

# Saint George Parish Community

Under the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

22 E. Cooke Avenue, Glenolden, PA 19036 - 610-237-1633 - [www.stgeorgeparish.org](http://www.stgeorgeparish.org)

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord March 28, 2021



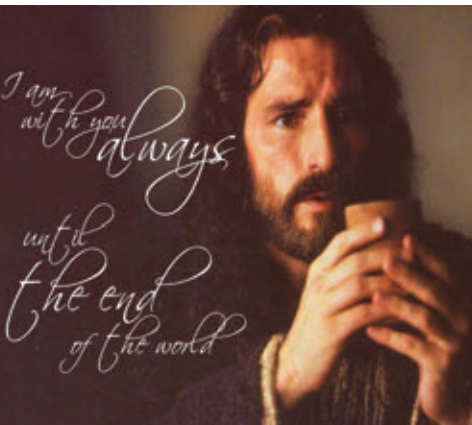
*Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet Him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let Him enter, the King of glory! Who is this King of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!*

*~John 12: 1, 13-13;  
Psalm 24*

### And So We Begin the Holiest Week of Year

#### Holy Thursday

*Institution of the Eucharist*



*I am with you  
always  
until the end  
of the world*

*April 1, 2021*

#### Good Friday

*Jesus is Crucified*



*April 2, 2021*

#### Holy Saturday

*Joy and Sadness Intermingles*



HOLY SATURDAY  
THERE IS A  
GREAT SILENCE  
ON EARTH TODAY, A GREAT SILENCE AND  
STILLNESS, SILENCE BECAUSE THE KING IS ASLEEP  
GOD HAS DIED IN THE FLESH AND HELL TREMBLES  
WITH FEAR.

*April 3, 2021*

## 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](http://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

"While the world changes, the Cross stands firm."  
– St. Bruno

"He will provide the way and the means, such as you could never have imagined. Leave it all to Him, let go of yourself. Lose yourself on the Cross, and you will find yourself entirely."  
– St. Catherine of Siena

## 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, Administrative Assistant and  
Coordinator of Religious Education, Ext. 101

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

Mrs. Gloria Greene, Data Entry, Ext. 104

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

Mr. Patrick McCullough, Maintenance, Ext. 104

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

Mr. Keith Tomson, Financial Accountant, Ext. 104

Mr. Al Zeller, Hall Manager - Et. 104

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

Mrs. Barbara Fister and Mrs. Teresa Murray - Housekeeping for  
Rectory/Convent/Church

# 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.georgesec@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, March 28:** Isaiah 50: 4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14: 1-15:47 - **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

**8:00 AM Arthur Bryant**  
*Requested by: Zelma Barrett*

**10:30 AM Larry Gilchrist**  
*Requested by: Bill Battagliese*

**Monday, March 29:** Isaiah 42: 1-7; John 12: 1-11

**4:00 PM Holy Souls in Purgatory**  
*Requested by: St. George Parish*

**Tuesday, March 30:** Isaiah 49: 1-6; John 13: 21-33, 36-38

**4:00 PM Departed souls who have died from the Coronavirus**  
*Requested by: St. George Parish*

**Wednesday, March 31:** Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Matthew 26: 14-25

**4:00 PM John & Evelyn Daniel**  
*Requested by: Lynda Batten*

**Thursday, April 1:** Exodus 12: 1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26; John 13: 1-15 - **Mass of the Lord's Supper**

**7:00 PM Pro Populo**

**Friday, April 2:** Isaiah 52: 13-53:12; Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9; John 18 1-19:42 - **Friday of the Passion of the Lord**

**3:00 PM Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**

**Saturday, April 3:** Genesis 1: 1-2:2; Genesis 22: 1-18; Exodus 14: 15-15:1; Isaiah 54: 5-14; Isaiah 55: 1-11; Baruch 3: 9-15, 32-4:4; Ezekiel 36: 16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6: 3-11; Mark 16: 1-7 - **The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night**

