

PARISH CALENDAR

Wed Sept 6 Cantor/Choir Rehearsals, **6:30/7 PM**, C
 Sat Sept 9 Rosary Devotion, **4:30 PM**, C
 Sun Sept 10 Youth Faith Formation classes begin, **9:30**
 Sun Sept 10 9th gr. Confirmation Class, **3:30pm**, CC

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue Sept 5 9:00 am John Hodges
 Wed Sept 6 9:00 am Joshua Lee
 Thu Sept 7 9:00 am Charles Norris
 Fri Sept 8 9:00 am Sarah Goldsmith
 Sat Sept 9 5:00 pm Charlie (D) & Maryann (L) Springer
 Sun Sept 10 8:30 am Parishioners
 Sun Sept 10 11:00 am Timothy Babcock

Openings for weekday Mass Intentions are Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3, 4, and 5. Flowers for the altar openings are Sept. 9/10; 16/17; Oct. 7/8. Please call the church office if you wish to reserve a date. (301-994-0607)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Fri Sept 8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Sat Sept 9 St. Peter Claver

WEEKDAYS LITURGICAL MINISTERS

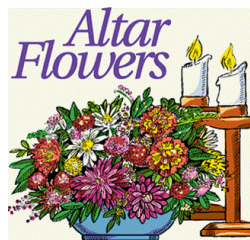
Daily Lector: J.Blackwell; T.Buckler; D.Orwig; D.Orwig
Meals-on-wheels: J.&V.Royston; K.Owens; G.Crawford
Altar Preparation: L. Dean

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.

Flowers on the altar this week are in memory of **George & Madeline Gateau**, gift of Joyce & Butch Mori and Chip & Linda Gateau.



Help us keep our parish records up to date. If you are new to the parish or 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 to update your information.

STEWARDSHIP — FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

	8/27/2017	8/28/2016	
Gen. Collection	\$4184.81	\$5252.00	-\$155.19
E-Giving (Weekly)	\$912.00	----	
Identifiable Gifts	115	127	-12
Maintenance	\$20.00	\$27.00	-\$7.00
Poor Box	\$284.00	\$118.10	+\$165.90
Donations	\$930.00	\$275.00	+\$655.00

Thank you for your faithful parish support.

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

Our Second Reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans is quite short, but as is ever the case with Holy Scripture it contains a central message which is quite important to us. One of the ongoing challenges of being Catholic and Christian in today's society is that society, cultural norms, sometimes seem to work against our efforts to live as followers and disciples of Christ.

Paul sums up that struggle succinctly as he says, "Do not conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." Paul offers two suggestions in terms of combating the temptation to conform and agree.

First, he calls for a "renewal" of our minds. Often in today's society the standard opinion is that it is feelings, how we feel, that are most important. Living in that way ignores the mind approach. Second, if we do try to sort things out intellectually we can only be successful in God's eyes if we seek truth. The question we must pose to ourselves and to which we need to seek a conclusion is not "How do I feel?" or even "What do I think?" The important question for us is "What is true and what does God's Word say?"

The philosopher and author C. S. Lewis defined truth simply when he wrote: "No philosophical theory which I have yet come across is a radical improvement on the words of Genesis, that '...in the beginning God made heaven and earth'."

OUR PARISH NEWS

St. George Annual Dinner Fundraising



Good News!



Number of Dinners sold: 1269

THANK YOU to **ALL** who helped in any way to make the dinner a success.

Total income/profit and other information will be available soon.

Congratulations to Raffle Winners:

- 1st Prize: \$250.00 Tom Buckler, Leonardtown
- 2nd Prize: Orioles Tickets Jo Hayman, Leonardtown
- 3rd Prize: Redskins Tickets Bernard Bailey, Avenue
- 50/50 Raffle winner: Tom Kelly, LaPlata

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!



We are currently in the planning stages for our **Biennial Christmas Bazaar**. In order to know if we can go ahead with things, we need a commitment from all kinds of crafters – needleworkers, woodworkers, artists, photographers, etc. We would like to maintain the tradition of all items being handmade, quality work by our parishioners and friends. The projected date for this year is **Saturday, November 25**, therefore, all craft donations should be at the church by **November 16**. Please email bazaar@stgeorgerc.org or call the parish office (301-994-0607) to let us know you will craft for the parish!

**The Catholic University of America Collection
September 9-10, 2017**

The Archdiocese of Washington will take up a second collection for The Catholic University of America, which is unique among universities in the United States - even among Catholic universities. Established by Pope Leo XIII and the U.S. bishops in 1887, it is the national university of the Catholic Church. In addition to alumni who hail from this diocese, Catholic University claims one third of the U.S. bishops and 12,000 priests and religious as alumni. Located in Washington, D.C., the university provides an education based in the Catholic intellectual tradition to almost 7,000 students through its 12 schools. Your support will enable Catholic University to expand its impact in preparing the next generation of leadership for our Church and nation. Thank you for your generosity. You can learn more at collection.cua.edu.

