

Established 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@stgeorgerrcc.org



WELCOME

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.

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 the poor, the vulnerable, and those in need; and to reconcile ourselves with God and one another.



First Sunday of Advent

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Paul Nguyen, *Pastor*

Deacon Joel Carpenter, *Parish Deacon*

Mrs. Kimberley Browne, *Minister of Religious Education*

Mrs. Barbara Carpenter, *Business Manager*

Director of Liturgy and Music

Mrs. Divine Stachowski, *Parish Secretary*

Mr. Rico Romero, *Facility Maintenance Supervisor*

OFFICE HOURS

Closed on Mondays

Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am-4:00pm

Wednesday & Friday 10:00am-2:00pm

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses: (all Masses limited to 39 households that reside together)

Tuesday — Saturday: 9:00 am

Weekend Masses: (all Masses limited to 39 households that reside together)

Saturday — 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am

10:00am

2:00pm (in Vietnamese)

St. Francis Xavier Mission Chapel (on St. George's Island)

Saturday — 7:00pm *Memorial Day - Labor Day

Holy Hour w/ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction:

Tuesday – Friday: 5:00 pm

Holy Day Masses — **9am & 7pm...or 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@stgeorgerc.org

RCIA (Preparation for Easter Sacraments)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process of inquiry and discernment for those who wish to come into full communion with the Catholic faith and are above the age of infant baptism. Classes are held Saturdays at 10-11:30am in the Community Center beginning in October and ending in May. For more information and registration, please contact Fr. Paul at the church office or email: fr.paulnguyen@stgeorgerc.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 (Maddie Mushrush, Omotayo Ojo and Darren Rogers) at YouthGroup@stgeorgerc.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@stgeorgerc.org

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is celebrated in the Fall and requires a 2-year preparation in our Sunday Youth Faith Formation. Contact Mrs. Kimberley Browne for more information: kim.browne@stgeorgerc.org

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION:

Saturday 4:00-4:30PM, or by appointment (outside).

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.

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.

DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary: After Daily Masses & Sat. 4:30pm + **Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Fridays after Daily Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesday-Friday 5:00pm-6:00pm Saturday 9:30am-10:30am

We can no longer share books, pamphlets and resources. Please bring your own if you have them. If we make resources available, please take them with you or we will be forced to discard them.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Tue	Dec. 1	9:00am	For Prayers Unanswered
Wed	Dec. 2	9:00am	Rudy Baliko
Thu	Dec. 3	9:00am	Hieu Thi Cao
Fri	Dec. 4	9:00am	Lorenzo Le Cong Bieu
Sat	Dec. 5	9:00am	Vocations
		5:00pm	Wesley B. Grider (L)
Sun	Dec. 6	7:30am	Irene Gross
		10:00am	Gertrude Britton
		2:00pm	Parishioners

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Daily Lector: J. Blackwell, M. Goldsmith, C. Galli, B. Gallo, M. Goldsmith

Liturgical Feast Days

Mon, Nov. 30 ST. ANDREW, APOSTLE

Thu, Dec. 3 ST. FRANCIS XAVIER,

Fri, Dec. 4 St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church



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.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

IS 63:16B-17,19B; 64:2-7; PS 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 COR: 1:3-9; MK 13:33-37

Today we begin the beautiful and holy season of Advent. With all that we have going on this time of year, it's no wonder that Advent doesn't always seem to get the attention it deserves. But if we will commit to living this season well, we will experience a deeper conversion to Christ and find real transformation in our lives as Christian stewards.

Why? Advent calls us not only to look back in grateful contemplation of Christ's first coming, but it also calls us to look forward in preparation for His Second Coming. Advent is a time to reset and regroup, to repent over any misplaced priorities, to turn our minds and hearts back to God while we still have time. We do so not out of fear or guilt, but out of gratitude for Love Incarnate lying in a manger bed.

We can take as our theme for this season the words of the Prophet Isaiah in our First Reading. "You Lord, are our Father, our redeemer you are named forever... Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!" The passage ends with this verse, which is especially meaningful to the Christian steward: "We are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands." In other words, our lives are not about us — rather, they are a gift to be used to glorify God and serve others.

In our Second Reading, from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, we are reminded of how extravagantly God has gifted each one of us. "You were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge... so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ." Let us embrace these Advent days to recommit to stewarding our spiritual gifts well. This will look different for each individual, of course. Perhaps a family can commit to setting up an Advent wreath and taking 10 minutes to reflect on the daily Gospel. Someone else may choose to be intentional in checking on a lonely neighbor each

day to bring God's love to them consistently. Maybe some will be inspired to scale back their usual gift-giving and donate that saved money to those in dire need right now.

