

Established 1851

ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH

19199 St. George's Church Rd.
Valley Lee, Maryland 20692

Phone: 301-994-0607

Website: www.StGeorgeRCC.org

Fax: 301-994-1793 Email: secretary@stgeorgercc.org



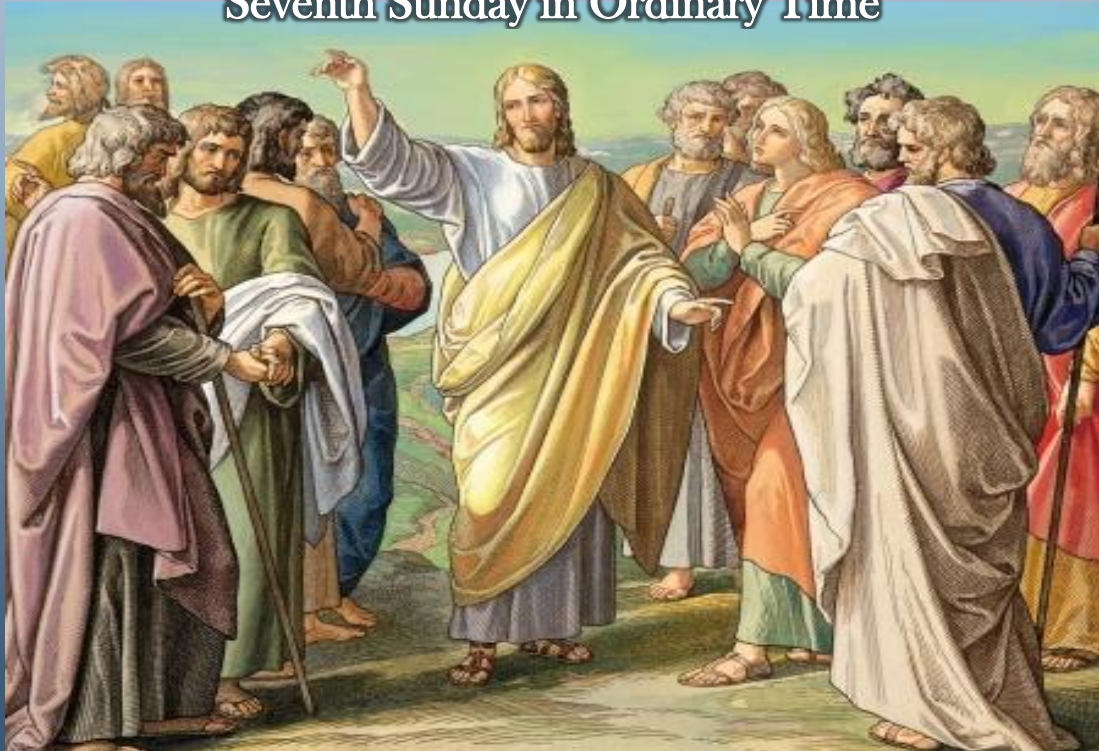
WELCOME

Our parish family extends a warm welcome to all who are joining us for worship, guidance or instruction. If you are new to the area or coming home, we invite you to register and make St. George Catholic Church your parish. Registration forms can be obtained in the church vestibule, at the office or online.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Gospel calls all people to holiness of life. Saint George Catholic Church is a family of faith, committing ourselves as a welcoming Catholic community to worship God in Word and in Sacrament; to live and to share our faith; to serve the poor, the vulnerable, and those in need; and to reconcile ourselves with God and one another.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH STAFF

Fr. Paul Nguyen, *Pastor*

Deacon Joel Carpenter, *Parish Deacon*

Mrs. Kimberley Browne, *Minister of Religious Education*

Mrs. Barbara Carpenter, *Business Manager*

Director of Liturgy and Music

Mrs. Divine Stachowski, *Parish Secretary*

Mr. Rico Romero, *Facility Maintenance Supervisor*

OFFICE HOURS

Tues--Fri. 10:00AM-2:00PM, Closed on Mondays

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses

Tuesday — Friday: 9:00 AM

First Saturday: 9:00 AM

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil — 5:00 PM

Sunday — 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

St. Francis Xavier Mission Chapel (on St. George's Island)

Saturday 7:00 PM (May to September) *

**Memorial Day to Labor Day*

Holy Day Masses — 9am & 7pm...or as announced

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Youth Faith Formation (YFF) meets in the Community Center 9:30-10:45 AM. Contact Kim Browne for class enrollment and for more information: (301) 994-0737 or email: kim.browne@stgeorgerc.org

RCIA (Preparation for Easter Sacraments)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process of inquiry and discernment for those who wish to come into full communion with the Catholic faith and are above the age of infant baptism. Classes are held Saturdays at 10-11:30am in the Community Center beginning in October and ending in May. For more information and registration, please contact Fr. Paul at the church office or email: fr.paulnguyen@stgeorgerc.org

