

Welcome to St. George Church

A Parish with Spirit and Heart!

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Fr. Pascal (Pat) Ipolito, Pastor

Sr. Margaret Donner, Pastoral Associate

Kathy Kita, Pastoral Associate & Director of Faith Formation

Week of August 2, 2015

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Pastor's Desk

Human beings are prone to grumbling. In the book of Exodus, the Israelites, having been freed from slavery in Egypt and watched God destroy their enemies in the Red Sea, complain that they are in a wilderness with no food to eat. They grumble that God should have left them as slaves back in Egypt, where at least they were provided with three square meals a day. It never seems to occur to them that the God who was powerful enough to free them from slavery might also be powerful enough to provide them with food. God replies to their grumbling with characteristic generosity, raining down bread from heaven to sustain them.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus' listeners do not grumble (though they will when the story continues in next week's Gospel), but they do not understand him any better than the Israelites understood God in the wilderness. Like the Israelites, they are focused on material bread and demand to be given a sign before they will have faith. They will believe in Jesus, but only on their own terms. In doing this, they overlook "the food that endures for eternal life" that is already there with them.

What will make us stop grumbling and placing demands upon God? It almost seems hard-wired into us. In Ephesians, Paul instructs his readers to be transformed by the renewing of their minds and to put on a new self. But what does this mean in the concrete? What would be the first signs of such a renewal? Perhaps it would mean doing a little less grumbling and a little more trusting. Small, daily acts of gratitude are the foundation of our life in Christ.

Give us grateful hearts, Lord God, and open our eyes to the blessings that you bestow on us each day, so that our lives might be a continual song of praise to you. Amen.

- What are the things I complain about on a regular basis? Does my grumbling keep me from having the proper attitude of gratefulness toward God and others?
- How has God provided for me in my life? What "manna" do I wake up to on a regular basis?

Shalom! Fr. Pat

Excerpted with permission from *Living the Word* (www.wlp.jspaluch.com)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, August 1	5 pm	George Gebhard, by the Family
Sunday, August 2	8:30 am	In Thanksgiving for Frederick S. Happy, by Mom & Dad
Sunday, August 2	11 am	Melanie Benedict, by the Family (Fr. Dan)
Monday, August 3	8 am	In loving memory of Jim Nemec, by Pat
Tuesday, August 4	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Wednesday, August 5	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, August 6	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, August 7	9 am	First Friday Jerry Brooker, by Sally & Ed Rutkowski
Saturday, August 8	5 pm	Mary Wielkiewicz, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
Sunday, August 9	8:30 am	In Memory of Tom Knoll, by Pam & John Miliotto
Sunday, August 9	11 am	Dennis J. Grabianowski, by Pat Grabianowski

**First Friday Mass will be at 9:00 am with Adoration to follow.
The next First Friday is August 7th in the Chapel.
Confession: Saturday from 4:00 - 4:30 pm**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially: Vivianne Dibe, Loretta Ellis, Doris Ellis, Angie Antonelli, Peter Brady, Kathy Grover-Castro, Maryanne Mueller, JoAnna Dussias, Michael Schafer, Madeline Abate, John Branicky, Mackenzie Walsh, Richard Kruse, Janelle Spider, Marsha Shuler, Kevin McCarthy, Don Appenheimer, Dorothy Knaier, Louise Zelonis, Gina Reger, Jill & Jeff Bahret, Richard & Antoinette Pucillo, Joe Arcara, Lou Williams, the Urbanski family, Mary Rose, Jared & Kristina Williams, Delores Gebhard, Mike Hayhurst, Grace Finch, Jeanette Dipiano, Susan Dorobiala, Judy Zielinski, Nancy Service, Mary Nemec, Mary Pasco, Jocelyn Tragarz, Shawn Henning, Gary Klaja, Barbara Simpson, Pat Parker, Rick Emerling, Sr. Mary Dee, Tony Russo, Brian Byrne, Allison Kruger, Marian Bull, Sr. Mary Ellen Twist, George Kazmierczak, and Dave Isbrandt.



MISSION CO-OP GUEST NEXT WEEKEND Please join us in welcoming **Fr. John Paul Bahati**, who will be our celebrant next weekend, **August 8-9th**. Fr. Bahati is a **Barnabite Father** of the North American Province representing the **Barnabite Missions**. **We will take up a second collection next weekend in support of this Mission**; please be as generous as you can.

Offering Envelope Users: your personalized **Mission Co-op** offering envelope is **incorrectly dated for August 16th**. Kindly place your Mission Co-op envelope in the offering basket the weekend of August 8-9th, if possible. Thank you!

***ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEKEND** are In Memory of **Robert Habicht**, donated by **Marion and Mary Beth Habicht**. Thank you!*





Farewell Reception for Sister Margaret Donner August 29th!

After many years of faithful service to the Lord, and to the faith communities of St. George and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Colden, Sr. Margaret will be retiring from her ministry as our Pastoral Associate here at St. George in order to focus on her full-time duties at the St. Mary Center in Buffalo.

*Everyone is invited to a Farewell Reception to honor Sr. Margaret on **Saturday, August 29th** immediately following the 5 pm Mass in the parish hall. Light refreshments and appetizers will be provided, so please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church, or call the parish secretary at 652-3153 to let her know if you are attending. We hope you will join us!*

CHICKEN BBQ REPORT & SURVEY The final report for our Annual Fundraiser is included with this week's bulletin, and on the reverse side of the report is a brief survey. We'd really appreciate your feedback—*what you love* about the event, as well as *what you're not so crazy about*, and *any suggestions you have* for improving it for next year. Please fill out the survey and place it in the Suggestion Box in the Gathering space by August 9th. Or, fill out the online version of the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PGHK8QR>.

