

Welcome to St. George Church

A Parish with Spirit and Heart!



St. George Church, 74 Old Glenwood Rd. West Falls, NY 14170-9704

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Sr. Lori High, SSMN, Parish Administrator

Rev. Msgr. Jim Wall, Sacramental Minister

Kathy Kita, Director of Faith Formation

Week of April 9, 2017

Palm/Passion Sunday

As a member of an international religious congregation, the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, I have had the opportunity to travel to several foreign mission areas and experience life in vastly different cultures. In the year 2000, I spent five months in the Democratic Republic of Congo. These months included the Lenten and Easter Seasons. In an area without highways, electricity or running water, the pace of life is MUCH slower. Daily efforts are focused on providing the basics of life. Sunday church attendance is a highlight activity of the week!

When the Sunday worship marks a special celebration such as today's, energy and creativity seem to burst into every aspect of the mass. A benefit of life in a rainforest is an unending supply of wild flowers and foliage. For Palm Sunday processions (which can be miles in length), people literally take branches and flowers from their surroundings and braid them together to wave as they walk. Once in the church building, as people take their places, dozens of women cover the main aisle of the church floor with their shoulder wraps. After the priest enters, having walked along this pathway of garments, the women retrieve their wraps feeling blessed that they helped provide a joyous welcome to the presider and through him to the Lord!

Our society offers so many options for our attention. During these Holy Days we have the extra challenge to find the time to give glory to God. May you discover ways to allow your worship of God to become a highlight activity this week!

Sister Lori

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 8	5 pm	Mary Schleich, by our St. George parish community
Palm/Passion Sunday, April 9	8:30 am	Mike Bruno, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
	11 am	Diane Senneff, by Glen & Cindy Weeks
Monday, April 10	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Tuesday, April 11	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Wednesday, April 12	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Holy Thursday April 13	7 pm	Holy Thursday Mass at the Seminary in East Aurora <i>(8 am Morning Prayer Service in the Chapel)</i>
Good Friday April 14	3 pm	The Passion of our Lord <i>(8 am Morning Prayer Service in the Chapel)</i>
Holy Saturday April 15		<i>(8 am Morning Prayer Service in the Chapel)</i>
Easter Vigil April 15	8:30 pm	Mary Schleich, by the Bread of Life Outreach Community
Easter Sunday April 16	8:30 am	Marie Baker, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
	11 am	♥ In Thanksgiving for Blessings received, by the Peplin, Hartman and Tester families

**Our next First Friday Mass is May 7th at 8:00 am in the Chapel.
Confessions: Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:30 pm**

Let us pray for... Doris Ellis, Ellen Nichter, Jim & Mary Ann O'Donnell, Marion Habicht, Don Murray, Barb Songin and Anna & Erino Fabrizi.

Dear friends at St. George,

Thank you so much for your loving compassion and expressions of sympathy at the death of my sister, Mary. She will be greatly missed by her husband, Ron, their family - all of us. I am grateful we each have a wonderful support group who will carry us in faith during the difficult times. Thanks also for having the Mass offered by Fr. Jim on April 8th at 5pm. I hope to be there. Your love and prayer are a consolation for me and the family.

Peace, love,

Sister Margaret

MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US FOR OUR PARISH RETREAT

~ Saturday, April 29th! ~



We welcome **Fr. Bob Pecoraro, S.J.**, who will guide our afternoon of reflection: ***Telling Our Sacred Stories***. Fr. Bob currently teaches and serves on the *Spiritual Direction* team at Christ the King Seminary. Our gathering **begins with lunch at noon** in the parish hall and **concludes with the 5 pm Mass**. Join us as we explore three inseparable stories that make each moment of our lives and all of our individual stories sacred! ***Sign up today in the church gathering space!***

EASTER BASKET BLESSING Since we no longer have a resident priest at St. George, we have not scheduled an Easter Basket blessing here this year, but we are glad to share with you these blessing times at neighboring parishes on **Holy Saturday, April 15th**:



