

Jan. 17 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION  
7:30 PM Venturing Crew (Rms. 5-6)

Jan. 19 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
9:00 AM Art & Environment

**REVERSE FOOD COLLECTION**  
**NATIONAL APPEAL COLLECTION**

Jan. 20 5:00 PM Middle School Youth Night after Mass  
**REVERSE FOOD COLLECTION**  
**BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN BEGINS & TINY SOLE DISPLAY**

Jan. 21 7:00 PM Rosary for Life

Jan. 22 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Rm. 5-6)  
6:00 PM Rosary for Life  
6:30 PM Mass for the Legal Protection of the Unborn  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rm. 5-6)

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday**

Jan. 23 5:30 PM Catechist in Service (No FF)

Jan. 24 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION  
7:30 PM Venturing Crew (Rm. 5-6)

Jan. 26 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
9:00 AM Art & Environment

**FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**

Jan. 27 8:30 AM LOWC  
**DONUT SUNDAY** After 8:30 & 10:30 AM Masses  
5:00 PM Confirmation Preparation (Gr. 7-9)  
**FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**

Jan. 28 7:00PM Rosary for Life

Jan. 29 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 PM AA Meeting (Rms. 5-6)

Jan. 30 4:30 PM & 6:00 PM Faith Formation

Jan. 31 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION

*January 2019*

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



**“YEP, IT’S STILL WINTER!”**



# FEBRUARY SCHEDULED EVENTS



Confirmation

- Feb. 2 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
9:00 AM Art & Environment  
9:15 AM Carpool to Planned Parenthood
- GROUNDHOG DAY**
- Feb. 3 8:30 AM LOWC/Joyful Sun. (Pre-Sch.-5th)
- Feb. 4 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
- Feb. 5 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 PM AA Group (Rms. 5-6)
- Feb. 6 1:30 PM Rosary Prayer Group  
4:30 PM & 6:00 PM Faith Formation  
6:30 PM Encounter Club (Gr. 5-6)
- 7:00 PM Finance Council (Work Break Rm)
- Feb. 7 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION
- Feb. 8 7:00 PM R&R for Women-Jill Kapala
- Feb. 9 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
9:00 AM Art & Environment
- BABY BOTTLES RETURNED (filled or empty!)**
- Feb. 10 8:30 AM LOWC/Joyful Sun. (Pre-Sch.-5th)  
5:00 PM Confirmation Prep. (Gr. 7-9)
- BABY BOTTLES RETURNED (filled or empty!)**
- Feb. 11 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
- Feb. 12 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 PM AA Group (Rms. 5-6)
- Feb. 13 4:30 PM & 6:00 PM Faith Formation
- Feb. 14 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION  
7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul (Rm. 7)  
7:30 PM Venturing Crew (Rms. 5-6)
- Feb. 15 5:00 PM JUMPSTART-Grades 3-5
- Feb. 16 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
9:00 AM Art & Environment
- REVERSE FOOD COLLECTION**
- Feb. 17 8:30 AM LOWC  
2:00 PM Confirmation Retreat & Reconciliation & Rehearsal
- Feb. 18 5:30 PM CONFIRMATION MASS  
7:00 PM Rosary for Life
- OFFICES CLOSED FOR PRESIDENTS' DAY**
- Feb. 19 Fr. DiTomo gone this week  
9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 AM AA (Rms. 5-6)

- Feb. 20 5:30 PM Catechist In-Service (Rms. 5-6)  
6:30 PM Respect Life Mtg. (Break Room)
- Feb. 21 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION  
7:30 PM Venturing Crew (Rms. 5-6)
- Feb. 23 6:00 AM That Man is You!  
8:00 AM-4:00 PM St. VdP Spiritual Advisor Session  
9:00 AM Art & Environment
- FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**
- Feb. 24 8:30 AM LOWC
- DONUT SUNDAY**
- FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION**
- Feb. 25 7:00 PM Rosary for Life
- Feb. 26 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
8:00 AM AA (Rms. 5-6)
- Feb. 27 4:30 PM & 6:00 PM Faith Formation
- Feb. 28 7:30 AM-9:00 PM ADORATION

*February 2019*

Su	M	Tu	W	T	Fri	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		



# Faith Formation For Pre-K to 12th Grade and Adults!



## First Communion

Students will prepare for the Sacrament of Eucharist over the next few months. Be sure to watch their folders and your email for more information about upcoming events. Families who attend Mass weekly with their students should help prepare them. Practice genuflecting when you come in to Church—use the right knee, memorize the prayers—use the right hand for the Sign of the Cross. Talk about the readings for the Sunday Mass before you go to Church. Ask them to watch for a prayer or phrase from the readings. Focus on the Consecration and practice how to receive the Body of Christ. They can go up with you and receive a blessing, too! We will be practicing all of these things during class also.