**7:00 PM Pro Populo**

**Sunday, April 4:** Act 10: 34a, 37-43; Colossians 3: 1-4; John

**8:00 AM**  
**10:30 AM**

**Pro Populo**  
**David Battagliese**  
**Larry & Marie Gilchrist on the occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary and Pro Populo**  
**Requested by: Bill Battagliese & Gilchrist Fam.**

## 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**

### Holy Days

*As Announced*

**Legal Holidays: 9:00 AM**

## Contributions and Mass Count

Sunday, March 21                      \$4,547

Mass Count=201    Percentage of attendance=10%



## Holy Water Bottles

Parishioners and friends are welcome to bring with you to church on Holy Saturday or Easter Sunday your own containers pre-filled with water. These containers will then be blessed during the Sprinkling Rite at Mass. Small plastic bottles will also be available in church while supplies last.

## Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson and Parish

Scholars of the Scriptures warn us not to be taken in by Hollywood recreations of the Passion events in terms of crowd size. The streets of old Jerusalem, which I have been privileged to walk, were narrow to the point that we might call them "alleys." The procession of Our Lord that wound up and down them on the way to Calvary would hardly have to attract many people to be called "a crowd." This not to ignore the real crowds that had followed Him during the years of His missionary days.

We twenty-first century followers of Christ, who follow in His path know that crowd size hardly matters. We know enough about Jesus to build our lives upon Him. We number in the billions. No matter the number of times we hear Mark's gospel, it never loses its punch and power.

Some years ago there was a popular song derived from a movie with the vapid lyric: "Love means never having to say 'I'm sorry'." What an empty definition when placed against the scenes of Our Lord's final hours! He shows us more than what loves looks like. He shows us love. St. John went further when he wrote "God is love."

Good Friday preachers struggle to say something new about its implications and are often bereft of the right words. All they can really do is stare in shock at what human hate can produce against its target and remind us of God showing us what love can do for the beloved. We are the beloved in this case, and our often shameful indifference is embarrassing to say the least.

All this becomes personal when we realize that our sins had a part to play in this unique tragedy. Our ugly response to God at times is what held the whips that lacerated His back. Our overdrawn egos drove the thorns into His holy Head. Our gross ingratitude hammered the nails into His hands and feet. Our vulgar voices did the shouting at Him. Our vincible ignorance spat at Him. Somehow we push all that aside when we willfully sin.

In the end, the size of the original group of onlookers that witnessed all this doesn't matter. That His Mother Mary was among them causes that ache in our throats that leads to tears. That His aunts and the youngest Apostle were there, gives our side a tiny morale boost. But the absence of the other Eleven shames us. But we really must admit that "we were there when they crucified Our Lord." Only His divine mercy makes us eligible for pardon.

So, as we begin Holy Week 2021, the call goes out to be a people who pause to think and remember why all these mostly ugly events happened. And if we need words, we have those of our great St. Francis of Assisi: "*We adore you O Christ and we bless You, because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.*"

God love you and give you His peace.

## Holy Week Observances



**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
March 29-30-31  
4:00 PM Mass**

**Holy Thursday 7:00 PM  
Mass of the Lord's Supper**

**Good Friday 3:00 PM  
Liturgy of the Word - Passion of the Lord**



**Holy Saturday 7:00 PM  
Easter Vigil Mass**

**Easter Sunday Masses  
8:00 AM and 10:30 AM**



### 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 *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 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.



### Rosary Group

Our Rosary Group will *not meet this Thursday* as we will be celebrating the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM in the church. The Rosary Group will resume next *Thursday, April 8, at 7:00 PM* in the Church. Please join us.



### Adult Choir

The Adult Choir will be rehearsing *this Sunday following the 10:30 AM* Mass. Unless absolutely necessary, we will *not be gathering on March 31st*. In celebration of Easter week, the Adult Choir will have off on *April 7th*.

# Parish and Local



Don't forget to watch Father Oswald's weekly reflection at [www.stgeorgeparish.org](http://www.stgeorgeparish.org) or on our Facebook page at St. George Church, Glenolden, PA.

