



Welcome to St. George Church

A Parish with Spirit and Heart!

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Fr. Pascal (Pat) Ipolito, Pastor

Kathy Kita, Pastoral Associate, Director of Faith Formation

Week of January 31, 2016

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Pastor's Desk

How often have you said “I know him”, or “I can tell you stories about her.” How often has fear of what people might think or say about you kept you from speaking out in faith or on behalf of something or someone in whom you believe? We can be prisoners to how we think people will respond. We can imprison others by thinking we really know them.

Jesus' hearers think they know him and they think they know what fidelity to the Covenant means. So when he speaks boldly, using examples that stretch their preconceived understanding about God, it is too much for them. Rather than listen, they drive him out, hoping to kill him. He does not give them power by keeping silent or lashing out. He simply “passed through the midst of them and went away,” living the love described in Paul's Letter to the Corinthians.

Jeremiah spoke in the face of great odds, too. He was too young. His message, God's message, challenged the preconceptions of his day. He was tempted to throw in the towel. But God's promise to strengthen and be with him freed him to speak out, no matter the cost.

We only know partially. None of us has the big, much less the complete, picture. God's love described in today's second reading can free us from partial understandings and the prisons of fear that keep us from living our beliefs. It can free us from misconceptions about what we think we know. Step out in faith like Jeremiah. Speak with confidence like Jesus. Turn to God's love today and be free.

Loving God, you promise to be with us and deliver us. Give me trust in your promise to live my faith and witness your truth in love, surprise me!

- Describe times when you have had the courage of Jesus and Jeremiah to speak out in faith.
- How has God surprised you when you thought you knew someone or learned how the love of God transformed them?

Shalom! Fr. Pat

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 30	5 pm	To the Blessed Mother for favors received
Sunday, January 31	8:30 am	Helen Grys, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
Sunday, January 31	11 am	Isabella Robinson, by the Giallella family
Monday, February 1	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Tuesday, February 2	8 am	Mass and Blessing of Candles (Chapel) Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Wednesday, February 3	8 am	Mass and Blessing of Throats (Chapel) No Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, February 4	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, February 5	9 am	First Friday (Chapel) Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Saturday, February 6	5 pm	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Sunday, February 7	8:30 am	Marie Baker by Mary Ann Pietrzak
Sunday, February 7	11 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day

The next First Friday Mass is February 5th at 9:00 am in the Chapel.

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

Our Tuesday 8 am Mass will celebrate **The Presentation of the Lord** with the **blessing of candles**. Bring your home candles to be blessed, or make a \$2 donation for a box of two candles to be blessed. A **Wednesday 8 am Mass** will celebrate **The Feast of St. Blaise**, and will include the **Blessing of Throats**.

Let us
pray for...

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK & SHUT-INS, especially: Doris Ellis, Peter Brady, Maryanne Mueller, Michael Schafer, John Branicky, Marsha Shuler, Dorothy Knaier, Louise Zelonis, Gina Reger, Richard & Antoinette Pucillo, Joe Arcara, Lou Williams, Jeanette Dipiano, Susan Dorobiala, Judy Zielinski, Jocelyn Tragarz, Sr. Mary Dee, Allison Kruger, Sr. Mary Ellen Twist, Jill Janik, David Dobson, Colette Longboat, Kathy Grover-Castro, Jim Moeller, Jim Cafferty, Linda Bettinger, Mario Nunez, Sarah Friedhaber, Jason Estabrook, Crystal Oats, Dianne Emerling, Bill Petrie, Sophie Cook, Margo McClelland, Steve Curvin, David Kroll, Dave Isbrandt, Bill Kegler, Mike Slawinski, Bill Henning, Dolores Lewandowski, Don Murray, Faith Smith, Grace Finch, Heather Nichter, Joan Kazmierczak, Pat Whittington, John Nichter, Loretta Ellis, and Diane Washburn.

MEDICINES FOR HAITI We're collecting over-the-counter medicines for our twin Haitian parish of **St. Michael the Archangel** on the weekends of **February 6 - 7, 13 - 14** and **20 - 21**. We need **tylenol, ibuprofen, antacids, vitamins, cold and cough medicines, eye and ear drops, antifungal creams, antibiotic creams, hydrocortisone cream** and any other **new and unopened medicines. Toothbrushes and toothpaste** 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. **Thank you all for your donations; the people of our twin parish greatly appreciate your generosity.**



IT'S TIME FOR MARDI GRAS! Our **GIFT Faith Fest** is **Sunday, January 31st** from **9:30 - 10:45 am**. Masks! Bling! Drink! King cupcakes! "Laisser les bon temps rouler." (Let the good times roll!) Join our **Mardi Gras celebration** as we prepare for the season of Lent!

