

St George Catholic Church
716 S. 3rd
Odessa, Mo. 64076

E-Mail Address stgeorgeodessa@gmail.com **Parish web address** www.stgeorgeodessamo.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Bryan Amthor 816-230-4127
 Email: frbryana@gmail.com
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 Odessa Mo

Welcome

The parishioners of St George welcome you to our parish community. If you would like to register with our parish, forms are on the kiosk, come by the parish office, 202 W. Phillips St from 10am-12noon, M-F or call 816-633-7475.

Attention:

To ensure proper reservations for all events located at any of the St George facilities and **to rent the St George meeting hall PLEASE contact Kate Root, 816-263-7598, marykroot@gmail.com** or the St George Parish Office, stgeorgeodessa@gmail.com, 816-633-7475.

Bulletin

All items for the St George bulletin should be sent to stgeorgeodessa@gmail.com or call the church office, 816-633-7475, by 10am on Tuesday.

Sexual Abuse: The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Mass Intentions

Sat	Dec 21	5:30pm	Paul & Ruth Hays by Cliff & Paula Eldred
Sun	Dec 22	8:30am	Parishioners of St George
Tues	Dec 24	5:30pm	Parishioners of St George
Wed	Dec 25	10:00am	Parishioners of St George
Sat	Dec 28	5:30pm	Rose Donald by Jill Strauser
Sun	Dec 29	8:30am	Parishioners of St George

St George: Christmas Eve 5:30pm, Christmas Day 10:00am
 No Mass on Thursday, Dec 26
 St Jude: Christmas Eve 3:30pm, Midnight Mass on Christmas Day
 No Mass on Friday, Dec 27

Schedule of Events

Sat	Dec 21	5:00pm	Confession	Church
		5:30pm	Mass	Church
		6:30pm	Parish Christmas Party	MH
Sun	Dec 22	7:45am	Confession	Church
		8:00am	Rosary	Church
		8:30am	Mass	Church
Tues	Dec 24	5:30pm	Mass	Church
Wed	Dec 25	10:00am	Mass	Church
Sat	Dec 28	5:00pm	Confession	Church
		5:30pm	Mass	Church
Sun	Dec 29	7:45am	Confession	Church
		8:00am	Rosary	Church
		8:30am	Mass	Church

Liturgical Roles

SATURDAY, December 21, 2019, 5:30pm

Reader Dave Elgin
 Server Any Available
 E. Ministers Ruth Elgin, Paula Eldred
 Ushers John Hotmer, Jerry Wade

SUNDAY, December 22, 2019, 8:30am

Reader Gerard Schulte
 Servers Jacob Tate, Lucas Tate
 E. Ministers Bob Carey, Maureen Carey
 Ushers Bill Schuler, Norm Brodeur
 Money Counters Mike Stevens, Tami Shipley

TUESDAY, December 24, 2019, 5:30pm, Christmas Eve

Reader Larry Lackamp
 Servers Any Available
 E. Ministers Julie Kurtz, Mathiew Kurtz
 Ushers Larry Lackamp, John Hotmer

WEDNESDAY, December 25, 2019, 10am, Christmas Day

Reader Dave Elgin
 Servers Kiley Thomas, Emery LaBoube
 E. Ministers Gerard Schulte, Ruth Elgin
 Ushers Dan Cobb, Phil Rucker

SATURDAY, December 28, 2019, 5:30pm

Reader Bonnie White
 Servers Any Available
 E. Ministers Ashley Boydston, Julie Kurtz
 Ushers Jerry Wade, John Hotmer

SUNDAY, December 29, 2019, 8:30am

Reader Bob Carey
 Servers Clayton Stevens, Felton Stevens
 E. Ministers Maureen Carey, Mike Stevens
 Ushers Norm Brodeur, Carl Stein
 Money Counters Toni Hellums, Bruce Hudson

St George Parish Office
202 W. Phillips St Odessa, Mo. 64076
816-633-7475

Office Hours Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 12 noon

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2019

Dear St. George and St. Jude,
 Christmas quickly approaches! Make sure to take some time to slow and soak in the loving presence of Jesus. Things will not get done. Presents will not be on time. That's OK! The first Christmas was in a barn and was perfect. So let go Let God!

