

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sun Mar 5 Youth Faith Formation, **9:30am, CC**
- Sun Mar 5 Children’s Liturgy, **11:00 AM, C**
- Sun Mar 5 Family Lenten Pretzel Making, **12 PM, CC**
- Sun Mar 5 Youth Group, **5:00 PM, CC**
- Tue Mar 7 Faith Study, **7:00 PM, CC**
- Wed Mar 8 Cantor/Choir Rehearsals; **6:30/7:00 PM, C**
- Thu Mar 9 Apologetics Class, **6:30 PM, CC**
- Fri Mar 10 Bible Study, **10:00 AM, CC**
- Fri Mar 10 Lenten Fish Dinner, **4:30-6:30PM, CC**
- Fri Mar 10 Stations of the Cross, **7:00 PM, C**
- Sat Mar 11 Rosary Devotion, **4:30 PM, C**
- Sun Mar 12 Youth Faith Formation, **9:30am, CC**
- Sun Mar 12 “Catholicism” Series, **9:30am, CC**
- Sun Mar 12 Youth Family Mass, **5:00 PM, CC**

MASS INTENTIONS

- Tue Mar 7 9:00 am Catherine Thompson
- Wed Mar 8 9:00 am Joseph Goddard
- Thu Mar 9 9:00 am Karen Henry
- Fri Mar 10 9:00 am Agnes Barnes
- Sat Mar 11 5:00 pm Pam Hoff (D) & Dorothy Lampkin (L)
- Sun Mar 12 8:30 am Carolyn Marie Curtis
- Sun Mar 12 11:00 am George Schegogue

LITURGICAL FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

- Tue Mar 7 Sts. Perpetua and Felicity
- Wed Mar 8 St. John of God
- Thu 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, I.Hardy, K.Raley
Altar Preparation: C. Cantrill

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.

DECEASED: Please pray for the soul of **Donnie Marie Knott**, mother of Thomas “Freddie” Knott. *May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

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.

STEWARDSHIP — FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

	2/26/2017	2/28/2016	
General Collection	\$4867.00	\$5087.00	+\$647.00
E-Giving (Weekly)	\$867.00	----	
Identifiable Gifts	132	137	-5
Maintenance	\$86.00	\$40.00	+\$46.00
Poor Box	\$291.00	\$126.09	+\$164.91
Donations	\$780.00	\$455.00	+\$325.00

Thank you for your faithful parish support.

Stewardship Lesson from the Sunday’s readings:

On this First Sunday of Lent, it seems appropriate that all the readings reflect in some way on the issue of temptation. We are familiar with perhaps the most common prayer, the *Our Father*, in which we ask God to “lead us not into temptation.”

In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, it is interesting to note that #2846 tells us “It is difficult to translate the Greek verb used for ‘lead us’ into a single English word. The original Greek word means both ‘do not allow us to enter into temptation’ and ‘do not let us yield to temptation.’ Sins come from consenting to temptation.”

For our Lenten missions, the issue of “temptation” would seem to have numerous facets which should influence us. Clearly we need to pray, and often, for God’s help as we try to avoid sin, and attempt to change our lives during this time. Also, we must consider the importance of recognizing and confessing our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. These should be part of our Lenten plans; living lives of stewardship might help us continue these efforts beyond Lent and throughout our lives.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen, the late and great Catholic Evangelist and television personality, devoted entire programs to temptation. On one, as he considered Lent a time to seek truth as an endeavor to resist temptation, he said, “It is easy to find truth; it is hard to face it; and harder still to follow it.”

OUR PARISH NEWS

BASKET RAFFLE

Basket Raffle! By popular request, we will hold a basket raffle during the month of April. The actual raffle will take place on **April 30**, during our **Wine & Design Fundraiser**. As with our previous Basket Raffle, any parishioner who would like to put together a basket, is welcome to do so. Please get back to Barbie (music@stgeorgercc.org, 301-994-0607) with your commitment by **March 15**. Baskets **MUST** be delivered to the church by **March 31** in order to be included. Some theme ideas are: children's games, baby, Maryland, Wine, Date Night, Family Game Night, Health & Nutrition, Beauty, Relaxing Bath, Redskins, Man Cave, etc.

