St. Roch Parish and School is an exciting community for all involved: parishioners, social Catholics, parents, children and faculty.

St. Roch Parish is located in the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood of St. Louis, Missouri. The parish and school are proud of their established Catholic identity that serves a diverse neighborhood.

The families who participate in the St. Roch community experience a spiritual, nurturing, and caring environment.

All have gifts to offer one another. May we give willingly in love to build up the Body of Christ that we call Church. When you receive a call from a member, realize that the person calling is reaching out to you to offer assistance or ask your help on behalf of the St. Roch parish family. Your response speaks of your concern for all who value being active members of the parish.

Our parish staff is here to serve you. These are people specially chosen to do the work of ministering to all the people of St. Roch parish. Please do not hesitate to call on any of them.

The work of the parish staff would not be possible without the assistance of so many volunteers who share the work of ministering. It is for this reason that I encourage you to be involved fully in parish life. We all have special talents and gifts to offer one another. Let us use them well.

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for your commitment to God and this parish, for your time, talent, and treasure.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Sal E. Polizzi

Parish Staff

Church

Pastor Rev. Msgr. Sal E. Polizzi

Rectory

6052 Waterman Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63112

Phone: 314-721-6340

Fax: 314-721-1656

Email: sal@strochparish.org

Bookkeeper/Secretary Linda Oldani

Email: linda@strochparish.org

School

Principal Dr. Mark Gilligan

Secretary Jo Ann Jost

School Office

6040 Waterman Boulevard

St. Louis, MO 63112

314-721-2595 (Office and Preschool)

314-727-0572 (West Building)

314-721-0868 (Fax)

Email: markg@strochschool.org

Web Site

www.strochparish.com

Visit Us on Facebook

St. Roch Parish

Mission Statement

 As Catholics of the Archdiocese of St. Louis,

 in communion with the Bishop of Rome,

 we are called by our Lord Jesus Christ

 to be His Church

 and live His Gospel.

 With joy, we strive to fulfill our Baptismal calling by

 prayer and worship,

 teaching and sharing our faith,

 serving others,

 and fostering unity in diversity.

 Guided by the Holy Spirit,

 we commit ourselves

 to the responsible stewardship

 of all God’s gifts.

Ministries and Organizations

Adult Religious Education and Faith Sharing Bill & Mary Abkemeier

Altar Servers Dr. Mark Gilligan

Altar Society Gloria Broun

Athletic Association Tom Schwartz

 Baseball Lay-Chair Tanya Johnson

 Basketball Lay-Chair John Berglund

 Volleyball Lay-Chair Susanne Knese

 Soccer Lay-Chair David Narkiewicz

Boy Scouts Paul Winter

Building Commission Joe Shaughnessy & Joe Fresta

C.A.R.E. Committee Women of St. Roch

Child Care: Before & After School Dr. Mark Gilligan

Children’s Liturgy Susanne Knese

Choir

 4:30 P.M. Saturday Mass Sr. Barbara Brunsman

 9:00 A.M. Mass Keith Ballentine

 11:00 A.M. Mass Mary Davidson

Organist Joe Tucci

Early Childhood Development Center Dr. Mark Gilligan

Education Commission Dr. Mark Gilligan

Eucharistic Ministers Frank Burke

Finance Board Kevin Farrell & Bridget O’Flynn

Girl Scouts Call School Office

Lectors... Roy Cobb

Liturgy Commission Msgr. Polizzi

Marriage Preparation Msgr. Polizzi

Men of St. Roch John O’Gorman

Nursing Home Ministry see Eucharistic Ministers

Parish Council of St. Roch John Hungerford

Parish School of Religion St. Joseph, Clayton

Prayer Chain Mary Broun

Pro-Life Commission...

St. Vincent de Paul Society Anna Bell & Ellie Watts

Social Justice Ministry Bill & Mary Abkemeier

School Association Matt Boxdorfer

School Board Bill Broun

Skinker-DeBaliviere Community Council Joe Keaveny

Stewardship Program John & Kathy Hungerford

Toddler and Young Families Lucy Willis

Ushers Joe Kuss

Women of St. Roch Sandra Burke

St. Roch School

Mission Statement and School Philosophy

Faith Education Service Discipline

The purpose of St. Roch School is to provide a Catholic Christian education to children whose parents recognize the worth of such an education. To accomplish this purpose, we rely upon the understanding, the cooperation, and the participation of the community we serve.

Mission is Faith

We believe that the entire life of the school is centered on the person of Jesus Christ. This commitment permeates and influences every aspect of that life through participation in our faith community.

Since St. Roch is a Catholic School, its religious life is also Church-centered, and its teaching mission is the extension of the Church. This means, in broadest terms, that traditions and doctrines of the Catholic Church are the basis of its religious practices, and spirit it seeks to create.

Mission is Education

We believe St. Roch is committed to the total, spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional and physical development of our students to their fullest capacities.