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL: LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL (pre-K – 8th grades)

For registration or information, please call LFS at (301) 994-0404 or visit us online www.littleflowercatholic.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Group meets on Sundays, 5:00-8:00PM in St. George Community Center. All teens grade 6 and up are invited and welcome to attend our weekly meeting. For more information, please contact the church office (301) 994-0607 or contact one of our Youth Group Team Leaders (Maddie Mushrush, Omotayo Ojo and Darren Rogers) at YouthGroup@stgeorgerc.org

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM:

Arrangements must be made in advance with Deacon Joel Carpenter or Father Paul by at least one parent for children under the age of seven.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/EUCHARIST:

Contact Mrs. Kimberley Browne for more information: kim.browne@stgeorgerc.org

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is celebrated in the Fall and requires a 2-year preparation in our Sunday Youth Faith Formation. Contact Mrs. Kimberley Browne for more information: kim.browne@stgeorgerc.org

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION:

Saturday 4:00-4:30PM, or by appointment. And First Friday during Eucharistic Adoration (10-10:30am)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & HOLY EUCHARIST:

Parishioners unable to attend Mass on the weekends or who are ill are encouraged to call the parish office to receive these Sacraments.

MARRIAGE

Couples should contact the parish office and priest to make arrangements as soon as possible, **at least 6 months** in advance of the wedding. Pre-Cana Classes or Engagement Encounter (Marriage Prep.) is required.

DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary: After Daily Masses & Sat. 4:30pm + **Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Fridays after Daily Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Fri. & Sat. 9:30-10:30am

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Tue	February 25	9:00 am	Carolyn Curtis
Wed	February 26	9:00 am	Chris DePiazza (L)
		7:00 pm	Parishioners
Thu	February 27	9:00 am	Charles Berry
Fri	February 28	9:00 am	Virginia Royston (L)
Sat	February 29	5:00 pm	Parishioners
Sun	March 1	8:30 am	Howard Britton, Sr.
		11:00 am	Alex DePiazza (L)

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Daily Lector: J. Blackwell, B. Gallo, C. Galli, J. Blackwell

Meals on Wheels: B. Adams, V. Worch, G. Crawford

Altar Preparation: Kitton Britton



REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember our parishioners who are sick, homebound and those in the nursing homes and hospitals, and all in need of our prayers, especially those who serve our country and their families, and all who are listed in our Parish Book of Intentions.

PARISH CALENDAR		
Sun	Feb. 23	YFF (CC) 9:30am-10:45am VASMA Language Class (CC) 12pm-1pm Youth Group (CC) 5pm-7:30pm
Tue	Feb. 25	KoC Planning Meeting (CC) 6:30pm-7:30pm
Wed	Feb. 26	Mass & Distribution of Ashes(C): 9am & 7pm
Fri	Feb. 28	Bible Study (CC) 10am Fish Dinner (CC) 4pm-6:30pm Stations of the Cross (CC) 7pm-8pm
Sat	Feb. 29	Living Stations Practice (CC) 9am-10am
*C: Church, CC: Community Center		

A REFLECTION FROM A FAITHFUL STEWARD

SIR 15:15-20; PS 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 COR 2:6-10; MT 5:17-37 or 5:20-22A, 27-28, 33-34A, 37

“So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.”
Talk about setting the bar high!

This verse, at the end of today’s Gospel passage from Matthew, sets the tone for all of the readings this week. In embracing stewardship as a way of life, we have a custom-made plan that, with a big dose of God’s grace, will move us towards the holiness of life to which Christ is calling us in this verse.

Our first reading, from Leviticus, lays out this theme immediately, as God instructs Moses to tell the whole community to, “Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy.” The call to holiness is for everyone because every one of us is made in the image and likeness of an all-holy God. This call should therefore not seem strange or unattainable — on the contrary, it is a call to become our truest selves. And even in this ancient passage, we find practical instruction in how to begin to attain holiness: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.”

The first few verses of our second reading from Corinthians give a further reminder as to why we must live holy lives with this thought-provoking question, “Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” What great dignity we have as God’s own dwelling place. And what encouragement this should bring us — the call to holiness is possible because we have the Holy Spirit dwelling right within us!

The following verses from this passage show us that a life of holiness will not make sense in worldly terms, however. “If any one among you considers himself wise in this age, let him become a fool, so as to become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God.” The stewardship way of life, giving away the best of our time, our talents and treasure to God for His glory and for the sake of others, is the path to holiness. Yet, it appears utterly foolish in the eyes of many.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, our Lord takes this “foolish” concept even further with these illustrations of how we should give of ourselves and our things: “When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go for two miles.” And further still: “love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” Jesus teaches that this is the kind of action and attitude that will make us “children of [our] Heavenly Father.” This is the high bar of holiness to which our Lord is calling us.