Thank you to the adults, teens and families who registered for *Living the Eucharist!*



Adult participants: Pick up your **resource book** and group information **this weekend** in the Gathering Space.

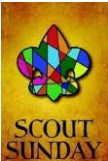
Parents: Pick up your **Home Activity Book** at the Faith Fest in the Parish Hall.

Daily devotional booklets, ***From Exodus to Easter***, are still available.

Pick up a copy today in the Gathering Space!

Living the Eucharist begins the week of **February 8th**.

Please support this ministry by *praying the Living the Eucharist prayer every day*.



SCOUTING SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND, FEB 6 - 7! **Scout Sunday** is a day to celebrate and recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. **Celebrate and honor Scouting by wearing your Boy Scout, Girl Scout or Cub Scout uniforms to Mass next weekend.** Please remember these hardworking youth and their dedicated leaders in your prayers!

» » » **CELEBRATE SUPER BOWL SUNDAY AT OUR PANCAKE BREAKFAST!** « « «



Get your tickets at Mass or at the door on Sunday, Feb. 7th!
Get ready for the big game with a hearty breakfast, and take a shot at winning one of our great **Theme Baskets**, too!



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

» » » » » **Thanks for your support of our major parish fundraiser!** « « « « «



“Like” us on Facebook, at www.facebook.com/StGeorgeWestFalls. We're on the web at www.stgeorgercchurch.org, too.

OUR MISSION OF MERCY We ask our St. George family to be generous as possible so we can fulfill our mission of mercy as we journey in faith together. **Christ be our Light.** Last weekend's offerings totaled **\$2,581.00.** *We sincerely appreciate your continuing generosity!*

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40). Today, we are reminded that Jesus identified himself with our poorest brothers and sisters. The **Catholic Relief Services Collection** serves Jesus in the victims of human trafficking, those who suffer from unjust laws, and those who need pastoral care and humanitarian assistance across the globe. Through supporting today's collection, **you help Jesus in disguise.** Please be generous.



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL In the Gospel today, Jesus show us that we are called to place gospel values before any other values and to be willing to put our lives on the line for them. Taking care of God's poor is indeed living gospel values. **In the month of January, your support enabled your Society of St. Vincent de Paul to distribute the Body of Christ in the Holy Eucharist to almost 500 individuals in local nursing homes.** *Thank you for your help and prayers. God Bless all.*



BREAD OF LIFE OUTREACH CENTER is having a **Book, Bangle and Bake Sale** on **Saturday, Feb 13th from 10 am – 3 pm.** We will have gently used books, jewelry, local artisans and crafters, vendors and baked goods! **MIKEYS BBQ** food truck will offer pulled pork, burgers and Italian sausage!

Mark your calendar and stop in for a bright break in this long winter. Interested crafters can call **June** at **536-5402.**

YEAR OF MERCY: Focus on The Corporal Works of Mercy

Comfort the Sick - This work of mercy is relatively easy to do. Shut-ins and socially isolated elderly are usually not far away. They often live just around the corner from us, or they are members of our own parish. Simply volunteer with the **Meals-on-Wheels** program and you will find them. Ask Fr. Pat or members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society to direct you toward those who need visiting in the parish. Most of all, do not forget that some of them may even be members of your own family; relatives who may be overlooked and often forgotten.



Visit those in prison – Groups such as **CEPHAS** and **HOPE** (now merged as **Peaceprints Prison Ministries**), help offenders turn their lives around.

Punishment deters and quarantines and gives criminals the opportunity to do penance, but **friendship and prayer have the capacity to reform and to heal.** A true work of mercy is done by Christians who befriend those in correctional institutions, thereby **affirming their human dignity as persons made in God's image.**

(Excerpted from www.thedivinemercy.org.) Learn more at www.yearofmercy.org.

Let's all make a concerted effort to perform these beautiful Works of Mercy.



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*(Your email address will **never** be shared or used for any other purpose without your permission.)*