

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun Sept 17 Youth Faith Formation **9:30 AM**, CC
 Sun Sept 17 9th Gr. Confirmation Class, **3:30pm**, CC
 Wed Sept 20 Cantor/Choir Rehearsals, **6:30/7 PM**, C
 Sat Sept 23 Rosary Devotion, **4:30 PM**, C
 Sun Sept 24 Youth Faith Formation **9:30 AM**, CC
 Sun Sept 24 Coffee & Faith Talk, **9:45 AM**. CC
 Sun Sept 24 9th Gr. Confirmation Class, **3:30pm**, CC
 Sat Sept 30 Altar Server Training, **9-10-30AM**, C

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue Sept 19 9:00 am James W. Robison
 Wed Sept 20 9:00 am Bridget Ventrelli (L)
 Thu Sept 21 9:00 am Jack Kenny and Basia Bartczek (L)
 Fri Sept 22 9:00 am Clifton Earl Haynes
 Sat Sept 23 5:00 pm Robert & Dorothy Blackwell Family
 Sun Sept 24 8:30 am Gertrude Britton
 Sun Sept 24 11:00 am Charles "Chuck" Patton

Openings for weekday (9:00 AM) Mass Intentions are Oct. 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20.
Flowers for the altar opening: Oct. 7/8.
Please call the church office if you wish to reserve a date. (301-994-0607)

Flowers on the altar September 9/10 were in memory of Charles Adams, Sr., gift of his wife, Dora.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tue Sept 19 St. Januarius
Wed Sept 20 Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon & Paul Chong Ha-Sang and Companions
 Thu Sept 21 St. Matthew
 Sat Sept 23 St. Pius of Pietrelcina

Weekday Liturgical Ministers

Daily Lector: J. Blackwell, T. Buckler, C. Galli, D. Orwig
Meals-on-Wheels: B. Adams, M. Springer, K. Raley
Altar Preparation: K. Britton

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS



Please remember the sick of our parish, and all in need of our prayers, especially those who serve our country and their families, and all who are listed in our Parish Book of Intentions.

New registrations are always welcome. Please use the on-line census by going to our website (www.StGeorgeRCC.org) and following the links. Forms for this purpose are also in the rack in the church front entrance for those who are not able to use a computer.

Help us keep our parish records up to date. If you have recently changed your mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, or plan to be away temporarily, please use the on-line census by going to our website (www.StGeorgeRCC.org) and following the links.



We welcome Father Walter Gus Gordon ("Fr. Gus") to our parish. Father Gus is visiting us this weekend to share with us his ministry with *Food For the Poor*, a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

STEWARDSHIP – FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

	9/10/2017	9/11/2017	
General Collection	\$3789.00	\$5506.36	-\$805.36
E-Giving (Weekly)	\$912.00	----	
Identifiable Gifts	123	114	+9
Maintenance	\$205.00	\$795.00	-\$590.00
Poor Box	\$111.51	\$195.05	-\$83.54
Donations	\$200.00	\$295.00	-\$95.00

Thank you for your faithful weekly parish support.

Notice to E-Givers:

The parish has now printed recyclable giving cards for you to place in the collection basket. You are welcome to pick some up and use these if you wish to cancel the ones the company sends you. E-Giving cards can be found in the small wooden rack across from the Calming Room.

The Take-Away message(s) in Sunday's readings:

The theme throughout today's readings from Holy Scripture has to do with forgiveness. We must always appreciate that forgiveness is a two way street. We need to seek forgiveness as all of us are likely to do. However, forgiveness is also something we need to grant to others.

Some scholars consider Matthew's Chapter 18 from where our Gospel Reading comes today as perhaps among His most personal teachings to His disciples and others as spiritual leaders. There is no question that the Lord is in the process of preparing His followers for the time when they (we) must continue His Kingdom without His physical presence. He is trying to build up the sense of fellowship and cohesion among His flock.

Thus, He focuses on how to build up cooperation and unity in those who work to build His Kingdom. He makes it clear that for us to accomplish that requires forgiveness and reconciliation. The lesson for us is quite basic: we need to know and appreciate and understand the grace of Jesus and respond by learning how to forgive our sisters and brothers.

Christ always forgives us if we come to Him with a humble and repentant heart, and He expects the same from us. We need to forgive others just as we are forgiven. As Jesus warns us in today's Gospel: "So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother (and sister) from your heart."

OUR PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Y. F. F. Classes Sunday Mornings
9:30 – 10:45 AM in Community Center

Confirmation Class meets Sundays, 3:30-4:45 PM
until Confirmation, Sunday, October 29, 2017

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Mr. Adam Dean, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*

Mark your calendars!

