

# Welcome to St. George Church

## *A Parish with Spirit and Heart!*



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

Web: [www.stgeorgercchurch.org](http://www.stgeorgercchurch.org)

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Parish Office: (716) 652-3153

Fax: (716) 687-1336

Sr. Lori High, SSMN, Pastoral Administrator

Rev. Msgr. Jim Wall, Sacramental Minister

Week of December 24, 2017

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Scriptures tell us that *"in the fullness of time"* Jesus was born. We modern folks might have a problem accepting the notion of life 2000 years ago being the *fullness* of time! Nevertheless, somehow the arrival of Jesus is proclaimed as the fullest moment of history! This is best understood with eyes of faith and hearts confident in the love of God.

Our celebration of Christmas is a celebration of the faith which holds that all things prior to the Christ event were *leading up to it* and all things since have *flowed from it*. It is a perspective on history that finds us wrapped up in a cosmic dance centered on Jesus, the Christ! People of faith continue to grapple with ways to understand God as the center of all things. Humanly, we often get that confused by thinking that we are the center of reality or that we have some huge intellectual advantage over all other things.

Christmas can help us gain a foothold on knowing Jesus as the Alpha and the Omega...the beginning and end of all creation. Hopefully the mystery of this tiny God-child and the story of his life, death and resurrection will dawn ever more clearly in our hearts and in our world in the coming year! **God bless us every one!**

Sister Lori

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 23	5 pm	Walter & Louise Kupka, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
<b>Sunday, December 24</b>	<b>10 am</b>	Fr. Eric Sikora, by Mary Ann Pietrzak
<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>		
<b>Sunday, December 24</b>	<b>5 pm</b>	Joseph & Eleanor Diggins & children, by the Estate
<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>	<b>10 pm</b>	Raymond Gates, by Glen & Cindy Weeks
<b>Monday, December 25</b>	<b>10 am</b>	Dorothy Dolce, by Frank & Louise Dolce
<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>		
Tuesday, December 26	8 am	For the Faithful Departed
Wednesday, December 27	8 am	Communion Service and Novena
Thursday, December 28	8 am	Communion Service
Friday, December 29	8 am	For the physical and spiritual well-being of Noel Bartlo, by Fr. Jim Wall
Saturday, December 30	5 pm	Lorren DeWitt, by Debbie & Tony Stellrecht
Sunday December 31	8:30 am 11 am	Joseph & Eleanor Diggins & children, by the Estate

**Our 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, Stan Kociszewski and Barb Songin.

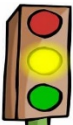


**Mass Offerings** Praying for relatives and friends is an act of faith, hope and charity. One way you can honor your loved one, living or deceased, is to have a Mass offered for them. A \$15 Mass stipend donation for the celebrant is customary. To schedule a Mass, please email [stgeorge.wf@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorge.wf@gmail.com) or call the parish office at 652-3153.

**Many thanks to all who donated baked goods, worked at the sale table or purchased goods during our annual Rosary Altar Christmas Sale** last weekend. Our profit was **\$626!**



The proceeds of our sales are used to purchase items for the church and chapel such as Altar linens and banners. We also donate funds to our missions in Kenya and Haiti, Harvest House, Catholic Charities, and other needs that the Rosary Altar Society votes on.



**WAIT**

*It's getting close.* The temptation is to hurry Christmas. Although we can't control how our culture celebrates the time before Christmas, we can keep Advent in our own home by teaching our children the value of delayed gratification. **Wait** for the party, to light the tree, to open a present...

## OUR HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

**Fourth Sunday of Advent:** Saturday, Dec. 23 at 5 pm

Sunday, Dec. 24 at 10 am

**Christmas Eve:** Sunday, Dec. 24 at 5 pm & 10 pm

**Christmas Day:** Monday, Dec. 25 at 10 am

**New Year's Day:** Jan. 1 at 10 am

## CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETS ON SATURDAY MORNINGS



**Matt Boyle** and **Paul Kalinski** have launched a *Catholic Men's Fellowship* group that will meet **every Saturday morning** from **8:30-9:30 am** in the **Parish Hall kitchen**, to share some coffee and scripture reading before the *busy-ness* of the day begins.

If you're interested in joining them, simply show up next Saturday. Contact **Matt Boyle** at [his.t.his.victory15@gmail.com](mailto:his.t.his.victory15@gmail.com) or **Paul Kalinski** at [kalinskip@gmail.com](mailto:kalinskip@gmail.com) with questions.

