

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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Week of May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter

We often rely on symbols in our attempts to communicate ideas with one another. Wedding rings symbolize commitment and eternity. Digitally, there seems to be no end to emoticons—the smiley face for happiness is familiar to most everyone! Our Church, too, uses symbols to communicate ideas and truths about God and ourselves. One symbol in particular has captured my attention this week.

At the Easter Vigil, we had a magnificent new fire blazing in our side parking lot. This fire was blessed, then the Paschal candle was lighted from it and carried into Church as we proclaimed: *Christ is our Light!* During these weeks of the Easter Season the Paschal candle has remained in prominence beside the ambo in the sanctuary. And, as if this symbol alone were not enough to help us know and revere Christ, the Light of the World, we have the added insight offered by the candle visibly diminishing as the weeks go by.

Wax candles are consumed in the process of doing what they were created to do. This, too, is a lesson for us. Christ poured himself out for us; the candle dwindles before our eyes; flowers burst forth and then fade; life cycles from birth to death to rebirth. To be consumed as we do what we have been created to do is an admirable Christian goal.

Our newly Confirmed young people, and each of us, would do well to invite God's Holy Spirit to dwell within us and to instruct us in the mysteries of our faith.

Sister Lori

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, May 20	5 pm	Paul Thomson, by Marge & Larry Sypniewski
Confirmation		
Sunday, May 21	8:30 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
	11 am	♥ For the spiritual and temporal well-being of Pierre Elkhoury and family, by Father Jim
Monday, May 22	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Tuesday, May 23	8 am	Mary Lou Rogalski, by the Rosary Altar Society
Wednesday, May 24	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, May 25	7 pm	Mass - Ascension of the Lord (Church)
		Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
		<i>No 8 am Communion Service</i>
Friday, May 26	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Saturday, May 27	5 pm	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Sunday, May 28	8:30 am	♥ Stan & Ellen Kociszewski, in celebration of 60 years of wedded bliss, by the family
	11 am	Paul Head, by Glen & Cindy Weeks

Our next First Friday Mass is June 2nd at 8:00 am in the Chapel.

Confession: Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Join us in praying the Rosary Saturdays at 4:30 pm

Let us pray for... Doris Ellis, Don Murray, Barb Songin and Rita Kowalik.

PLEASE PICKUP YOUR CASH RAFFLE TICKETS TO SELL OR BUY!

You do so much to support our annual Chicken BBQ fundraiser simply by selling or purchasing a book or two of Cash Raffle tickets.



Cash Raffle ticket packets are on the table in the Gathering Space—**return the money and ticket stubs before June 18th** to be eligible for the first **Early Bird prize of \$25.00!** *Your generous and selfless support makes this our most successful parish fundraiser each year!*



GIFT K-8 RUMMAGE SALE—JUNE 10 & 11, 8 am – 1 pm

Downsizing? Spring cleaning? Donate your unwanted treasures to our Rummage sale to benefit our GIFT K-8 activities! Donations may be dropped off **until June 4th** on the front porch of the Office.

Bakers!!! If you can donate baked goodies for this event, we'd sure appreciate it. Please drop them off on **Saturday, June 10th**. Questions? Call **Amy Gottstine** at 462-8319 or **Jan Gawrys** at 826-5946.



WE WELCOME MOST REVEREND BISHOP RICHARD MALONE!



We are honored to have Bishop Malone with us for **Confirmation** this weekend. Welcome, also, to our visiting Clergy and Faith Formation staff.

Pray for these young people of St. George, St. Joseph (Holland), and St. Mary (East Arcade) parishes being confirmed:

Emily Andruczyk, Leesa Appleby, Matthew Blenker, Brianna Calmes, Caleb Cochran, Alyssa Cole, Amanda Damon, Marc George, Caleb Gertzler, Abigail Jusiak, Ella Kehl, Eleanor Kingston, Drew Kramer, Andrew LaCongo, Ashley Laudisio, Lauren Palczynski, Steven Pawig, Zach Pawlak, Benjamin Robertson, Joshua Robertson, Samantha Salzler, Erik Staebell, Samantha Tabaczynski, and Mary Beth Vingoe.

