

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 March 5, 2017

First Sunday of Lent

An often under-appreciated practice during Lent occurs during each liturgy just before the proclamation of the Gospel—a *certain joyful word* of celebration is omitted throughout the Lenten season in order to help us maintain a sober, penitential spirit as we pray. In its place, we sing or say an assortment of phrases acknowledging Jesus as our triumphant Lord and Savior. (Most common among these are: *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory* or *Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*)

The Evangelists *Matthew, Mark, Luke* and *John* provide our scriptural texts describing the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. These are known as the *Good News* or *Gospels*. These texts are the ones generally reserved for a priest or deacon to proclaim. Here at St. George Parish, we see the Book of the Gospels displayed at Sunday liturgies with great reverence. It is when the Gospel Book is opened and the Word is about to be proclaimed for our hearing that the aforementioned *joyful word* of celebration is sung, usually in some repetitive fashion.

One Church tradition refers to our omission of this joyful word during Lent as its *burial*. The word and the great joy it invokes, return (*arise*) to our celebrations when the Resurrection of the Lord himself is celebrated: at the great and saving event of Easter.

Sister Lori

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 4	5 pm	Kathryn & Helene Perreault, by Ray Perreault
Sunday, March 5	8:30 am	Dorothy Head Gates, by Glen & Cindy Weeks
Sunday, March 5	11 am	Kathy Tullar, by the Family
Monday, March 6	8 am	Grayson Taylor Wolf, by Glen & Cindy Weeks
Tuesday, March 7	8 am	Debbie Beltz, by Ann Tara
Wednesday, March 8	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, March 9	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, March 10	8 am	<i>This Mass intention is available</i>
Saturday, March 11	5 pm	Raymond & Dorothy Perreault, by Ray Perreault
Sunday, March 12	8:30 am	<i>This Mass intention is available</i>
Sunday, March 12	11 am	James & Bonnie Grubka, by Fr. Jim Wall

**Our next First Friday Mass is April 7th at 8:00 am in the Chapel.
Confessions: Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:30 pm**

LET US PRAY FOR Doris Ellis, Ann Marie Price, Ellen Nichter, Jim & Mary Ann O'Donnell, Marion Habicht, Rita Kowalik, Barb Songin and Anna & Erino Fabrizi.

LENTEN OBSERVANCES

Abstinence from meat is called for on **Ash Wednesday, Good Friday** and **all the Fridays of Lent** for those who are 14 years and older. Bishop Malone has decreed that you may switch your day of abstinence during the week of St. Patrick's Day this year!

Fasting is called for on only two Lenten days—Ash Wednesday and Good Friday—for those between 18 and 59 years of age. *Catholic fasting* is defined as taking only one full meal during the day. Two smaller meals may be taken if necessary, but snacking between meals is to be given up for the day.



The Lenten reflection and prayer booklets, ***Becoming Whole, Becoming Holy***, are available at the church entrances this weekend. Please take one home. May you be uplifted and inspired by the daily meditations the booklet provides; preparing your heart and enriching your experience of Lent!

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICES

On **Monday, April 10th**, Penance Services will be offered at **3 pm & 7 pm** at **St. Vincent de Paul Church** in Springbrook, and at **7 pm** at **Saints Peter & Paul Church** in Hamburg.

Haven't been to Confession in a while? Put your mind and heart at ease before you go, with the help of this **Confession tip sheet**: goo.gl/osyYFK.



What's the meaning of all the knots you see in our Lenten decorations around the Church and Gathering space? The knots represent our sins—the times when we “*missed the mark*” in following Jesus’ example of self-sacrificing, loving service to family, friend and stranger. *Are you tied up in knots with memories of those times?*



The penitential Lenten season is a time to deal with those sins, those knots in our lives. You're invited to take a strand of rope at the cross in the Gathering Space. Tie it in a knot and place it in the basket or at the foot of the cross. Now is the time to “*take up your cross*” and follow Jesus to freedom and new life.

**Growing
in Faith
Together**

GIFT NEWS! Next **Friday, March 10th**, the GIFT K-8 teachers and families will host a **Soup & Bread Supper at 6:00 pm**, followed by the **Children's Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm**. Come share a free supper with your parish family and join our children as they prayerfully journey to the cross with Jesus.

PRAY FOR OUR YOUTH as our they gather with hundreds of others at the *Diocesan Youth Convention* for an inspiring 3 days of prayer, faith, evangelization, and community service. Let's pray that our youth will be blessed with the discovery of how much they are loved by Christ and his church, and that their leaders will be blessed with positive energy and patience!



REST IN PEACE, BOB CHILSON Kindly pray for the family's comfort and healing as they mourn his passing. Bob's joyful spirit and presence will be missed. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. George on **Saturday, March 4th at 10 am**. More information and an online guest book are available at www.comfortfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Robert-Chilson/.

UPON THIS ROCK AND CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Please note: Your Catholic Charities donation for the 2017 Appeal can be included in your initial pledge to the *Upon This Rock* campaign this year. Your invitation to donate should come by mail in early April.

Anyone wishing to meet individually with Sister Lori to discuss the details of the *Upon This Rock* campaign is welcomed and encouraged to call the Parish Office during March (652-3153) to set up an appointment. We have been provided with carefully prepared informational packets in order to educate us about this important capital campaign initiated by Bishop Malone.

Sister Lori may also be contacted by email at sisterlori@stgeorgercchurch.org.



**WESTERN NEW YORK
CATHOLIC**

The March issue of **Western New York Catholic** is now available at the church entrances. Please take a copy home with you today. The newspaper is also available online at wnycatholic.org/documents/March2017.pdf.