OUR PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Youth's Faith Formation (YFF) begins Sunday, September 10th, from 9:30AM - 10:45AM, CC

Y.F.F. REGISTRATION

Preschool through 9th Grade Confirmation may enroll after each Mass this weekend in Church vestibule.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Youth Group meets every Sunday, 5-8:00 PM CC

Mr. Adam Dean, Youth Ministry Coordinator

All youth, grade 6 and above are welcome!

OUR REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL

Little Flower School will be hosting the 2nd Annual LFS Patriot Day 5K on September 9, 2017. Each year, this event will be held on the Saturday preceding Patriot Day, September 11, to honor our local "patriots" to include military, firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical technicians. Participants in the 5K can run or walk, and children 10 & under are invited to participate in our 1-mile Kids' Run on the school grounds. In addition to the 5K and Kids' Run, members of the community are invited to nominate a Patriot of the Year, who will be selected by our Little Flower students and recognized at the opening ceremony. Ten percent of the event's proceeds will be donated to the service organization of the Patriot of the Year's choice. Our 2016 Patriot of the Year, U.S. Army Master Sergeant Damon D. Walker, donated over \$500 to the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. Representatives from Little Flower School will be available after all masses the next two weekends with more information, or check out the race website, www.patriotday5k.org.

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 NEWS

Fr. Sebastien De Rose Council # 13091

Grand Knight: Christopher A. Wilcox

CWILCOX@MD.METROCAST.NET

The Knights of Columbus are having their annual car raffle. The grand prize is a **2018 Ford Mustang** or a cash option of **\$18,000**, second prize is an **IPAD Air2**, and third prize is a **\$200 gift card**. Tickets are **\$1 each** or a **book of 6 for \$5**. Tickets are on sale after Masses in the vestibule.

The eMembership initiative is now live. Inviting you, Catholic men to join the Order online, visit us at www.KofC.org/JoinUs.



NEWS IN OUR AREA & AROUND

Sun., Sept. 10 Seafood Dinner, Holy Angels Church, Avenue, MD, 11:30am-4:00 pm. Crab balls, steamed spiced shrimp, fried oysters, fried chicken, parsley potatoes, homemade coleslaw, green beans, beets, rolls, fruited jello & beverages. Bake table & Craft table. Adults \$27, Carry-outs \$25, Advance tickets \$25. Child 6-12 yrs. \$8; 5 & under free. \$1,500 Raffle. Info or advance tickets: 301-769-2541.

Sun., Sept 10 All You Can Eat Breakfast, 2nd Dist VFD&RS, Drayden Road, Valley Lee, 8am-11am. Adults \$9 child 6-12 yrs \$5, 5 & under, FREE. 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 and Coffee; For more information call 301-994-9999.

Sun., Sept. 10 Annual Crab Feast Fundraiser – Loyola on the Potomac – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. 2-5 PM. All You Eat crabs, etc., all you can drink beer, etc. Ticket Price: Adult tickets \$50 • Children 7 - 12 \$35 • Children 6 and under Free. **After September 5th – Adult ticket price \$65.** For more information contact Lisa White at (301) 392-0819 or lisa.white@loyolaretreat.org.

Sun., Sept. 10 Music at the Monastery, organ recital by Dudley Oakes of Shenandoah University, **4 p.m.**, at the historic Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, 1400 Quincy St. NE, Washington, DC 20017. Info: myfranciscan.org and 202-526-6800.

Mon., Sept. 11 American Red Cross Blood Drive, 2nd District Firehouse, 45245 Drayden Rd., Valley Lee, 1:30-7:00 PM. Call 1-800-REDCROSS to schedule an appointment.

Mon., Sept 11 American Heritage Girls, St. Michael's School, Ridge, MD, 6-8 PM. [see notice below]

St. Mary's County Fair!

Volunteers needed at the Catholic Evangelization Booth, Thurs., Sept. 21 - Sun., Sept. 24

Sign-up on line for a 2-hour commitment:

<http://www.saintalouisiuschurch.org/countyfair>

Volunteers are highly encouraged to attend a training session on

Thursday, September 14 at 6:30 PM

Where: Father Andrew White Gym

Light supper will be provided

Camp Maria Retreat Center Annual Raffle

1st prize \$5,0002nd prize \$1,500**3rd prize \$500**

\$20 per raffle ticket

Only 750 Tickets Will Be Sold

Drawing October 8, 2017

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

Women of Faith Prayer Breakfast

The Bread of Life Center for Peace is excited to offer our Women of Faith Prayer Breakfast on **Saturday, September 16th, 8:30 am to 12 noon** at Leonardtown Grille. Guest speaker: Francine "Fran" Dove Hawkins. Breakfast cost \$15. Please register by **Thursday, September 14**. Space is limited, register now to ensure your seat by calling (301) 475-9704 or (301) 475-9770. You can also register online at: www.breadoflifecenterforpeace.org/Events/WomensPrayerBreakfast.aspx. **Note:** Mass is offered at St. Aloysius Church at 7:30 am on Saturday mornings.

Inviting All Girls!!

