

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sun Sept 25 Youth Faith Formation, **9:30AM**, CC
Coffee & Faith Talk, **9:45AM**, CC
Youth Group Meeting, **5:00PM**. CC
- Tue Sept 27 Adult Faith Enrichment, **7:00 PM**, CC
- Wed Sept 28 Cantor & Choir Practice, **6:30; 7 PM**
- Thu Sept 29 Apologetics Class, **6:30 PM**, CC
- Fri Sept 30 Bible Study, "Doors of Mercy", **10AM**
- Sat Oct 1 First Saturday Mass and Holy Hour for
Vocations **9AM**, Church
Training Workshop for Extraordinary
Ministers of the Eucharist, **11AM**, Ch
Training Workshop for Lectors, **1PM**
Rosary Devotion, **4:30 PM**, Church
- Sun Oct 2 Children's Liturgy, **11:00 AM Mass**
Youth Group Family Mass, **5:00PM**, Ch
Youth Group Dinner & Mtg., **6:00PM**, CC

MASS INTENTIONS

- Tue Sept 27 9:00 am Flordeliza Grider
- Wed Sept 28 9:00 am Mary Hall
- Thu Sept 29 9:00 am Maryann Springer (L)
- Fri Sept 30 9:00 am Deacon David R. Powell
- Sat Oct 1 9:00 am Vocations
5:00 pm Parishioners
- Sun Oct 2 8:30 am Howard & Kitten Britton (L)
11:00 am

LITURGICAL FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

- Mon Sept 26 Sts. Cosmas and Damian
- Tue Sept 27 St. Vincent DePaul**
- Wed Sept 28 St. Wenceslaus
St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions
- Thu Sept 29 Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael**
- Fri Sept 30 St. Jerome**

WEEKDAYS LITURGICAL MINISTERS

- Daily Lector:** J. Blackwell, T. Buckler, C. Galli, C. Galli,
M. Goldsmith
- Meals-on-Wheels:** B. Adams, M.A. Rymer, I. Hardy
- 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.

Altar Flowers: Flowers for the Altar in Memory of a Deceased Loved One – or in honor of a Special Occasion may be requested by calling the church office, 301-994-0607. (Donation for two altar arrangements: total \$50)



THIS WEEK: **Flowers on the altar** are in memory of **Gertrude Britton**, gift of Howard and Kitten Britton.

STEWARDSHIP - FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

	9/18/2016	9/20/2015	
General Collection	\$4319.00	\$5174.40	-\$855.40
Identifiable Gifts	120	132	
Maintenance	\$510.00	\$105.00	+\$405.00
Poor Box	\$221.06	\$247.52	-\$26.46
Donations	\$235.00	\$324.00	-\$89.00

Thank you for your faithful parish support.

Stewardship Lesson from the Sunday's readings:

Throughout his letters St. Paul gives more than hints as to what we should be doing to seek holiness and to live lives that stress Christian virtues. In fact, his comments are often direct and to the point. The excerpt from Paul's First Letter to Timothy, our Second Reading for today, contains one of those passages, which though brief, is the formula for seeking holiness and living lives of stewardship.

Paul says to Timothy, and thus to us, "...pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith." Of course, we are aware that in spite of its simplicity, that is a group of instructions that can be very difficult to really live out. Yet, that is exactly our calling. It all begins with pursuing "righteousness." We tend to think of the meaning of that as being "goodness," as in "pursuing" being a good person, but its real roots are deeper than that.

Based upon the original Greek a more accurate translation might be "pursuing justice." More accurately the translation would be "pursuing justice as Jesus defines it." That is really our charge — to seek lives of stewardship and discipleship in response to the Lord's call to us. The Greek philosopher Socrates said, "All men's souls may be immortal, but the souls of the righteous are immortal and divine."

OUR PARISH NEWS

e-Giving with Faith Direct

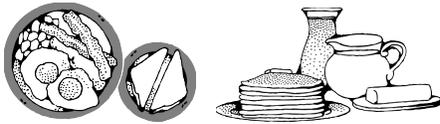
Visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll securely online. Our parish code is MD769.

Trying to find the last Mass on Sunday?