Whatever we feel God calling us to do, there is no time to waste. Jesus makes this strikingly clear in our Gospel passage from Matthew through the parable of a man going off on a journey. Before he leaves, he "places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch." We, of course, are the servants in this parable, each with a mission to accomplish in building the Kingdom of God. Jesus warns us over and over in this passage to remain attentive to the work He has given us to do because we do not know when we will be called to give an account for it. "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come."

Our lives are a gift. This holy season is a gift. Let us awaken if we have grown weary or complacent, and recommit to living the stewardship way of life. Love came down to us as a Baby. And He is coming again. Be watchful!





*Flowers on altar are in memory
of Baby Kevin James Cooney*

STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT

	Current Week: 11/22/2020 Wks 21 of FY2021	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Offertory	\$2,989.00	\$95,850.88	\$102,000.00
*E-Giving	\$3,045.00		
Maintenance	\$50.00	\$13,615.00	\$12,800.00
*E-Giving	\$150.00		
Poor Box	\$70.00	\$3,461.25	\$4,400.00
*E-Giving	----		
Misc. Donations	\$885.00	\$45,333.00	\$24,000.00
*E-Giving	\$10.00		
ADW Priest Ret.	----	\$1,315.28	N/A
*E-Giving	\$30.00		
**E-Giving will be reported after it is received by the parish, typically the 2 nd and 4 th weeks of the month.			

LITURGICAL NEWS



During the month of November, all our Mass intentions are reserved for the Holy Souls. If you would like to make a stipend for these Masses, envelopes are available in the vestibule or may be picked up at the parish office. All loved ones listed on the envelopes will be remembered at each Mass during the month of November.

Sunday Masses: Saturday: 5 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am

Sunday: 10 am (Live-streamed to YouTube, Communion available in parking lot.)

Sunday: 2 pm (In Vietnamese)

Daily Masses: Tuesday – Saturday: 9 am

Holy Hour (w/ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction): **Tuesday – Friday: 5 pm**

1st Friday, following daily Mass

Saturdays, following daily Mass.

QUESTIONS OF FAITH

About Advent Wreaths

“Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord’s first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

Blessing of an Advent Wreath

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent.

When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R/.) Who made heaven and earth.

Then the Scripture, Isaiah 9: (lines 1-2 and 5-6) or Isaiah 63 (lines 16-17 & 19) or Isaiah 64 (lines 2-7) is read:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God,
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:

he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,

let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light

be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us
salvation.

May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The blessing may conclude with a verse from "O
Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

O come, desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
bid ev'ry sad division cease
and be thyself our Prince of peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

—From Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers"

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

For information, email
kim.browne@stgeorgecc.org

PARISH NEWS

Due to the continuing pandemic of COVID-19, Stuffed Ham will be canceled.



GLASS ETCHING WORKSHOP!



Saturday, December 5, 10am – 4pm
\$25 includes etching 2 items of your
choice. Additional items can be
done for \$5/each.

Sign up for December 5 here:
<https://stgeorgevl.flocknote.com/signup/24131>

Instructions will be provided.

Masks must be worn and each person will have
their own socially distanced table – only 9 tables
per time slot! (Families can share a table.)

Drinks and individually wrapped snacks available,
however, we regret that we cannot offer buffet
food – you are welcome to bring food with you!

BIBLE STUDY

Our present Bible Study, "The End" by Dr. Scott Hahn is ongoing and it is **Not Too Late** to join us in this rich study of The Book of Revelation. Our study still entails listening to an audio while following along with a workbook, however we are now taking this study at a slower pace and stopping for more frequent discussions. The class usually lasts 1 1/2 - 2 hours and this pace will take us well into the spring. We would love to have you join us as Revelation is being revealed to us. For more information, contact Joyce Blackwell 301-994-1199 or 856-842-2667

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

51st Annual KoC Maryland State Council Car Raffle

Knights from our own Fr. Sebastien de Rose Council 13091 will be selling tickets after each Sat & Sun Mass **on the first weekend of the month only** from October 2020 to March 2021. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, cash or check only. The drawing will take place on Sunday, March 21, 2021

GRAND PRIZE: 2021 Ford Mustang (or \$18,000 cash option)

2nd Prize: Apple iPad

3rd Prize: \$200 Gift Card

Steamed Shrimp Dinner

There will be a Drive-Thru **STEAMED SHRIMP DINNER** sponsored by our Knights of Columbus Council on December 11th from 4-7 or until sold out. Dinner includes: Steamed Shrimp, French Fries and Pancit. Cost is \$15.00. Cash or Check. Pre-orders are recommended by December 4th. Call Roland Demers at 301-904-3672 to place your order in advance.

