

St George Catholic Church

716 S. 3rd

Odessa, Mo. 64076

E-Mail Address stgeorgeodessa@gmail.com Parish web address www.stgeorgeodessamo.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Bryan Amthor 816-230-4127
Email: frbryana@gmail.com
Music Director: Calvin Snow 816-230-5245
Email: calvin.snow@gmail.com
Business Manager: Kate Root 816-633-7475
Email: marykroot@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Jean Falke 816-633-7475
Email: stgeorgeodessa@gmail.com
REC: Katherine Brown 816-633-2341
Email: katherinebrownpsr@gmail.com



Find us on Facebook
St George Catholic Church
Odessa, Mo

Welcome

The parishioners of St George welcome you to our parish community. If you would like to register with our parish, forms are on the kiosk, come by the parish office, 202 W. Phillips St, from 9:30am-12noon, Wednesday or Thursday, or call 816-633-7475. You may also fill out the Become a Parishioner form on the parish website at www.stgeorgeodessa.org.

Bulletin

All items for the St George bulletin should be sent to stgeorgeodessa@gmail.com or call the church office, 816-633-7475, by 10am on Tuesday.

ATTENTION: Because of COVID 19, meeting hall rentals are limited. Contact Kate Root, marykroot@gmail.com for more information.

Sexual Abuse: The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911 and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Mass Intentions

Sat Dec 26 5:30pm Mike Haskin by Jerry & Jeanne Wade
Sun Dec 27 8:30am Parishioners of St George
Thu Dec 31 6:00pm Priest Intention
Sat Jan 2 5:30pm Jim Schwartze by Jerry & Jeanne Wade
Sun Jan 3 8:30am Parishioners of St George

There will be no daily Masses next week at St George other than Thursday evening.

There will be a 6pm Mass Thursday evening on Dec 31 for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

No daily Masses next week at St Jude's except for Friday at 9am,

Schedule of Events

Sat	Dec 26	5:00pm	Confession	Church
		5:30pm	Mass	Church
Sun	Dec 27	7:45am	Confession	Church
		8:00am	Rosary	Church
		8:30am	Mass	Church
Thu	Dec 31	6:00pm	Mass	Church
Sat	Jan 2	5:00pm	Confession	Church
		5:30pm	Mass	Church
Sun	Jan 3	7:45am	Confession	Church
		8:00am	Rosary	Church
		8:30am	Mass	Church

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, December 26, 2020, 5:30pm

Reader Bonnie White
Ushers John Hotmer, Jerry Wade

Sunday, December 27, 2020, 8:30am

Reader Gerard Schulte
Ushers Carl Stein, Rex Watkins
Money Counters Bob Carey, Toni Hellums

Thursday, December 31, 2020, 6pm Mass

Holy Day Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Reader Any Available
Ushers Any Available

Saturday, January 2, 2020, 5:30pm

Reader Larry Lackamp
Ushers Jerry Wade, Any Available

Sunday, January 3, 2020, 8:30am

Reader Joyce Watkins
Ushers Norm Brodeur, Carl Stein
Money Counters Michelle Howard, Angie Platt

St George Parish Office

202 W. Phillips St Odessa, Mo. 64076

816-633-7475

Office Hours Wednesday & Thursday 9:30am – noon

Feast of the Holy Family December 27, 2020

We Are God's Holy Family

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

Copyright J.S. Palauch Co.

Remember in Prayer

Please keep these individuals in your prayers; Elsie Rees, Catherine Royeton, Gene Early, Marjorie Anderson, JoAnn McCarty, Helen Hotmer. Also remember all those who have been diagnosed with COVID 19 and all the health care workers and emergency responders.

Low Gluten Hosts

Low gluten hosts are available for Communion. Please talk to Fr. Bryan for information.

Online Giving

Did you know you can give online? Click give now on our website or use the link below. You can do a one time only or a recurring gift.

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stgeorgeodessamo>

Church Cleaning

Heavenly Duster

January 2

Team 3

Thank you to all those who volunteer to help keep our beautiful worship space clean.