A big thanks to all who came on the retreat. It was a great time and hopefully gave you some rest and led you closer to Christ.

Stay Holy St. George and St. Jude,
 Fr. Bryan

She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."
 Matthew 1:20

Annual Catholic Appeal Pledge

Please remember to make your pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal. Envelopes are available in the gathering area.

Low Gluten Hosts

Low gluten hosts are available for Communion. Please talk to Fr. Bryan for information.

Remember in Prayer

Please keep these individuals in your prayers; Elsie Rees, Catherine Royeton, Gene Early, Marjorie Anderson, JoAnn McCarty, Helen Hotmer.

**Church Cleaning
 Heavenly Dusters
 December 29
 Altar Society**

Thank you to all those who volunteer to help keep our beautiful worship space clean.

Sacrificial Offering

Envelope	\$ 1678.00
Plate	\$ 393.00
Maintenance	\$ 50.00
Christmas Raffle	\$ 30.00
Raise the Roof	\$ 3300.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 50.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Total	\$ 5521.00

**Annual New Year's Retreat:
 Making Sense of Our Crazy But Precious World
 Conception Abbey Guest Center**

37174 State Hwy V V, Conception, MO 64434,

To Register call 660-944-2809, or email guests@conception.edu.

December 30, 2019 – January 1, 2020

Explore through the eyes of St. Benedict, Pope Francis and others, the many ways Jesus said he would be with us in the midst of our world. From the insights of holy women and men down through the centuries, we can gain the help to see and apply the wisdom of the Gospel to our personal and global world. The goal of the retreat will be to find practical ways of naming and celebrating the goodness of God's love in our human experience, thus making a difference for us and those around us. Led by Father Daniel Petsche, OSB.

Treasures From Our Traditions

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a "carol" anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. "Carol" comes from the Old French *carula*, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren't for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn't make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn't admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn't make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol "Silent Night" comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church's organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the "Silent Night Memorial Chapel" at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night!

Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Emmanuel

To name someone or something means that we have a relationship with that entity. Family names identify us with our heritage; nicknames denote familiarity or a special bond. In the Old Testament, the meaning of a name ran deep. It identified one's mission, even one's very being.

The amazing name "Emmanuel" was first uttered by Isaiah as he described to the frightened King Ahaz the promised one who would come to redeem the people. Emmanuel is not a frightening philosophical name, such as Omnipotent, Omniscient, Almighty. It does not connote distance and transcendence. It does not generate reverential fear. The name Emmanuel implies closeness and intimacy and compassion. Emmanuel is the name given to the one who is coming. It means "God is with us." God is entrusted to the care of a virgin, who will bear this child. Only God would be so compassionate to draw so near, to be so available and vulnerable. Only God could love this well.

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2020 Calendars Available in the Gathering Area

The 2020 parish calendars are on the table by the front door.

Helen Hotmer's Birthday Party

Everyone is invited to a birthday party for Helen Hotmer at the Odessa Community Building on January 1 from 1pm-3pm.

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve December 24
St Jude 3:30pm
St George 5:30pm

Christmas Day December 25
St Jude Midnight
St George 10:00am

Parish Office Closed Next Week

The parish office will be closed next week from December 23 through December 27.

