



# Welcome to St. George Church

## *A Parish with Spirit and Heart!*

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### **Week of January 10, 2016**

## **The Baptism of the Lord**

### ***From the Pastor's Desk***

Today ends the Christmas season. We put away the singing of Christmas carols, like “Joy to the World,” but not living their words. The Lord has “saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior” (*Titus 2:5b-6*)—through Jesus Christ, to whom the heavenly voice in Luke’s Gospel is addressed, “You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased.” Because we put on Christ in baptism, we too are beloved daughters and sons of God. The Holy Spirit has been poured out on us. We do more than point the way to Christ like John the Baptizer; we are called to live Jesus.

Baptism makes us heralds of glad tidings who announce that God is with us, offering comfort and speaking tenderly. Our lives proclaim “here is your God” in small ways that speak loudly, for nothing is small in God’s service, St. Francis de Sales says. Paying attention to every person we meet, sharing our resources like offering a smile, a call, an email, a text, or a wave that acknowledges the other—all proclaim, “God is here.” They can lift the valley of depression, topple the mountain of arrogance, smooth the rough ways of hurt or fear, and make the desert of loneliness bloom. By living our baptism we reveal the glory of the Lord for all to see and enjoy. And if you’re stuck in a valley or struggling with some ruggedness in your life, listen for the voice of God that spoke at our baptism: “You are my beloved. With you I am well pleased.” Be a living carol that sings joy to the world, the Lord is come for all.

O God, you have made us your adopted daughters and sons. Deepen your Spirit within us to live Jesus so clearly that people meet him when they meet us, hear his voice when they hear our voices, and know your comfort and love in our midst.

- Do you believe that you are God’s beloved daughter or son? How do you show it? If not, what gets in the way?
- Name five concrete ways you can be a herald of the message that God is in our midst, that the Lord is come.

*Shalom! Fr. Pat*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 9	5 pm	In Thanksgiving for and Honoring all Mothers
Sunday, January 10	8:30 am	In Thanksgiving for prayers and healing for Shirley Miller and "Little Sam", by Shirley Miller
Sunday, January 10	11 am	Dennis Grabianowski, by the Family
Monday, January 11	8 am	Joe Kupka, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
Tuesday, January 12	8 am	Angie Antonelli, by the Rosary Altar Society
Wednesday, January 13	8 am	<b>Communion Service and Novena</b>
Thursday, January 14	8 am	<b>Communion Service</b>
Friday, January 15	8 am	Angie Antonelli, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
Saturday, January 16	5 pm	In Thanksgiving for and Honoring all Fathers
Sunday, January 17	8:30 am	To the Blessed Mother for favors received
Sunday, January 17	11 am	Angie Antonelli, by Mike & Louise Spahn

**The next First Friday Mass is February 5th at 9:00 am in the Chapel.**

**Confession: Saturday from 4:00 - 4:30 pm**



**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK & SHUT-INS**, especially: Loretta Ellis, Doris Ellis, Grace Finch, Peter Brady, Maryanne Mueller, Michael Schafer, John Branicky, Marsha Shuler, Dorothy Knaier, Louise Zelonis, Gina Reger, Richard & Antoinette Pucillo, Joe Arcara, Lou Williams, Jeanette Dipiano, Susan Dorobiala, Judy Zielinski, Nancy Service, Jocelyn Tragarz, Sr. Mary Dee, Allison Kruger, Sr. Mary Ellen Twist, Jill Janik, David Dobson, Colette Longboat, Kathy Grover-Castro, Jim Moeller, Jim Cafferty, Linda Bettinger, Mario Nunez, Sarah Friedhaber, Jason Estabrook, Crystal Oats, Dianne Emerling, Bill Petrie, Sophie Cook, Margo McClelland, Steve Curvin, David Kroll, Dave Isbrandt, Bill Kegler, Mike Slawinski, Bill Henning, Dolores Lewandowski, Don Murray, Faith Smith, and Joan Kazmierczak.



**HURRY—TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO GET YOUR TICKETS FOR OUR SOCIAL GROUP'S DINNER & DANCE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13th**

Come on out of hibernation and enjoy a fun evening of great food with friends, and live music! For only **\$20**, you'll enjoy drinks, a delicious buffet dinner catered by **Collette's**, and country & soft rock music by the acoustic duo, "**Route Two40 Ride**". Drinks at 6 pm, Dinner at 6:30 pm.

All are welcome!!

**Tickets sold after Mass this weekend & next, or mail your check before January 13th!**

*The dinner menu and mailing address are on the event poster in the Gathering space.*

**REMINDERS: CATECHISTS and TEACHER AIDES** are meeting **Monday, January 11th** at **7 pm** in the parish hall.

The **LITURGY TEAM** is meeting **Thursday, January 14th** at **7 pm** in the parish hall.

The **BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY** is meeting **Sunday, January 17th** at **9:30 am** in the parish hall.

*Happy New Year! It's time to plan ahead for Lent!  
(Ash Wednesday is February 10!)*

*Share the Joy* and join us this Lent in...



*Learn how truly "living" the Eucharist can enrich your life!*

- Adults** - Experience God's presence in small faith-sharing groups
- Youth** - Share faith, friendship, and prayer with other high school youth
- Families** - Share faith as a family in your home
- All Parishioners** – Enrich your faith with daily Lenten meditations

Learn more at [www.stgeorgercchurch.org/le](http://www.stgeorgercchurch.org/le).