St. George Youth Group inviting all Youth & Family to Mass every 1st Sunday at 5:00PM. Mass is open to all the public, organized by our parish youth group.

Pancake Breakfasts — Sunday, Oct. 2

Father Sebastien de Rose Council will be serving their famous pancake breakfast Sunday morning, October 2 from 9:00 – 10:30 AM at St. George Community Center. Everyone is welcomed. Join your friends there.



St. George Parish Picnic—Sunday, Oct. 9-Cecil Park

All St. George’s parishioners are invited to celebrate Fall picnic after 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, October 9. There will be food, games, and music for a fun-filled afternoon at Cecil Park (next to the Church).

SAVE YOUR USED WINTER COATS:



As you buy new winter coats, please save your used winter coats for the St. George Coat Drive to be held the weekend of October 29-30 (For more info., contact Dennis Hackathorn 301-994-9673)

Volunteer for Care Net . . . The Care Net Pregnancy Center will hold training for those interested in volunteering as a Client Advocate on October 4, 6, 11, 13, 18 & 20. We are offering morning classes at 9:30-12:30 in Calvert County and evening classes at 5:30-8:30 PM in St. Mary’s County; so pick the time and location most convenient for you. The whole training takes approximately 18hours and is split up into 6 sessions. For more information and to sign up please call 301-737-4604 or 410 326-6866.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS WORKSHOP

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

All New and Current Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers must attend a training workshop at 11:00AM on Saturday, October 1st. Please call the parish office and let us know you will or will not be attending (lunch will be provided).

A make-up session will be provided for those who cannot attend due to schedule conflict.

Lector/Reader

The lector is instituted to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture at Mass. Training workshop for new lector is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 1 at 1:00PM. Current Lectors are welcome to attend, but are not required. Please join the E.M.H.C. for lunch at 12:00 PM. Call the office or email us and let us know you are planning to attend.



Introducing ...

St. George Dinner Theater

Sunday, October 23, 6:00pm

Theme: A Night on Broadway

\$20/ticket

Tickets will be on sale after the Masses, beginning next weekend. Advance purchases only – no tickets will be sold at the door!



Walk with Francis 2.0 – September 24th - 25th

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington would like to commemorate the first anniversary of Pope Francis’ visit to DC with an opportunity to renew your pledge to Pray, Serve and Advocate for those in need. You are invited to renew that commitment this weekend. Pledge cards and bracelets are in the vestibule of the church. Please take a moment to sign the pledge and leave with an usher for return to Catholic Charities for recording.

OUR FAITH FORMATION

Youth Faith Formation at St. George (YFF)

Pre-K through Confirmation

9:30-10:45 AM, Community Center

Sun., Oct. 2 — Children’s Liturgy, 11:00 AM, Church

Apologetic 101:

Thur, Sept. 29 Topic: Why would God allow bad things to happen?, 6:30-7:30PM, Community Center

Youth Group NEWS:

Mark your calendars

Family Masses coming the first Sunday of each month!

October 2, at 5:00pm,

Followed by a potluck dinner and Family Feud (All parishioners are welcome to attend these Masses!)

We are going to start putting items on our bulletin board once again. If you would like to make a donation, please check the bulletin board in the vestibule and take a card.

OUR REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Little Flower School News

Mon., Sept. 26 - The Amazing Race begins!

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Tue., Sept. 27 - 10:15am - School Mass at Holy Face Church (early celebration of Feast of St. Therese on Saturday, Oct. 1)

Wed., Sept. 28 - BINGO IS BACK! Doors open at 6pm; Earlybird special at 6:45pm. Cash prizes! Food and drink for sale. Every Wednesday night!

Thu., Sept. 29 - 2nd Grade Bake Sale
St. Mary's Ryken Admissions Director speaks to middle school parents, 6pm

Fri., Sept. 30 - 3rd Grade Parent/Student Mass; 8am
6th & 7th Grade Parent/Student Lunch 11:45am
Italian Night, 5-8pm

EZ Money Raffle tickets are available for purchase after select masses or at the school office through December 1. Tickets are 3 for \$25 or \$10 each. The grand prize is \$2500, other cash prizes include \$500, \$250, and four \$150 bonus prizes. The drawing will take place on **December 15** during our Christmas Program. For more information, contact: LFEZMoney@gmail.com.

