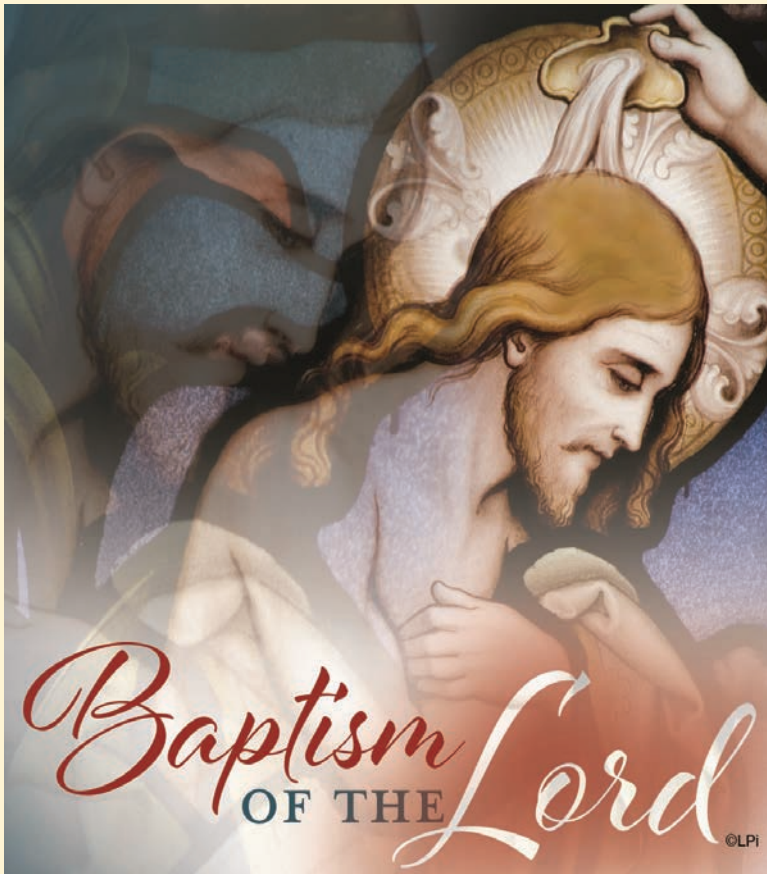


Saint George Parish Community

Under the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

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

The Baptism of the Lord January 9, 2022



The people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but One mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, with You I am well pleased."

Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

Baptism at Saint George Church

Baptisms are celebrated on the *Second Sunday of each month immediately following the 10:30 AM Mass*. To arrange a baptism for your child, please contact the Rectory Office at 610-237-1633.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us, Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: *Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word. Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift. We call it gift, grace, anointing, enlightenment, garment of immortality, bath of rebirth, seal, and most precious gift. It is called gift because it is conferred on those who bring nothing of their own; grace since it is given even to the guilty; Baptism because sin is buried in the water; anointing for it is priestly and royal as are those who are anointed; enlightenment because it radiates light; clothing since it veils our shame; bath because it washes; and seal as it is our guard and the sign of God's Lordship.*

Adults who have not been baptized are invited to contact Sister Lorraine Muglie, SSJ about the RCIA Program.



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 the Rectory Office 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 the Rectory Office 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 for details. 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. Lynda Batten at 610-237-1633.

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

"The Church does not dispense the sacrament of baptism in order to acquire for herself an increase in membership but in order to consecrate a human being to God and to communicate to that person the Divine Gift of birth from God."

~Hans Urs von Balthasar, Unless You Become Like This Child

"God' Spirit is like a living spring."It gives life to our journey, heals us, brings love and meaning, Turn to Jesus, a source of goodness."

~Phil Mitchell, A Bright New Morning: An American Story

Parish Staff

Rev. Leo P. Oswald, Pastor

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

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 (Tues & Wed)

Mrs. Gloria Greene, Accounts Payable, Ext. 104

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

Mr. Patrick McCullough, Maintenance, Ext. 104

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

Mr. Keith Tomson, Business Manager, Ext. 104

Mrs. Barbara Fister and Mrs. Teresa Murray - Housekeeping
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

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
For details about RCIA and Bible Study, please contact Sr. Lorraine.