**Team and Small Group Leaders will be available to answer questions this weekend**

### **COLLECTION FOR BREAD OF LIFE OUTREACH CENTER JANUARY 16-17**

The Bread of Life Outreach Center (BOLO) continues to serve the needs of the community with our **Food Pantry**. In December **we served 70 families, 181 individuals with food to equal 1629 meals**. A Christmas meal and gifts for each person were given through the generosity of St. George's Angel Tree and other donors. Help us to fulfill our **Mission Statement** to "*feed the hungry and clothe the naked*" by shopping at **Gabriel's Closet Thrift Shop**, shopping the **Farmer's Market** in the summer, **volunteering** at the center and your **generous financial gifts!** **All proceeds of this collection go directly to BOLO.** *Thank you in advance on behalf of all those we serve through the Bread of Life Outreach Center!!*



### **OUR ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST & THEME BASKET AUCTION is coming soon!**



**Join us on Sunday, February 7th, from 9 am - 1 pm** for a hearty and delicious breakfast of eggs, pancakes, sausage and beverage for **\$6 per adult, \$4 per child (under 10)**.

***Don't miss this!*** Bring your family and friends, too!

Theme basket donations may be left on the Rectory porch at any time.

***Tickets available at the door on Feb. 7th.***

**STEWARDSHIP** Weekly offerings last week totaled **\$3,722.00**. Offerings for **Maintenance and Capital Improvements** totaled **\$466.00**. *We sincerely appreciate your continuing generosity!* Our parish needs **\$3,800.00** each week in order to meet our financial obligations.

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** After Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." As we give to the poor, we can also hear these words. As you help those who are suffering, know in your heart the truth of the words, "**You are my beloved, in whom I am well pleased.**"



**IN LOVING MEMORY...** **Delores Gebhard** and **Yolanda Marracino**, long-time parishioners, passed away this week. We pray that their families and friends take comfort in knowing they are at peace, wrapped in God's loving embrace. Kindly remember them in your prayers.



**YEAR OF MERCY: What are the Spiritual Works of Mercy?**

Pope Francis has asked us to rediscover the **Corporal** and **Spiritual Works of Mercy**. Throughout the Gospels Jesus admonishes us to follow his example, an example that sets down tangible ways we might better serve our brothers and sisters in need. While the Corporal Works of Mercy focus more on the needs of the body, **the Spiritual Works focus on the needs of the soul**. Just as we should help others with their physical needs, so too must we help them with their spiritual needs. There are **seven Spiritual Works of Mercy**:

**Admonish the Sinner**  
**Instruct the Ignorant**

**Counsel the Doubtful**  
**Forgive Offenses Willingly**

**Comfort the Afflicted**  
**Bear Wrongs Patiently**

**Pray for the Living and the Dead**

*This Jubilee we should make a concerted effort to perform these beautiful Works of Mercy. Learn more at [www.yearofmercy.org](http://www.yearofmercy.org).*

Our **Youth Community** is collecting the following adult items for **Friends of the Night People** in the **bin located in the Gathering space**: socks, underwear, thermal wear, feminine hygiene products, personal care items (razors, soap, shampoo), jackets, gloves, hats, scarves, boots, blankets, sleeping bags, yoga mats and backpacks. *Thank you so much!*

**PARISH COUNCIL STILL NEEDS YOU!** New members are needed for our **2016 Parish Council**. *Won't you please consider serving your parish as a member of Parish Council?* **2016 Parish Council Nomination forms** have been placed at each church entrance. **Please complete a form and mail it or drop it off to the Rectory before we make our selections on January 10th.**



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** Our next **GIFT Faith Fest** will be on **Sunday, January 31st from 9:30-10:45 am**. Come join our **Mardi Gras** celebration as we prepare for the season of Lent!

Are you ready to **Grow Closer to God and Share the Joy** during our **Jubilee Year of Mercy?**

Join us this Lent in...

Learn how truly “living” the Eucharist can enrich your life!



**Our parish is participating in Living the Eucharist. Take a brochure today and learn more about this Lenten spiritual renewal experience that provides us with opportunities to grow in our faith.**

**Sign-Up Weekends are January 16-17 and January 23-24!**

Consider joining a small group, a teen group, or sharing in the Family experience at home. You can also participate by using the Lenten devotional book, *From Exodus to Easter: My Daily Journey Through Lent*. Learn more at [www.stgeorgercchurch.org/le](http://www.stgeorgercchurch.org/le)

Last year, 69 adults, 10 teens and 13 families participated in *Living the Eucharist*.

**Here's what some of them had to say about their experience!**

*"The most valuable part of the experience for me was getting to know members of my group as faith-filled people."*

*"I have a greater appreciation for my faith and God speaking to me thru others."*

*"I have a greater understanding and appreciation of the Eucharist and the Liturgy."*

*"I hope the program continues to grow and spread throughout our parish and community over the next few years!"*

**Team Leaders and Group members are handing out Living the Eucharist Prayer Cards/brochures today and are available to answer your questions!**

**Please support this ministry by *praying the Living the Eucharist prayer every day.***