

# 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, Pastoral Administrator

Rev. Msgr. Jim Wall, Sacramental Minister

**Week of December 10, 2017**

## **Second Sunday of Advent**

Occasionally I hear or see something that makes me ponder folks' understanding of the concept of God. Our Catholic understanding of God includes the fundamental beliefs that God is all-good, all-knowing, all-powerful, and ever-present; the Creator of all things visible and invisible. This is the God who loves us eternally and who has created us in God's own image. Humanity is uniquely gifted by God with the potential to be holy, like God.

I believe that the gift which makes us *most* like God is the gift of our free will. God freely chooses to love and create; God always chooses to do what is right, just, merciful and kind. Exercising our gift of free will to love and create, to do what is right, just, merciful and kind is the best way for us to give glory to God. The awesome responsibility we have is to develop our inner and outer lives to more and more reflect the goodness of God. As humans, this takes us time, requires practice, causes us suffering through errors and remains always within our choice to accept or reject God's presence.

And so we come to Advent, our journey toward Christmas. This gift of God, taking on human flesh in the Incarnation, reveals God's continuing and intense love of humanity and desire for our salvation from sin. Jesus reveals God as we Christians have come to know the Divine, as Trinity: the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit. No greater gift has ever been given at Christmas!

Sister Lori

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 9	5 pm	For the Faithful Departed
<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	8:30 am	Stephanie Jewett McCormick, by the Family
<b>Sunday, December 10</b>	11 am	Peter Kingston, by the St. George Youth Community
Monday, December 11	8 am	For the Faithful Departed
Tuesday, December 12	8 am	For the Faithful Departed
Wednesday, December 13	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, December 14	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, December 15	8 am	For the Faithful Departed
Saturday, December 16	5 pm	Jerry Castiglia, by Chester & Anna Matuszewski
Sunday, December 17	8:30 am	Dr. Richard B. McCormick, by the Family
	11 am	Janusv & Tomasz Wankowicz, by the Kalinski Family

**Our next First Friday Mass will be on January 5th at 8:00 am in the Chapel.**

**Confession: Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:30 pm in the Church.**

**Join us in praying the Rosary on Saturdays at 4:30 pm in the Church.**

**LET US PRAY FOR...** Doris Ellis, Don Murray, Sally Denesha, Jeanne McIntyre, Joe Arcara, Sally Tanner, Daniel Sojka, Merle Parker, and Stan Kociszewski.

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION TODAY

**Help care for elders.** *"Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders,"* writes a religious sister. Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs. Please give generously.



## ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY CHRISTMAS SALE NEXT WEEKEND—DECEMBER 16 - 17!



Besides delicious baked goods we also have **Gift Jars**, which make *great last-minute gifts for friends, teachers, coworkers*, etc. Choose from a variety of dry mixes for **Soups, Cookies, and Hot Chocolate!** Proceeds of the sale are used to purchase necessities for the chapel and church.

**(ATTENTION BAKERS, all donations gratefully accepted!)**

**CHRISTMAS CHOIR!** Singers and instrumentalists are invited to help celebrate Our Lord's birth as part of a Christmas Choir. We'll celebrate two Masses on **Christmas Eve at 5 pm and 10 pm** and one Mass on **Christmas Day at 10 am.** *We will practice the music for these Masses on **Tuesdays, December 12th and 19th, from 7-8:30 pm** in Church.* All are welcome.



## PLEASE RETURN YOUR GIVING TREE GIFTS BY SUNDAY MORNING!!



Your gifts will be given to grateful recipients at **Gerard Place, Harvest House** and the **Bread of Life Outreach Center**. Thank you!

**NOTE:** The **Christmas tree** and **stocking** gift tags require that the gift be **unwrapped** with the gift tag attached to it. **Angel** tag gifts should be **wrapped** with the tag attached, please.

## FAITH FEST INITIATIVE—COLLECTING SWADDLING BLANKETS

From **December 3 – 17** we ask you to help us collect swaddling blankets "to keep baby Jesus warm". We will be donating the blankets to the **Mother Theresa Home**. Please place your baby blanket donations in the baskets at the church entrances by **December 17th**, so we can deliver them in time for Christmas. *We understand the financial demands of the Christmas season. Please donate only if your budget allows. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.*



## NEW! SCRIPTURE SHARING WITH FATHER JIM—MONDAYS AT 9 AM



Father Jim would like to share the Sunday scripture readings with interested parishioners each week on Monday morning at 9 am in the Parish Office. Using both the scripture readings and the commentary given in ***The Cultural World of Jesus*** book, a forty-minute to one hour-long gathering is planned for **9 am** on the following **Mondays: December 11 and 18; January 8, 15, 22 and 29.** *No reservation is needed – just show up!*

## MEN'S GROUP INAUGURAL MEETING—SATURDAY DECEMBER 16TH

**Matt Boyle** and **Paul Kalinski** would like to form a men's group that would meet early on **Saturday mornings in the Parish Hall**, to share some coffee and scripture reading before the *busy-ness* of the day begins. If you're interested, meet them **Saturday, December 16th at 8:30 am** in the Parish Hall kitchen.



