

Saint George Parish Community

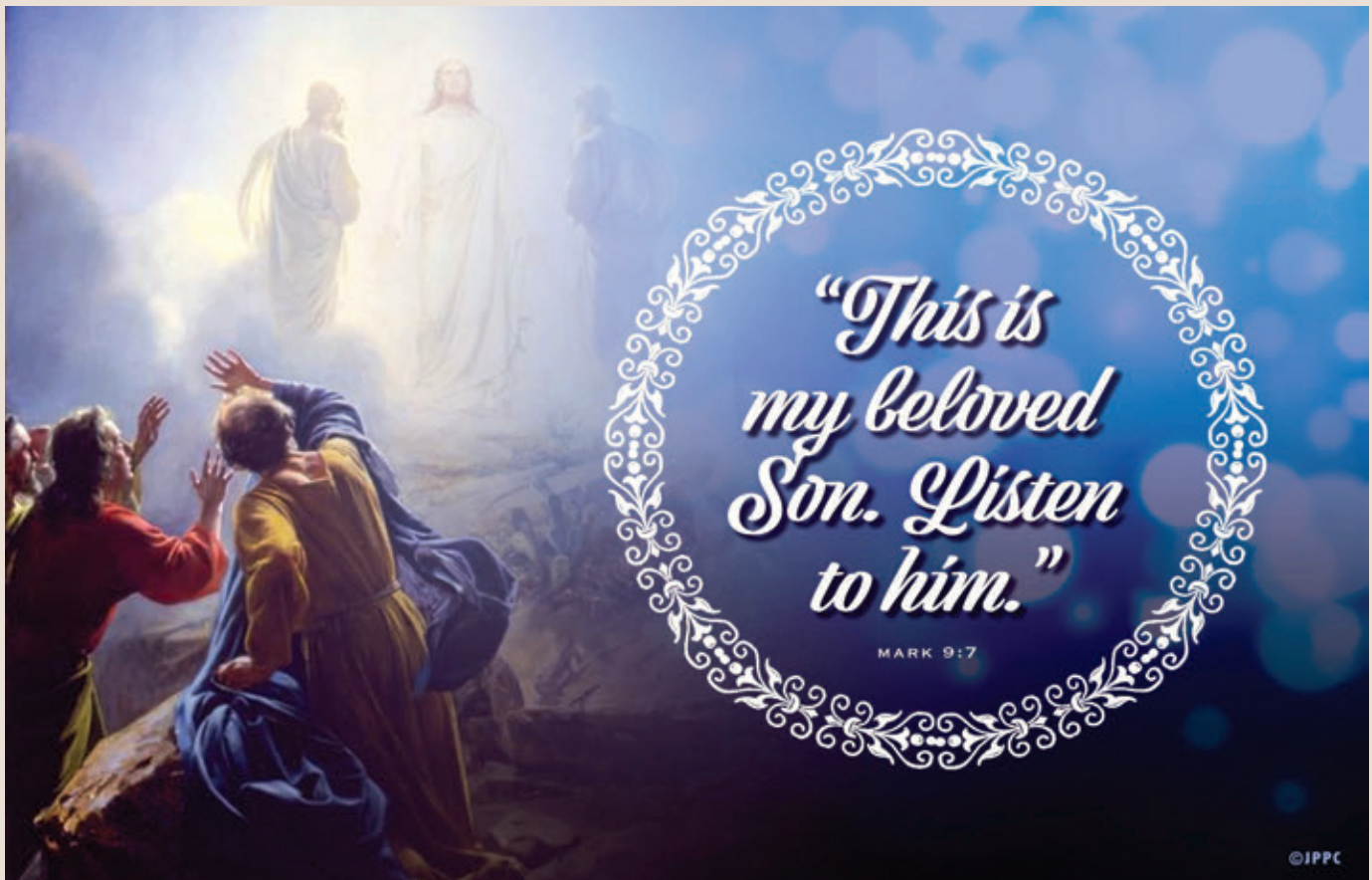
Under the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

22 E. Cooke Avenue, Glenolden, PA 19036 - 610-237-1633 - www.stgeorgeparish.org



Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021



Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. After He was transfigured before them, and His clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is My beloved Son. Listen to Him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, He charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

~Mark 9: 2-10

Contact Us!

