Established in 1851

ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH

19199 St. George's Church Rd.
Valley Lee, Maryland 20692

Phone: 301-994-0607
Fax: 301-994-1793

Website: www.StGeorgeRCC.org
Email: secretary@stgeorgercc.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Gospel calls all people to holiness of life. Saint George Catholic Church is a family of faith, committing ourselves as a welcoming Catholic community to worship God in Word and in Sacrament; to live and to share our faith; to serve and to reconcile ourselves with God and one another.

WELCOME STATEMENT

Our parish family extends a warm welcome to all who are joining us for worship, guidance or instruction. If you are new to the area or coming home, we invite you to register and make St. George Catholic Church your parish. Registration forms can be obtained in the church vestibule, at the office or online (www.stgeorgercc.org).

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Paul Nguyen, *Pastor*
Deacon Joel Carpenter, *Permanent Deacon*
Matthew Hendrick, *Parish Secretary*
Barbara Carpenter, *Business Manager & Director of Liturgy and Music*
Kimberley Browne, *Minister of Religious Education*
Rico Romero, Facility *Maintenance Supervisor*

OFFICE HOURS

Mon., Wed., Fri. 10:00AM-2:00PM
Tues., Thur. 10:00AM-5:30PM

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses
Tuesday — Friday 9:00 AM
First Saturday 9:00 AM
Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil — 5:00 PM
Sunday — 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM
St. Francis Xavier Mission Chapel (St. George island)
Saturday 7:00 PM (May to September) *
***** *Memorial Day to Labor Day*
Holy Day Masses — as announced

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Youth Faith Formation (YFF) meets in the Community Center 9:30-10:45 AM. Contact Kim Browne for class enrollment and for more information: (301) 994-0737 or email: kim.browne@stgeorgercc.org

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Little Flower School (*pre-K – 8th grades)*

For registration or information, please call LFS at (301) 994-0404 or visit us online www.littleflowercatholic.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Group meets on Sundays, 5:00-8:00PM in St. George Community Center. All teens grade 6 and up are invited and welcome to attend our weekly meeting. For more information, please contact the church office (301) 994-0607 or contact one of our Youth Group Team Leaders (Kelly Carpenter, Omotayo Ojo, Chris De-Piazza) at YouthGroup@stgeorgercc.org

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM:

Arrangements must be made in advance with Deacon Joel Carpenter or Father Paul by at least one parent for children under the age of seven.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/EUCHARIST:

Contact Mrs. Kimberley Browne for more information: kim.browne@stgeorgerrc.org

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION:

Saturday 4:00-4:30PM, or by appointment
First Friday during Eucharistic Adoration (10-10:30am)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & HOLY EUCHARIST:

Parishioners unable to attend Mass on the weekends or who are ill are encouraged to call the parish office to receive these Sacraments.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is celebrated in the Fall and requires a 2-year preparation in our Sunday Youth Faith Formation.

MARRIAGE

Couples should contact the parish office and priest to make arrangements as soon as possible, at least 6 months in advance of the wedding. Pre-Cana Classes or Engagement Encounter (Marriage Prep.) is required.

RCIA (Preparation for Easter Sacraments)

The **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults is a process of inquiry and discernment for prospective converts to the Catholic faith who are above the age of infant baptism. Candidates are gradually introduced to aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices. Classes are held every Saturday at 10:00am-11:30am in St. George Community Center beginning in October and ends in May. For more information and registration, please contact Fr. Paul at the church office or email: fr.paulnguyen@gmail.com

DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary: After Daily Masses & Sat. 4:30 PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Fridays after Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Fri. & Sat. 9:30-10:30 AM

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Tues	**April 2**	**9:00 am**	**Carol Annette Quigg**
Wed	**April 3**	**9:00 am**	**Dora Adams**
Thu	**April 4**	**9:00 am**	**Charles David Downes**
Fri	**April 5**	**9:00 am**	**Mary C. Edwards**
Sat.	**April 6**	**9:00 am**	**Vocations**
Sat	**April 6**	**5:00 pm**	**St. George Parishioners**
Sun	**April 7**	**8:30 am**	**Gladys Sheehan**
Sun	**April 7**	**11:00 am**	**Wanda Chimiak**

