

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, Pastoral Administrator

Rev. Msgr. Jim Wall, Sacramental Minister

February 10, 2019

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"What's it all about, Alfie?" and *"Is that all there is?"* are song lyrics which, in addition to giving away my age, are evidence that even in secular society questions abound about the meaning of life. One of the great blessings of faith in God is that our Christian faith allows us to broaden our perspective on life. While faithless people may despair that this present experience of life is random, often futile, and ends in death, our faith is rooted in confidence that our existence emerges from God and returns into eternity with God.

A Marian hymn, often sung at night prayer, includes the phrase *"when our earthly exile shall be over"*. That concept, that our time here on earth is like an exile experience, is well worth our prayerful consideration. An *exile* is a person living outside their native place, often not by choice and always with a desire to return home. Taken in the context of faith, isn't that exactly what our life is like? We had nothing to do with when or where we were born and, as St. Augustine so beautifully put it, *our hearts are restless 'til they rest again in Thee (God)*.

While we might not understand God's love for humanity, we believe that it is unbounded and everlasting. And while our life experiences during our brief time on earth bring hardships as well as joys, we trust in a Divine plan that cannot be thwarted by mortal imperfections. The perspective that our life is a gift from God and is not limited by the time we spend in this earthly exile can free us from fear of futility. We can live confidently in the assurance that we are not alone, that the God who made us, knows us and loves us remains with us and welcomes each of us home in due time.

Sister Lori

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 9	5 pm	Richard Romanowski, by the Estate
Sunday, February 10	10 am	Stephanie McCormick O'Connor, by the McCormick family
Monday, February 11	8 am	Joseph & Eleanor Diggins & children, by the Estate
Tuesday, February 12	8 am	Thomas Cumiskey, by the Estate
Wednesday, February 13	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, February 14	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, February 15	8 am	Genevieve D. O'Connell, by the Estate
Saturday, February 16	5 pm	John & Joyce Ambrosoli, by the Estate
Sunday, February 17	10 am	Richard Van Oort, by Father Jim

Our next First Friday Mass will be on March 1st at 8 am in the Chapel.

Each First Friday of the month, following the 8 am Mass in the Memorare Chapel, we offer Eucharistic exposition and adoration until 10 am.

Consider joining us in this prayerful devotion.

Confession: Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:30 pm in the Church.

Join us in praying the Rosary Saturdays at 4:30 pm in the Church, and at 7 pm Mondays in the Chapel.



LET US PRAY FOR... Doris Ellis, Don Murray, Joe Arcara, Stan Kociszewski, Jeanne McIntyre, Ann Marie Price, Linda Kraus, Gene Holden, Rita Kowalik, Elaine Ahles, John Nichter and Robert Brand.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR OUR MISSION IN KENYA THIS WEEKEND

Under the leadership of the late Father William Snyder, St. George parishioners financed the building of a mission in **Laisamis, Kenya**, which is named after St. George. This mission includes a church, school, hospital, a residence for sisters, a social hall, a rectory for priests, and a college for catechists.



Our parish maintains its financial support to the mission in Kenya with a generous annual donation, augmented by your offerings.

Donate online at stgeorgercchurch.weshareonline.org/kenya.



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP THIS WEEKEND

If you can, stay with us for a beverage and donut holes after Mass today.
We love getting to know you better!

Many thanks to all of you who have honored your *Upon This Rock* pledges throughout 2018. Our parish recently received the first disbursement of funds for 2019—\$3,149.46! UTR funds are distributed twice yearly in January and in July.





A HUGE thank you to our parishioners, our Youth, and our incredible and loyal band of volunteers who organized, cooked, served, cleaned, or sold tickets at our *Pancake Breakfast & Theme Basket Auction* last Sunday! A special note of gratitude as well, to the folks from neighboring churches who also jumped in to help out! We thank the **Colden Market & Café, and **Paula's Donuts** for their contributions, and especially YOU for supporting this fundraiser. We raised **\$1,680.00!****

ANNOUNCING OUR CATHOLIC CHARITIES 2019 APPEAL CHAIRPERSON!

Kathleen Lell has graciously agreed to be the Catholic Charities Chairperson for our parish this year. Volunteers are welcome—please call the parish office at **652-3153** if you wish to assist with the 2019 Catholic Charities Appeal effort for St. George parish.