New Parishioners

We are pleased to welcome new members to our Parish Community. Please call the Rectory Office at 610-237-1633 to make an appointment to register and to learn more about our parish, or visit www.stgeorgeparish.org. *Note: Students must be registered in the Parish before registering in the Parish Religious Education Program.*

Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the *second Sunday of the month at 11:30 AM*. Parents seeking baptism for their child are asked to please call the rectory. Pre-Jordan is required for parents with a first-born child or parents with additional children who have not attended within a two-year period. Pre-registration is required for Pre-Jordan and Baptism. Please contact Mrs. Lynda Batten at the Rectory Office for more information.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples planning a wedding are asked to call Father Oswald at the Rectory Office at least one year in advance of the wedding date. Couples are required to attend the Archdiocesan Marriage and Family Life Preparation Program.

Sick or Homebound

In case of serious illness or advanced age, please call the Rectory Office. Arrangements will be made for the Sacrament of the Sick and for Holy Communion. If you are going into the hospital and you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the Rectory. Also, when you are hospitalized, please contact the hospital Chaplain and the Rectory Office.

Tree of Life Memorial

If you would like to have a leaf (\$150) or a boulder (\$600) permanently inscribed in memory of a loved one on the Tree of Life, which is located in the vestibule at the main entrance of the church, please contact Mrs. Mary Ann Zeller at 610-237-1633.

Vigil Candles

Vigil Candles, which are located in front of the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph statues in the front of the church, are available for your intentions. Small candles are \$2 and will burn for two days. These can be purchased by placing your donation in an envelope and dropping it in the slot provided by the candles. Large candles are \$100 and will burn for an entire year. Large candles can be purchased by contacting Mrs. Mary Ann Zeller at 610-237-1633. A gold label with your loved ones name will be placed on the candle and it will remain there throughout the year.

Godparents

Only one godparent is required for Baptism. If two are chosen, one must be male and one must be female. A godparent must be a fully initiated Roman Catholic (Baptized, Confirmed and receiving the Eucharist), at least 16 years of age, if married, must be married in the Church, and in good standing with the Church. A baptized non-Catholic Christian may be chosen as a "Christian Witness" provided there is one Catholic godparent. A former Catholic may not serve as either a godparent or Christian witness.

R.C.I.A.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, or if you were baptized Catholic but did not complete your sacraments, please contact Sr. Lorraine Muglie, SSJ at the Rectory Office at 610-237-1633 to learn more about our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults Program.

Mass Cards

Mass cards are available at the Rectory Office. If you would like to have a Mass celebrated in memory of a deceased loved one, or for special intentions, please contact the Rectory Office *Monday, Wednesday or Friday, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (temporary hours)*. Standard cards are available for a \$10 stipend and booklets are available for a \$20 stipend.

Food Pantry

Our Parish Food Pantry is available for parishioners and friends who are in need of a meal but cannot provide one for themselves. If you or a friend needs temporary food assistance, please contact Mrs. Batten at 610-237-1633. All calls are confidential. Donations of non-perishable food items, in addition to turkeys and hams during the holidays, are always welcome. Gift cards to local supermarkets are also welcome.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Eucharistic Adoration is held in the Church *every Friday from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM, followed by daily Mass*, unless otherwise announced.

