

**PARISH CALENDAR**

- Sun Mar 4 YFF Classes: **9:30am**, CC
- Sun Mar 4 Family Lenten Pretzel Making: **12pm**, CC
- Sun Mar 4 Youth Group, **5pm**, CC
- Tues Mar 6 KoC Council Meeting, **6:30pm**, CC
- Wed Mar 7 Cantor Practice, **6:30pm**, C
- Wed Mar 7 Choir Practice, **7pm**, C
- Wed Mar 7 Confessions: **7-7:30pm**, C
- Thu Mar 8 Book Study, **7pm**, CC
- Fri Mar 9 Bible Study, **10am**, CC
- Fri Mar 9 Fish Dinner, **4-6:30pm**, CC
- Fri Mar 9 Stations of the Cross, **7pm**, C
- Fri Mar 9 Confessions, **7:30-8pm**, C
- Sat Mar 10 Pilgrimage to JPII Center/Shrine
- Sun Mar 11 YFF Classes: **9:30am**, CC
- Sun Mar 11 Catechist Meeting, **12pm**, CC
- Sun Mar 11 Youth Group, **5pm**, CC

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Tue Mar 6 9:00 am Walter Chimiak
- Wed Mar 7 9:00 am Elizabeth Lee Lancaster
- Thu Mar 8 9:00 am Louise Smail
- Fri Mar 9 9:00 am Bobby Bowes
- Sat Mar 10 5:00 pm Frances Gateau Gates
- Sun Mar 11 8:30 am Thomasine Thompson & Randolph Saxon
- Sun Mar 12 11:00 am St. George Parishioners

*For those having access to NAS Patuxent River, the rosary is recited Monday through Friday at St. Nicholas Chapel at 11:35am*

**FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK**

- Wed Mar 7** Sts. Perpetua & Felicity
- Thur Mar 8** St. John of God
- Fri Mar 9** St. Frances of Rome

**WEEKDAYS LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**Daily Lector:** J. Blackwell; T. Buckler; C. Galli; D. Orwig  
**Meals-on-wheels:** J&V Royston; W&B Walker; J&J Lenderman  
**Altar Preparation:** Kitten Britton

**REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYER**

Please remember our parishioners who are sick, the homebound and those in the nursing homes and hospital, 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.



**Help us keep our parish records up to date.** If you are new or have recently changed your mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, please use the on-line census by going to our website ([www.StGeorgeRCC.org](http://www.StGeorgeRCC.org)) and following the link to update your information. Thank you.

**STEWARDSHIP — FINANCIAL BLESSINGS**

	2/25/2018	2/26/2017	
<b>Gen. Collection</b>	\$3457.25	\$4867.00	-\$1314.75
<b>E-Giving (Weekly)</b>	\$1047.00	\$952.00	
<b>Identifiable Gifts</b>	115	132	-17
<b>Maintenance</b>	\$0.00	\$86.00	-\$86.00
<b>Poor Box</b>	\$252.00	\$291.00	-\$39.00
<b>Donations</b>	\$790.00	\$780.00	+\$10.00

*Thank you for your faithful Parish support.*

**Notice to E-Givers:**

The parish now has 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.

**A message from this Sunday's readings:**

Our First Reading from the Old Testament Book of Exodus presents the Ten Commandments, as God gave them to Moses. The Commandments also appear in the Book of Deuteronomy (Chapter 5; verses 6-21). The Commandments are reaffirmed in the New Testament by Jesus Himself and especially in the Gospel of John.

The Ten Commandments are also called the "Decalogue," which means literally "ten words." According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#2056) "God revealed these 'ten words' to His people on the holy mountain. They were written 'with the finger of God.' They are pre-eminently the words of God"

At another point the *Catechism* fortifies the Commandments by saying, "...from generation to generation...the 'deposit' of moral teaching has been handed on. Along with the Creed and the Our Father, the basis for catechesis has traditionally been the Decalogue, which sets out the principles of moral life valid for all people." (#2033)

The Commandments are considered essential for spiritual good health and growth. They serve as the basis for Catholic social justice. A review of the Ten Commandments is a common type of examination of conscience before receiving the sacrament of Penance.

As we are midway through Lent, it is important for each of us to go to confession and receive the sacrament of Penance. As part of that we may wish to look at our lives and how we live them through the holy words of the Ten Commandments.

OUR PARISH NEWS

FROM OUR MAILBOX:

To my parish family,

Thank you for the incredibly beautiful birthday celebration last Sunday. I was overwhelmed with your outpouring of love and concern. It was wonderful to be with everyone. God has blessed me to have spent 36 of my 90 years in the office at St. George. Getting to know and love all of you has been a privilege. May the Lord continue to bless our parish with His gracious gifts to each of you.