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Daily Lector: J. Blackwell, T. Buckler, C. Galli, D. Orwig, M.Goldsmith

Meals-on-wheels: J/V Royston, K. Owens, G. Crawford

Altar Preparation: K. Britton

LITURGICAL FEAST DAYS

Tues. April 2 – St. Francis of Paola

Thurs. April 4 – St. Isidore

Fri. April 5 - St. Vincent Ferrer

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

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

PARISH CALENDAR

Sun. March 31 YFF **9:30am- CC**

Tues. April 2 KofC Council Meeting **6:30pm - CC**

Wed. April 3 Cantor Practice **6:30pm – C**
Choir Practice **7pm – C**

Fri. April 5 Bible Study **10am - CC**
Fish Dinner **4:00pm - CC**
Stations of the Cross **7:00pm - C**

Sat April 6 RCIA **10am-CC**

Sun. April 7 YFF **9:30am- CC**

C: Church, **CC: Community Center*

Scriptural Reflection of a Faithful Steward

1 SM 16:1B, 6-7, 10-13A; PS 23: 1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6; EPH 5:8-14; JN 8:12; JN 9:1-41

For too many of us, Lent is a season of doom and gloom, a time to feel bad about all the ways we are not "measuring up" in our spiritual lives. But this view could not be further from the truth. Lent is a season of refreshment and love, of awakening and rebirth. In fact, the word "lent" comes from the Old English word, *"lencten,"* which means spring. Lent is intended to be a springtime for us in our spiritual lives where all can become new again.

St. Paul tells us in the Second Reading today, *"Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ."* The Gospel Reading, too, is filled with this theme of awakening and the extravagant, life-changing love that the Father has for each one of us; it is the well-known parable of the Prodigal Son.

We are all familiar with this amazing story — the bratty younger son who has the audacity to ask his dad for his inheritance early, only to squander it sinfully away. It makes us bristle instinctively at his nerve when we read it. But isn't that exactly what we do when we selfishly turn away from God (in big or small ways) in our own lives? We squander away the inheritance of grace He has given us.

In desperation from the mess he had made of his life, the son finally "comes to his senses"—awakening to the truth that he is a beloved son of a loving and merciful father and decides to return home. His contrition is faltering and imperfect and seems motivated in large part by his growling stomach.

But it was enough for the loving father. "While still a long way off, the father caught sight of him." The son was still a long way off from a deep understanding of what he had lost and what he was about to gain. But that small and imperfect openness to the father's love was enough. In fact, the father is "filled with compassion for him" and immediately sets about preparing feast and fine clothes for this son. What an extravagance of love! What a beautiful picture Jesus gives us of our Father's love and mercy.

Oh, how this should fill us with gratitude for such a Father! Be refreshed in this love. We are new creations thanks to this reconciling love.

And what comfort this passage gives to those of us who watch with sorrowful hearts for a return to faith for own "prodigal" loved ones. Our Father is watching and waiting for their return to Him even more eagerly and patiently than we are.

We owe God everything! But let's start by giving him one little thing. Take even a faltering step closer to Him — go to confession, join in the Stations of the Cross, call a family member or friend you are at odds with and try to reconcile. With just the tiniest bit of spiritual "spring cleaning" we can be sure we will be swept up in our Father's loving embrace and find ourselves feasting in His presence. That is what lent is all about.

STEWARDSHIP – FINANCIAL REPORT

	3/24/2019	3/25/2018	
General Collection	$3708.29	$4630.18	-$776.89
E-Giving (Weekly)	$1167.00	$1022.00	
Identifiable Gifts	118	134	-16
Maintenance	$0.00	$110.00	-$110.00
Poor Box	$166.00	$364.00	-$198.00
Donations	$200.00	$520.00	-$320.00

Thank you for your faithful Parish support.