12 noon	Annunciation – Elma
1:00 pm	St. John the Baptist – Boston St. Vincent dePaul – Springbrook Immaculate Conception – East Aurora
2:00 pm	St. Bernadette – Orchard Park Nativity of Our Lord – Orchard Park Saints Peter and Paul – Hamburg
3:00 pm	St. John Vianney – Orchard Park
4:00 pm	St. Joseph – Holland

Donald Brady III has been recognized by Bishop Richard Malone at the **43rd Annual Religious Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 8th**, for completing the requirements for the **Ad Altare Dei Emblem**. The purpose of the Ad Altare Dei (*to the altar of God*) program is to help Catholic Boy Scouts develop a fully Christian way of life in the faith community. Donald is a member of Boy Scout Troop 230. ***Congratulations, Donald!***



NEWS FROM BREAD OF LIFE OUTREACH CENTER The **6th** season of the **Colden Community Farmers' Market** opens on **Saturday, May 20th, 8:30 am-1 pm**. Lots of new events are planned this year, including soil testing by the Erie County extension, wine tasting, a scavenger hunt for kids, food demos, food trucks and lots more! Visit breadoflifecolden.org for more events & news.



On **Sunday, May 7th at 5 pm**, we are hosting the 3rd annual **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart reunion, Fr. Richard Coveny Memorial Mass**, and **pot luck supper**. All are welcome. Call or text Pat at **863-9892** to RSVP or call the Center at **941-3550**.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life. Please support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the poor to bear their cross of suffering and pain. What a wonderful lesson to teach your children. *God bless all.*



OUR GENEROSITY ENABLES OUR MISSION & OUTREACH EFFORTS

What we give to our parish in our weekly offerings is *our offering to God, an offering of praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings the Lord has given to us*. Your generosity enables us to carry out the mission of Christ in our community, in addition to paying our parish bills. **Sunday and Easter offerings** last week totaled **\$3,030.00**. Offerings for **Maintenance & Capital Improvements** totaled **\$531.00**.



Give online with WeShare! Visit stgeorgercchurch.weshareonline.org today.



Mark Your Calendar! On **Sunday, April 23rd**, we'll celebrate a **GIFT Family Mass** at **8:30 am**, followed by our **Easter Faith Fest** in the parish hall at **9:30 am**. *Come enjoy refreshments, fun faith-filled activities and fellowship!*

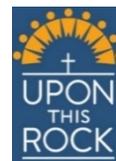
THANK YOU to our **Youth Ministry** for its presentation of the *Shadow Stations of Mercy* **AND to the families that donated homemade soups and breads for the potluck supper!** It was a blessed evening of fellowship, reflection and prayer.



UPON THIS ROCK AND CATHOLIC CHARITIES



Soon the entire parish community will receive letters from the Capital Campaign, announcing the amount pledged thus far and the dates of our **pledge weekends**. This Diocesan Campaign is a *five-year pledge program* which aims to establish endowments for the *future needs* of Catholic endeavors in the Diocese of Buffalo. Questions? *Email Sister Lori* at sisterlori@stgeorgercchurch.org or call the parish office.



HELP FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

If you are a victim of domestic violence and are in need of access to safety planning, spiritual care, legal assistance, limited medical assistance, counseling, and law enforcement, the **Family Justice Center of Erie County**, "*Where Families Come First*", is for you! All services are free. **All conversations strictly private**. To learn more call **716-558-7233** or visit www.fjcsafe.org.

HELP US TO MAINTAIN ACCURATE PARISHIONER RECORDS

Do you have a **name, address, email address** or **phone number change** we should know about? Let us know! Visit stgeorgercchurch.org/update and fill out the online form. *If you're not yet registered with our parish, please call the office at 652-3153, stop in during office hours, or email stgeorge.wf@gmail.com.*



LECTORS ARE NEEDED Reading from the Word of God is central to the Mass and effectively communicates God's grace and love to everyone in the church. *Lectors are especially needed at the 11 am Mass on Sunday mornings*. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please email Tricia at mrbofinger@roadrunner.com or call the office at **652-3153**.

"Like" us on Facebook, at www.facebook.com/StGeorgeWestFalls