## Priest Schedule

April 3-4, 2021

7:00 PM Father Oswald  
8:00 AM Father Marneni  
10:30 AM Father McCartney



## Pray for Our Beloved Deceased

As we pray for our own families and friends, we ask you to please remember *all those who have died from the coronavirus*. May all the faithful departed, through the mercy of god, they rest in peace.

## Lenten Soup for the Catholic Soul

Wednesday, March 24 - 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a Lenten reflection and discussion as we enjoy a bowl of some hot and delicious soup (video instructions to make your own soup will be provided in advance)! We will conclude the evening with Compline (Night Prayer).

**Times:** Soup Making: 6 p.m. With Lenten Prayer and Group Reflection at 7 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom

Visit [www.miraculousmedal.org](http://www.miraculousmedal.org) for details and to RSVP.

## Vocation Corner

[www.HeedTheCall.org](http://www.HeedTheCall.org). Visit today!



## Thoughts on a Life Worth Living

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, OF.M. Cap, Archbishop Emeritus of Philadelphia and best-selling author of *Strangers in a Strange Land*, has authored a new book, *Things Worth Dying*

For: *Thoughts on a Life Worth Living*. It was published by Henry Holt & Co. and released earlier this month.

In the book, Archbishop Chaput delves richly into our yearning for God, love, honor, beauty, truth, and immortality. He reflects on our modern appetite for consumption and individualism and offers a penetrating analysis of how we got here, and how we can look to our roots and or faith to find purpose each day mid the noise of competing desires.

He examines the chronic questions of the human heart; the idols and false flags we create; and the nature of life of authentic faith. He points out our longing to live and die with meaning as the key to our search for God, our loyalty to nation and kin, and our conduct in war and our service to others.

Ultimately, with compelling grace, Archbishop Chaput shows us that the things worth dying for reveal most powerfully the things worth living for.

The read a full excerpt from the book, and to purchase a copy please visit <https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781250239778>.

## Pray for Our Sick

Angela Bair, Helen Belcher, Helen Betzler, 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 Ednie, Christine Huf, Mark Gallagher, Robert Gamboy, Bruce Gordan, Connie Gross, Wayne Ingling, Patricia Johnson, Doris Kerker, Fran Lightcap, Sr. Ann Marie Loftus, Madeline Loftus, Margie Loftus, Karen Lyons, 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, Mary Wizda and Carmella Young.

## Year of St. Joseph

The flight of the Holy Family to Egypt "shows us God is there where man is in danger, where man suffers, where he flees, where he experiences rejection and abandonment." Plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who pray the Litany of St. Joseph in its entirety or at least part of it or some other prayer to St. Joseph, typical of the other liturgical traditions, in favor of the Church persecuted ad intra and ad extra and for the relief of all Christians who suffer all forms of persecution. The Litany can be found at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).



## Good Friday

These days hot cross buns are often associated with Easter. However, they are traditionally made on Good Friday. This tradition was so important that English families would allow one bun to go stale so that crumbs could be grinded into the food of anyone who became ill during the year. Visit [www.feastday.co](http://www.feastday.co) for more help celebrating the feasts and seasons.



## Connections

Stuck in your faith? Need a follow-up to your retreat? Looking for something to do for Lent?

Connections is a new way of faith formation in the Catholic Church. The small group component of the program meets every Tuesday evening from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM in Malvern Retreat House Upper McShain Hall. A Connections video is also available Sunday to Monday on Malvern YouTube Channel. It is also available via ZOOM during the Easter Season. Contact Joanne Bouvier for details at [Jbouvie@malvernretreat.com](mailto:Jbouvie@malvernretreat.com).

# School News and Local



## School News

### St. Eugene

We are proud to announce that we are opening a Pre-School and Pre-Kindergarten program for Children ages 3 and 4 years old, for next school year. Prior to opening enrollment to the community we are giving priority placement to our neighboring Parishes. This program is 5 full days for only \$5,500 a year, broken down into 11 monthly payments of only \$500 a month. Space is filling quickly, so enroll now, and give your child the advantage of a Catholic Education. Call Sharon Soper at 610-622-2909 or e-mail her at [ssoper@sainteugeneschool.org](mailto:ssoper@sainteugeneschool.org).