**HAITI CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS** are available on the Haiti card rack in the back of the church. Please consider giving Haiti Christmas Gift Cards to family and friends, which will also provide families at our twin Haitian parish with gifts of **farm animals, water purifiers, school tuition, medicines** and **sanitation facilities**. The people of our twin parish will benefit greatly from these gifts. *Thank you for your generous support.*



## SCRIPTURE SHARING WITH FATHER JIM—RESUMES MONDAY, JANUARY 8TH



Plan to join Father Jim in sharing the Sunday scripture readings on **Monday, January 8th** 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: January 8, 15, 22 and 29.** *No reservation is needed – just show up!*

## UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION ONLINE

Do you have a **name, address, email address** or **phone number change** we should know about? Please let us know!

Visit [stgeorgercchurch.org/update](http://stgeorgercchurch.org/update) and fill out the online form.

**Not registered with our parish?** Please call the office at **652-3153**, stop in during office hours, or email [stgeorge.wf@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorge.wf@gmail.com).



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SWADDLING BLANKET DONATIONS!!

A big "**Thank You**" to all who donated swaddling blankets to the **Mother Theresa Home**. We delivered more than 24 blankets, and the home was very grateful.

*The Faith Formation team wishes you a very Merry & Blessed Christmas!*

## 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 **\$2,606.00**. Offerings for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** now total **\$2,561.00**. *Thank you so much!*



Make a donation anytime at [stgeorgercchurch.weshareonline.org](http://stgeorgercchurch.weshareonline.org).



*Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during a night of the year when darkness is the longest. **Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul shine brightly in the hearts of those living in the darkness of poverty, revealing the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas.** *The Peace of Christmas be with you. God bless all.**

**BREAD OF LIFE OUTREACH CENTER** needs canned soups, pasta and sauce, and cereals for the Food Pantry. You may place your donations in the baskets in the Gathering space at church, or bring them to BOLO during regular hours. ***Did you know?*** The Food Pantry is a member of the Food Bank of WNY. Qualified individuals and families can receive food as well as a clothing allowance for Gabriel's Closet.



**Food Pantry:** Thurs. 3–6 pm, Sat. 10 am–1pm.

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

### READINGS FOR

***The Holy Family of Jesus,  
Mary & Joseph***  
**December 31, 2017**

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3 (17B)

Psalms 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Luke 2:22-40

**BARGAIN HUNTING?** When you're out shopping for Christmas and post-Christmas bargains, perhaps you might keep in mind our need for **Theme Baskets** throughout the year?



Our next Theme Basket auction will be held in conjunction with the **Super Bowl Sunday Pancake Breakfast on February 4, 2017**. *Save the Date!*

**CANCELLED**

**EMERGENCY CLOSING & CANCELLATION** notices will always be emailed to our parish email subscriber list and published to our social media sites. We also publish notifications to the local TV stations as soon as possible.

**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!



**2017 Charitable Contribution Statements** will be mailed *by the end of January* to everyone who made **recorded** contributions to our parish in 2017.



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](#).

### **RETRouvaille: Help For Your Marriage**

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times. For more info call **(716) 474-9371** or visit [www.MarriageSaved.com](http://www.MarriageSaved.com). All calls are confidential and pre-registration is required. Next weekend is **January 19-21, 2018**.

## **Meditation & Yoga As Christian Spiritual Practice**

*Prayer ... Meditation ... Music ... Scripture ... Yoga*



**Tuesdays from 7 - 8 p.m.**

*Upcoming Dates:*

*December 12 & 26, January 9 & 23*

*February 13 & 27, March 13 & 27*

**St. Mary's Elementary School - Parish Center**

**Taught by Registered Yoga Teacher Jane Schmitt**

**Free of Charge**

***Donations to St. Mary's Parish are Accepted***

**Multi Level**

***For Participants from Beginners to  
Experienced Yoga Students***

**• Yoga as Moving Prayer**

**Ending with Relaxation and Meditation**

**• Achieve Tranquility**

**Focus on Inner Peace & Listening to God's Word**

***No Preregistration Necessary***

***Please note: If Lancaster schools or after-school/evening events are canceled due to inclement weather, these classes also will be cancelled.***

***For more information, please call (716) 683-6445, X 24 or  
visit [www.stmarysonthehill.com](http://www.stmarysonthehill.com).***