

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 31, 2017

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Hopefully our extremely cold weather has not caused too much discomfort to you and yours these days. Without entering into the effects of climate change, thinking about the cold helps me remember why we celebrate Christmas at this time of the year. Folks living before electricity and technological advances were keenly attuned to the earth's natural cycles. They actually noticed the difference in daylight as the winter solstice (December 21) approached and passed.

As faith in Jesus developed and theologians attempted to describe the indescribable reality of God made flesh, they searched the Scriptures and nature for helpful images. *Jesus, the Lamb of God*, uses a major Jewish image of sacrifice and salvation from sin. *Jesus, the Light of the World*, recognizes the ancients' respect for and reliance upon the gift of simple daylight.

When Church Fathers wanted to set up a liturgical calendar of worship events, the winter transition from darkness to renewed light seemed most fitting. By December 25th, the incremental shift from shorter days to longer days could be noticed following the solstice. It conveyed hope for better days and the possibility life and freedom. **Jesus, the Light of the World**, is our hope for the blessings of life, love and peace in the New Year! Sister Lori

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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| Saturday, December 30 | 5 pm | Lorren DeWitt, by Debbie & Tony Stellrecht |
| Sunday, December 31 | 8:30 am | Joseph & Eleanor Diggins & children, by the Estate |
| | 11:00 am | Josephine Tracy, by the Tara family |
| Monday, January 1, 2018 The Solemnity of Mary | 10 am | The Four Intentions of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, by the St. Vincent de Paul Society |
| Tuesday, January 2 | 8 am | For the departed of our St. George faith community |
| Wednesday, January 3 | 8 am | Communion Service and Novena |
| Thursday, January 4 | 8 am | Communion Service |
| Friday, January 5 First Friday | 8 am | Marie Daniels, by Glen & Cindy Weeks |
| Saturday, January 6 | 5 pm | Tom and Chris Alabiso, by the Kita Family |
| Sunday January 7 The Epiphany of the Lord | 8:30 am | For peace in the world |
| | 11 am | For our St. George faith community |

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, and Stan Kociszewski.

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!*

CONFIRMATION ENROLLMENT SESSION SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

The enrollment session for **Candidates, Parents, and Sponsors** will be held on **Saturday, January 6th from 12:30 to 3:00 pm** in the Parish Hall.



Please keep our candidates and their families in your prayers at this special time of discernment in the Faith Journey. Prayer cards with a special prayer for our candidates are available by the “Youth” Board in the Gathering Space.

Schedule

The **Lector, Eucharistic Minister and Altar Server Schedule** for January and February is now available in the sacristy and **online**. Please pick up or download your copy today.

Thank you for giving so generously of your time and talent!

OUR EPIPHANY FAITH FEST IS NEXT SUNDAY!

Come celebrate the **Feast of the Epiphany**, also known as **Three Kings Day**, on **January 7th** from **9:40 - 10:50 am** in the **Parish Hall**. You'll learn more about this feast day and enjoy a pageant performed by the children of our parish. *We look forward to having you with us for our second community Faith Fest of the Church year, and sharing some refreshments as well!*



Thank you for your kind Christmas and New Year wishes and gifts to us! We feel greatly blessed to have your support and your affection, and we pray for your peace, joy, and comfort in God's love, today and throughout the New Year.

Sister Lori, Father Jim and the Parish staff.

OUR ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST & THEME BASKET AUCTION IS FEB. 4TH!

Plan to join us on **Superbowl Sunday, February 4th**, from **9 am - 1 pm** for a hearty and delicious breakfast of eggs, pancakes, sausage and beverage. Tickets will be available at the door.



We need Theme baskets. Your basket donations may be left at the back of church, or in the tall brown cupboard on the porch of the Parish Office at any time. **Can you help with the breakfast? Volunteer sign-up sheets** will be at the back of church next weekend.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS this year now total **\$907.00!**

Thank you for remembering and honoring your loved ones through your gracious donations and intentions. *Our worship space is especially glowing with nature's warmth, color and fragrance this Christmas season!*

UPCOMING NOTABLE DATES

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Jan. 6 | 12:30 - 3 pm CPS Confirmation Session (Parents, Candidates & Sponsors) |
| Jan. 7 | 9:40 am Epiphany Faith Fest |
| Jan. 14 | 12:30 - 3:30 pm Youth Session |
| Jan. 18 | 7 pm Parish Council Meeting |
| Feb. 4 | 9 am - 1 pm Pancake Breakfast & Theme Basket Auction |
| Feb. 14 | Ash Wednesday: 8 am Mass and 7 pm Communion Service |



The **January** Parish Calendar is now available at the Church entrances. Take a copy home with you today, or download it [online](#).

YOU HELP US FULFILL OUR MISSION OF MERCY



We are so grateful for you, our St. George parish family, and for the gifts which you share with us. Your generosity enables us to support and expand our community outreach and lifelong faith formation efforts as we journey in faith together.

Sunday and Christmas offerings last week were **\$5,355.00**. Offerings for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** now total **\$2,721.00**. *Thank you so much!*

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything, and may provide in abundance for every good work, 2 Corinthians 9:8

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Peace, health, and happiness to you in the New Year. *Thank you for your generosity, and God bless.*



READINGS FOR January 7, 2017 The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6 (20ABC)
Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12



A REMINDER

The **Holy Day** Mass celebrating the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**, will be celebrated in Church on **Monday at 10 am**.

The Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2018.



YOUTH MATTERS: COLLECTING WINTER GEAR

Our Youth Community is collecting **new or gently used gloves, hats, scarves, winter jackets and boots (all sizes)** for the next 2 weekends. In this extreme cold weather, warm clothes are in great demand for our brothers and sisters in need. The Youth will sort and box the donated items at their next session on January 14th. *Please place your donations in the "Youth" can in the Gathering Space. Thanks!*

Did you know? All meetings and events are in our parish Calendar online.

Visit www.stgeorgercchurch.org/calendar.

Have an event to submit? Call **652-3153** or email stgeorge.wf@gmail.com.



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 Saturday at 8:30 am. Contact **Matt Boyle** at his.t.his.victory15@gmail.com or **Paul Kalinski** at kalinskip@gmail.com with questions.