On October 8, following the 11am Mass, the Youth Group will host a family lunch and a variety of Minute to Win It activities. All families with youth, grades 6 and up are invited to participate. Kids vs Parents! Who will win? Please email YouthGroup@stgeorgerc.org or call the parish office so that we get an idea of how many will attend. (301-994-0607)

ALL YOUTH GRADE 6 & ABOVE ARE ALWAYS INVITED!

OUR PARISH NEWS



Our PARISH Picnic
Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017
12:30 – 3:30pm
Cecil Park, Valley Lee



Church Picnic



St. George Biennial
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, November 25
Community Center

All craft donations must be at Church by November 16. Please email bazaar@stgeorgerc.org or call the parish office at (301) 994-0607.

Parish Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. John Paul II, and Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

Save the Date: **December 9th**, the Parish along with the Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Pilgrimage to the John Paul II Shrine in Washington DC. This Advent Pilgrimage is open to all, so save the Date and join Father Paul on this Pilgrimage. More information to come...

Dinner Theaters to return this year!

Our first Dinner Theater will take place on **November 5, 2017 at 6:30pm**. The theme will be Jazz/Folk Music, and Mr. Adam Dean will prepare the meal, with the assistance of the Youth Group. We are seeking volunteers from the parish to perform. If you are interested in performing, please email Barbie Carpenter (music@stgeorgerc.org) no later than September 30 to let her know how many and what pieces you would like to do. We will need lots of pieces, as the format for this dinner will be more club style than theater style, and we'd like the music to simply continue throughout the evening without pause.

Altar Server Training:

Deacon Joel will offer training for those wishing to become Altar Servers at St. George. Potential servers should be in grade 4 and over.

Training will take place as follows:

Saturday, September 30, 9-10:30am
Saturday, October 7, 10:30am – 12pm
Saturday, October 14, 9-10:30am
Saturday, October 21, 9 – 11am, followed by a
Pizza Party in the Community Center

Current servers must attend the October 14 and October 21 workshops.

Those wishing to become servers are expected to attend all four.

Please email or call the parish office to confirm your attendance: Deacon.Joel@stgeorgerc.org, 301-994-0607.

If you wish to serve, but have conflicts, please contact Deacon Joel any way to see when he is available.

From our mailbox . . .

"The family of Charles F. Norris is deeply grateful to all who sent expressions of kindness, prayers, food, and sympathy at the time of his illness and death. Thank you for your loving concern.

Sincerely, Agnes Norris "

OUR REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL

Bingo - Every Wednesday, doors open at **5:30 pm**; early bird special starts at **6:45pm**. Cash prizes! Food and drink will also be for sale.

Are you on social media? Don't forget to "like" us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/littleflowercatholic) and "follow" us on Twitter and Instagram (@LFS patriots)!

Box Tops and Campbell's Soup labels are always needed and appreciated - used for extra supplies.

Interested in learning more about Little Flower School? Email (LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org) or call (301)994-0404 today to schedule a tour.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

Fr. Sebastien De Rose Council #13091

Grand Knight, Christopher A Wilcox
CWILCOX@MD.METROCAST.NET

Annual Car Raffle – See a Knight to purchase chances for the October 7, 2017 raffle - \$1.00/chance; 6 for \$5.00.

The eMembership initiative is now live, inviting you, Catholic men to join the Order online. Visit us at www.KofC/joinUs.

Aqua Squares and the Fr. DeRose Council of the Knights of Columbus thanks all St. George Parishioners for your support of the Spaghetti Dinner & Square Dance last month.

Want to learn more? Aqua Squares is hosting an Open House in Lusby, MD on Friday, September 22. Contact Jim Cooney at 240-925-4242 or jimcooney13@gmail.com.

SAVE YOUR USED WINTER COATS

As you buy new fall/winter coats, please save your used fall/winter coats for the St. George Coat Drive to be held the weekend of **4-5 November** (POC Dennis Hackathorn 301-994- 9673).



NEWS IN OUR AREA

Mon., Sept. 18 Monthly Mass with Eucharistic Adoration and Healing Prayers, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lexington Park. Confessions: **6:30 PM**; Mass, **7:00 PM**. Info 301-863-8144.

Thur., Sept. 21 Theology Over Dinner, Camp Maria Retreat Center, 41290 Camp Maria Rd., Leonardtown, Dinner: **6:00 PM**, Talk **7:00 PM**. Speaker Msgr. Stephen J. Rossetti.: "Spiritual Warfare and the Role of the Laity." RSVP to Camp Maria necessary for Dinner (\$15.). 301-475-8330.

Sun., Sept. 24 Country Fixin's Dinner, Sacred Heart Church, La Plata, MD, 12:00-5:00 PM. Fried chicken, baked ham, parsley potatoes, green beans, corn pudding, fried apples, spiced beets, pickled cucumbers, rolls, butter. \$20/dinner (All you can eat – Eat-In only) Drive-Thru carryout: meal or bucket \$14. Children 6-12 yrs. \$8. Info: 301-934-2261.