With love and gratitude,  
Phyllis Browne

To St. George Catholic Church:

We, the family of Thomas Barnes, wish to extend our heartfelt thanks, deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation for all the acts of kindness, hugs, prayers, phone calls, meals and other expressions of sympathy which meant so much to us all. During this rough time in our lives and during our time of bereavement, love continues to be extended to our family. Although Thomas is in a better place and will be missed, his memories will always and forever remain in our hearts. 'For to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.' (2 Corinthians 5:8). As we now begin a new chapter in our lives, God continues to provide us the comfort, healing and strength we need to move on. We pray God will forever Bless each and every one of you as you have blessed us with your love and support. ~The Barnes Family

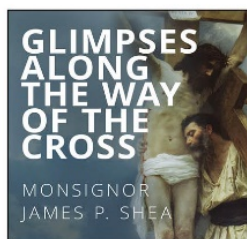
FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Glimpses Along the Way of the Cross

Enter More Deeply into the Mystery of Christ's Cross

In these three beautiful talks, Monsignor James Shea guides us along the Stations of the Cross. These powerful meditations take us into the depths of Christ's agony, and back out again into the relief and joy of what His sacrifice means for us.

Listen on formed.org



"Fr. Shea knows how to relate to someone in the pew who has felt pain and needs the healing only Christ can give. These talks helped me to meet Jesus again!"

—David, Chicago, IL



FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

FISH DINNERS every FRIDAYS in LENT

The Knights of Columbus will be offering fish dinners on Fridays in Lent from 4pm – 6:30pm in the Community Center. Come for dinner, stay for Stations of the Cross!



THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU!

Are you having difficulty forgiving an acquaintance or a loved one? Have you considered seeking God's healing first in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? To help you do this, we are happy to announce the The Light is ON for you! This Lent, every Catholic parish across the Archdiocese of Washington and Diocese of Arlington, including our own, will offer additional times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This year you can view all the confession times across the region by using the NEW Confession Finder map online at theLightisON.org and look for additional Lenten resources in the back of church. You can also find additional confession resources in the back of church today.

"Keep Praying for Our Seminarians"

Thanks to all of you who picked a card from the Vocations Tree. Please keep up the daily prayers for seminarians throughout Lent, and beyond, if you wish. Those who were not able to choose an individual card can take one of the group cards and pray for the seminarian of your choice, or all of them!

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Every Lent, parishes across the Archdiocese of Washington collect food to help food-insecure families and individuals in our community. Bags will be available next weekend and will be collected on over the weekend of March 10-11. Many in our community face hunger. Our collection will be donated to local food banks. Please be generous with your contribution.

Is God Calling You to the Diaconate? Come and See!

The Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation of the Archdiocese of Washington will begin a new cycle of recruitment and preparation of men for the diaconate. The initial selection process for the next aspirancy class will be preceded with six opportunities to "Come and See" about the permanent diaconate. These events will be held at various locations around the Archdiocese in January-March 2018. To learn more about the specific dates and locations, please contact Diane Biggs in the Office of the Permanent Diaconate at 301-853-5345 or biggsd@adw.org. The mailing address is: Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation, P.O. Box 29260, Washington, D.C. 20017. Additional information is available at adw.org/permanent-deacons. Local event! Wed., March 7, 7:00-9:00pm, St. Aloysius, Leonardtown

Married Couples Retreats at Priestfield Retreat Center, Kearneysville, VA

March 16, 17, 18 or March 23, 24, 25, 2018

Retreat Master Father Rick Kramer of the Office of Family Life, Washington, D. C. will lead both retreats. For more information call: Elaine Galeone, 410-252-5355.

**OUR PARISH FAITH FORMATION**

**Youth's Faith Formation (YFF) - Sunday Mornings  
9:30AM - 10:45 AM in Community Center**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 12PM  
FAMILY LENTEN PRETZEL MAKING ACTIVITY  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Mr. Adam Dean, Youth Ministry Coordinator  
email: [youthgroup@stgeorgerc.org](mailto:youthgroup@stgeorgerc.org)**

**OUR REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL (LFS)**

**LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL**

**Little Flower School's 130th Anniversary Committee will be hosting a Dessert Reception and Living Wax Museum on Thursday, March 8, 2018 from 6-8pm in the LFS Gym.** All are welcome! Please join us for dessert and our Living Wax Museum presentations! Our current students have prepared exhibits where they will share LFS stories from different decades. This is an informal event, where you can wander through and visit the different booths and also view pictures and memorabilia from then and now.