Mission is Discipline

We strive to instill a strong sense of self-discipline, self-reliance and self-esteem that result in ethical and moral behavior.

Mission is Service

Because of global diversity, we provide a variety of resources and experiences designed to help students function respectfully and responsibly in a rapidly changing society.

With this as our philosophy, we welcome your child to St. Roch Catholic Elementary School! St. Roch is best described as structured in form and informal in atmosphere. There is an appropriate curriculum for each level with firm but understanding discipline. Students are expected to respect themselves, their families, their companions, and their school.

To schedule a school tour please call

principal Dr. Mark Gilligan at 721-2595.

If you would like to receive the weekly school Newsletter via email, please email principal Dr. Mark Gilligan at

markg@strochschool.org.

Worship and Prayer

The Eucharist

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

 Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Monday through Friday: 7:15 a.m. in the school chapel and

 at Noon on each First Friday, September through May, in Church

Holy Days: 7:15 a.m. in the school chapel and at Noon, September through May, in Church

Baptism

Infants

Parents who present their child for the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Roch must be registered members of the parish (if registered at another parish, the permission of the proper pastor must be obtained) and practicing Catholics (minimally this means attendance at Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and support of the parish through stewardship).

Parents should ask two practicing Catholics (baptized and confirmed), 14 years of age or older, to serve as godparents. Call the rectory in advance to arrange for preparation for Baptism.

Infants are ordinarily baptized after the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday.

Adults

Adults interested in learning more about Catholicism or in becoming Catholic through Baptism (or Profession of Faith if Christian Baptism has been received) are invited to call the rectory to prepare for initiation/reception into the Catholic Church.

Reconciliation

Youth: First Reconciliation is ordinarily received in fall of Second Grade.

First Holy Communion

Youth: First Holy Communion is ordinarily received in Second Grade on Thanksgiving morning at the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Children’s Liturgy

From September through May the children are taken to the Church Hall before the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass

for class and will be returned to their parents at the Offertory.

Confirmation

Youth: The Sacrament of Confirmation is ordinarily received in the 7th or 8th grade every other year.

Parents whose children attend non-Catholic schools or private Catholic schools which do not prepare children for Confirmation, should call the parish office to prepare the children for Confirmation.

Reconciliation (Penance)

Weekly: Saturday, 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Marriage

Engaged Couples: one person must be a practicing Catholic and a registered member of St. Roch Parish. They must call the rectory for an appointment at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage in order to allow sufficient time for preparation.

Catholics are obliged to celebrate marriage according to the rite and laws of the Catholic Church.

Devotions

The Rosary: Prayed daily after the 7:15 a.m. Mass in the school chapel.

Ministries and Organizations—Descriptions

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FAITH SHARING

Purpose: To promote educational and religious development for adults. This committee coordinates small group prayer/discussion activities as well as arranges for speakers on topics of interest to parishioners. In addition the committee assists the Pastor with activities such as Parish Missions.

Contacts: Bill & Mary Abkemeier

ALTAR SERVERS

Purpose: To assist the priest at Mass

Contact: Dr. Mark Gilligan

ALTAR SOCIETY

Purpose: The Altar Society is an important part of the parish, keeping God’s house in order. The Society is responsible for the sparkling clean altar surroundings.

Contact: Gloria Broun

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Purpose: Promote the physical and moral development of the participants by providing them with:

instructions in team sports;

individual skills;

a Christian attitude of fairness as it relates to both teammates and opponents;

an opportunity to compete in organized sports.

 Adult activities are available.

Contact: Tom Schwartz

BOY SCOUTS

Purpose: To nurture a boy’s qualities of physical fitness, self-reliance, mental alertness and promote a strong moral code. Meetings are held at St. Roch School gym on Wednesday evenings.

Contact: Paul Winter, 962-3377

BUILDING COMMISSION

Purpose: Assist the pastor on any situation concerning the maintenance of church properties.

Contacts: Joe Fresta and Joe Shaughnessey

C.A.R.E. CHRISTIAN ACTION REALLY EVIDENT

Purpose: Provide support to parish families in bereavement by supplying and preparing food either in the Church Hall or in the family’s home after the funeral. This organization is part of the Women of St. Roch.

Contact: Women of St. Roch Representatives

CHILD CARE

Purpose: Provide child care for those children attending St. Roch School whose parents have no regular child care provider before or after school. There is a fee for these services.

 Before school: 7:30 - 8:00 a.m.

 After school: 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Contact: Dr. Mark Gilligan

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

Purpose: Provide child-friendly instruction of the Gospel with activities and stories. From September through May the children are taken to the Church Hall before the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass for class and will be returned to their parents at the Offertory.

Contacts: Susanne Knese

CHOIR

Purpose: The choirs are made up of people from all walks of life who are willing to make the worship and liturgical atmosphere grow and prosper in our parish.

Contacts: Saturday 4:30 p.m. Mass: Sister Barbara Brunsman

 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass: Keith Ballentine

 Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass: Mary Davidson

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Purpose: Provide children, ages 3 to 5 years, with the best developmentally- appropriate activities to meet social, emotional, physical and intellectual needs.

