

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 January 22, 2017

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

We are in the midst of a week dedicated—worldwide—to the concept of Christian Unity. Perhaps you have noticed prayer services and events advertised to mark this occasion. It has been 500 years since the German priest, Martin Luther, was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church due to his public dissent with Church teaching. This event, giving birth to the Lutheran Church, is recognized as the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. The ensuing fragmentation of Christian communities is the reason why we now need a week of prayer seeking to re-establish unity among Christians.

With our Godhead as the prime example of unity, One God in Three Persons, those who profess that Jesus is Lord are called to recognize that *we are one in Christ*; brothers and sisters who make up the body of Christ with Jesus as our head. Our common mission is to be leaven in the world; to bring the Good News of God's salvation to everyone. In many ways our Christian Churches do this, but the scandal of it is that we seem incapable of doing it together – *as one Church united*.

Reconciliation is the major theme of this year's Week of Christian Unity. While centuries of disagreement and even war between Christian groups is a reality, present day Christians are challenged to begin anew efforts to find common ground, to build bridges of understanding and to heal wounds of the past. With Jesus as our model, we are to welcome those who think differently than we do and embrace with love those who dislike us. It is not an easy task, but with the grace of the Holy Spirit, empowered by the love of the Father, and united with our brother, Jesus, *all things are possible*.

Sister Lori

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

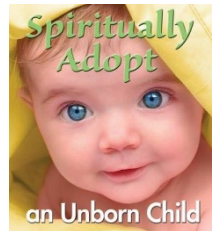
Saturday, January 21	5 pm	Marian Bull, by Pat & Jim Thoman
Sunday, January 22	8:30 am	Joseph Kupka, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
Sunday, January 22	11 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Monday, January 23	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Tuesday, January 24	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Wednesday, January 25	8 am	Communion Service & Novena
Thursday, January 26	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, January 27	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Saturday, January 28	5 pm	Joan Kazmierczak, by Jan Gawrys
Sunday, January 29	8:30 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Sunday, January 29	11 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day

**The next First Friday Mass is February 3rd at 8:00 am in the Chapel.
Confessions: Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:30 pm**

**Let us
pray for...**

Doris Ellis, Don Murray, Ann Marie Price, Ellen Nichter, Jim & Mary Ann O'Donnell, Marion Habicht, and Rita Kowalik.

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, our Social Justice/Pro-Life Committee is launching an "adoption" program for young and old alike. You'll have the opportunity to "spiritually" adopt a newly conceived child, as an individual or as a family. When you adopt, you'll be asked to name the child for whom you will be praying, thereby giving the baby the humanity he or she deserves. You'll be asked to pray for your unborn child and its mom, and for all unborn children. We'll update you monthly on the baby's development until it comes to term. There are millions of unborn babies desperately in need of your prayers.



Won't you please "spiritually adopt" one and share the love for life that God has given you?

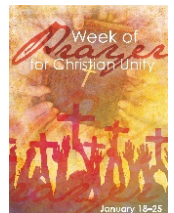


SOCIAL JUSTICE/PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING NEXT SUNDAY

Join us for an organizational meeting in the parish hall **between the 8:30 and 11 am Masses next Sunday, January 29th**. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY ENDS WEDNESDAY

Let us be mindful during the remainder of this special week, and throughout the year ahead, of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that *"they may be one so that the world may believe"* (John 17.21). May we all pray for Christian unity and strive to reconcile ourselves in Christ, because *"the love of Christ compels us."*



A TIME FOR QUIET AND PRAYER

LENTEN LONGINGS

Lent is a time to renew our faith — something that requires prayer and reflection. In a small community we can see how Jesus himself, although he was often on the move and often engaged with crowds of people, always took time for silence and prayer; we realize how important it is for us to do the same. **Lenten Longings** will provide the opportunity. Why not take the time this Lent for quiet, prayer and sharing in a small group? The change you experience will be well worth the time. **Sign-up begins this weekend in the Gathering space!** Call Kathy Kita at **652-3153** or email kckita@stgeorgercchurch.org for more information.