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

**Are you on social media?** Don't forget to "like" us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/littleflowercatholic](http://www.facebook.com/littleflowercatholic)) and "follow" us on Twitter and Instagram (@LFSpatriots)!

**Don't forget to save your Box Tops and Campbell's Soup labels!** They add up and help our school to be able to purchase supplies, gym equipment, technology, and other things to enhance our students' learning!

**Interested in learning more about Little Flower School?** Call (301)994-0404 or ([LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org](mailto:LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org)) the office today to schedule a tour! We'd love to talk more with you about how to make a Catholic education a possibility for your child!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS**

**Fr. Sebastien De Rose Council # 13091**

**Grand Knight: Christopher A. Wilcox**

[CWILCOX@MD.METROCAST.NET](mailto:CWILCOX@MD.METROCAST.NET)

**Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 6, 6:30pm CC**

**Pilgrimage to St. John Paul II Shrine and**

**Basilica of the Immaculate Conception**

**Saturday, MARCH 10, 2018.**

*Bus pick-up at St. George Catholic Church parking lot 7:30-8:00am. Bus will leave at 8:00am and return to St. George Church at 8:00pm. Lunch & snack will be provided*

**Itinerary for the day:**

- 8-10: en-route to the John Paul II National Shrine
- 10-11: tour and visit exhibit of the shrine
- 11-12: Lenten reflection & Daytime Prayer
- 12-1: Lunch (lunch box provided by the Knights of Columbus)
- 1-2: Divine Mercy talk by Sister of Divine Mercy (St. Faustina's religious order)
- 2-3: Franciscan Monastery (Holy Land exhibit & tour)
- 3-4: Tour of Basilica of the National Shrine of the I.C.
- 4-5: Vigil Mass for Sunday
- 5-6: Depart the Basilica to Waldorf, MD
- 6-7: Dinner at Golden Corral in Waldorf
- 7-8: bus depart from Waldorf to St. George parking lot

**Please call the Church Office to reserve your seat on the bus.**

**NEWS IN OUR AREA & AROUND**

**Sun, Mar 11 Breakfast with Easter Bunny:** Easter Egg Hunt (IF WEATHER PERMITS) - All-You-Can-Eat; starts 8-11am - Cost: adults - \$9, children ages 6 - 12 - \$5, children 5 & under - free; Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Home Fried Potatoes, Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage Links, Ham, Bacon, Creamed Chipped Beef, Sausage Gray, Spiced Applesauce, Grits, Hot Biscuits, Assorted Juices, Milk & Coffee; For more information call 301-994-9999

**Sun, Mar 11 Kalnasy Concert Series, Father David Beaubien in Concert with the St. Aloysius Handbell Choir, St. Aloysius Church, 3pm, Free, for more info: [keyofgmh@gmail.com](mailto:keyofgmh@gmail.com).**

**Sun, Mar 11 Holy Angels Church Seafood Dinner, 11:30 am - 4 pm, Holy Angels Church, Avenue, MD Menu: Fried Oysters, Steamed Spiced Shrimp, Crab Balls, Fried Chicken, Parsley Potatoes, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Pickled Beets, and all the trimmings! Served buffet style -- all you can eat! Adults: \$28; Children (12 to 6): \$8, Children (5 & under): Free. Carryout's are available at \$26 each. For more information to purchase advanced tickets, please call the rectory on or before March 1st. at 301-769-3332 or email [holy01angels@aol.com](mailto:holy01angels@aol.com)**

**Sat, Mar 24 Craft and Vendor Fair, 2nd District Firehouse, 9am - 2pm, Reserve a space for \$25, More info-Darlene after 4pm @ 240-434-1095**

**Sun, Mar 25 Annual Spring Craft Show, 10am to 3pm, Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall, Admission & parking FREE. Over 90 craft vendors with a variety of handmade merchandise available, Lunch items for sale in our Kitchen. Mobile ATM on site. For further information, please visit Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department's website at [www.hvfd7.com](http://www.hvfd7.com) [www.hvfd7.com](http://www.hvfd7.com)**

**Sat, Apr 21 Spaghetti Dinner, All-You-Can-Eat; 5. - 7pm - Cost: adults \$10, children ages 6 - 12 - \$5, children 5 & under-free; Menu: Spaghetti w/sauce or Spaghetti w/meat sauce, Green beans, Garden Salad, Bread & Butter & Homemade Dessert Table for a Donation**

**2018 Jubilarian Mass**

Cardinal Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years on Sunday, June 17 at 2pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please call the parish office to register NO LATER than April 16.