Keep Christ in Christmas

"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" Poster Contest for ages 5 through 14. Permission Form and 11x17 poster paper available in a plastic tote on the church office porch. Submissions must be returned to the tote by Saturday, December 5 by 5:00pm. By engaging the talents of our young people, we hope they will come to a deeper understanding of the true meaning of Christmas, and

that their artwork will bring others to remember Christ in Christmas.

5th Sunday Rosary Program

Please join the Fr. DeRose Council of the Knights of Columbus for their 5th Sunday Rosary Program at 9:30 AM this coming Sunday, November 29th. Grand Knight Jim Cooney will lead the recitation the 1924 version of the Rosary which was adopted from Rosary Novenas to Our Lady by Charles V. Lacey.

Carryout-Out Breakfast

(sponsored by our KofC Council) Sunday, Dec 6 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM Drive through the circle in front of the Community Center. \$10/Breakfast includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, home fried potatoes, biscuit, gravy, and frittata. "Join us" and help support the good works of our Knights of Columbus Council! Do not confuse this with the 2nd District Valley Lee Firehouse "Breakfast with Santa" event on Dec 13th.

LOCAL NEWS

Breakfast with Santa

13th December 2020, Sunday Breakfast with Santa, Drive-Thru (Carry-Out) Home-Made-Home-Style, Time: 8:00am to 11:00 am; Modified MENU: Scrambled Eggs, Home Fried Potatoes, Sausage Links, Hot Biscuits, Sausage Gravy, and Spiced Applesauce; COST: \$10.00 per Breakfast; For more information, call 301-994-9999

Red Cross Blood Drive

14th December 2020, A blood drive will be held on from 1:30pm to 6:00pm at the 2nd District Firehouse, 45245 Drayden Road, Valley Lee, MD. For more information/schedule your life saving donation, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org to download the blood donor app.

Fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings

Present date to 20th December 2020, Fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings located at 46370 Lexington Village Way, Lexington Park MD; Anytime during hours of operation. 10% of bill goes to 2nd District Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad; TEAM F (Teammate Card must be shown to receive 10% of bill for fundraiser). Call Robin for more information and teammate card at 301-737-4366 (H) or 240-577-0270 (C)

Upcoming Retreats at Loyola on the Potomac

Directed and Private Retreats

November 30 – December 4

Fee: \$425 Directed/ \$380 private.

Days of Prayer

November 30 (*The Advent of Hope*)

Each day of prayer begins at 9 am and includes: Continental breakfast, Lunch, and Mass. Fee \$40

New Year's Eve Retreat: We Run the Race with

Endurance

December 31, 2020 – January 1, 2021 *Dinner, time for prayer and reflection, Eucharist to bring in New Year--followed by a Social, and Brunch New Year's morning. Fee: \$110. For more information on any of the retreats, go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com or call (301) 392-0819*

BEAR HUGS FOR HEALING

is a program that delivers stuffed bears to hospitalized children during the holidays. To give a sick child a bear hug this Christmas, please drop off your donated bears by Dec 6 at Heavenly Presents, 22697 Washington Street, Leonardtown. Store hours are Tuesday - Saturday, or use the after-hours drop box outside the store front door. Your tax-deductible monetary donations will be used to purchase bears at a discounted price! Please make checks payable to the Bread of Life Center for Peace and mail them to: PO Box 338, Leonardtown, MD 20650. You may also purchase a bear or make donations through our website at www.breadoflifecenterforpeace.org-- click on Bear Hugs Project. Due to health and safety concerns, donated bears must be newly purchased and delivered in their original packing with store tags attached. Sorry, used stuffed bears are not accepted by the hospitals. Bear Hugs was an inspiration received in thanksgiving for favors granted through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima and St. Jude. Please contact Patricia Disandro at 240-681-3606 for more details about how you can participate in this special outreach. Thank you for your continued generous support of Bear Hugs!

Stuffed Ham for Sale

Pre-Order your Stuffed Ham now for Christmas; (SOLD BY THE POUND - \$13/LB); Orders will be taken until the 18th of December. Contact Robin to pre-order: 301-737-4366 (H) or 240-577-0270 (C); Stuffed Ham Pick-up is Wed. Dec 23rd; Time 5pm to 7pm; Where: 2nd District VFD & RS, Company 6, 45245 Drayden Rd.; Valley Lee, MD 20692. **PRE ORDER EVENT ONLY. No orders after the 18th of December.**