Amendment to Collection Summary for 12-8-19

Envelope	\$ 1810.00
Plate	\$ 298.00
Maintenance	\$ 40.00
Meeting Hall Rental	\$ 125.00
St Jude Reimbursement	\$ 3261.00
Retired Religious	\$ 1118.09
Immaculate Conception	\$ 230.00
Local Assist	\$ 5.00
Poinsettias	\$ 10.00
Christmas Raffle	\$ 20.00
Raise the Roof	\$ 3000.00
Total	\$ 9917.09



2019 Christmas Memorial Poinsettias

Elsia Farnsworth Kenneth Farnsworth Pastor Dublin Fay Farnsworth Barbara Fristoe	Stephen and Marilou Farnsworth
Mary Anna Wade Johnson Eddie Falke	Gerald and Jeanne Wade
Bob Donovan Marla Coleman	Mary Donovan
John Hellums	Toni Hellums
Joann Lomonte Warren Anna Lomonte George Lomonte Jim Cariddi Mae Cariddi	Lisa Alexander
Mary Anna Wade Johnson Ron Johnson	Carlee Joe Johnson
Don Dandurand	Jerry and Cathy Dandurand
Bud Donald Rose Donald	Jill Strauser
Eddie Falke	Elizabeth Falke
Betty Parsons Oleana Stevens	Mike and Debbie Stevens
Shirley Hotmer	John Hotmer
Eddie Falke	Phil and Jean Falke
Cecil Flynn Joe and Rowena Flynn Bill and Juanita Hart	Ruth Flynn and Kate Root

Merry Christmas to all our parishioners and many visitors.
If you are traveling we hope you have a wonderful visit with your
family and friends and a safe trip home.

Dear St. George and St. Jude,
Merry Christmas! I pray that today is a day of peace and joy for you and your families. I am
very blessed to be your pastor. I will be away with family from Christmas Day till this weekend's
Masses. Enjoy your time with family and so will I.

Stay Holy St. George and St. Jude,

Fr. Bryan

Christmas

A young mother, her eyes shining with
fatigue, who is arranging her hair; a father who
finds himself alone with his pretty wife and baby,
straightening the stable to make himself useful
in some way; shepherds who bring cheese and
perhaps also some curdled milk; sheep who look
at their shepherds while bleating; a donkey who
is eyeing his manger changed into a cradle; an
adorable swaddled baby whom one calls Savior,
Christ and Lord: This is the manifestation of the
goodness and the tenderness of God. This is the
most fantastic birth in the history of humanity,
the one which changed the face of the world!
This is how far God humbled and compromised
himself with us! This is Emmanuel!

From *God's Word Is Our Joy*, Vol. 1 by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright ©
1998, World Library Publications. p. 73

The Gift of God's Word

On this day of gifts and gift giving, it
seems appropriate that we take a moment to
reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because
it is creative, God's Word always points to its
author, always calls us to respond. Because it
is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime
with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the
immanent, the divine with the human. Because it
is graceful, God's Word establishes a relation-
ship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing
tension between the mysterious and the mun-
dane. In our liturgical celebration, this unre-
solved tension both reveals the meaning of life
for us and calls us to respond, to act upon
that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of
God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and
keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares
us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts
for others, not only at Christmas, but at every
moment of life.

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Do You Have Room?

They journeyed far, a weary pair;
They sought for shelter from the cold night
air.
Some place where she could lay her head,
Where she could give her Babe a quiet bed.
Was there no room? No corner there?
In all the town a spot someone could spare?
Was there no soul come to their air?
A stable was where the family stayed.

Do you have room for the Savior,
And do you seek Him anew?
Have you a place for the One
Who lived and died for you?
Are you as humble as a shepherd boy,
Or as wise as men of old?
Would you have come that night?
Would you have sought the light?
Do you have room?

A star arose, a wondrous light;
A sign from God this was the Holy night.
And yet so few would go to see
The Babe who came to rescue you and me.
This Child Divine is now a King.
The gift of life to all the world He brings.
And all mankind He saves from doom,
But on that night for Him, there was no
room.

Will you come tonight?
Will you seek the Light?
Do you have room?

Text: Shawna Edwards

Music: Shawna Edwards

Album: Submitted Music (1998-2006)

Composition Date: 2004