**Help for Marriages in Trouble**



Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. It can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy, and heal. For confidential information about or to register for an upcoming program, please visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com), call 443-400-7017, or email [3015@retrouvaille.org](mailto:3015@retrouvaille.org).

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

“Remember that my life is like the wind;” Let us make the best of our time together with our spouses by enjoying a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)** weekend. The next weekends are **April 20-22, 2018, November 2-4, 2018** in Gaithersburg, MD and **August 3-5, 2018** in Hanover, MD. Go to [MOMENTS4MARRIAGE.ORG](http://MOMENTS4MARRIAGE.ORG) to sign-up or call 301-541-7007. It's not too early to sign-up!

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### **Music at the Monastery**

Music to uplift your soul! Enjoy Music at the Monastery on Sunday, March 11, 4 pm, with the Brass of Peace Ensemble. These talented high school brass players are directed by former National Symphony Orchestra hornist, Sylvia Alimena. The concert will be held at the historic Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017. Free-will offering. Information at [myfranciscan.org](http://myfranciscan.org) or call 202-526-6800; free parking; Brookland/CUA Metro and H6 bus toward Fort Lincoln.

## **REFLECTION ON THE SACRED SCRIPTURE**

**EX 20: 1-17; PS 19: 8-11; 1 COR 1: 22-25; JN 2: 13-25**

There is no doubt we are in the midst of Lent based on the readings on this Third Sunday of Lent. From the Ten Commandments, which compose our First Reading from Exodus, to St. Paul's discussion of the wisdom of God in the Second Reading, to Jesus' actions at the Temple as reported in the Gospel of John, we are reminded of what Lent is truly all about.

Lent should be a time of reflection for us, about how we can improve in living our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ and as His disciples, but also about hope in God's enduring promises of love and forgiveness. After all, God looks for a heart that is tender and is adaptable to God's word. Lent is a time to take our spiritual journey a little deeper. It should not be about “beating up” on ourselves, but about being honest and asking God to forgive us and help us.

The First Reading from Exodus presents the Ten Commandments as God handed them down to us. In our secular-based society, the idea of a God-based moral code seems to have become less popular. There is a tendency that a moral code should be based upon each

individual's inner sense of what is right or wrong, what is good or bad, but not on a standard set by God.

We need God to morally instruct and guide us. Though these principles resonate with the human conscience (both individually and collectively), they are certainly not the only influence upon our thinking and behavior. We need to know that there is a God in heaven who expects certain moral behavior and that there are consequences from obeying or disobeying these commands. It is important for us to note the order of the Commandments. In truth one could give an entire homily on each of the Commandments, but the main thing is to take note that the first four Commandments have to do with our attitudes toward God, and our conduct in relationship to God. The last six have to do with how we relate to and conduct ourselves toward one another.

The portion of St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians which is our Second Reading is not very lengthy. As is often the case nonetheless, it is filled with a wisdom and understanding of its own. To the Jewish people the idea of a Messiah translated into power, splendor, and triumph. To them “crucified” meant weakness, defeat, and humiliation. This is what St. Paul preaches throughout his writings.

A story is told of a church which inscribed the following over their entrance: “We preach Christ crucified.” However, as time passed, they seemed to lose their passion for the Lord. Ivy began to grow over the entranceway covering part of the message. It then read “We preach Christ.” After awhile it read only “We preach.” Finally it said simply “We.” Today many churches have become mere social gatherings which are not about God and certainly not about Christ crucified. Our faith is not about “we” but about God. Lent is a time for us to appreciate that and embrace the fact that as Catholics we are blessed with the foundations and the meanings of our faith. As Paul says in today's reading, “...the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

We have indicated previously how the Gospel of John is quite different from the other three Gospels (the synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke). John focuses on the final days of Christ. He gives us fewer stories, but what he does offer is rich in detail. Scholars, as is often the case, do not agree on when the story of Jesus' cleansing the temple actually occurred. It appears early in John's Gospel, evidently at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, but just prior to his Crucifixion in the synoptic gospels.

This particular passage from the Gospel of John is often called “the cleansing of the temple.” Cleansing was part of the Passover celebration, just as it is part of our Lenten journeys. What we do at this time needs to result in a cleansing of our consciences and our souls. What we do now and what we commit to doing now should be part of this cleansing process. That includes conversion — changing our lives if necessary, and certainly participating in confession, the sacrament of reconciliation.