Quotes of the Week

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking His mercy." ~Pope Francis

"Unless there is Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday." ~Fulton J. Sheen

Parish Staff

Rev. Leo P. Oswald, Pastor

Rev. Martin E. Woodeshick, Pastor Emeritus - Holy Spirit

Rev. Ignatius Marneni, Retired in Residence

Rev. James McBurney, OSA and Rev. James McCartney, O.S.A., Weekend Assistants

Mrs. Lynda Batten, Parish, Secretary/PREP Coordinator Ext. 101

Mrs. Pat Dinan, Receptionist, Ext. 113 (Wednesdays)

Mrs. Gloria Greene, Assistant Bookkeeper, Ext. 104

Mrs. Chris Guidetti, Youth Minister, Ext. 125

Mrs. Kathleen Lerro, Director of Music, Ext. 101

Mr. Patrick McCullough, Maintenance, Ext. 104

Sister Lorraine Muglie, SS, Dir. of Adult Faith and
and Pastoral Care, Ext. 103

Mr. Keith Tomson, Accountant, Ext. 104

Mr. Al Zeller, Hall Manager - 610-237-1633

Mrs. Mary Ann Zeller, Business Manager, Ext. 104

Parish Information

Rectory Hours

Monday thru Thursday
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Summer Hours: 9AM to 4 PM daily
For more details, see page 5.
Phone Number: 610-237-1633
Fax Number: 610-237-9626
Email: st.georgesecc@rcn.com
Receptionist: Mrs. Marie Dunleavy
Mrs. Patricia Dinan
Secretary: Mrs. Lynda J. Batten
Parish Business Manager:
Mrs. Mary Ann Zeller

Convent

11 E. Lamont Avenue
Glenolden, PA 19036
Phone Number: 610-237-1633

Office of Religious Education

Director of Adult Faith Formation
Sr. Lorraine Muglie, SSJ
Phone Number: 610-237-1633
Fax Number: 610-237-9626

PREP Coordinator

Mrs. Lynda Batten: 610-237-1633
Mondays Only 4-6 PM: PREP Office
484-425-7390 (Temporarily suspended)

Bereavement Ministry

Mrs. Mimi Ednie

Bingo Program

Mr. Al Zeller

Holy Name Society

Mr. Al Zeller

Legion of Mary

Mrs. Theresa Murray

Ministry Outreach Program

Mrs. Lynda Batten

Choir Director and Music Ministry

Mrs. Kathleen Lerro

R.C.I.A.

Sister Lorraine Muglie, SSJ

Youth Group

Mrs. Christine Guidetti

Join us on Twitter!



Rite of Reconciliation

3:30 PM - 4:15 PM Saturday afternoons

Care of the Sick

Please contact the Rectory Office in the event of sickness or hospitalization.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Thursday 6:30 PM - Sept. to Easter

Baptism

Second Sunday of the month at 11:30 AM

Please call the Rectory Office for an appointment to schedule a Baptism and Baptism Preparation (Pre-Jordan)



Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Fridays 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Miraculous Medal Devotion - Following the 8:00 AM Mass on Saturdays
Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet - Thursdays 7:00 PM

Daily Readings & Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 28,: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;
Romans 8: 31b-34; Mark 9: 2-10: **2nd Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM Pro Populo

10:30 AM Joseph Pantano

Requested by: Bill Battagliese

Monday, March 1: Daniel 9: 4b-10; Luke 6: 36-38

4:00 PM Jack Finnegan

Requested by: Bill Battagliese

Tuesday, March 2: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23: 1-12

4:00 PM Michael Bose, Jr.

Requested by: Peg McCann

Wednesday, March 3: Jeremiah 18: 18-20; Matthew 20: 17-28

4:00 PM Jack Finnegan

Requested by: Steve & Marie Condon

Thursday, March 4: Jeremiah 17:L 5-10; Luke 16: 19-31

4:00 PM Deceased members of the Oswald and

Moran Families

Requested by: Father Oswald

Friday, March 5: Genesis 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21: 33-43, 45-6

4:00 PM Madeleine Nowrey

Requested by: Marie Lightcap

Saturday, March 6: Micah 7: 14-15, 18-20; Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

8:00 AM John Rumaker-25th Anniversary

Requested by: Pat Rumaker

4:30 PM Mary Dominick and Pro Populo

Requested by: Bill Battagliese

Sunday, March 7: Exodus 20: 1-17; 1 Corinthians 1: 22-25;

John 2: 13-25: **3rd Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM

Joseph Koperna

Requested by: Family

10:30 AM

Rev. Augustine Esposito, OSA

Requested by: Joanne White

Daily Mass

4:00 PM Monday thru Friday

8:00 AM Saturday

Weekend Mass

4:30 PM Saturday

8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Sunday

Contributions and Mass Count

Sunday, February 21 \$5,900

Mass Counts

4:30 PM=46 8:00 A=50 10:30 AM=72
Total=168



St. George Parish has online giving. You can donate simply by visiting <https://www.osvhub.com/stgeorgeparish/funds/offertory> and then click the icon that reads "Give Now." This allows for electronic contributions to be transferred without the need of writing a check or dropping off your envelope at the Rectory Office.