PARISH NEWS

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES

Easter Flower envelopes are now available in the vestibule. Please return them by **April 14** if you wish your loved ones to be included in the listing."

2019 ANNUAL JUBILARIAN MASS

The Annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25,30,35,40,45,50 and 51+ years will be held **Sunday, June 16th, 2019 at 2:00pm** at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please call the Parish Office or use the sign up forms in the back of the Church to register. Names of the Jubilarians need to be turn in to the Parish by **Friday April 26th.**

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.

PARISH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY

Our parish annual Spring cleaning of the church, grounds & cemetery in preparation for Easter is

Saturday April 13th from **9am** to **1pm**

*

spring cleanup

Please bring rakes, trimming and gardening tools if you have them. Lunch will be provided.

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

ST. GEORGE SOFTBALL

The St. George softball teams are looking for new players from our parish. We will have an A team (competitive) and a C team (recreational). The season runs from May to August. Please contact Amanda Delgado at amsquires@smcm.edu for more information."

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN, LOURDES, AND FATIMA

SIGN UP NOW AT THE CHURCH OFFICE:

Fr. Paul is hosting a **11-Day** Spain Pilgrimage **November 12th-22nd** with stops in Lisbon, Fatima, Salamanca, Avila, Madrid, Lourdes, Montserrat and Barcelona. Please see the booklet and registration form in the vestibule for more information. If you are interested in going please fill out the form and turn it in along with your deposit as soon as possible to the parish office. Space is premium, please sign up early.

CATHOLIC TEACHINGS

"Catholic Posture:

Ever hear the term "Catholic calisthenics?" It refers to our posture during Mass. Sit, stand, kneel, sit, stand, kneel. So why do Catholics do all this during Mass? Is it all just arbitrary? Hardly! Here's the deal. Each different posture helps us get into a different mindset. Sitting is the posture of learning. That's why we sit during the readings and the homily. Standing is the posture of reverence and prayer. Ever notice how you stand when a judge or dignitary enters the room? How much more so, then, should we be in reverence and prayer than when the priest processes in, when we listen to the Gospel proclaimed or join in the prayer of the faithful? And kneeling is the posture of worship and humility. This is why we kneel during the Eucharistic prayer and after receiving Communion. At a typical Mass, you'll sit four times, stand seven and kneel three. Because as Catholics, we don't just worship with our hearts and minds, we put our whole bodies into it!"

Excerpt taken from "A Minute in the Church: Vol. II" by Gus Lloyd. This and three other books in the series on Church teachings are available in our kiosk in the vestibule

OUR FAITH FORMATION

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION (YFF) *GRADES K-8*

Please contact Mrs. Kim Browne, kim.browne@stgeorgercc.org

Children Faith Formation Class is held every Sunday at 9:30am-10:45am in the Community Center.

Adult Faith Formation

APOLOGETICS: 9:30-10:45AM in Community Center

Sun. April 14th Did Vatican II Really Say That?
Sun. April 28th Why Should I Fast?

BIBLE STUDY

Sun. April 7th, 9:30-10:45am in Comm. Center.
Topic: "St. Francis de Sales: Pastor of Souls"

BIBLE STUDY

Fri. April 5th: "Into the Desert" Lenten Study on Prayer

OUR YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Group meets today at 5pm in the Community Center. All teens, 6th grade and older are welcome to attend. Youth Group Team Leaders: Kelly Carpenter, Omotayo Ojo, Chris De Piazza. For more information, please call the church office (301) 994-0607 or email: YouthGroup@stgeorgercc.org

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 are also 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)!

