



Welcome to St. George Church

A Parish with Spirit and Heart!

74 Old Glenwood Rd. West Falls, NY 14170-9704

Web: www.stgeorgercchurch.org

Email: stgeorge.wf@gmail.com

Phone: (716) 652-3153 Fax: (716) 687-1336 Faith Formation Office: (716) 652-0126

Fr. Pascal (Pat) Ipolito, Pastor

Kathy Kita, Pastoral Associate & Director of Faith Formation

Week of April 10, 2016

Third Sunday of Easter

From the Pastor's Desk

The tender dialogue between Jesus and Peter is a favorite of mine. It is the exchange two dear friends can have after one has deeply hurt the other and wonders if things can be the same. Maybe you've had a similar experience? Jesus begins: "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" Peter answers, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus asks Peter to care for his lambs. When asked a third time Peter is upset. In the original language the word for love is changed. Jesus asks for the total sacrificial love of close friends. Peter's answer reflects the love between siblings. Jesus meets Peter there, trusting that the sacrificial love originally asked for will return. Jesus' description of Peter's actions when he is older makes this clear.

In the first reading we see Peter's willingness to sacrifice. Newly out of prison, Peter proclaims Jesus, even when that could mean return to prison and death. In late 2014, ISIS beheaded four children because they would not convert to Islam. Those children said, "We love Yeshua (Jesus). We have always loved Yeshua." They witnessed to sacrificial love as modern Holy Innocents.

We might not be asked to give ourselves in physical death. I'm not sure I'd have the strength to do so. But we are asked to love Jesus totally, to feed others with forgiveness, pay attention to others' needs and "smell like the sheep." as Pope Francis often asks. We are asked to live unconditional love of God by how we try to love others. The measure of our love is to love without measure, like Jesus, Peter, and the other disciples. Love and give blessing and honor to the Risen Lamb of God forever. Amen.

Loving God, you gave yourself to us totally by becoming human. Jesus gave himself totally to us and to you by his death on the cross. You raised him from death. Raise us up and help us to love you totally by the ways in which we love our sisters and brothers.

- How do you love Jesus? As a brother, or with the sacrificial love of spouses or best friends?
- Name the ways you feed Jesus' lambs and sheep with the daily-ness of life.

Shalom! Fr. Pat

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 9	5 pm	Mary C. Spiesz, by the family
Sunday, April 10	8:30 am	In Thanksgiving for and Honoring all Fathers
Sunday, April 10	11 am	Winnifred, Ethel & Otto Martzloff, by the Estate
Monday, April 11	8 am	Loretta Ellis, by the Rosary Altar Society
Tuesday, April 12	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Wednesday, April 13	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, April 14	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, April 15	8 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day
Saturday, April 16	5 pm	Dorothy Kondziela, by the Family
Sunday, April 17	8:30 am	In Thanksgiving for and Honoring all Mothers
Sunday, April 17	11 am	Souls to be remembered from All Souls' Day

The next First Friday Mass is May 6th at 9:00 am in the Chapel.

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

*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, Judy Zielinski, Sr. Mary Dee, Jill Janik, David Dobson, Colette Longboat, Kathy Grover-Castro, Jim Moeller, Linda Bettinger, Mario Nunez, Sarah Friedhaber, Jason Estabrook, Crystal Oats, Margo McClelland, Dave Isbrandt, Mike Slawinski, Bill Henning, Don Murray, Faith Smith, Grace Finch, Heather Nichter, Joan Kazmierczak, John Nichter, Nora Vogel, Diane Washburn, Kara Stoughton, Charlotte Byrne, Tom Donner, Linda Rich, Jim Burgio, Steve Curvin, Ginny Dejonghe, Diane Marts, Dottie Gottstine, Ann Marie Price, Barbara Weeks, Robert Songin, Carl Robinson, Steve Rollins, Gary Spisak and Mary Saunders.

SAVE THESE DATES!

April 10th	11 am	Youth GIFT Mass, followed by Youth GIFT Session
April 23rd	12 pm – 6 pm	Parish Retreat with Fr. Ryszard Biernat, followed by Mass
April 24th	9 am – 1 pm	Haiti Breakfast, Theme Basket Auction & Money Raffle
May 1st	8:30 am	GIFT Family Mass, Crowning of Mary & Faith Fest!
May 15th	11 am	First Eucharist Celebration

ChurchGROWTH

- Reimagine the Parish and
Produce Intentional Disciples



ChurchGrowth: GROWING INTENTIONAL DISCIPLES

is a free two-day conference, offered at Christ the King Seminary on **Friday, April 29th, 9 am – 3 pm**, and **Saturday, April 30th, 9 am – 2 pm**. Our parish is sending a team to discover new ways to grow our faith community.

We'd love you to be a part of our group! Call Kathy Kita at **652-3153** or email stgeorge.wf@gmail.com by **April 16th** to sign up, or to learn more about it.

IT'S TIME TO SIGN UP FOR OUR PARISH RETREAT!



Join us on **Saturday, April 23rd** for an afternoon of fellowship, discovery, prayer and celebration! **Father Ryszard Biernat**, secretary to Bishop Malone, will guide our afternoon of reflection: *Imagine becoming who you are!* We'll begin with lunch at noon in the Parish Hall and conclude our retreat with the 5:00 pm Mass.

Sign up at the table in the Gathering Space today!
Registration closes April 17.