OUR GENEROSITY ENABLES OUR MISSION & OUTREACH EFFORTS

What we give to our parish in our weekly offerings is our offering to God, an offering of praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings the Lord has given to us. Your generosity enables us to carry out the mission of Christ in our community, in addition to paying our parish bills. Last week's offerings totaled **\$2,710.00**. Thank you, and *God bless you for your generosity!*

God looks at the heart, not the hand—the giver, not the gift.

Thank you to everyone who recently donated medicines, medical supplies, toothpaste and toothbrushes for our twin parish of St. Michael the Archangel in Coq Chante, Haiti. **Thanks to your generosity, the medical clinic at our twin parish will be supplied with many important medicines and supplies.**



ABOUT CREMATION, FROM BISHOP MALONE

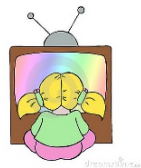
In an effort to support the teachings of Pope Francis through the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Bishop Malone has issued a reminder about the proper disposition of the cremated remains of a loved one. While not opposed to cremation the Church does recommend that cremated remains be buried or placed in a mausoleum. Catholics can request further information about cremation burial by contacting Catholic Cemeteries at **873-6500** or at www.buffalocatholiccemeteries.org.



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Lent is a call to “give alms for the poor.” Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the bell of the parish office. They are, in effect, ringing *your* doorbell.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at **652-3153** so that together we can help the suffering and poor. *God bless all.*

SUNDAY TV MASS Do you know someone who misses going to Mass because of an illness or injury? The **Diocese of Buffalo provides a televised Mass** from the **Our Lady Chapel at St. Joseph Cathedral** that airs each Sunday on WUTV-Fox channel at 7:30 am. For scheduling information, visit daybreaktv.org/Programming/SundayTelevisedMass.aspx.



THE LECTOR, EUCHARISTIC MINISTER, AND ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE FOR MARCH-APRIL is now available in the sacristy and [online](#). Please pick up or download your copy today.

COLDEN HISTORIAN TO SPEAK AT BREAD OF LIFE OUTREACH CENTER
Joe Marren, Colden Town Historian, will entertain and enlighten you with his talk on the *History of Colden*, **Wednesday, March 15th at 7 pm** at the [Bread of Life Outreach Center](#). Admission is free and *all are welcome*. Light refreshments to follow.



St. George Parish Financial Report
September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2016
Operating Budget for September 1, 2016 - August 31, 2017

	2015-2016 Actuals	2016-2017 Budget
INCOME		
Sunday & Holyday Collections	\$176,879.81	\$189,727.00
Maintenance & Capital Improvements	\$7,611.64	\$8,000.00
Initial Offering	\$324.00	\$1,000.00
Votive Candles	\$887.61	\$1,000.00
Fundraising	\$12,682.75	\$19,500.00
Flowers	\$2,207.00	\$3,000.00
Wedding & Funeral Donations	\$300.00	\$3,000.00
Donations For Use Of Property	\$483.00	\$1,050.00
Bereavement	\$1,400.00	\$3,000.00
Reimbursements	\$1,160.52	\$0.00
Donations & Bequests	\$3,384.04	\$4,500.00
Insurance	\$4,260.51	\$4,000.00
Tuition & Fees	\$1,786.00	\$2,500.00
Youth Fundraising	\$1,634.51	\$3,000.00
Catholic Education Collection	\$1,210.19	\$2,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$216,211.58	\$245,777.00
EXPENSES		
Salaries & Payroll Expenses: Clergy/Staff salaries, Clergy Retirement Fund, Diocesan Pension Plan, Payroll Taxes, SS, Medicare	\$135,088.75	\$158,745.00
Other Operating Expenses: Votives, Printing, Advertising, Fundraising, Supplies	\$23,381.22	\$18,070.00
Utilities: Gas, Electric, Water, Telephone, Internet, Property Taxes	\$11,659.94	\$11,475.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$14,072.04	\$13,506.00
Educational Assessment	\$16,830.97	\$16,221.00
Insurance	\$9,781.38	\$7,400.00
Maintenance, Repairs, Snow Removal, Equipment, Printing, Software Support	\$24,114.03	\$11,360.00
Faith Formation	\$5,622.87	\$6,600.00
Catechist/Staff/Volunteer Goodwill	\$2,874.95	\$2,400.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$243,426.15	\$245,777.00

Not included in this Operating Budget are the Special Collections on behalf of the Diocese and our Haiti Mission, St. Vincent de Paul, Bread of Life Outreach, etc. These funds are designated in their entirety for the specified beneficiary group or mission, and may not be used for operating the Parish. These special collections typically amount to \$30,000-35,000 annually, thanks to your generous hearts!

Our complete 2015-16 Annual Financial Report is available for you to review in the Parish office.



St. George Church

Lent 2017 Stations of the Cross Schedule

March 10	7:00 pm in Church <i>6:00 pm Soup & Bread Supper All are welcome!</i>	Children's Stations of the Cross Hosted by K-8 GIFT Teachers and Families.
March 17	after 8:00 am in Chapel	Hosted by Rosary and Altar Society
March 24	7:00 pm in Church	Hosted by St. George Social Group
March 31	7:00 pm in Chapel	Hosted by St. Vincent de Paul ministry
April 7	7:00 pm in Church <i>6:00 pm Soup & Bread Supper All are welcome!</i>	Shadow Stations of the Cross Hosted by Youth GIFT and their families.