Sacrificial Offering

12-20-20

Envelope	\$ 1601.00
Plate	\$ 330.00
Maintenance	\$ 25.00
Tabernacle	\$ 100.00
Local Assistance	\$ 105.00
Retired Religious	\$ 20.00
Christmas	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 2606.00

Masks and Social Distancing

Everyone is asked to wear their mask when entering and leaving the church. You are also asked to wear your mask when coming up to Communion. Please stay 6 feet apart when you are in line. Parishioners should practice social distancing upon entering and leaving the church.

Thank you for the

Angel Tree Gifts

Thank you to all who so generously contributed gifts for our Angel Tree Project this year. You have brought so much joy to families who truly need it. Maureen Carey

Cares Grant Emergency

Assistance

Catholic Charities received an award from the State of Missouri to provide housing and utility assistance to families in our diocese. Our goal was to reach a wide geographic area throughout our 27 counties and many of our parishes were willing to host these distributions. Thanks to your help we were able to distribute \$185K in direct assistance to community members and parishes. It is our plan to continue identifying available funds for this continual need. For information about our programs and services please contact Nancy Butters, Parish Outreach Manager at 816-659-8266 or nbutters@ccharities.com.

Psalm for this Week

Give thanks to the Lord; invoke his name;
make known among the nations his deeds.
Sing to him, sing his praise,
proclaim all his wondrous deeds.
Glory in his holy name;
rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord!
Look to the Lord in his strength;
constantly see his face.
The Lord is our God
who rules the whole earth.
He remembers his covenant,
the pact imposed for a thousand generations.
Psalm 105:1-4,7-8

Save The Date

Benefit Dinner

JANUARY 29, 2021

Support Our Seminarians

(SOS) Benefit Dinner:

The SOS Committee seeks assistance in sharing information and encouraging all parishioners' participation in this fundraiser as it will be the last ever — and hopefully best ever — effort in its nearly 30-year history! Entirely a virtual event: online giving, exciting raffle items, video expressions of thanks, and live-stream announcements of raffle winners, as well as the final fundraising tally. Please include information in your Parish Bulletins, as well as end-of-Mass announcements. For more information, visit: supportourseminarians.com.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Weekend of December 26/27, 2020

When Jesus is presented in the Temple, our Blessed Mother formally offers him to God's service without reservation. It is a service that Simeon prophetically foretells: a service to God that will turn the old laws and cultural norms upside down. As we await the dawn of a new year, are we destined to hold on to old habits and customs tightly or like Jesus, are we willing to serve the Lord and proclaim the Gospel in new and creative ways?

International Catholic Stewardship Conference e-bulletin

Parish Office Closed Next Week

The parish office will be closed next week. The office will reopen at 9:30am on January 6.

2021 Calendars

2021 Calendars are available in the gathering space provided by Ralph O Jones Funeral Home. Please take home a calendar.

Catholic Key Envelope

Please disregard the Catholic Key envelope in your contribution packet.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church for Christmas and to everyone who donated money for the Christmas flowers.

Mass Schedule of Solemnity of Mary,

Holy Mother of God

St George in Odessa

Thursday December 31, 6:00pm

St Jude's in Oak Grove

Friday, January 1, 9:00am

PSR Schedule

- 1/3-2021 PSR packets will be ready for pick up on Jan 1 & Jan 2 after each Mass.
- 1/4/2021 Parent Meeting for 1st Communion Class @ YEC building 7pm
- 1/18/2021 1st Reconciliation Class meeting YEC building 7pm
- 1/19/2021 Confirmation Class Meeting YEC building 7-9pm

Thank you to Carter McCue, Carlee Johnson, Clayton Stevens, and Felton Stevens for all their hard work. These 4 are part of this years Confirmation Class 2021. They worked very hard on Sunday to bring over the decorations from the YEC building to the Church, cleaning up the leaves in front of the doors and entrance of the Church, cleaning up the basement of the YEC building , and trying to surprise Fr Bryan with some decorations over at his house. Thank You again for all of your hard work.