Sun., Oct. 8 Annual Blessing of the Fleet, St. Clement's Island. Mass at 3:00 PM. Transportation provided from St. Clement's Island Museum at Colton's Point. Info: 301-481-2801.

Your future awaits at St. Mary's Ryken!

Parents and 8th grade students are invited to an information session to learn about the St. Mary's Ryken Application Process. Meet the admissions team and learn about the admission process and timeline, scholarship application process, High School Placement Test and financial aid.

Catholic School Families: Tue., Sept. 26 6:30 – 7:30p.m., Romuald Hall. **Public/Non-Private School Families: Wed., Sept. 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**, Romuald Hall

For more information, visit <http://www.smrhs.org> or contact the Admissions Office at 301-373-4183

The National Shrine Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes and the Family of Saint Sharbel, USA

cordially invites you to the dedication of the newly constructed Saint Sharbel Shrine at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady

of Lourdes in Emmitsburg, Maryland on **Saturday, September 30, 2017.**

Saint Sharbel, a Maronite priest, monk, and hermit lived in a small mountain village in Lebanon. He dedicated his entire life to Our Lord Jesus Christ with special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Saint Sharbel was canonized on October 9, 1977 by his Holiness Blessed Pope Paul VI at St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican. Saint Sharbel has received international attention and is credited with ongoing miraculous healings across the world.

We are blessed to have Saint Sharbel's Shrine in such close proximity. We would like to share this joyous and blessed occasion with you and your parishioners. We hope that you will join us in prayerful celebration. info@familyofsaintsharbel.org

25TH International Week of Prayer and Fasting October 1st – Oct 9th

Individuals, families, prayer groups and parishes are asked to unite for nine days of prayer and fasting for the following goals: Conversion of all Peoples and Nations, to Build a Culture of Life, to Defend the Sanctity of Marriage and Family Life, to Pray for Peace and to Implore God's Mercy. For the final day, on Monday, October 9th, please join us at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D. C. from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm for the International Day of Prayer. Registration is FREE, but please register online at www.iwopf.org to receive a free prayer card at the Basilica event. For info visit www.iwopf.org or call 888-478-PRAY (7729).

Annual Retreat at Mt. Carmel – Sat., Oct. 7, 2017

Begins with Mass at **8:00 am** in the Church at Mt. Carmel, 5678 Mt Carmel Road (off of Mitchell Road), LaPlata. Retreat Master. Father Michael Briese, Pastor, St. Mary's Newport, Cost \$30; includes welcome bag, breakfast snacks, boxed lunch. Mass, confessions, several talks, rosary, and time to visit with friends! Info and registration form, please contact Suzanne Carr 301- 645-5203/ suzannemcarr@verizon.net.

Discovering Christ in Ridge, MD

St. Michael's, St. Peter Claver and St. Cecilia Parishes are hosting "Discovering Christ", a seven week experience where anyone and everyone, from the baptized in the pews to the unbaptized, is invited to hear the Good News and personally encounter Jesus Christ. This life-changing experience is open to adults of all faiths and a youth tract is offered for grades eight and up. The series is comprised of dinner, music, a video and small group interaction. The series will be held on **Wednesday evenings** at the St. Michael's School gym starting **Oct 4th – Nov 15th from 6:30 to 8:30 as well as a retreat Saturday, Nov 4th**. The \$10 registration fee includes 7 dinners, the retreat and a participant guide as part of the program. To register or for information, email DiscoverChristInRidge@gmail.com [<mailto:DiscoverChristInRidge@gmail.com>](mailto:DiscoverChristInRidge@gmail.com) . For info call Winnie Sullivan, 301-904-8568; Ann Wood, 240-587-1248.

FREEDOM IN CHRIST RETREAT DAY

Saturday, Oct 7, 2017 9:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

The Retreat Day, presented by the UNBOUND ministry team of St. Mary's Bryantown, Maryland, will blend talks presentations on practical ways to increase Freedom in Christ, opportunities for healing prayer and praise and worship. Presenters will focus on key areas instrumental for healing and restoration of our true identity in Christ. Special focus will be given to identifying the tactics of our enemy, forgiveness, overcoming habitual sins, and removing obstacles to achieving and sustaining freedom. Participants will also be able to sign up for personal prayer sessions at a later date. Come join us for this exciting day of praise, prayer, and peace in the freedom of Christ. The retreat will be followed by a Vigil Mass for Sunday at 5 PM. Cost is \$15

and lunch will be provided. Please pre-register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/freedom-in-christ-retreat-day-unbound-tickets-37322521667>.