Bingo is back! Every Wednesday, doors open at 6pm; 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)!

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 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! (301)994-0404 or email LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org

VOCATION NEWS

What kinds of people become priests, sisters or brothers?

Are they uncommonly holy, unusually saint-like? No. They are people who make mistakes, people who aren't afraid to be human while in God's service.

Are they people who can't face the competition and cruelty of the "real" world? No. They are people who believe that through ministry they can immerse themselves in the world and make positive changes.

Are they people who don't relate well with other people? No. They are people who love others—people who find real satisfaction chatting with a 93-year-old parishioner, holding the hand of a cancer patient, listening to the troubles of a street-wise teen.

They are people with the courage to touch lives, hearts and souls in a high-tech, unchurched world. Are you that kind of person?

Serra Club of Southern Maryland. We are working and praying for priests, deacons and those in consecrated life.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

REFLECTING ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

AM 6: 1A, 4-7; PS 146: 8-10; 1 TM 6: 11-16; LK 16: 19-31

As we have indicated many times, the theme of what constitutes "true wealth" is one that not only runs through the entire Bible, it is perhaps one of the most dominant teachings of Jesus. The readings on this Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time all bear this message.

For the First Reading we return to the Old Testament Book of Amos. Just reviewing the language used by Amos in this prophecy it is clear that people often do not understand or live with a complete understanding of what wealth and comfort truly are. Amos points out that God warns us of more than wallowing in luxuries; he quotes God as saying, "Woe to the complacent." This indicates an even greater threat to our pursuit of holiness.

The eminent author, philosopher, and Christian apologist C.S. Lewis wrote, "Indifference is the main enemy of love, not hatred." Do we really care about those around us? If we do not, from the heart, we cannot be the disciples and loving stewards Jesus wants us to be. This is the complacency about which Amos is speaking. It is as if we hide and conceal our own sins, and thus conclude that God cannot see them either. God is aware, and we need to be alert and aware, to guard against apathy, indifference, and complacency.

The Second Reading is again from St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy. We need to appreciate that most of Paul's letters were written to faith communities (e.g., Ephesians, Colossians, Romans, Corinthians, and so on). However, a few including the letters to Timothy were written to individuals, in reality to pastors and particular leaders (the two letters to Timothy and the letter to Titus). Our word "pastor" is rooted in the Latin word *pastores*, which meant "shepherd." These are instructions to shepherds.

Of course, the significance for us is that Jesus expects each of us to be a shepherd. That, too, is what being a disciple of His is all about. We may not be the formal shepherd like a priest or Jesus, but we hold the same responsibilities to shepherd those we love and those with whom we come in contact. St. Paul opens today's reading by saying (addressed to all men and women of God, including each of us), "But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith." Paul very much grasped and employed this idea of competing to describe how we were to live and to teach others.

If you are constantly "competing," it is difficult to be complacent. In fact, to pursue those things that Paul outlines and mentions we must be active, not passive,

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involved and caring, not complacent and indifferent. Being a disciple entails action. Stewardship means action, not just sharing, but sharing openly and actively.

Our Gospel Reading from St. Luke is basically called the Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man. Then again it is much more than a parable. It is a story, but a story that might be considered a prophecy. Jesus is trying to emphasize to us what it means and what happens if we are indifferent and complacent. The Lord never condemns the rich man for his wealth, but He does condemn him for not caring, for ignoring and neglecting those in need around him, in this case poor Lazarus. There is nothing subtle when Jesus portrays Lazarus as being rewarded and in heaven, but the rich man in torment and suffering in the "netherworld." Netherworld is another name for the underworld, for Hades — the opposite of Heaven.

Jesus through Luke shows that people who are not in Heaven may be aware of those who are. Yet there is a vast chasm between them. Again C.S. Lewis addressed these two worlds in his book *The Great Divorce*. A quote from that book is as follows: "There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God 'Thy will be done' and those to whom God says 'Thy will be done.' All that are in Hell (the netherworld) choose it. Without that self-choice there could be no Hell. Those who seek find. For those who knock it is opened."