Merry Christmas to all our parishioners and many visitors.

Dear St. George,

It has been a long year, but Christmas is soon upon us! Christmas may look a little different this year. We may miss love ones and we may not have the big parties we usually plan. Our anxiety may not be so much about presents or food preparation this year as it is about our finances or health. This year let us truly remember what Christmas is all about. It is about a God who became man to save his people from the darkness of this world because he is madly in love with us. During the Octave of Christmas from Christmas Day to New Year's Day time stands still. Take this time to slow down and encounter that Babe in a manger who loves you more than you can imagine. This way when time slowly begins to move forward on January 2 you can take that love with you wherever you go and always be reminded of what truly matters that God is with us.

As your Pastor I truly wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. May Christ fill your hearts with peace and an abundance of love this Christmas season. God bless you all!

Peace,

Fr. Bryan

Stewardship and Christmas: Turning the World Upside Down

For women in the ancient world, motherhood was prized and desired above almost all else. Sacred scripture tells of many women who pleaded with God to let them conceive. From Sarah, the mother of Isaac, to Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, the Bible is replete with women who finally, in their old age, were granted the gift of motherhood for which they had begged God. How marvelously significant it is, then, that in the town of Nazareth those many years ago, a young girl named Mary, unmarried and probably feeling altogether unready for motherhood, was visited by an angel who delivered God's plea: would she give God a child? Mary's response is a model par excellence for all those who aspire to be good stewards: "Behold, I am the Lord's servant. Let it be done to me according to your word" (Lk. 1:38).

And so the real mystery and beauty of Christmas is delivered: God turns the world upside down. In the words of the Magnificat, Mary proclaims the hope of every good steward: "My soul magnifies the Lord" (Lk 1:46). He has dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart, lifted up the lowly, filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. Here is a new understanding of the God who desires not our begging and our pleas, but our 'yes' to God's invitation to be active stewards in his plan of salvation. For the Christian steward, the consumerism, the gaudiness, the excesses of our cultural Christmas can be overcome by answering the call to live simpler lives, to use less, to feed the poor, to quiet ourselves in stillness rather than grow louder in frenzied activity.

In her book *The Vigil: Keeping Watch in the Season of Christ's Coming*, Professor Wendy Wright from Creighton University writes: "The ancient desert dwellers of our early Christian communities tell us that the surest way into the heart of God is to be still. In being still we learn to be attentive to the vast and hidden stillness that permeates all things."

In a world which prizes and desires wealth above so many things, the Christian steward finds in the stillness the true hope which lies at the heart of Christmas. Christ has come, and he comes again and again, and finally in the end, Christ comes. Once again, God implores us to receive this child in the stillness of our hearts, and respond to his call to transform the world's values – to turn the world upside down.

International Catholic Stewardship Conference e-bulletin

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23, God chooses each of us in a special way.

Mary and Joseph were forced travel in the last stages of her pregnancy from Nazareth to Bethlehem. On foot or donkey, it was a dirty and exhausting journey. Once there, they had no option for decent housing and had to stay in a stable with animals. Young Mary gave birth in crude conditions with no friend or family to help.

After a short time, they -ed to Egypt with their newborn to escape threats from the government, and stayed there for several years. There were no friendly faces to greet the family once they arrived and they had to make their own way in an unfamiliar land.

Refugees all over the world -ee violence like the Holy Family. Catholics have a special charge to protect them and those who are vulnerable: children, elderly, and poor. Like Mary's and Joseph's, God has a special place for each of us in his plan of salvation. Prayerfully ask God what he wants you to do for him and his kingdom.

Growing In Faith

2020 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

IN MEMORY OF

The Alig Family

Evelyn M. Carmody

Bud Donald

Rose Donald

The Donald Family

Eddie Falke

Mike Haskin

John Hellums

Shirley J. Hotmer

Mary Anna Johnson

George and Annie Lomonte

Lucille Matthews

Don McCarty

George and Vi Payne

Max and Elizabeth Starns

The Strauser Family

Jo Ann Warren

Liz Zellmer