A Message from Mary Alice Harrigan

As I begin my life without my husband Michael, I want to thank the community of St. George for the outpouring of support and love that continues to comfort me to this day.



Ray Deibel, a beloved, long-time parishioner of our parish, passed away Friday, July 24th at the age of 98. Ray was devoted to his two churches, St. Aloysius Gonzaga in Cheektowaga and St. George in West Falls. He served as a Eucharistic minister, was active with the **Foundation for International Cooperation** and the **Bishop's Lay Advisory** and chaired **Catholic Charities' Large Gifts Division**. He also held picnics for inner-city altar boys at his West Falls farm, worked with the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** and was named a **Knight of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem** in 1986. He will be sorely missed. *Rest in peace, dear friend.*

STEWARDSHIP Weekly offerings last week totaled **\$3,492.00**. Our parish needs **\$3,800.00** each week in order to meet our financial obligations. *Our sincere thanks for your continued generosity!*



BREAD OF LIFE OUTREACH CENTER is collecting **personal hygiene products for the month of August**. New, unopened items such as **toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner**, etc. may be placed in the Food Pantry baskets at church. BOLO currently serves 70+ families through the food pantry, and **your generous support is much appreciated!**

Food Pantry: Thurs. 4 – 6 pm, Sat. 10 am – Noon.

Gabriel's Closet: Tues. & Wed. 10 am – 2 pm, Thurs. 3 – 6 pm, Sat. 10 am – 1 pm.

The Center is looking for volunteers. You're needed in so many ways—work in Gabriel's Closet, help with food pantry shopping, cut the grass, pull some weeds, help out at the Farmer's Market, pitch in with maintenance work, cleaning and lots more. We ask as little as 4 hours a month. Please call **941-3550** or stop in at the BOLO Center to learn more.

THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS FOR THIS FALL The **Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life** is an in-depth experience of praying with Scripture directed toward spiritual freedom. It involves daily prayer using selected Scripture passages and small group meetings; weekly for the first month then twice a month for 7 months. For further information, **see the information posted on the bulletin board** in the Gathering space of church, or contact **Fr. Peter Murray SJ at 854-6726 ext. 14** or **Gini Schultz at 873-6020**.



ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY *Thank you for your continuing support of our clothing bin, located in the parking lot behind church.* Your donations provide a steady supply throughout the year for our clients and store operation. Depositing your donations (*clothing only, please*) in plastic bags or small sealed boxes protects them from damage and dirt. *Thank you and God Bless our parish!*



CRUISE THE LOCKS! Enjoy a Lockport Locks Cruise and Canalside Lunch on Wednesday, August 12th. Everyone is welcome for this 50+ Group-sponsored trip. We'll all meet at **9:30 am** at **Tops Market** on Transit & French Rd., carpooling from there to Lockport. We'll have **lunch at 11:15 am** followed by the canal **lock cruise from 12:30 - 2:30 pm**. The cost is **\$35 per person**. Please reserve your space no later than **August 1st** by mailing your check, payable to **St. George's Over 50 Group**, to Diane Marts at 5134 Alder Ct., Hamburg, NY 14075. Call **Donna LaValley at 652-3759** with your questions, or visit www.lockportlocks.com for more information.



Please note: Our September group trip is cancelled due to lack of interest.



CONSIDER THIS... In **Bishop Malone's weekly video message**, he shares his thoughts about the characteristics that make a good parish. Visit <https://goo.gl/c8tGHM> to watch.

**St. George Parish Annual Chicken BBQ
Cash Raffle & Theme Basket Auction
Financial Report 2015**

Income:

Dinner Ticket Sales (\$10.00 each)	\$4,693.00
Theme Basket Ticket Sales (\$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00)	\$2,025.00
Cash Raffle Ticket Sales	\$2,212.00
Early Bird Winnings donated back (2)	\$50.00
Cash Donations:	
Comfort Funeral Home (Not yet known)	
Wurtz Funeral Home	\$200.00
Total Income:	\$9,180.00

Expenses:

Raffle Ticket Printing	\$129.50
Auction Tickets (1 pkg. of 500)	\$29.93
Chicken Dinner Deposit to Krolick's BBQ	\$100.00
Chicken Dinners Balance to Krolick's BBQ	\$2,875.00
Cash Raffle Prizes (Including 2 Early Bird prizes)	\$650.00
Door Prize	\$24.99
Kitchen Supplies	\$143.39
Total Expenses:	\$3,952.81
Net Proceeds:	\$5,227.19

**St. George Parish Annual Chicken BBQ
Cash Raffle & Theme Basket Auction
2015 Parishioner Survey**

- 1. What did you like about 2015 BBQ, Auction & Raffle?**
- 2. What *didn't* you like about the 2015 BBQ, Auction & Raffle?**
- 3. Do you have suggestions for improvements we can make for next year?**
- 4. Should we continue selling chicken dinners, or would pulled pork dinners be appealing to you?**
- 5. Additional Comments:**

Please place your survey in the Suggestion Box in the Church entrance.

Thank you for taking the time to give us your feedback. Our successful fundraising always depends upon you, our volunteers and supporters!