We have a choice, just as those highlighted in today's readings. We can be satisfied and choose to remain ignorant and removed from the needs around us, or we can love as Jesus wishes, follow Him, and be disciples.

NEWS IN AND AROUND OUR AREAS

Men's Annual Retreat – October 28-29, 2016

Give a weekend to God! Ignatian Weekend Retreat—"Entering into the Father's Joy". The men of Southern Maryland Parishes go on retreat each year at LOYOLA ON THE POTOMAC – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, Maryland. Our Ignatian Weekend Retreat is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. The retreat is conducted in silence 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 28 and concludes with lunch on Sunday, October 29. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Dan at djichniowski@yahoo.com or 301-994-1310, A deposit of \$115 is required. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$235. (\$185 for first time retreatants and/or young adults up to age 30) You may also reserve online at www.loyolaonthepotomac.com. "Come away and rest awhile".

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Thur., Sept. 29 Clergy and Clinician Workshop "Moral Injury and Forgiveness", 12Noon-2:30PM, Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament Parish Center, Quesada St., NW, Washington, D.C. Info: 202-641-4556 and www.vetsvoices.net.

Sat., Oct. 1 Yard Sale, 2nd Dist. VFD&RS, Drayden Road, Valley Lee, 7am-12:00pm. Reserve a table \$10. Info/reserve a table: Kelly at 240-299-5261.

Sat., Oct. 1 Annual Yard Sale, St. Ignatius Church, Hilltop, MD, 7am-2pm. Bake table, raffle, many bargains and treasures! Breakfast and lunch items for sale. Info: John Minichino, 301-743-3514.

Sat., Oct. 1 The Many Face of Grief: A Retreat for Healing from Diverse Losses, Guided by: Gordon Creamer. Cost: \$60 per person. 930am-4:00 PM. This retreat focuses on naming the rites of passage through grief in order to heal. Participants will be engaged in prayer, meditation and dialogue. Please bring a journal. www.RCCBonSecours.com/events

Oct. 2 - Oct. 20 24th International Week of Prayer and Fasting. Info: Email: info@iwopf.org.

Sat., Oct. 8 FREEDOM IN CHRIST RETREAT DAY, 11AM-7PM, St. Mary's, Bryantown, MD. Presented by UNBOUND Maryland, it will blend talks/ presentations on practical ways to increase Freedom in Christ. Mass at 6PM. Info: call Fr. Conley, 301-870-2220 or frconley@comcast.net

Sat., Oct. 8 St. Mary's County NAACP Freedom Fund Gala, 6:00 PM, Leonardtown Fire Dept. Social Hall. Reception/Seating 6PM, Dinner 6:30PM, Program 7:00pm. Info Mrs. Ernestine Pence, 301-373-5909, Ms. Andrea Bowman, 301-481-2753,

Mon., Oct 10 St. Mary's Ryken Fall Open House, 8:30a.m. Join us for coffee with administrators, an admissions presentation, student-led campus tours and a Q & A session with SMR leadership. To RSVP, visit <http://www.smrhs.org/openhouse> or contact the Admissions Office at 301-373-4183.

Now thru March 31, 2017 "God's Servant First, The Life and Legacy of Thomas More". An exhibit featuring relics and artifacts. St. John Paul II National Shrine, Harewood Road NE, Washington, D. C. Open daily, 10AM-5PM.

St. Mary's Ryken 5K and Blaine Whorl Family Fun Run

Saturday, October 22nd at 8:30 a.m.

St. Mary's Ryken High School

Join SMR for a day of fitness & fun for the whole family as it hosts its 5K and Blaine Whorl Family Fun Run! The 3.1 mile course is USATF certified and registration is \$25 until Oct. 1, 2016 and \$30 after. SMR Staff/Faculty/Student discounts available. Kids 10 and under can register for a FREE 100 meter pumpkin dash. T-shirts will be included with early registrations. Music, refreshments, games and family fun will be a part of the day. Awards will be given for top qualifiers. Runners, walkers and sponsors can find all necessary information online at www.smrhs.org/5K. Don't miss out!