MEDICINE COLLECTION FOR HAITI

We're collecting over-the-counter medicines for our twin Haitian parish of **St. Michael the Archangel** on the weekends of **February 16-17, 23-24** and **March 2-3**. We need **pain relievers, antacids, vitamins, cold/cough medicines, eye/ear drops, antifungal/antibiotic/hydrocortisone creams** and any other *new* and *unopened* medicines. **Toothbrushes & paste** are also needed. Please place your donations in the box in the back of the church during the above weekends, and the collected items will be sent to Haiti on the sea container in April.



FEBRUARY 7-14 IS NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK, part of an international movement seeking to celebrate and strengthen marriage.

For resources to prepare for marriage or strengthen your marriage and family, visit: foryourmarriage.org/celebrate-national-marriage-week/.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE MARCH 9TH

Catholic Women of Buffalo, Inc. invites all women to the 4th Annual Buffalo Catholic Women's Conference, ***Nourished by Christ*** on **Saturday, March 9th** from **8 am – 12 pm** at St. Mary's High School in Lancaster, NY. Conference Speakers are **Sonja Corbitt**, and **Rev. Dave Richards**. Tickets are \$20. Call **222-0622** for more information or to register.



CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE APRIL 6TH

The 17th annual Catholic Men's Conference is on **Saturday, April 6th** from **7:30 am – 3 pm** at Cardinal O'Hara High School. Conference Speakers are **Dr. Ray Guarendi, Rev. Ronan Murphy, and Fr. David Baker**. For more information, visit www.cmfofwny.org or call **364-1010**.

FISH FRY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR HAITI MEDICAL CLINIC

at ***Nativity of Our Lord Church*** on **Friday, March 15th** from **4-6:30 pm**. (**Take-out only, prepared by Krolick's BBQ.**)

Purchase **\$12.00 Pre-sale tickets** here in our Gathering Space on **Feb. 23-24** and **March 2-3**. Tickets are **\$13 at the door** on March 15th.



Your generosity enables us to support and expand our community outreach and lifelong faith formation efforts as we journey in faith together. **Sunday** and **Holy Day** offerings last week were **\$1,765.00** and offerings for **Maintenance & Capital Improvements** totaled **\$615.00**.



Thank you for your generous contributions last week for the **Church in Central and Eastern Europe!** As a parish we collected **\$577.00** to help restore the Church and build the future in more than 20 countries. If you missed this opportunity, you can donate online at stgeorgercchurch.weshareonline.org/ccee.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



In the Gospel today, the disciples decide to leave everything to follow Jesus. We are also called to follow Jesus, who tells us that *"whatever you do to the least of mine, you do for me."*

Your gift to the poor can bring the love and peace of Jesus to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread. Thank you and God bless all.

TRAVEL BLESSINGS, FATHER JIM!

We won't be seeing much of Father Jim during this month, as he's off to do mission work in Guatemala from February 6-13 and, following a brief return to us, he'll be resting and soaking up the sun in Florida. Let's pray that he'll remain well and safe during his travels.



We're grateful to Father John and the other clergy who have kindly agreed to celebrate our Masses in Father Jim's absence.

READINGS FOR February 17, 2019

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 17:5-8, 78(C)
Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8
1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20
Luke 6:23ab

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets most **Tuesday** mornings at **9 am** in the parish hall kitchen. The prayer shawls they make are crafted with love, and prayed over before given to those who are sick or need comfort. You are welcome and encouraged to join them for a cup of coffee and fellowship, *even if you don't do needlework!* Call *Millie Puff* 652-0379, *Donna LaValley* 725-3240, or *Sally Rutkowski* 941-3493, if you'd like to know more.



2018 CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE

If you would like an official contribution statement for 2018, please call the parish office at **652-3153**, or email stgeorge.wf@gmail.com.



CANA RETREATS OFFERS A CATHOLIC FAMILY RETREAT VACATION

A Catholic Family Retreat is a time to gather as a family with other Catholic families to rest, play, and share our common Catholic experience. Join us in the somewhat rustic setting of the scenic **Watson Homestead** in **Painted Post, NY** from **July 14 – 20, 2019**. Learn more at www.canadced.com, call **607-754-0289**, or email DcnEdB@aol.com.