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Lynda Batten
Phone Number: 610-237-1633
Fax Number: 610-237-9626
Our Parish Religious Education Program serves students in Levels 1-8 and prepares them for 1st Penance, 1st Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

Bereavement Ministry

Mrs. Mimi Ednie

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

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 4:00 PM Mass on Fridays
Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet - Thursdays 7:00 PM

Daily Readings & Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 9: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11; Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7; Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22: **The Baptism of the Lord**

8:00 AM Pro Populo
10:30 AM Edmund Ferguson

Requested by: Mary Ann Ferguson

Monday, January 10: 1 Samuel 1: 1-8; Mark 1: 14-20

4:00 PM Shawn Tandisky

Requested by: Thomas Leonard

Tuesday, January 11: 1 Samuel 1: 9-20; Mark 1: 21-28

4:00 PM Thomas Bodenstein

Requested by: Anonymous

Wednesday, January 12: Samuel 3: 1-10, 19-20; Mark 1: 29-39

4:00 PM Mildred Enderle

Requested by: Joanne Jacobs

Thursday, January 13: 1 Samuel 4: 1-11; Mark 1: 40-45

4:00 PM: James Jacobs

Requested by: Joanne Jacobs

Friday, January 14: 1 Samuel 8: 4-7, 10-22a; Mark 2: 1-12

4:00 PM Rosemarie DiCristo

Requested by: Roe Grassinger

Saturday, January 15: 1 Samuel 9: 1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Mark 2: 13-17

4:30 PM John Cunningham and Pro Populo

Requested by: Bill Battagliese

Sunday, January 16: Isaiah 62: 1-5; 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11; John 2: 1-11: **2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM Virginia Kuszczynski

Requested by: Fred & Phyllis Iezzi

Sunday continued...

10:30 AM Joseph Doran

Requested by: Patty & Colin McDonough

Pro Populo means "For the people."

Daily Mass

4:00 PM Monday thru Friday

Weekend Mass

4:30 PM Saturday

8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Sunday

Holy Days: As Announced

Legal Holidays: 9:00 AM

Mass Count & Contributions

Solemnity of Mary, January 1, 2022 \$1,490

Sunday, January 2, 2022 \$3,376



Please remember your weekly contribution envelopes.
For Mass counts, please contact the Rectory Office.

Contribution Letter for Tax Purposes

If you need verification of your annual contributions for 2021, please contact the Rectory or email st.georgesec@rcn.com. Letters will be provided by the end of January.

Gospel Reflection and Parish

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

I recently enjoyed reading TV newsman Chris Wallace's book 1945, which chronicles the events marking the creation and use of the first atomic bomb. Along the way, the author gives us insights into the ways of the various characters involved. Singular attention is given to the controversial decision of President Harry S. Truman to use the awful weapon against Japan, which was at the time our sworn enemy. How different today with our roads traversed by Honda, Toyota and Nissan cars.

As we know, the president's decision changed history, and its propriety is still the subject of debate. But we learn as well of Truman's troubling internal quandary beforehand and the various positions of his trusted advisers. Yours truly was only three years of age at the time, so the book shed light on what went on then.

At this early day in a brand new year, most of us already know that we will be making all kinds of decisions in the months ahead. Some will be delightful; others daunting. May I propose what Jesus did before every major decision in His life as our model? It was prayer. Our Lord prayed at the moment of His baptism, when God the Father and the Holy Spirit manifested their approval of Him as He began His public ministry. A few short years later Jesus would pray as He begins to close His ministry in the garden of Gethsemane.

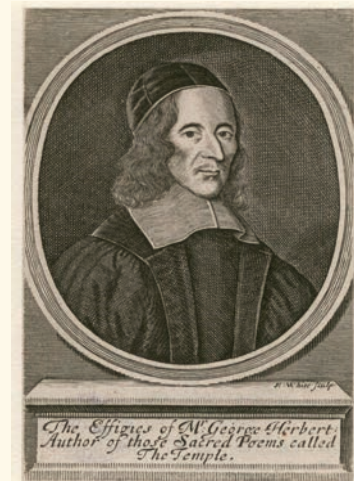
Prayer before decision-making. It makes perfect sense on one level. It demonstrates faith on another. Why then is it so often neglected even by believers? I put the blame squarely on that pragmatism embedded in our American psyche. It's the same notion that promotes rugged individualism as the ideal way to live. So, it is better to be known as an independent than a dependent. Leave religion and God out of it.

That's sad not only for relegating God to the sidelines, but also for denying the way we are "hard wired" as creatures for God. You could not ask for a more independent-minded person than Jesus. Note how little He cared for the opinions of others. But oh! Did He ever pray!