The **American Heritage Girls** is a Christian-based Scouting-like organization. The organization has more than 43,000 members with troops in all 50 states. American Heritage Girls is the premier national character development organization for girls ages 5 to 18 that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement. Our local Troop 2014 meets at St. Michael's school twice a month on Monday evenings from 6-8 p.m., along with additional field trips and events throughout the year.

The 2017 kick-off and registration meeting will be on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11** from **6-8 p.m.** at St. Michael's school in Ridge. Our first event will be a bring-a-friend hike at Flag Ponds on **Sept. 30** from **9-11 a.m.** Please contact Lara Davis, troop vice-coordinator with any questions at saldavis96@gmail.com

The Archangel Scholarship Foundation, supporting St. Michael's School, will again be sponsoring the **Rhythm & Riches** event. It will be held on **Friday, Oct 20th** at the Hollywood Fire Department. Music, games, cash prizes and much more. Tickets and additional information are available at www.rhythmandriches.com or by calling 240-587-7111. Buy two tickets in September and receive 1 Raffle ticket free.

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

Give a weekend to God! Ignatian Weekend Retreat – “Come Follow ME” Then men of the parishes of Southern Maryland go on retreat each year at **LOYOLA ON THE POTOMAC – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faullkner, MD.** Our Ignatian Weekend Retreat is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. The retreat is conducted in silences and includes generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deeper relationship with God! It is open to anyone who desires to grow in their relationship with God through prayer. The retreat begins **Friday Evening, October 27, 2017** and concludes with lunch on **Sunday, October 29, 2017.** For more information or to make a reservation, contact Dan Ichniowski at djichniowski@yahoo.com or 301-994-1310. A deposit of \$115 and a registration form are required to secure your room. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$245. (\$195 for the first time retreatants and/or young adults to 30 and under). You may also make reservations online at www.loyolaonthepotomac.com **“Come away and rest awhile.”**

Annual Retreat at Mt. Carmel:

On Saturday, October 7, 2017, the Restorers' of Mt. Carmel annual retreat will be held at Mt. Carmel Monastery. The Retreat begins with Mass at **8:00 am** in the Church at Mt. Carmel, 5678 Mt Carmel Road (off of Mitchell Road), LaPlata. Father Michael Briese, Pastor of St. Mary's in Newport, will be Retreat Master. Cost of the Retreat is \$30 and includes welcome bag, breakfast snacks, and boxed lunch. The retreat includes mass, confessions, several talks, rosary, and time to visit with your friends and to meet and make new friends. For more information and registration form, please contact Suzanne Carr at 301.645.5203 or suzannemcarr@verizon.net.

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.

REFLECTION ON SUNDAY'S READINGS

JER 20: 7-9; PS 63: 2-6, 8-9; ROM 12: 1-2; MT 16: 21-27

The readings on this Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time range from the power and might of God, to what is needed to please God, to Christ's revelation of the horror and humiliation of the Crucifixion.

The First Reading from the prophet Jeremiah contains powerful and colorful language as Jeremiah speaks of the Word of God: “But then it (the Word of God) becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.” Jeremiah was called by God with a call which was so powerful, it was beyond his ability to resist. It was not for lack of desire, as he found the call to be difficult at best. We may feel in a similar way. God's call to discipleship and stewardship, for example, can produce problems, sometimes seemingly insurmountable problems to us. Jeremiah indicates similar feelings in today's First Reading.

However, the call is so strong and so definite that Jeremiah has no choice but responds and shares the Word with others. The Word of God literally overpowers Jeremiah and he must speak. Each of us is called to hear the Word of God and to allow it to burn within us as it does for Jeremiah. In Jeremiah's case it is God's will, not his own, which conquers.

In St. Paul's letter to the Romans, our Second Reading, Paul somewhat fulfills this burning desire in Jeremiah when he writes, “I urge you...to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice...Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God.” Fire as we know can be consuming, but Paul often puts it in juxtaposition with the Living Water also offered by the Lord.

It is in fact the Living Water which allows us to transform our minds and to seek and discover God's will. That is what following a God-centered stewardship way of life can do for us. It can transform us. The same Greek word, *metamorphos*, is what the Gospel writers used to describe Christ's Transformation. In this particular reading Paul calls on us to “be transformed by the renewal of your mind.” This is not a transformation from outside in, but one from inside out. Furthermore, this is not a one-time event, but an ongoing conversion.

In our Gospel Reading from St. Matthew, “Jesus began to show his disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly.” This does not coincide with what Peter thinks is going to happen or should happen. Therefore, “Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, ‘God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.’” Jesus' response to Peter is the well known line, “Get behind me, Satan... You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.” This is more or less the point of all of our readings. This is Jesus telling us straight out that we have two choices in life: to be God-centered or self-centered. Our faith does not pamper us; it makes demands of us. This challenge to our beliefs is another sign of the renewal of mind, the transformation, which we must experience every day, sometimes multiple times in a day. The whole point is that rather than yield to our own desires, we need to yield to God's will, and what He is calling us to do. Jeremiah and even the Lord understand and experience that it is the will of God which needs to judge how we live and what we do.