Due to the generosity of the Foundation for Catholic School Education, Saint Eugene School has been selected to participate in the Tuition Transfer Grant Program. A Catholic School education is a gift from you to your children for which they will always be grateful. At Saint Eugene School we offer a rigorous academic curriculum while creating and maintaining a strong foundation of faith from which all other practices are derived. This grant make tuition even more affordable!

- Transfer grants are for students going into grades 2 through 7.
  - Transfer grants are for students coming from a public/charter school or from homeschooling.
  - The grant provides funding for two years- \$1,000 the first year and \$500 the second year.
  - Additional grants/financial aid is available through FACTS online. [fachtmgt.com/aid](http://fachtmgt.com/aid)
  - Additional subsidy may be available through your home Parish as well
- \*\*\* For those student entering into Kindergarten or Frist grade a \$1000.00 Welcome grant is available.**

For additional information call Sharon Soper at 610-622-2909 of [ssoper@sainteugeneschool.org](mailto:ssoper@sainteugeneschool.org)

### St. James Regional

St. James will begin publishing a bi-annual newsletter highlighting the achievements of our students and alumni and sharing updates about how our school is thriving. The first edition will be due out in late April. If you are interested in receiving this electronic publication, please visit this link to sign up: <https://www.stjamesregional.com/provide-us-your-email>. If you have alumni news you would like to share, please contact Eileen Somers at [esomers@stjamesregional.com](mailto:esomers@stjamesregional.com).

St. James Regional is now accepting enrollments for the 2021-22 school year! We offer flexible PreK programs for 3 & 4 year olds, full day kindergarten, before and after school care, Spanish for grades PreK-8, 1:1 Chromebooks for students in grades 1-8, an Honors Math program for grades 5-8, and tuition assistance is available! Our academically rigorous curriculum prepares students for high school and beyond. This year our 8th grade class has earned approximately \$125,000 in scholarships to continue their high school education. Please visit [www.stjamesregional.com](http://www.stjamesregional.com) to register today!

For the 2021-2022 school year, St. James Regional is proud to offer Tuition Transfer grants for students entering grades 2-7 and transferring to our school from public, charter, or homeschooling. The grant is worth \$1,000 in a student's first year and \$500 in a student's second year. Please visit <https://www.stjamesregional.com/scholarships> for more info.

### Our Lady of Angels

A blessed Palm Sunday to everyone!

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 at [www.ourladyofangelsmorton.org](http://www.ourladyofangelsmorton.org) or by calling our school office at 610-543-8350.

First in Math is an online computer program where the students complete 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, Grade 7, is ranked 5th and Deryck Maniraho, Grade 3, is ranked 9th in the nation! Keep up the great work Angels!

Easter holiday begins on Wednesday, March 31 and continues through April 5, 2021. School will resume on Tuesday, April 6th.

When you have a change, check our the Our Lady of Angel's website and/or Facebook page. You'll see awesome pictures of students on the Facebook page. On both sites, you can view a wonderful video about our school from the tie of the fire until the present day. There is also a link to an awesome school newsletter/bulletin, which is published by our Student Council. It lets you in on what has been happening at OLA, so please check them out at <https://ourladyofangelsmorton.org>.

~ All God's Blessings, Mrs. Lowe

## The Culture Project

The Culture Project is an initiative of young people seeking to restore culture through the experience of virtue. It fills a critical role by proclaiming the dignity of the human person and the richness of living sexual integrity. In doing so, they invite our culture to become fully alive!

Founded by Cristina Barba Whalen, a graduate of Archbishop John Carroll High School, The Culture Project is headquartered in Philadelphia. For information visit <https://thecultureproject.org> or call 800-315-8684, ext. 2.



## From the Mouth of Babes

Q: What kind of beans never grow in a garden?

A: Jelly Beans

Q: Why was the Easter bunny so upset?

A: He was having a bad hare day.