### First Communion Parent Workshop

**January 13—10:30am Mass-2:30pm**

Notify the office if you will bring your student or siblings so that we have supervision and activities available for them. RSVP how many will join us for lunch! Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Want to know more about our faith?

### CATECHIST CORNER

Mark your calendar!



No 4:30 or 6:00 PM classes on the following dates:

**January 23 from 5:30-7:30pm**

The DYNAMIC Classrooms for reengaging conversation as we review and discuss ways to improve and manage our classrooms.

**Need your Level 2 certification?**

Classes will be held at the Newman Center in DeKalb on January 26

**CATECHIST CLASS—TBD  
February 21 from 5:30-7:30 PM**

**Snow is coming!**

Did you sign up for texts?

Text @99a9k9 to 81010



## JANUARY

6—LOWC, JOYFUL SUNDAYS

CONFIRMATION SUNDAYS

9—Gr. 1-6 Classes

11—JumpStart Gr. 3-5

13—LOWC, JOYFUL SUNDAYS

CONFIRMATION SUNDAYS

**FIRST COMMUNION PARENT WORKSHOP**

16—Gr. 1-6 Classes

23—CATECHIST IN-SERVICE

26—Catechist L2 Blitz Part 2

27—LOWC,

CONFIRMATION SUNDAYS

30—Gr. 1-6 Classes

Adoration 5:30 & 7:00pm

## February

3—LOWC, JOYFUL SUNDAYS

6—Gr. 1-6 Classes

**ENCOUNTER CLUB Gr. 5-6**

10—LOWC, JOYFUL SUNDAYS

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

13—Gr. 1-6 Classes

15—JumpStart Gr. 3-5

**Gr. 8 and Gr. 9 Confirmation Retreat And Rehearsal**

18—Confirmation Mass

20—Catechist In-Service

24—LOWC

27—Gr. 1-6 Classes

Adoration 5:30 & 7:00pm

## Questions?

## Need more info?

Contact Donna Doherty by email: donna@stgall.com

Faith Formation Office

To register for events, email: FaithFormation@stgall.com or call 630-365-9166

**Confirmation  
8-9th Grade**



**CONFIRMATION CLASSES WITH SPONSORS**

**January 6, 13 & 27**

**February 10**

**RETREAT WITH SPONSORS**

**February 17— 2:00-7:30 pm**

Includes the 5PM Mass, Reconciliation and dinner!

Rehearsal for the Confirmation Mass from 6:30-7:30PM

CONFIRMATION MASS

February 18 at 5:30 PM

Did you know that there are Children's Bulletins in the Library every Sunday for your children to pick up before Mass?

**CONGRATULATIONS! AND THE WINNER IS...  
Winners were picked at the Advent Celebration on Dec. 14!**

Students & teens completed Children's Bulletins and coloring pages to enter our Bible contest! Prizes were Children's Bibles, First Readers, the Action Bible, Sunday Missal for Young Catholics, St. Gall crest t-shirts and much more!

Watch for more opportunities to grow your faith!

**JumpStart for Grades 3-5**

**January 11 and February 15**

Calling all detectives! Let's investigate the universe and find evidence for the cause of everything we see in creation! JumpStart is a fun program for grades 3 to 5 and their friends! Find out more at the link to the JumpStart flyer: <https://tinyurl.com/ybj7wrwr>

On Mondays, about once a month from 5-6:30 PM, we will have fun learning more about God, eating snacks and having great discussions!

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES!**  
This is a great opportunity for our older students to be a great witness!

# ST. GALL YOUTH MINISTRY

ENCOUNTER JESUS FORGE RELATIONSHIP SEEK HOLINESS

Often, kids share a ton on social media, but their interpersonal relationships are not life giving. They don't get to go deep with each other. I met with a family of a 12<sup>th</sup> grader the other day, and he said to me, "What made that ( an event with other teens) enjoyable was the fact that we were doing it together." This speaks volumes to me. We believe that if we can allow the teens to lean on each other, to learn and grow in an environment that fosters authentic and transparent relationships, their relationship with faith, the church, and Jesus will be stronger and more positive.

Meeting regularly in small groups will meet the spiritual needs that our teens have. Being Catholic is HARD. The Lord never intended us to journey towards Heaven alone. He desires for us to be in intentional community with one another. Especially as we move through Confirmation, our teens need a way to meet together, connect, discuss, and dive into the Faith that does not rely on faith formation. This small group is meant to help teens take what they got in faith formation, and apply it to their everyday lives.