LENTEN OBSERVANCE

- **Fridays in Lent are Days of Abstinence** (refrain from the consumption of meat for those 14 years of age and older.)
- **Lenten Fish Dinner**, St. George Community Center, 4:30 PM-6:30PM, sponsored by K of C
- **Stations of the Cross**, in church, Friday evenings 7:00 PM [Stations of the Cross presented by our 7th and 8th grade Y.F.F. students will be Friday, March 17 in the Community Center, 7:00 PM]

Our Parish Lenten Pilgrimage to Saint John Paul II National Shrine Washington DC.

Please consider joining us for a Lenten Pilgrimage to the JP II National Shrine on **Saturday, March 18**. Talk and Tour begins at **10:00AM**. **Mass will be celebrated and Confession available**. **Lunch is also provided by our parish Knights of Columbus**. Exhibit featuring relics and artifacts on the life and legacy of St. Thomas Moore on display until March 31. Please let us know if you are interested in going & to arrange transportation. **Call the Church office (301) 994-0607**
<http://www.ip2shrine.org/ip/en/index.html>

Lenten Materials & Resources for parishioners:

- * **Rice Bowls for remembering those in need.**
- * **The WORD Among Us with Daily Meditations.**
Please take one as a gift from the parish.
These items are in the vestibule of the church.

OUR PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Youth Faith Formation at St. George (YFF)

YFF Classes (Pre-K to Confirmation) 9:30AM-10:45AM
Community Center

Sunday, March 5 — 12:00 Noon
Family Lenten Pretzel Making
All parishioners are invited to attend in the Community Center

STATIONS OF THE CROSS rehearsals:

Sat., Mar. 11, from 9:30 AM in CC
Mon., Mar. 13, from 6:30 PM in CC
Wed., Mar. 15, from 6:30 PM in CC
Presentation: Fri., Mar. 17 at 7:00 PM in CC



ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT & BIBLE STUDY

"Journey around the World and Deep into the Catholic Faith" with Father Barron's Catholicism Series.
2nd & 3rd Sundays each month, CC
9:30-10:45 AM. All are invited.

Faith Study - Tuesday nights at 7pm. We will be studying Fire Within: St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross and the Gospel - On Prayer by Thomas DuBay.
For information, please call Kim Browne, 301-994-0638.

Friday Morning Bible Study meets in the Community Center classroom from 10:00-12:00 PM every Friday, except 1st Friday - starting time is 10:45am. The Class will focus on the Eucharist (the Mass) in Sacred Scripture. All are welcome to attend.

Apologetics 101

Thur., March 9: "Why can't priests get married?"
Discussion & Talk at **6:30 pm** in the Community Center

OUR YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Youth Group gathers every Sunday, 5-8:00 PM CC
Ms. Emma Carpenter, Youth Ministry Coordinator
Sunday, Mar. 12 is our YOUTH FAMILY MASS, 5:00PM

OUR REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Little Flower School News

Tue. Mar. 7 – School Mass, **10:15am**
Kindergarten Bake Sale
Open House, 3:30-5:30pm. Come and see
Advisory Board meeting, **6pm**
Wed., Mar. 8 –Early Dismissal, **12:45pm**

Fri., Mar. 10 – PreK Parent/Student Lunch;
Stations of the Cross, Holy Face Church, **10:15am**

New 3-Year-Old Program will be at LFS this August! Please call or stop by today for more information.

Scholastic Book Fair is open in the LFS library Sunday morning and Monday-Thursday! Stop by and purchase some reading material today!

Mulch Sale is almost here! **Tomorrow (Monday, March 6)** is the last day to place an order! See a Little Flower student or contact lfsmulchsale@gmail.com to place your order today! Delivery will be on **Sat., March 11.**

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Annual Benefit Auction last Saturday! Your donations to the live and silent auction as well as your attendance and participation are greatly appreciated!

Bingo is back! 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 (@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 email (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 CORNER

Fr. Sebastien De Rose Council # 13091

Grand Knight: Dan Bogan

dan.bogan@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus "Lenten Fish Dinners" are every Friday during Lent 4:30 to 6:30pm at the St. George Community Center. Come out and enjoy local catfish and see what other specials we may have.

Please Note: NO KofC Pancake Breakfast 1st Sunday of March or April. (Please support the Lenten Fish Dinners instead.)

VOCATION CORNER

Thank you to all who took cards to pray for our seminarians during Lent and beyond.