If your lifestyle and your priorities look a little foolish to the world around you, know that you’re probably doing it right in God’s eyes. At the same time, you will be filled with a peace that the world around you desperately needs. And your stewardship way of life may just draw those around you to the heavenly Father and a life of holiness, too.

So, with God’s grace and the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, we can confidently press on in the stewardship way of life, aiming to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect. Our all-holy God desires it and deserves nothing less.

STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT			
	2/16/2020 (Week 33 of FY)	YTD Actual:	YTD Budget:
Offertory:	\$2,470.67	\$155,065.54	\$165,000.00
**E-Giving	----		
Maintenance:	\$50.00	\$22,184.00	\$20,328.00
**E-Giving	----		
Poor Box:	\$151.23	\$8,180.87	\$6,996.00
**E-Giving	----		
Donations:	\$355.00	\$36,890.43	\$36,168.00
**E-Giving	----		

***E-Giving will be reported after it is received by the parish, typically the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month.*

Thank you for your faithful Parish support.

2019 DONATION STATEMENTS

In the interest of being good stewards of our financial gifts, we do not send statements in the mail. **You can request that we print a statement for you to pick up from our office, or we can email you a copy of your statement.** If you wish to receive your statement via email, please send a request to: accounting.stgeorge.md@adw.org.

- To retrieve your electronic statement:
1. Please visit the church website (www.stgeorgerce.org).
 2. On the home page, scroll down to "Parish News"

3. Click the headline "How to Access Your 2019 Contribution Statement"
4. Follow the instructions to download your statement.

Annual Appeal

Thank you to all parishioners who made a gift to the Annual Appeal last weekend. We appreciate your support. If you did not have a chance to make your gift last weekend, or you needed more time to prayerfully consider your gift, pledge envelopes will again to available in the church this weekend, & completed envelopes can be placed in the offertory basket. You may also make your pledge online at appeal.adw.org. All questions can be answered by reviewing the pamphlets available in the vestibule. Thank you for your generous response.

CATHOLIC TEACHINGS

"The Capital Sins: (Also known as the Seven Deadly Sins) *Pride, Greed (Avarice), Lust, Anger, Gluttony, Envy, Sloth (Acedia)*

Envy

The Catechism of the Catholic Church covers envy in its section on the tenth commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's goods. "Envy is a capital sin. It refers to the sadness at the sight of another's goods, and the immoderate desire to acquire them for oneself, even unjustly. When it wishes grave harm to a neighbor it is a mortal sin: St. Augustine saw envy as 'the diabolical sin.' 'from envy are born hatred, detraction, calumny, joy caused by the misfortune of a neighbor, and displeasure caused by his prosperity.'" (CCC 2539) So envy causes us not only to desire another's possessions, it causes us to wish their destruction as well. Envy is, therefore, different from jealousy. Jealousy, while not good, can incite one to positive action, seeking to acquire a thing by just means. So envy is dangerous, indeed. The book of Wisdom says, "By the envy of the devil, death entered the world." (Wisdom 2:24) The catechism goes on: "Envy represents a form of sadness and therefore a refusal of charity; the baptized person should struggle against it by exercising good will. Envy often comes from pride; the baptized person should train himself to live in humility." (CCC 2540) And, "The tenth Commandment requires that envy be banished from the human heart." (CCC 2538) The remedy for envy is the virtue of kindness. The catechism tells us, "The Baptized person combats envy through good-will, humility, and abandonment to the providence of God." (CCC 2554) For further study: CCC 1866, 2538-2540, 2553-2554 • Wisdom 2:24 *Note: There is a perfect story of envy in 1 Samuel 18:6-9 – *Quoted from A Minute in the Church: Back to the Basics by Gus Lloyd.*

LITURGICAL NEWS

Lent begins this week! In addition to our normal devotions and liturgies, this year, we have made a few changes. Please take one of our Lenten schedules

home with you and check back here each week for reminders.

Ash Wednesday Masses:

February 26, 9:00 am & 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross:

Friday, February 28, 7:00 pm

(Confessions will be available until 8pm following Stations.)

Lenten Day of Recollection

Saturday, February 29, 2020

St. George Community Center

All are invited to join Father Paul and Deacon Joel in this special day of reflection, recollection, and reconciliation. The event is FREE and we request advance registration so that we can properly prepare lunch and materials for all. Please call the church office if you plan to attend.

Questions about "The Rules?"

Answers from the USCCB: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

PARISH NEWS

Fish Dinners begin this Friday!