Gospel Reflection and Parish

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

The exhilaration one feels in the wake of a successful weight loss program or an addiction broken through a program like Alcoholics Anonymous is often enhanced by the compliments of friends and acquaintances. They applaud the transformation, especially if they have clear memories of "the old you." The accomplishment is also a source of good example for those others trying to do the same. Change matters.

There is a certain similarity here with the glorious event of Christ's transfiguration. When the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity humbly hid His divine nature by accepting a human one, He took it on completely with all its limitations. We tend to forget that. He was "like us in all things, except sin."

So Lord in many ways looked ordinary to most observers, although He was at the same time a special Man. For example, He was undeniably approachable. Many men give off an air of cool indifference, especially to strangers. Jesus even attracted children, who are among the best detectors of phoniness.

Our Lord grew tired at the end of the day. He experienced the weariness of living with His mainly ignorant Apostles. He had to guard against using any spectacular devices in attracting followers. Only when He worked one of His miracles out of compassion, or as a teaching lesson, did the source of His power gradually become revealed. His apostles first came to Him because He was different in all the best ways. Gradually they recognized that He was also genuinely holy and close to God. Eventually He did tell them and His closest followers Who He was to end their guesswork.

But on this one special occasion, He pulled back the veil over His divine nature to allow them (and us) to glimpse His glory. One that Moses and Elijah, both long dead by human reckoning, were suddenly quite alive in another dimension. It had to be a spectacular sight for Peter, James and John. It must have included a massive dose of awe, joy and happiness combined. Not to omit a re-birth of trust in their inbred Hebrew hope of a Messiah.

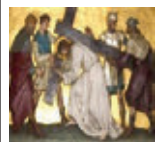
Let us here reflect not on the sound and sights, but on the generated hope. As such, it is one of the three theological virtues, along with Faith and Charity, so-called because they "relate directly to the living God." "They inform all the moral virtues and give them life" as the Catholic Catechism describes them.

St. Paul indirectly refers to hope when we hear him ask today: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" Hope, like all virtues, is also a "power" or ability given us by God which ushers forth trust in Him that injects us with dynamism about the present and optimism for the future.

This story of the transfiguration placed here at the start of Lent should be seen as our encouragement and reason to believe that we can overcome our addiction to sin. It energizes us to reach up in our struggle to be God's friends when all around us is a gravitational pull downward. We can posit our own future transfiguration when we will repeat St. Peter's words: "Lord, it is good to be here."

God love you and give you His peace.

Lenten Observances



Stations of the Cross

Stations for the Cross are being held on *Friday afternoons during Lent following the 4:00 PM Mass*. Please join us for this Lenten devotion.

Sacrament of Penance

Confessions will be heard on Saturdays during *Lent from 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM, on Mondays following the 4:00 PM Mass, on Saturday, March 27, from 3:00 PM to 4:15 PM, or by appointment*. Please check upcoming bulletins for other confession schedules in the area.



Light Up Our Church for Lent

Candle's at our Blessed Mother's altar, St. Joseph altar, and our Jesus with the Children Shrine are available for your prayer intentions. As we pray for an end to the pandemic, for peace in our country and in our world, for our military, and for those who are sick and have died, we invite you to join us by lighting a candle this Lenten season for your personal intentions as well.



Lenten Fasting and Obligation

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on *all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday*. Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to and including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world.

Parish and Local



Don't forget to watch Father Oswald's weekly reflection at www.stgeorgeparish.org or on our Facebook page at St. George Church, Glenolden, PA.