Contact: Dr. Mark Gilligan

EDUCATION COMMISSION

Purpose: The Education Commission of the Parish Council has the responsibility of developing, promoting, and evaluating educational programs to meet the educational needs of the entire parish community. The School Program provides the following:

Weekly School Liturgies

Preschool through 8th Grade

Learning Style Theory Integrated with Curriculum

Certified Teachers

Limited Class Size

Technology Programs

School Board

Parent Volunteer Program

Sacramental Preparation

Extended Daycare

Junior High Accelerated Math Program

Fine Arts Program includes Art, Music, and Physical Education

Library Services

Parent School Association

Learning Consultant

Contact: Dr. Mark Gilligan

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Purpose: Assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at church services and at nursing homes and for those who are homebound.

Contacts: Frank Burke

 David Hart: Del Haven Nursing Home Ministry

FINANCE BOARD

Purpose: Meet with the Pastor, propose the annual budget of the parish and the school, and recommend the budget

Contacts: Kevin Farrell & Bridget O’Flynn

GIRL SCOUTS

Purpose: Develop personal growth and enrichment of the girls through activities which include crafts, field trips, sporting activities, camping and participation in neighborhood events.

Contact: St. Roch School

LECTORS

Purpose: Lectors perform the important liturgical function of proclaiming the scriptural readings at the weekend Masses. Participation in this group allows our laity to serve an active role in the Mass.

Contact: Roy Cobb

LITURGY COMMISSION

Purpose: Coordinate and initiate activities in the Parish which pertain to the celebration of the liturgy of the Church and the spiritual growth of the parishioners.

Contact: Monsignor Polizzi

MEN OF ST. ROCH

Purpose: Provide an organization for the men of St. Roch to assist the Pastor and Parish with various projects and parish-wide programs and to enrich the spiritual life of the men of the parish.

Contact: John O’Gorman

PARISH COUNCIL OF ST. ROCH

Purpose: This governing body of St. Roch Church operates within canonical and diocesan regulation; is responsible for the direction and coordination of parish activities, standing committees and organizations in the accomplishment of the work of the Lay Apostolate; and is a forum for the free communication of ideas within the parish.

Contact: John Hungerford

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Purpose: Teach Catholic doctrine to children attending non-Catholic schools.

Contact: St. Joseph’s Church in Clayton, 727-9059

PRAYER CHAIN

Purpose: To support one another through the grace of God by sending out email requests for prayers. Please include the words “Prayer Chain” on the subject line and your name in the email.

Contact: MaryBroun@sbcglobal.net

PRO-LIFE COMMISSION

Purpose: Coordinate educational, pastoral, and public advocacy efforts to restore respect for human life.

Contact:

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

Purpose: Help those in need of temporary assistance with food, utilities, rent and provide counseling when necessary. Rectory office is open on Wednesday afternoon, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Contacts: Anna Bell & Ellie Watts, 721-6340

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Purpose: To offer parishioners the opportunity to assist the less fortunate in the St. Louis area. Opportunities include preparing salads for the homeless served by St. Patrick’s Center, furnishing “Welcoming Backpacks” to ex-offenders under the auspices of the Criminal Justice Ministry of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and supplying school backpacks to the children served by St. Patrick’s Center.

Contacts: Mary and Bill Abkemeier

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Purpose: Unite the efforts of parents, teachers, principal and Pastor to promote the highest possible level of excellence in education.

Contact: Matt Boxdorfer

SCHOOL BOARD

Purpose: This Board functions as an advisory body to the Pastor and School Principal for formulating and evaluating policies for the facilities, programs of, and programs at St. Roch School. Members are elected by the parish and school families. One faculty representative is also elected by the faculty members.

Contact: Bill Broun

SKINKER-DEBALIVIERE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Purpose: Parish representative attends council meetings and reports to the parish executive board any potential or completed community changes. St. Roch is one of the funding organizations of the Council.

Contact: Joe Keaveny

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Purpose: Coordinate the resources of time, talent and treasure of all parishioners to better serve the parish family.

Contacts: John & Kathy Hungerford

ST. ROCH TODDLER and YOUNG FAMILIES

Purpose: Promote and encourage the involvement of all families within St. Roch Parish, especially those with young children.

Contact: Lucy Willis

USHERS

Purpose: The ushers perform many essential liturgical functions at Mass; seating the assembly, handling the collection, giving assistance in case of illness during Mass, and distributing the weekly bulletins.

Contact: Joe Kuss

WOMEN OF ST. ROCH

Purpose: Provide an organization for the women of St. Roch to assist the pastor and parish with various projects and parish-wide programs. This group exists to enhance the spiritual life of the women of St. Roch; to administer the Christian Action Really Evident Program (C.A.R.E.); and to support the St. Roch parish community with services as needed.

Contact: Sandra Burke