Prayer:

"Lord, flood this seminarian with grace and love, so that he may be true to his vocation and fulfill your plan. Help him to know that you are with him, and you will be to the end. Let him place his trust in you, so that he will never doubt, despair, or give up hope. Fill him with faith. Amen"

NEWS IN AND AROUND OUR AREAS

Wed., Mar. 8 "PAXCatholic presents Theology on Tap, Olde Town Pub, Leonardtown, 6pm. Deacon Andy Geisz offering a reflection on "The Root of All Evil? A Catholic Perspective on Finance." PAXCatholic is a ministry by and for young adult Catholics in St. Mary's and Calvert Counties. Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/paxcatholic](https://www.facebook.com/paxcatholic) or join our email list by emailing paxcatholicstmarys@gmail.com!"

Mar. 9-12 Lenten Parish Mission, Holy Face Church, Great Mills, presented by Father Dominic Grassi, author of "Living the Mass. How one hour a week can change your life." [see bulletin board notice for times and topics.]

Sat., Mar. 11 Youth Day, St. John's, Hollywood

Sun., Mar. 12 All You Can Eat Breakfast, 2nd Dist. VFD&RS, Drayden Road, Valley Lee. 8:30-11:00am Adults \$9.00, children age 6-12 \$5.00, children 5 & under, free; **Great selection of food.** 301-994-9999

Sun., Mar. 12 University of Maryland Baltimore County Alumni Mass and Dinner, 5 PM, Harbor Multipurpose Room on UMBC's campus. RSVP Deacon Doug Lovejoy at lovejoy.doug@gmail.com or 609 314-1905.

Tue., Mar. 14 Making Time for Easter, St. Aloysius Church, Leonardtown, 7:00 PM. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a twenty-minute spiritual reflection by Director of Religious Education Leonard Wathen, and opportunities for Confession with Fr. David Beaubien. See saintaloyuschurch.org for additional details.

Sun., Mar. 19 Father David Beaubien in Concert, with the St. Aloysius Handbell Ensemble, St. Aloysius Church, **3:00 PM.** **More info: keyofgmh@gmail.com**

Mar. 19-21 St. Aloysius Lenten Mission, 7:00 PM, given by renowned Catholic Speaker, Meg Hunter-Kilmer; Hobo for Christ. [see bulletin board notice for info.] Feel free to look her up on her website: <http://www.piercedhands.com/>

Thur., Mar. 23 26th Annual CareNet Pregnancy Center Benefit Dinner. Hollywood Fire Dept. Social Hall. Speaker: Award-Winning Journalist Cal Thomas. Doors open, **6 PM.** Tickets \$27/person. Info 301-737-4604. **RSVP: March 9, 2017**

Sun., Mar. 19 Healing Prayer Service, St. Mary's, Bryantown, 3-6 PM. Led by Dr. Bob Wyer. For more info about his ministry go to <http://www.miracle-healing-ministry.org/ministry.html> The service is free and open to non-Catholics as well.

Sat., Apr. 1 Craft & Vendor Fair, 2nd Dist. VFD&RS, 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.; Reserve a space for \$25.00; For more information call Darlene at 240-434-1095 after 4:00 p.m.

JOB OPENINGS

Interested in using your professional experience and education to serve the Church? The **Central Pastoral Administration of the Archdiocese of Washington** is accepting applications for positions in human resources, catechesis, support staff and other areas. For a current list of job openings please go to <http://adw.org/employment-opportunities/>

The **Care Net Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland** is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Nurse Manager. The Nurse Manager has full responsibility for the clinical services provided at our center locations, including STI/STD testing, and conducting ultrasounds. For a complete job description or to submit resume, send inquiries to Olivia Bossert at director@carenetsomd.org.

PILGRIMAGE TO MOTHER SETON SHRINE, EMMITSBURG SAT., MAR. 25. Leaving 8am, St. Mary's Church, Bryantown; return by 7pm. Fr. Conley will be leading this pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton where Mass will be offered, have a tour and eat lunch. While in Emmitsburg we will also visit the Lourdes Grotto. On the way back from Emmitsburg stop at a Winery in Mt. Airy for a wine and cheese tasting. Thanks to the generosity of a benefactor and the Keller Bus Company, the cost of the trip is just \$30 per person and includes lunch and the winery visit. For more info and to register contact Fr. Conley at 301-870-2220 ext 13 or frconley@comcast.net. Payment is due at registration. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's Church.