**"God bless you all.
It's wonderful to have you back!"**



Happy Birthday

We wish everyone who is celebrating a birthday this week and happy and healthy year ahead. We were unable to print the individual names this week, but you are in our thoughts and prayers. Happy Birthday, one and all, and may God bless everyone who is celebrating a birthday this week a healthy year ahead.

Covid-19 Vaccine Information and Updates

The Office of Life and Family has compiled a list of resources to access during this pandemic. Please visit www.phillycatholiclife.org to learn the latest updates regarding Covid-19 vaccines research and information. This web-page will be updated regularly and will include information on how to receive vaccines when the time comes.

How Can I Keep from Singing!!!

Choir practice will be held this **Wednesday March 31st from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM** in the church. Social distancing and masks are required, but this isn't going to keep us from singing! New members welcome.

Rosary Group

Our Rosary Group meets on **Thursdays at 7:00 PM**. To ensure social distancing, we gather in the church. All are welcome and invited to join us as we pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet for your personal intentions. Masks are required.



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As a long time Glenolden resident, I am invested in the success and well-being of our community. Call 215-893-4974 or email jauerbach@astorweiss.com for information.

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Pray for Our Sick

Angela Bair, Robert Batten, Jr, Helen Belcher, Kay Bittle, Michele Boebert, Ryan Bostedo, Irene Burns, Helena Butler, Rose Celia, Augustine Cercas, John Cianciarulo, Bill Clarkson, Fred Cuccinello, Lenora Cuccinello, Msgr. Gregory Akata-Daniels, Betty DiGrasso, Leonard DiGrasso, Richard Dinan, Terry Dolores, Sr. Eileen Eden, SSND, Mark Gallagher, Robert Gamboy, Bruce Gordan, Connie Gross, Wayne Ingling, Patricia Johnson, Doris Kerker, Fran Lightcap, Sr. Ann Marie Loftus, Madeline Loftus, Margie Loftus, Angela Mahoney, Peg McCann, Bethann McCormick, Kathleen McCreety, Larry McCusker, David McFarland, Julia McGlenn, Anna Marie McIntyre, Joseph Murtha, Rev. Leo P. Oswald, Barbara Partridge, Anthony Perdue, Christopher Perdue, Madeline Pfaff, George Phillips, Marie Prince, Joan Ratch, Edward Specht, Harry Sperone, Ted Stevens, Richard Sullivan, Michael Talent, Matthew Trageser, and Carmella Young.

Pray for Our Beloved Deceased

As we pray for our own families and friends, we ask you to please remember **Ferdinando Martino, Rev. John Van de Paer, CICM, and all those who have died from the corona-**

The Year of St. Joseph

In observance of this Year of St. Joseph, we will praying the Holy Father's *Prayer to St. Joseph* at the conclusion of Mass. This will begin the Sunday following the Feast Day of St. Joseph, which falls on **Friday, March 19th.**

The Holy Father's Prayer to St. Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. ~Amen.

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Just for Laughs

A little boy was listening to a long and excessively boring homily in church. Suddenly the red sanctuary lamp caught his eye. Tugging his father's sleeve, he said, "Daddy, when the light turns green can we go?" 

Parish and Local

Remembering a Special Altar Server

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I want to thank you for your thoughts, cards, gifts, well-wishes and prayers during my husband, Larry's, recent battle with COVID-19. Although Larry was not able to pull through, your prayers helped me and my family get through this very difficult time. I know that Larry has a special place in heaven serving at the altar of our Lord, and he prays for us now each and every day. And although it is hard to accept his passing, I find great consolation in your continued prayers. Thank you, thank you, thank you, from the bottom of my heart. May God bless you all!

~Mrs. Marie Gilchrist

Parishioner, Parish Catechist and Altar Server

In Remembrance

A graduate from Darby-Colwyn High School, Larry Gilchrist retired from Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital where he worked for over 25 years. He was a former member of Darby Fire Company #2 and Collingdale Fire Company #2 and was member of the Knights of Columbus.