Interested in learning more about Little Flower School? Call (301)994-0404 or check out the information online (LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

Upcoming Events:

April 2nd Council Meeting at St. George
April 5th Lenten Fish Dinner at St. George (CC)
April 12th Lenten Fish Dinner at St. George (CC)
April 30th Planning Meeting at St. George

NEWS IN OUR AREA

3rd Annual "Walk in the Park" 5K Fun Run/Walk

Join us at St. Francis Xavier Church on **Saturday, April 6th** for this fun event to benefit our parish's Newtowne Manor House Preservation/Restoration Fund. This run/walk is open to all ages and abilities. Course starts at St. Francis Xavier Church, and follows the road into picturesque Newtowne Neck State Park. Registration starts at 8 a.m. and run/walk starts at 9 a.m. The registration fee of $20 which includes a t-shirt will help preserve this religious and historic landmark. Kids 12 and under are free. Information on registration is available on our website: www.stfrancisxavierchurch.org. If you need additional information, please contact Sarah Matisick at 301-247-7416.

24th Annual Run &Fun Walk for Hospice

Attention Runners! Hospice of St. Mary's is Holding its 24th Annual Run &Fun Walk for Hospice on **Saturday April 13th at 8:30am**. The Race will begin at the St. Mary's County Governmental Center in Leonardtown and will be held rain or shine. Runner can sign up for either a 5K or 10K run, and walkers can sign up for a 5K fun walk. If you would like to participate, please complete and return the Registration Form, along with your registration fee, to: Run &Fun Walk for Hospice, P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, Maryland, 20650. Race Day registration is also available at the Governmental Center from 7am-8am for more information and an online registration form please visit www.runforhospic.org. Thank you for your support of Hospice of St. Mary's.

Loyola on the Potomac: Lenten Days of Prayer

April 15 *The Lord Hears Our Cry* Each day of Prayer begins at 9:00 am and includes: Continental Breakfast, Lunch and mass. Fee $40.00 Call (301) 392-0801 or go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com to make a reservation.

Job Opening at Camp Maria

Camp Maria Retreat Center seeks someone with food and customer service experience OR a strong interest in food service, food preparation, and customer service. This position is ideal for students, retirees, and parents with children in school with reliable transportation. The hours for this position include day time, evenings and weekends. Please contact Theresa Peoples at admin@campmaria.org or 301-475-8330 for a job application form. To learn more about Camp Maria, visit our website at www.campmaria.org. Job closes on **April 15, 2019**.

Cathedral Penance Service

The Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle invites you to experience the love of Christ through the Sacrament of Reconciliation at a Lenten Communal Penance Service, "Come Home for Easter," on **Tuesday, April 16 at 12:10pm**. More than 15 priests will be available for individual confessions, including Spanish-speaking and other foreign language confessors. www.stmatthewscathedral.org/Lent2019

IHC Mystery Players: "It's a Play, It's a Prayer, It's a Mystery" –

Tuesday, April 16, at 7:30pm at St. Aloysius Church

Since 1981, IHC Seniors have been bringing the stories of Jesus' birth and death on the cross during the Advent and Lenten seasons. Lent calls to mind many ancient traditions in the Catholic Church, one being the Stations of the Cross. The Immaculate Heart Central High School Mystery Players from Watertown, NY, present, in a very creative way, the centuries old stations. Meditation and contemplation on the death and resurrection of Jesus is the central mystery in the prayer life of the Catholic Church. The Mystery Plays of the Middle Ages focused on the presentation of this central mystery. Connected to ancient Mystery Plays, the IHC Mystery Plays bring the stations to the modern level through use of special lighting, music, pantomime, and paraliturgical readings. Using the sanctuary of the church as a stage, the Paschal Mystery is recreated in a moving, dramatic presentation. This group has performed extensively throughout NY State, as well as NJ, MA, PA. MD, VA, NC, CT, and Canada. We strongly encourage everyone to attend this unique and powerful prayer experience. Please be advised that small children may be frightened due to the nature of the play. It is typically recommended for grades 5 and up. Please refrain from taking pictures during the actual event. If you would like to see a preview, please visit: https://www.ihcschool.org/spiritual-life/mystery-players.