To assist you in your Lenten Friday abstinence, our Knights of Columbus will once again this year offer a fish dinner on Fridays, from 4pm – 6:30pm in the Community Center. Everyone is invited to attend and all donations made help support the good works of our KoC Council.



St. Patrick's Day Dinner: Sunday, March 15, 4pm – 7pm

Back by popular demand! Don't miss this year's St. Patrick's Day dinner! We offer a variety of Irish and Irish-American dishes, (and maybe a little Guinness for an additional donation). The suggested donation is \$10/meal. Please see the flyer in the bulletin and sign up in the vestibule if you plan to attend, so that we can make sure there is enough food, plus extra for walk-ins!



“Pray for Our Seminarians”

Please take a moment today to stop by the “Vocations Tree” in the church foyer, where you’ll see cards for each of the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Washington. Choose one or more cards and pray for that seminarian each day during Lent. Make it a beautiful offering to the Lord This Lent to pray for those whom He calls to give their lives in service of His Church in our archdiocese.

FAITH FORMATION**YOUTH FAITH FORMATION (YFF) GRADES K-8**

Contact Kim Browne, kim.browne@stgeorgerc.org
Classes begin at 9:30am on Sundays for all grades!

**7th & 8th Grade: Living Stations Rehearsal:
Saturday, 2/29, 9 – 10:30am, CC ANNEX**

**FAMILY PRETZEL MAKING ACTIVITY:
Sun, March 1 at 12pm**

Join us for this special Lenten activity, especially for families!

BIBLE STUDIES

Fridays, 10am (1st Fridays start at 10:45am)
Sundays, 9:45am

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL**LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL**

Bingo every Wednesday, doors open at **5:30 pm**; early bird special starts at **6:45pm**. Cash prizes! Food and drink are also for sale.



Are you on social media? Don't forget to “like” us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/littleflowercatholic) and “follow” us on Twitter and Instagram (@LFSpatriots)!

Interested in learning more about Little Flower School? Call (301)994-0404 or check out the information online(LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

February 25, 2020: Planning Meeting 6:30pm

February 28, 2020: Fish Dinner 4pm - 6:30pm

LOCAL EVENTS**Apologetics Classes**

Apologetics class is being held in the **St. Aloysius parish hall** with Ken Scheiber **on Monday nights at 7pm**

Upcoming Topics

Feb. 24th Martin Luther from the Catholic Perspective
Mar. 2nd One Nation, Under God?
Mar. 9th How Dark were the “Dark Ages”?

**2nd District Firehouse & Rescue Squad
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

February 25, 5pm - 7pm; Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Sausage Links, and Apple Sauce; Assorted juices, milk, and coffee will be available; Cost: Adults - \$8; Children 6 – 12 \$4; Children 5 & under: free; For more info, 301-994-9999

Women’s Morning of Reflection

St. Francis Xavier Church will hold a woman’s Morning of Reflection on February 29. The theme of the morning is The Visitation: A Story of Fear, Fiat & Faith. Our guest speaker is Laura K. Roland, Catholic speaker and co-founder of Encounter Grace. Tickets are \$10 and include breakfast. Doors open at 9am, and the program will conclude by 12 noon. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://sfxmorningofreflection.evenbrite.com> Contact us at 301-475-9885 for more information

**Maryland March for Life Monday 24
February**

Join the family-friendly, peaceful, prayerful witness in Annapolis! The march originates at St. Mary’s Church and proceeds through the streets of Annapolis and ends with a Rally at Lawyer’s Mall by the State House. The Rally will serve as a visible witness in support of defending vulnerable life, and it will feature speakers from the local and national pro-life movements.

For the March, please arrive in St. Mary’s Church parking lot no later than 6:00 p.m.

4:30 Youth Rally (requires pre-registration)

5:15 Catholic Mass – St. Mary’s Church Annapolis

6:15 Assemble for March

6:30 March through Annapolis

7:00 Rally on Lawyer’s Mall

8:00 Free Food and Networking with pro-life groups back at St. Mary’s School

Visit <https://www.mdmarchforlife.com/> for more information. Contact John Cruz, 240-538-1023, to coordinate a ride to the MD March for Life.

St. Mary’s Youth Memorial Volunteer

The St. Mary’s Youth Memorial is looking for a volunteer to step forward and be our Executive Director for the St. Mary’s Youth Memorial on Route 5, in Great Mills. The Executive Director will: Write 4 - 5 total bank checks, record the names & contact information for those few patrons who donate to the Memorial each year, handle an average 1 - 2 applications for engraving deceased children’s names on headstones, & work with KoC volunteers to prepare & conduct the annual May Mass held at the Youth Memorial pavilion. An ideal volunteer would be anyone who has a place in their hearts for those special children who have died early in their lives. If interested, please contact Chuck Shilling, at 301-535-8339.