Larry was a long-time parishioner with a great love of St. George Parish. He had a heart of gold and he wanted to serve in the parish he adored. He became a dedicated Altar Server, always making himself available anytime there was a need. He served many funeral Masses for families who recently lost a loved one and poured his heart and soul into making the Mass a comforting experience. He was a gentle soul with a great sense of humor and a positive outlook on life. He attributed much of that to the grace of God.

Larry was a devoted and loving husband and father. His daughter, Ashley, was once an Altar Server and an active member of our Youth Group, and his wife, Marie, is currently serving as an Altar Server. So often we would witness Larry and Marie serving together, a ministry they loved to share.

A little known fact about Larry; he and Marie fostered 22 children, which is clearly an example of his very big heart, always reaching out to others.

On behalf of St. George Parish, we thank Larry for his service and ask our Lord and Savior to welcome him with open arms as he proclaims, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

Larry and Marie would have been celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2021. Please keep them in your continued prayers.



Our Lady of Angels

In case of inclement weather, please listen to KYW 1060 radio station for our school number – 545. Our OPTION C Communication System will also notify you by telephone and email. Thank you!

Registration for the 2021-2022 school year has begun. Please access the necessary forms on our website: www.ourladyofangelsmorton.org or by calling our school office at 610-543-8350.

The Second Trimester ends on Friday, March 12, 2021. Report cards will be distributed on Friday, March 19, 2021.

Standardized Testing will take place at OLA from Thursday, March 11, 2021 to Friday, March 19, 2021 for all students in grades 1 to 7. Look for more information on the school website and on Option C.

First In Math is online computer program where the students compete nationally to use their Math skills to earn stickers. OLA is presently ranked 24th in the nation, 17th in the state, and 4th in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia!! Luca Merkle in Grade 7 is ranked 5th in the nation!

Keep up the great work Angels!

All God's Blessings, Mrs. Lowe

Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal

As the Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary Appeal approaches its midway point, we would like to update you on the appeals progress. We also thank you, our dear parishioners, for all you do to graciously support the Seminary Appeal.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Saint George Parish | 2019-20 | \$4,955 |
| | 2020-21 | \$6,340 (WOW) |

For more details, please visit www.stcharlesseminaryappeal.org/resources/. Thank you to all who contributed to this annual appeal to ensure their continued success! Great job!!!

When you support the Catholic Charities Appeal you are helping:
Over 100 Catholic Social Services and Nutritional Development Services organizations and programs. Last year, 8.8 million meals were provided to those most in need.

Over 100 students in the Schools of Special Education within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia receive tuition assistance and support.

The 18 Programs and Offices that are providing Evangelization, Parish & Spiritual Life to our community.

158 Retired Priests who need care and support.

17 Mission Parishes in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia revitalize and sustain their parishes. This includes ministering to over 36,000 parishioners.

Miraculous Medal Shrine

Lenten Series, Prayer in Motion: The Transformative Power of Prayer

Each day during Lent, the Miraculous Medal Shrine will release video reflections that feature men and women from all walks of life, discussing how prayer has led to personal growth and change. These stories will show, if we're open to personal reflection and open communication with God, our lives will be transformed in unpredictable ways. We'll experience a deeper peace, a stronger sense of purpose, and sense of personal and communal well-being.

All are invited to join the Miraculous Medal Shrine for this journey of faith. The videos will be posted each day during Lent to <https://miraculousmedal.org/lent-2021/>.



Parish Religious Education and Local



First Holy Communion 2021

Students in PREP and Catholic school will gather together this **Sunday, February 28, and Sunday, March 21** for a lesson review and rehearsal for First Penance in St. George Church from **11:30 AM to 1:00 PM**. All students are required to attend. First Penance has been rescheduled for **Saturday, March 27, at 1:00 PM** in the church. Parents were mailed official notification of these dates changes on January 7th. Please direct any questions or concerns to Mrs. Lynda Batten at 610-237-1633 or st.georgesec@rcn.com.