St. John's Summer Program 2017

St. John's Summer Program, SOMD's largest summer camp, will open online registration on **Sunday, March 5th at 1:00pm**. This year's new classes include First Responders, Cake Boss, Superheroes Camp, Going Viral, Upcycling Fashion Design and Inventor's Battleground, among others, as well as many favorites from last year. The Program's goal is to help our children grow in knowledge and love of Christ and our Catholic faith, while enjoying an amazing summer with young, strong Catholic role models as instructors. We open every day with song and prayer and Fridays with Mass. Extended care is available, and we are a Maryland licensed summer camp. Please visit www.StJohnsSummerProgram.com to view the new summer schedule and to find more information about St. John's Summer Program.

REFLECTION ON SUNDAY'S READINGS

GN 2:7-9; 3:1-7; PS 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17; ROM 5:12-19; MT 4:1-11

One of the great Catholic philosophers in the past century was Father Thomas Merton. In fact, he was one of four Americans acknowledged by Pope Francis when the Holy Father spoke to the U.S. Congress on his visit to the United States. Pope Francis said this about Merton: "He was above all a man of prayer, a thinker who challenged the certitudes of his time and opened new horizons for souls and for the Church. He was also a man of dialogue, a promoter of peace between peoples and religions." One of Merton's favorite topics was temptation that is at the heart of our readings on this First Sunday of Lent. Merton said, "The greatest temptations are not those that solicit our consent to obvious sin, but those that offer us great evils masking as the greatest goods."

There is no question that temptation is a challenge and has been since the beginning of time. Our First Reading from the Book of Genesis recounts Adam and Eve and their encounter with temptation. Most of us are well aware of what happened in the Garden of Eden, how Adam yielded to the temptation of eating from the Tree of Knowledge that God had forbidden. However, sometimes we miss the fact that there were two trees in the Garden — a Tree of Life and a Tree of Knowledge. The Tree of Life was for the gaining of eternal life, but the Tree of Knowledge would allow the person who partook of it to understand good and evil. We may acknowledge that we know what sin is, that we are aware of what the difference between good and bad is, but that does not lessen the temptation for us to experience it.

We suffer from the same weaknesses as Adam and Eve did. We want to know and we want to challenge God, and we may do it by doing things we know full well are abhorrent to the Lord. Genesis tells us that "then the eyes of both were opened." Many experiences may open our own eyes, but the important factor is how we respond to that, how we act as a result. Stewardship is a positive way of living. Do we live positively or do we live negatively?

You cannot read or study the writings of St. Paul without coming to the realization that he took the Old Testament quite literally. For him Genesis was historically true. He felt that Adam and Eve were real and that what they did had a lasting effect on all of us. For the Apostle Paul the concepts of sin and temptation as presented in Genesis were closely related to salvation.

Were you aware that the name "Adam" means "humanity?" Adam represents us all. In a sense both Adam and Jesus are kings in their own right. However, under Adam, death reigned, but under Jesus we can find life. St. Paul writes about two men ("Through one man sin entered the world.") However, our hope and the only answer we have to inevitable sin is the Second Man, Christ Himself. "...how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many?"

It is through the Lord that we find and have hope during this Lenten season. It is by embracing the graces and the righteousness He offers us that we can better resist sin, better refuse to give in to temptation. Truly, "Our strength is in the Lord."

The Gospel Reading from St. Matthew sets the stage for our entire Lenten journey. Jesus is led, not by the devil, but by the Spirit, into the desert. He is there for 40 days and 40 nights, the same length of time as our period of Lent. His temptations, however, come from the devil, just as ours do.

We must recognize the temptations offered to Him. The first might be termed an appeal to the flesh. Jesus was hungry, and the tempter said to Him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." Jesus answers, "Man shall not live by bread alone." This is a temptation to use God's gifts for selfish reasons. Do we do that? Is that part of our personal sin? That is certainly something we need to address during this Lenten season.

The second temptation has to do with pride. Satan takes Jesus to the "Parapet of the Temple." Note that research tells us that parapet was 200 feet tall. Satan is saying trust in the angels, for surely they will save you, but again Jesus resists. God does not have to prove His love for us.

The final temptation has to do with the lust for our dreams and desires. Again the Lord defies Satan. For us to do that means we need Christ's help. That is what Lent is about — seeking that help and allowing it to happen.