# Parish Religious Education

## Congratulations!

After several live reviews and rehearsals, students in Level 2 PREP and Catholic school gathered on Saturday, March 27, to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance for the very first time. We congratulate these students and ask for your continued prayers in their journey to their First Holy Communion, which they will celebrate on **Saturday, May 1, at 4:30 PM**. Each student received a Certificate of First Penance and a beautiful medal keepsake and prayer card as a remembrance of their special day.

First Penance/First Communicants: **Peyton Candelaria, Colton Dunleavy, Michael Dillon, Praise Ideh, Braydon Litty, Apricot LeComte, Mia Molinari, Gianna Romano, Avery Rush, Grayson Sosh, Bella Zeller**. Congratulations, one and all!



## St. George Parish Religious Education Program to Merge with St. Gabriel Parish Religious Education Program Fall 2021

Religious education can provide many benefits well beyond a faith-based experience, including helping students to develop a strong sense of community and instilling moral values that will carry them through life. But we all know that the experience is not quite the same when learning at home. And so, after much prayer and consideration, and with the anonymous concurrence of our Pastoral and Finance Councils, we are pleased to announce that we will be offering in-person lessons, once again, for students registered in the Parish Religious Education Program beginning with the **2021-2022** school year. Our program is merging with St. Gabriel Parish in Norwood, which will allow for live instruction for Levels 1-6. Father Hand, Pastor at St. Gabriel Parish, and Kathy McGovern, DRE at St. Gabriel Parish, have graciously opened their doors to our students so that we can continue to offer the same quality religious education our students so deserve. Lessons will be offered at St. Gabriel Parish. For our parishioners, all sacraments will be celebrated at St. George. For the time being, Levels 7 & 8 will still be offered at St. George Parish, with lessons being held in our church on **Monday evenings from 6:45 PM to 8:00 PM**.

Parents who are currently registered in our PREP have been sent official notification of this change, along with a Registration Form for the Fall of 2021. If your child will be joining us to complete his or her religious education and the Sacraments of Initiation, (Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation) we need you to let us know now so that we can forward your registration to St. Gabriel Parish in advance, thus allowing them to properly prepare for this transition. More details will be communicated with parents over the summer months and a meeting will be held for parents prior to the start of classes.

We are most grateful to Father Hand and Mrs. McGovern for their kind welcome and we look forward to working together with them and with your children.

Parents are welcome to contact Mrs. Lynda Batten, Coordinator of Religious Education, at the Rectory Office at 610-237-1633, with any questions or concerns. In the meantime, please know that the religious education of our families and our students is always our first priority, and we will continue to provide instruction, sacraments, and support to all who reach out to us. Remember, Jesus is at the wheel....follow Him!

Our Confirmation Candidates are moving closer to their big day! Lessons are being conducted in church every **Monday evening from 6:45 PM to 8:00 PM**. Lessons are for both Catholic school students and PREP students. **ALL CANDIDATES** are expected to attend these very important sessions and rehearsals.

Students will enjoy a Confirmation Retreat on **Monday, May 3, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM** here at St. George Church. Included on retreat will be confessions, a prayer service, reflections, games and some other treats!

Students have been measured for their Confirmation robes and will be receiving them shortly.

Parents are reminded that the \$50 Sacrament fee is due and can be sent to class with your child on Monday evenings or dropped off at the Rectory Office.

Confirmation will be celebrated on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23, at the 10:30 AM** Mass. Pentecost, which is celebrated on the 50th day after Easter, commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks as described in Acts 2: 1-31. What better day to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation than on Pentecost Sunday!!! We ask everyone who joins us to help us welcome Bishop John McIntyre as our main celebrant. We are delighted that he will be joining us. And don't forget to wear red!



## Hip, Hip, Hooray! Our Savior Has Come!

Don't you just love a celebration? A birthday party...a holiday...or a sporting event? Sometimes we celebrate with lots of noise, don't we? Let's all give three cheers for Jesus by saying, "Hip, Hip, Hooray" three times, for today we rejoice. Today is Palm Sunday. Jesus came to Jerusalem and the crowds placed palm leaves down in His path and shouted with great joy. Just as those people shouted for Jesus over two thousand years ago, we have come to celebrate Jesus today, too. For the Bible tells us in Psalm 118:24, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

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