*And the  
Winners are...*

**HAITI CLEAN WATER RAFFLE** winners were **Paula Bolender - \$100, Eileen Needham - \$250, and Kathleen Springer - \$500. Ken Osborn** won the beautiful quilt made by **Carol Prubucki**. *Congratulations! Our grateful thanks to all who supported the raffles.*

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK** Father Jim will anoint the sick immediately **after the conclusion of the 11 am Mass** next **Sunday, December 17th**. All who bear illness of any kind are welcome to receive the special grace of the sacrament of anointing.



**SEEKING WARM WINTER GEAR DONATIONS** Winter hats, scarves and mittens for men, women and children in need are now being collected at the **Colden Market Café** in Colden. Donated items will be given to local families prior to Christmas to help them stay warm through the winter.



**Give online  
with WeShare!**

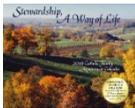
**BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS OFFERINGS** which allow us to do so much good for our parish and our community! **Sunday and Holy Day** offerings last week were **\$3,665.00** and offerings for **Maintenance & Capital Improvements** totaled **\$708.00**. Your offerings for our annual Appeal for the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** now total **\$2,506.00!** *Thank you so much!*

**ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ADVENT FAITH FEST!**

*Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Advent Faith Fest last Sunday.* Remember to join us for Mass every week so that you can collect the remaining Advent candles for your wreaths! And be sure to mark your calendar for our **Epiphany Faith Fest**, which will be on **January 7th**, from **9:40 – 10:50 am** in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome!



**Cheryl Calire** spoke at our Faith Fest about the **Mother Teresa Home** in Buffalo. Visit the home's website to *learn more about the great work they do to help unsupported/unplanned pregnancies*, and how we can support the home: [www.buffalodiocese.org/mother-teresa-home](http://www.buffalodiocese.org/mother-teresa-home).



**2018 CALENDARS** are available at all entrances—please take one or several home with you! **Our sincere thanks to Kenneth Howe Funeral Home** for their gracious gift of the calendars every year!

**READINGS FOR  
December 17, 2017**

Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28



**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES** will be offered on **Monday December 18th at 3 pm & 7 pm** at Annunciation Church in Elma.



**BUTTER DONATIONS FOR BOLO**

The **Food Pantry** at **Bread of Life Outreach Center** would greatly appreciate your donations of **butter** to help meet the extra demand for this item during the holidays. Canned soups are still most welcome, too. Stop in anytime the Center is open and a volunteer will ensure that your butter donation is promptly refrigerated. **We're open Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10 am - 2 pm, Thursdays 3 - 6 pm, and Saturdays 10 am - 1 pm.**

**OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS ARE AVAILABLE** on the table at the back of church, for **\$1** each. The breaking of the Christmas wafer is a custom that began in Poland in the 10th century and is practiced by people of Polish ancestry around the world. It is considered the most ancient and beloved of Polish traditions. (Source: [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org))



**ST. GEORGE ROSARY ALTAR  
CHRISTMAS SALE**

**DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**

**After all Masses**



**BAKED GOODS**

**CRAFTS**

**Gift potholder & scrubby**

**MICROWAVE CORN BAGS**

**(RELIEVES PAIN, STRESS AND ANXIETY)**

**JARS WITH SOUPS, COOKIES, AND  
OTHER VARIETIES.**

**QUARTS \$8.00 PINTS \$6.00**

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST THE KING SEMINARY**

**Housekeeping Position**

Part-time housekeeping position available immediately at Christ the King Seminary. 24-30 hours per week. Includes laundry, cleaning and maintenance of all campus facilities. Must be physically able to meet the demands of the position. Previous professional housekeeping experience helpful. Email [nehlers@cks.edu](mailto:nehlers@cks.edu) or call **655-7085**.

**Maintenance Position**

Full-time maintenance position available immediately at Christ the King Seminary. This is an entry-level position performing a wide variety of tasks in the maintenance and repair of campus buildings and grounds. Must be physically able to meet the demands of the position. Email [nehlers@cks.edu](mailto:nehlers@cks.edu) or call **655-7085**.



The **Bread of Life Outreach Center** has been nominated for the **2018 Springville Area Chamber of Commerce (SACC) Non-Profit of the Year** award, and we need your help to support our nomination by casting a vote. Submit your vote electronically by completing the form on SACC's website, found [here](#).

The next ***Meditation & Yoga as Christian Spiritual Practice*** class at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Lancaster will be held on **Tuesday, December 12 from 7 to 8 p.m.** in the Parish Center at St. Mary's Elementary School, 2 St. Mary's Hill (Aurora and St. Joseph Streets). **Additional upcoming classes will be held on the following Tuesdays: December 26, January 9 and 23, and February 13 and 27.**