THEME BASKETS NEEDED FOR OUR ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST & THEME BASKET AUCTION February 5th!

Your thoughtful, generous, and creative **Theme Basket donations** contribute *immensely* to the success of this fundraiser! When yours is ready, you may leave it in the cupboard on the Rectory porch at any time.



Remember to join us on Sunday, February 5th, from **9 am - 1 pm** for a hearty and delicious breakfast of eggs, pancakes, sausage and beverage for **\$6 per adult, \$4 per child (under 10)**. *Don't miss this!* Bring your family and friends, too!

Tickets available at the door on Feb. 5th.

Volunteers are needed to serve during or clean up after the breakfast. Please sign up on the sheets at the back of the church. Thank you!

UPON THIS ROCK – COMING SOON TO OUR PARISH!



This Diocesan capital campaign is a five-year pledge drive inviting WNY Catholics to build up endowments designed to sustain essential Catholic programs and undertakings. Meant to tap into extraordinary giving resources of the faithful, *Upon This Rock* seeks NOT to diminish regular weekly or monthly Parish offerings but to request help in developing long-term funding solutions for several Catholic endeavors.

The *Upon This Rock* capital campaign is a means of strengthening our Church so that we can carry out the Lord's mission of service for years to come.

In the coming weeks, we'll be sharing more about *Upon This Rock* with you; in the meantime, visit youtu.be/q4dWx1Onpel for an overview of the capital campaign and its goals, or the UTR website at www.uponthisrockwny.org.

"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church" - Matthew, 16:18

CATHOLIC CHARITIES CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be mailed to all donors in the next week or so, if the total amount of the donation was \$250.00 or more. If you donated less than \$250.00 last year, but you would like to receive a contribution statement, you can request one by calling Catholic Charities at **(716) 218-1400**.

OUR MISSION OF MERCY We ask our St. George family to be as generous as possible, so we can fulfill our mission of mercy as we journey in faith together. Last week's offerings totaled **\$3,674.00**—thank you for your generosity. The **Bread of Life Outreach Center** also thanks you for your generous offerings totaling **\$2,540.00** so far. *If you missed the collection last weekend you can still mail your offering to the parish office or leave it in this weekend's offering basket.*

No one has ever become poor by giving. Anne Frank (1929-45)



SOCIETY FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL In this Sunday's Gospel, we find that Jesus "...proclaimed the good news of the kingdom, and cured the people of every disease and illness."

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul proclaims the good news of Jesus to those who are suffering. God bless all.

You may notice some subtle and not-so-subtle changes in our worship space and in our celebration of the Mass in the coming months. The first of these changes will be our *effort to avoid making announcements during Mass*, with the goal of sustaining the wholeness and spiritual flow of the liturgy, from Father's initial greeting through to the singing of the final hymn.



Be sure to take home the bulletin each week and read it from end-to-end, so that you don't miss any important events or news!

GIVE GREENER! Are you trying to cut down on the paper you use? Is the check you write to our parish one of the few checks that you write anymore? You can give greener by using our **Online Giving Program**. Simply go to our parish website at stgeorgercchurch.weshareonline.org and sign up in minutes. You can set up the amount that you would like to give on a schedule that meets your needs and you never have to worry about writing another check, forgetting your envelope, or having cash in your wallet.



Our parish greatly appreciates all those who choose to give in this manner, as it helps us maintain a consistent cash flow and pay all of our bills in a timely manner.

*Thank
You*

Jeanne Pepplin wants you all to know that she appreciates your caring words and prayers. The surgery was successful and no further treatment will be needed, just medication. Thank you so much!

St. George Parish **2016 Charitable Contribution Statements** have recently been mailed to everyone who made **recorded contributions** to our parish in 2016.

If you did not receive a statement, but you believe you should have, please call the office at **652-3153** or email stgeorge.wf@gmail.com.