May the Father fill you with his Love, may Jesus Christ bring you Hope, and may the Spirit strengthen your faith all the days of your life.

PARISH HALL—FLOOD UPDATE

We have so much to be thankful for, especially our great volunteers who've definitely gone above and beyond these past two weeks! They've worked *tirelessly* to get our hall looking good again for **Confirmation** (Saturday) and the **West Falls Fire Company's Meat Raffle** (Sunday)!



Once we have solidified our plans for the remainder of the parish hall restoration effort, we will set more definite dates/times for work parties, and *we will be looking for volunteers!* If you want to help out when you're able to, please give us a call at the parish office or email stgeorge.wf@gmail.com.

UPON THIS ROCK – WEEK TWO OF THE PLEDGE CARD PHASE

Thank-you for your patience as our **Upon This Rock** Capital Campaign process continues this week with pledge card sign-up. **The campaign staff asks each parish family or individual to complete and turn in a pledge card, even if you choose not to make a pledge.** You'll see that the pledge card gives you several options to respond. A one-time donation is welcome, or you can respond "*No, I am unable to participate*".



Approximately 40% of parishioners have responded by pledge card. Our part in the Upon This Rock campaign will soon be drawing to a close. *Kindly help us wrap up our campaign by completing a pledge card today.*



MARRIAGE MOMENT "If you love me..." (John 14:15) *If you love me, you'll clean the bathroom, watch the kids, make enough money to support us...* The list can be endless - and so is love. What would your beloved love you to do for them today? It's okay to ask. Mind reading not required.

DID YOU KNOW? Fr. Jim's homily is recorded each week and the audio recording is available on our website, usually on the following Monday. Visit www.stgeorgercchurch.org/homilies to listen.





You are, truly, the Spirit and Heart of St. George Parish!

Your weekly offerings, maintenance offerings, and special collection donations allow our Parish to keep the message of the Risen Jesus alive in our community. **Sunday** and **Easter offerings** last week totaled **\$2,761.17**.

Offerings for **Maintenance and Capital Improvements** totaled **\$315.00**. *Thank you!*

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

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us: *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments... Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father and I will love him and reveal myself to him”.*

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and through us into the hearts of those who are poor. God bless all.



*Beginning Monday, June 5, and on subsequent Mondays, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will lead the **Rosary in the Chapel at 7 pm**. Join us and help restore a long-ago tradition at our parish.*

The **Colden Community Farmer’s Market** reopened for its 6th season this weekend! The market runs **each Saturday from 8:30 am – 1 pm**, and it directly benefits our [Bread of Life Outreach Center](http://breadoflifecolden.org). 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.



THE FOOD BANK OF WNY MOBILE PANTRY TRUCK is coming to the [Bread of Life Outreach Center](http://breadoflifecolden.org) on **Thursday, May 25th**, from **3-5 pm**. The truck brings perishable foods to be distributed to ANYONE in the community. Please bring boxes, bags or wagons to carry the goods. You must have picture ID. You don’t have to be a member of the food pantry to participate. The items available vary—produce, meats, dairy, etc.—and whatever the truck brings will be distributed.



TO OUR BELOVED PIE BAKERS! Just a friendly reminder that we’re looking forward to your delicious pie donations for the **Rosary Altar Society’s Pie Sale** on **Father's Day weekend, June 17-18**.

ENHANCE OUR WORSHIP WITH THE BEAUTY OF GOD’S FLOWERS! Beginning the weekend of **June 10-11** until the weekend of **October 7-8**, you may remember a loved one or a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, graduation, etc.) by donating \$30 for the purchase of two altar bouquets.



Lilies of the Field, a local family-run business, will prepare the fresh bouquets for us each week. **A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Gathering Space.**