The Psalms of Scripture are unique because Jesus prayed them. You could say they were His prayer book of David's poems. Other poets over time have extolled prayer as well. I have always liked this one from George Herbert, the 17th century Anglican priest, who gives us images that make us pause:

*"Prayer the church's banquet, angel's age,
God's breath in man returning to his birth,
The soul in paraphrase, heart in pilgrimage,
The Christian plummet sounding heav'n and earth
Engine against th' Almighty, sinner's tow'r,
Reversed thunder, Christ-side-piercing spear,
The six-days world transposing in an hour,
A kind of tune, which all things hear and fear;
Softness, and peace, and joy, and love, and bliss,
Exalted manna, gladness of the best,
Heaven in ordinary, man well drest,
The milky way, the bird of Paradise,
Church-bells beyond the stars heard, the soul's blood,
The land of spices; something understood."*

God love you and give you His peace.



Vocation Corner

O Lord help me know Your will for me.

Let Your light shine in the depths of my heart that I may know what You want me to do with my life.

Help me believe that You have a special plan for me.

Lord, I know I pass through this life only once; help me decide how You want me to make a difference.

Like our Blessed Mother, give me the wisdom to hear Your voice and the courage to answer Your call.

Above all, give me peace of mind and heart.

I offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

www.HeedTheCall.org. Visit today.

Thank you

On behalf of Father Oswald and our parish staff, we take this opportunity to thank everyone who sent Christmas cards, cakes, cookies and gifts to the Rectory Office during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays. Your goodness and prayers are appreciated and we are most grateful for your kindness. We will now be looking into a tread mill and various weight loss programs to ward off the extra pounds!

Thanks to you, in addition to the gifts we provided to the Mother's Home, the Family Service Center in Chester, St. John's Hospice and St. Katherine Drexel Parish in Chester, we were also able to assist numerous families in need at Christmas 2021 by providing them with gift cards and food for their family celebrations. We were able to help everyone who came to us.

Our parish is blessed with so many kind and generous parishioners and friends. May God bless each and every one of you with a happy and healthy New Year ahead, and may the kindness you show to others always be returned to you!

Parish



A Message from Fr. Oswald

I am delighted when you are able to join us for Mass, but for our home-bound parishioners and those who are unable to join us on Sundays, I invite you to check out my weekly video reflections at www.stgeorgeparish.org or on our Facebook page at St. George Church, Glenolden, PA. Consider watching the televised Mass and making a spiritual communion with our Lord until you can join us in person. Put time aside for prayer, thanksgiving and the Holy Eucharist. Only then can you find true peace. ~God's blessings always, Father Oswald, Pastor



Pray For The Sick

Bill Battagliese, Robert Batten, Sr, Al Beck, Helen Belcher, Dan & Marie Bellinger, Roberta Bennett, Lillian Berlinger, Irene Burns, Helene Butler, Pat Muter Cahill, Suzie Carboni, Rose Celia, Dominic Corvaia, Patty Criniti, Fred Cuccinello, Lenora Cuccinello, Martin Deeney, Betty DiGrasso, Leonard DiGrasso, Terry Dolores, Alane Dougherty, Mark Ednie, AJ Euganeo, Rose Euganeo, Michelina Giuliono, Mary Goudsword, Frederick Green, Daniel Guy, Ken Haynie, Kathleen Higgins, Cynthia Horton, Doris Kerker, Sr. Ann Marie Loftus, Madeline Loftus, Margie Loftus, Suzanne Madden, Maureen Maley, Ashley Marshall, Marianne Meizi, Maureen McCann, Peg McCann, Bethann McCormick, Michael McFadden, David McFarland, Julia McGlenn, Angelo and Mary Ann Minutillo, Eric Mullica, Rev. Leo P. Oswald, Madeline Pfaff, George Phillips, Maria Prince, Joan Ratch, Ettore Ricci, John Rush, Sara Schilling, Sandy Shanahan, Richard Smith, Harry Sperone, Jay Stegmaier, Michael Talent, Valerie Thompson, Mary Wizda, Carmella Young and Mary Ann Zeller.

Names are listed for 30 days. If more time is needed, please contact the Rectory Office.

Live Streaming of Mass

Every Sunday at 11:00 AM Mass Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter and Paul via <https://vimeo.com/event/17522>.



Adult Choir

Rehearsal for the Adult Choir continues on **Tuesdays at 7:00 PM.**

**Join the choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!**

If you would like to consider joining us, please contact Mrs. Kathy Lerro, Director of Music, at 610-237-1633. New voices are always needed and

welcome. You don't have to be a professional singer to join us. All voices join in harmony!

Advertise Your Business

Interested in placing an ad in our Parish Bulletin to help your advertise your business? Please contact Karen Donehower at karendonehower@gmail.com or 484-363-9475 for details.

Pray for Our Beloved Deceased

As we pray for our own families and friends, we ask you to please remember **Tyler Amberger and all those who had died from the Coronavirus.** May they rest in the peace of Christ and the loving arms of our Blessed Mother.