This summer we are taking a group of 10 high schoolers and chaperones to Franciscan University for a youth conference! Have you ever been on a retreat? It's like that, but better. 3,500 teens and their chaperones spending a weekend diving deep into the faith. We will learn, laugh, cry, grow, and pray together. There will be talks on relevant topics to the teens' lives, adoration, Mass, confessions, praise and worship, and a lot of ultimate frisbee. Want to join us?

Visit [www.steubenvilleconferences.com](http://www.steubenvilleconferences.com) for more information. Contact Katie to register!

6-8pm in the Youth Room!

Dinner, games, message, discussion, and prayer!

December 30th

January 20th

February 17th

March 24th

May 26th

We still have 2 camper spots available for Camp WOW 2019! Join us!

Camp WOW is a 4 day, 3 night summer camp held at Dickson Valley Campground and Retreat Center in Newark, IL. St. Gall will attend camp with St. Catherine of Sienna, Our Lady of the Wayside, and St. Mary Sycamore parishes. We will join 195 other middle and high school teens for hiking, swimming, paddle boats, small group games, talent show, campfire, hayrides, praise and worship, adoration, Mass, confession, archery, volleyball, gaga ball, and so much more!

Call or email Katie to Register!



**135TH ST. GALL ANNUAL  
TURKEY DINNER**

Mark your calendars NOW for our annual Turkey Dinner. It will be held here at **St. Gall's on Sunday, March 10, 2019.**

We need much help! Contact Bruce Aderman at 630 365-5509 with any questions and look for more details as the time draws closer in the weekly bulletins.



**UPCOMING: National Appeal Weekend**

On **January 19-20, 2019** the Diocese of Rockford will have their annual "National Appeal" which includes:

- Retirement Fund for Religious
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- Catholic Communication Campaign
- Catholic University of America

Rockford Diocesan Priest's Pension (see more information below)  
Catholic Elementary School Support for the Diocese of Rockford

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Our priests devote their lives to bringing people closer to Christ, and in retirement, our priests continue to serve as spiritual leaders, counselors, minister to the sick and much more. With gratitude for their years of faithful ministry, the Diocese has a Priests' Pension to support our 57 currently retired priests and those that will retire in the future.

To make your donation on-line, please visit: [www.rockforddiocese.org/donate](http://www.rockforddiocese.org/donate)

**Pick up an envelope on the "information table" in the narthex.  
Thank you for your support!**

# 5 New Year Resolutions every Christian should make

- 1) **Read the Bible:** Reading the Bible is not only a great way to get in touch with God, but to relax and take time for yourself as well. Reread your favorite verse in the Bible... or find a new one to help you get motivated for the New Year. There is definitely an amazing verse just waiting to become your theme for living better in 2019!
- 2) **Go Gadget Free:** Make a rule for yourself that involves turning off all computers, cell phones, tablets, etc. at least once a week (Sunday seems like the perfect day to us!) At first this may seem like it's hindering you from making connections, but it's actually going to help you make even deeper connections with those around you!
- 3) **Remove Negative Elements:** January is the perfect time of year to give up all the things holding you back from your best self yet! Make a list of anything and everything you find negative in your life and remove them while you can.
- 4) **Add Positive Energy:** While you're removing all the negatives from your life, fill the void left behind with positive people and hobbies. Start a journal and jot down everything you are thankful for each day. You can also take up new hobbies like walking, running, or join a Pietra class.



Ah, come on and smile!

Q: What did the big furry hat say to the warm woolly scarf?

A: "You hang around while I go on ahead."

Q: What do women use to stay young looking in the Arctic?

A: Cold cream.

What did the tree say after a long winter?

What a re-leaf.

Three seniors are out for a stroll.

One of them remarks, "It's windy."

Another replies, "No way. It's Thursday."

The last one says, "Me too. Let's have a soda."

My favorite part of winter is watching it on TV from Florida.



I CAN'T HELP THINKING THAT THIS WOULD BE A BETTER WORLD IF EVERYONE WOULD LISTEN TO GOD.



## ADVENT CELEBRATION: *Anticipating Christmas!*

*On December 14, we took a very faith-filled journey to the stable at St. Gall this year with some of our favorite Christmas songs! Our Children's Bulletins and coloring pages contest winners received their prizes of Bibles and more. Thanks goes to all of our Faith Formation children and the many volunteers who helped with our costumes, set, props and cookies!*





ST. GALL *Catholic Church*

**43W885 Hughes Rd.,  
Elburn, IL 60119**

**Rosary Prayer Group**

Join us as we pray the Rosary once a month on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of each month: **(Jan. 2nd and Feb. 6th)** at the home of  
Maureen Pott, 525 Saratoga Dr.  
Please call if you will be attending 630 992-6138.



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