OUR ANNUAL HAITI BREAKFAST will be held **Sunday, April 24th** from **9 am – 1 pm**. Join us for a delicious French toast and sausage breakfast with basket raffles and a money raffle. The cost is **\$7.00 per adult** and **\$4.00 per child**. Proceeds will support our ongoing projects for our twin parish in Coq Chante, Haiti. **Tickets on sale April 16 - 17, or the morning of the breakfast.**



GIFT Family Mass and FAITH FEST on Sunday, May 1st!

At the **8:30 am** Mass on **Sunday, May 1st**, we will crown our Blessed Mother as the Church dedicates the month of May in her honor. Come celebrate with us and learn more about Mary's unique role in the Catholic Church.

You are cordially invited to **An Anniversary Mass in Celebration of the Memory of Father Richard Coveny** on **Sunday, May 1st** at **5:00 pm** at the **Bread of Life Outreach Center** in Colden. **Msgr. Jim Wall** and **Father Rich's family** will celebrate with us. All are welcome to attend and enjoy the celebration with song, remembrance and friendship, and a **pot luck** dinner following the Mass. For more info or to RSVP, contact **Wendy Amato** at wkca2005@yahoo.com, or **Lorena Lesniak** at LorenaLesniak@hotmail.com, or sign up online at <https://form.jotform.com/60951958116967>.



Mass Offerings Praying for family and friends (deceased *or* living) is an act of faith, hope and charity. One way you can honor your loved ones is to have a Mass offered for them on a birthday or anniversary. The customary donation (Mass stipend) is \$15 for the celebrant, but **don't let your financial status prevent you from requesting a Mass**. To schedule a Mass offering, please call the Rectory at **652-3153** or stop in during office hours.

Our **Bread of Life Outreach Center** has been offered an amazing opportunity to host the **WNY Food Bank's Fresh Food Truck** once a month on **Thursday** afternoons from **3 - 6 pm**. The truck brings perishable food products such as produce, dairy products, breads, etc. and **ANYONE** can come by and pick up these products **FREE** each month. You do **NOT** have to be part of the food pantry. We will need 5-6 dedicated volunteers to help unloading the truck, setting up tables, arranging the products and assisting in the distribution. If you or your organization (Scouts, youth groups, church organizations, book clubs, etc.) can help every month, or once in a while, please call the BOLO at **941-3550** or email us at breadoflifeoutreach@gmail.com with your name and contact information.



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. **Weekly** and **Easter** offerings combined totaled **\$3,681.00**. Offerings for **Maintenance and Capital Improvements** totaled **\$703.00**. *We sincerely appreciate your continuing generosity!*

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL In this Sunday's Gospel, the disciples in their struggle finally recognize Jesus and proclaim "It is the Lord!" ***Have you considered answering the call to "help the poor recognize the Lord in their life" by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?*** Could anything be clearer than today's direction from Jesus to St. Peter? "Feed my sheep."



BREAD OF LIFE OUTREACH CENTER is collecting **personal hygiene products for the month of April**. BOLO currently serves 70+ families through the food pantry, and ***your generous support is always very much appreciated!***

Food Pantry: Thurs. 4–6 pm, Sat. 10 am–Noon.

Gabriel's Closet: Tues. & Wed. 10 am–2 pm, Thurs. 3–6 pm, Sat. 10 am–1 pm.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2016

*By giving generously to the **Appeal**, you demonstrate that you are part of a generous community that is always there for our neighbors in need, just as St. Nicholas was for the poor and sick.*

Kindly put your pledge or donation envelope **in the offering plate, mail it in, or donate online at cwny.org/donation.**



*grateful hearts,
giving to others*
PLEASE GIVE TO THE 2016 APPEAL

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

We are so thankful for, and amazed by, your generosity!



HELP US MAINTAIN ACCURATE PARISHIONER INFORMATION

Do you have a **name, address, email address or phone number change** we should know about? *Not registered?* Kindly let us know! Call **652-3153**, email **stgeorge.wf@gmail.com**, or visit

stgeorgercchurch.org/update and fill out the online form. ***Thank you!***

REST IN PEACE, LORETTA ELLIS

Loretta passed away peacefully at her home on **Tuesday, March 22nd**, at the age of 93. She was a beloved longtime member of our parish. A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be held here at St. George at a later date. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.



OPEN HOUSE AT ST. ALOYSIUS SCHOOLS Thursday, April 21st, from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Stop in to see what **St. Aloysius Regional School** (a STREAM Academy) and **Montessori Pre-K** have to offer. For information, staloyusiusregional.com or call 592-7002.



Like us on **Facebook**, at **www.facebook.com/StGeorgeWestFalls**
Follow us on **Twitter**, too at **www.twitter.com/stgeorgewf1**

PROMISE TO PROTECT



PLEDGE TO HEAL

BELIEVE IN THE POSSIBILITY OF HELP AND HEALING. THERE IS HOPE.

Your local Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to help you or anyone who has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church. We will listen to your needs and support you.

We will help you make a formal complaint and arrange a personal meeting with the bishop, or his delegate, if desired. We encourage you to come forward and speak out.

The Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Buffalo is:

Ms. Mary Ann Deibel-Braun

Catholic Charities
3719 Union Road, Suite 214
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Report Hotline (716) 895-3010
maryann.deibel-braun@ccwny.org



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