Happy Birthday



We wish everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week, a happy and healthy year ahead.

Rosary Group

The Rosary Group continues to meet on **Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM** in the Church. We recite the Rosary and conclude with the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy for your intentions. Take the time in this New Year to come and pray with us. Discover the power of the Rosary!

If you find yourself grieving -
lift your grief up to God.

Find comfort in His peace.



Bereavement

Covid-19 has changed our way of life, causing depression for millions of people all over the world. But you are not alone. Visit www.delaware.pa.networkofcare.org for some helpful resources.

Feeding the Homeless

St. John's Hospice in Philadelphia feeds hundreds of homeless men every day. Your casserole donations enable them to do this. Casserole pans are provided at the doors of the church on the last weekend of every month. Please consider helping with this invaluable ministry by filling a casserole pan with your own creation or using the suggested recipes provided. Some ideas: macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and meatballs or other pasta dishes, tuna/chicken and noodles, vegetable casseroles, hotdogs and baked beans, chicken or beef with rice and vegetable combinations. Frozen casseroles can be returned to the Rectory Office. Reminder announcements are made in church at weekend Masses. Please help us provide a meal for the homeless as supplies are very low at this time. Thank you.



St. George's 100th Anniversary in 2023

Submit photos or celebration ideas to st.georgesec@rcn.com.

Parish and Local

NOTHING
COMPARES
to Being There

Parishioners and friends are reminded that the obligation to attend Mass was reinstated. Due to the recent surge in Covid cases, the following protocols are in place:
BEFORE COMING TO MASS

- * Please wash your hands for 20 seconds using soap and water.
- * **Before entering the Church, please put on a face mask or cloth covering.** This includes those who have been fully vaccinated. Exceptions to this are “children younger than 2 years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, and anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance” (CDC Guidelines).

ENTERING THE CHURCH

- * Please maintain reverent silence in respect for the Blessed Sacrament and others who are in prayer.
- * Hand sanitizers are available at the church entrances. Please use the hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the Church.
- * Foreign cups or containers are not permitted in the church at this time.

SEATING

- Pews will be marked to ensure proper social distancing. Members of the same household may sit together as normal. Please be mindful of the pew dividers.

DURING MASS

- * There will be no Sign of Peace during Mass.
- * The Precious Blood will not be distributed during Mass.
- * If you are read a Parish Bulletin in church, please be sure to take it with you when you leave.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION - Holy Communion will be single file only.

- * Please maintain social distancing in the Communion line. Please keep several pews between yourself and the person in front of you while in line and when returning to your pew. Follow the main aisle yellow guideline tape.
- * **The faithful are asked to receive Holy Communion in the hand.** Please remove your mask as you receive the Eucharist and replace it after you have consumed the Eucharist.

Center for Disease Control on COVID-19 Vaccines

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe
- COVID-19 vaccines were developed using science that has been around for decades.
- COVID-19 vaccines are not experimental. They went through all the required stages of clinical trials. Extensive testing and monitoring have shown that these vaccines are safe and effective.
- COVID-19 vaccines have received and continue to undergo the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.
- COVID-19 vaccines are effective. They can keep you from getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines also help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19.

Getting vaccinated yourself may also protect people around you, particularly people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

For more important details, please visit www.cdc.gov or call the Hotline at 1-877-PA-HEALTH.



National March for Life

Friday, January 21, 2022 at 1:00 PM
National Mall, Washington, DC

All are invited to the Philadelphia Pilgrim's Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception preceding the March for Life. Mass will begin at **10:00 AM**. For more details, please visit the Catholic Philly

website at www.phillycatholiclife.org.



School News

Cardinal O'Hara Family Festival
Saturday, April 30, 2022
9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
St. Thomas the Apostle, Glen Mills

FAMILY FUN



Lent 2022

Ash Wednesday falls on **March 2, 2022** and thus begins the season of Lent. In the meantime, we follow the Church's Liturgical Calendar in Ordinary Time. Vestments will be green.

During Lent, we will be holding a Clothing and Household Good's Drive for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul on **Saturday, March 19, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**. Save the date and start cleaning out your closets.

Workshop for Extraordinary Ministers

Tuesday, February 15, 2022
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

St. Thomas the Apostle, Glen Mills

All ministers who have not attended a workshop are asked to make every effort to attend. Please register at worship@archphila.org. A letter from the Archdiocese will then be mailed to Father Oswald and to the participant confirming attendance. All ministers are asked to attend one session.