For information call Fr. Conley at 301-870-2220 or frconley@comcast.net. St. Mary's Church is located off Route 5, 30 minutes south of the Beltway 13715 Notre Dame Place, Bryantown, Md 20617

Camp Maria Retreat Center Annual Raffle
October 8, 2017

Prizes: \$5,000; \$1,500; \$500. \$20 per raffle ticket

Info: e-mail: dirctor@campmaria or 301-475-8330

Men's Annual Retreat – October 27-29, 2017

Give a weekend to God! Ignatian Weekend Retreat – “Come Follow ME” The men of the parishes of Southern Maryland go on retreat each year at **LOYOLA ON THE POTOMAC – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD**. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Dan Ichniowski at djichniowski@yahoo.com or 301-994-1310. You may also make reservations online at www.loyolaonthepotomac.com **“Come away and rest awhile.”**

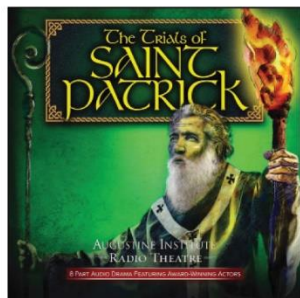
FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

The Trials of Saint Patrick

Augustine Institute Radio Theatre

There's More to St. Patrick than Shamrocks and Snakes

Follow St. Patrick on his dramatic journey through hardship and loss to mercy and forgiveness. His story will come to life in Augustine Institute Radio Theatre's most recent audio drama.



"I highly recommend this captivating audio series as an inspiration for all listeners!"

—Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila,
Archbishop, Archdiocese of Denver

[Listen on formed.org](http://formed.org)



FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

REFLECTION ON THE WORD OF GOD

[SIR 27:30-28:7; PS 103: 1-4, 9-12; ROM 14: 7-9; MT 18: 21-35](#)

We all know what forgiveness is. It is something we ask for every time we say the Our Father. Within that prayer given us by Christ is the sentence, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." This prayer is an invitation to a different kind of living than most of us experience. We petition God for mercy, but we also pledge to forgive those who may have offended us. However, we all most likely struggle with some of

this. The main focus of today's readings on this 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time is indeed forgiveness.

Have you ever said (or even heard someone say something similar) "I will never forgive that person," or "I will forgive him (or her or them), but I will never forget?" Forgiveness is perhaps one of the most disturbing and emotional experiences we will ever encounter in our lives. It may involve feelings of anger, revenge, resentment, hurt, hostility, sadness, bitterness, and retaliation. Nevertheless, it also involves reconciliation, compromise, contrition, repentance, and redemption. It is not just intellectual; it is also spiritual.

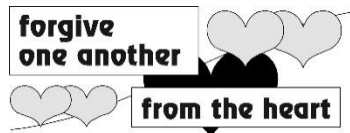
The First Reading from Sirach (also called the Wisdom of Sirach) includes the simple statement: "Forgive your neighbor's injustice: then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven." That is an accurate perception and summary of the messages found in all three readings on this Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The closing verse from Sirach speaks to the same theme from part of last week's readings that reminded us to "Love your neighbor," only in this instance it presents it another way: "Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor: remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults."

That reminder written centuries before the birth of Christ is a prompt to us that God forgives us ("overlooks our faults"). As stated, He expects nothing less from us.

In his letter to the Romans, our Second Reading, St. Paul says the same thing in a bit of a different way. Paul says, "None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord." It is Paul's way of following that adage, "No man is an island." As much as we may think that it is simply ourselves in relation to God and our relationship to God that matters, the truth is that how we relate to one another, how we treat those around us, is just as important. Like Sirach Paul tells us that God has forgiven us; God has recognized us; Jesus has saved us. And we are beholden to offer similar mercy and pardon to all with whom we may have contact.

In the Gospel from St. Matthew, Peter poses a question to Jesus after hearing Him speak of forgiveness. Peter says, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" You can almost see Jesus smile, maybe even laugh, when He replies, "I say to you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times." Some fundamentalists may take this literally, but Jesus is probably only taking Peter's question and expanding it to make it clear that there is no limit to forgiveness. He might have also said, seven hundred seventy times, and the point would be the same. Jesus is not putting an end point to forgiveness and to reinforce His point He relates a parable that relates to an unforgiving, yet forgiven servant.

We are told by the Lord that we must forgive "from your heart." You might say there are two kinds of forgiveness, heart forgiveness and spoken forgiveness.



In some ways it is similar to love in that forgiving from one's heart is unconditional. Going through the motions and making a statement of forgiveness is actually conditional. We must understand that.

Jesus wants us to appreciate that forgiveness is limitless. We are called to forgive someone over and over without seeking retribution. That is a challenge that may seem impossible to many of us, but that is quite frankly what we need to try to achieve. Obviously, in order to really accomplish that we need to pray for and rely on the Lord for the strength, perseverance, and the patience that is required.