Confirmation 2021

Lessons continue this **Monday, March 1, from 6:45 PM to 8:00 PM** in the church. **ALL** candidates for Confirmation are asked to be present, including Catholic school students. Students are asked to bring the *Confirmed in the Spirit* workbooks with them for lessons.

PREP 2021

All PREP students were mailed a *Lenten Journey* packet, which includes a 40 Day Lenten Calendar. This Lent, we ask students to show their love for Jesus by doing something for Him each day. Students are asked to color a cross each day that they complete a good deed. Complete instructions are included in the packet. There is also a sheet called *Repenting During Lent*. We ask students to complete this to reflect on their life during Lent, rating how you treat others and yourself.



A Heartfelt Thank you

I take this opportunity to thank our dear parishioners and friends for your thoughts, well-wishes and prayers during my husband, Bob's, recent battle with COVID-19.

On the day before Thanksgiving, Bob was admitted to Intensive Care at Taylor Hospital via the ER with COVID pneumonia and other very serious complications. The doctor told me "He is a very, very sick man." His prognosis was unknown. He was then placed on a ventilator for three weeks.

During that time, life as I knew it stopped. To make it worse, due to COVID-19 protocols, I could not see, visit or talk with Bob. He was in the hospital on Thanksgiving Day, my birthday, Christmas and New Years. Additionally, my daughter, mother and I all had Covid at the same time. It was a living nightmare.

I am happy to say that, despite Bob's seven week stay in the hospital, he made a full recovery, returning home on January 14th. He had to learn to walk, talk and function again normally. When he accomplished that and was finally released, his treatment was followed up by extended therapy at home. My daughter, my mother and I, thankfully, all recovered as well.

The hospital held what they call a "clap out" the day that Bob was released, where they sang and applauded as he was wheeled out through the main lobby. They were all so happy for him as they witnessed the results of the power of God having worked through their very own incredible hands.

I believe Bob's recovery was definitely the power of prayer. I know in my heart, and have actually been told by several doctors, that his recovery was a "miracle." And when Bob asked "Why did God spare me when so many others did not pull through?" he was told "God must have more work for you to do yet. Now you just have to figure out what that work entails!"

I share this story not only to thank you, but so that others can witness the power of prayer and know that there are success stories happening each and every day as a result of those prayers. Your prayers **do** make a difference!

And so, on behalf of our entire family, I thank you, once again, for all your prayers. We could actually feel them working and that is what got us through this very difficult time.

~Mrs. Lynda J. Batten

Coordinator of Religious Education & Parish Secretary

For truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you." ~Matt. 17-20

What Makes for a Good Homily?

You are invited to participate in a research study on how clergy can more effectively preach on Jesus's parables. Involvement in the study is voluntary, so you may choose to participate or not. You will be asked to provide your perspective on some of Jesus's parables and effective preaching methods, as well as some basic demographic information. This will take approximately 20 minutes of your time. You will not be required to submit your name, so all information will be kept anonymous and confidential.

Your insights on this question are sought through a national study partially funded by a grant from the Confraternity of Christian Faith of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Catholic Biblical Association. This effort, called the Parables Project, is focusing on the preaching of Jesus' parables. Please help us gain new insights by going to www.parablesproject.org and completing a 15-minute survey.

The study results will be shared widely, but a special report will be shared with our seminary. It will provide insights into how parishioners understand the parables, which will undoubtedly help in crafting homilies on these provocative stories used by Jesus to proclaim the Kingdom of God. We look forward to communicating the report's results with you in the future.

Questions? Comments? Feel free to reach out to the research team at parablesproject@shsst.edu. On behalf of the Parables Project, thanks for ways in which you contribute to the success of this effort.

Year of Saint Joseph Plenary Indulgence

During this year of Saint Joseph, the faithful have an opportunity to obtain the gift of Plenary Indulgences. The Indulgence is granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer according to the intentions of the Holy Father). One example is listed below.

Saint Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew our fidelity to prayer, to listen and respond with profound discernment to the will of God. A Plenary Indulgence is granted to those who meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or who participate in a spiritual retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on saint Joseph.

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