Parish Religious Education



PREP News

Sacrament Class

Candidates for First Penance will enjoy a lesson and a tour of St. George Church with Father Oswald on **January 23, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM**. Practice will follow on **Sunday, January 30, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM**. All candidates are expected to attend both dates. Masks must be worn and all social distancing protocols will be followed. Parents are asked to contact Mrs. Batten at 610-237-1633 with questions or if a student is unable to be present.

The following students are preparing for their First Penance on **Saturday, February 5, 2022**: *Dominic Cicala, Adalynn Dibeler, Liam Dougherty, Addisyn Hajduk, Audrey Hammond, Tyler Kennard, Addison Kennedy, Gabriella Lloyd, Jack McGowan, Zachary Miller, Alex Tomeo, Deo Paulo Tunacao, Kyle White and Henriette Yansane*. Please pray for our young candidates as they continue their journey of faith and move closer to their big day.

Is it real or is it Rolex?

Selling cheap, fake designer purses, sunglasses, and watches has become a multi-million dollar business. Whether it be on the street corner or an online store, lots of people make money selling deceptive products.

Do any of you know what a Rolex is? A Rolex is a fancy watch brand that is very expensive. At first glance, a fake Rolex watch might seem like a good deal. After all, a real Rolex would cost thousands of dollars, and a fake one would cost just a few dollars. What's the big deal? Who will know the difference?

Well, after a few weeks, the imitation Rolex no longer keeps time. Oh well, it still looks good, you can wear it as a bracelet. But soon the finish begins to rub off and it isn't very pretty. Suddenly, what seemed like a good deal no longer seems like such a good deal after all!

Maybe you have seen or even own a Fit-Bit watch, which not only tells time but does other really cool things like count your daily steps and heartrate, plays music, tracks your sleep patterns and even has a built in GPS. But what if you had a fake brand? The music may be preset to something you don't listen to, it might break after a day or two, and it may not have all the features you want. It may be less expensive, but you might not be very happy with its quality.

Have you ever seen a fake brand or object that looked like the real thing? How could you tell the difference between the fake version and the real version of the item you mentioned?

Buying an imitation watch might not be a great loss. After all, it only costs a few dollars. But when it comes to your relationship with God, it is important to put your faith in the only real Savior, Jesus. There is much more at stake than money. That's because Jesus is the only way to heaven. Many people have claimed to be God or the Messiah, and there are false teachers who claim to know the way to heaven. But Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

In the Bible, many wondered if John the Baptist was God's Son, but John was quick to correct people, saying there was One who would come who was more powerful than him, and whose sandal straps he wasn't worthy to untie.

John the Baptist later baptized Jesus, and the Holy Spirit came to Jesus in the form of a dove, as a loud voice said, "You are My Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased."

Jesus is God's one-and-only Son, so we must put our faith in Him alone and watch out for fake teachers.

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus as Your one-and-only Son to save us. Please help us to look out for people trying to imitate Him and deceive us. We put our faith in Jesus alone. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Forty Hours 1853

There was unrest and a considerable amount of violence present in the City of Philadelphia. In addition to this, there was a strong anti-Catholic sentiment in Philadelphia. In the

middle of all of this turbulence, St. John Neumann was thinking of introduction to 40 Hours of adoration in the diocese. Needless to say, he was strongly advised not to proceed with the continual adoration. St. John Neumann had a decision to make, and then something happened to make up his mind to proceed with the devotion of the 40 Hours of Adoration. One night, he was working very late at his desk and fell asleep in this chair. The candle on the desk burnt down and charred some of the papers, but they were still readable. He awoke, surprised and thankful that a fire had not ignited. He fell on his knees to give thanks to God for protection and heard His voice saying, "As the flames are burning here without consuming or injuring the writing, so shall I pour out my grace in the Blessed Sacrament without prejudice to My honor. Fear no profanation therefore; hesitate no longer to carry out your design for my glory." St. John Neumann introduced the practice of 40 Hours Devotion at the first diocesan Synod in April 1853. The first devotions began at St. Philip Neri Parish, an appropriate place since that St. Philip had begun that very devotion in the city of Rome. The holy Bishop then introduced the program for the whole diocese of that each parish would have Forty hours Devotion during the year. He wrote a booklet for the devotions and the Forty House Devotion that was highly successful, and it helped it to spread to other dioceses. At the Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1866, the Forty Hours Devotion was approved for all Dioceses of the United States.

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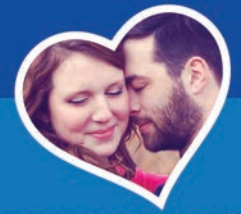
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