

# 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)

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 18, 2021



The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place. People saw them leaving and many came to know about it. They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them.

When He disembarked and saw the vast crowd, His heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd, and He began to teach them many things.

~ Mark 6: 30-34

## Special Vocation Bulletin Edition

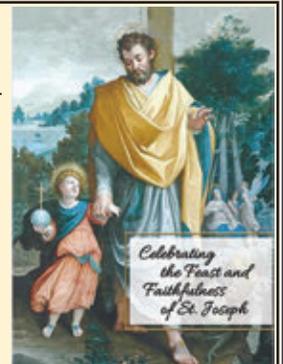
### Prayer to Saint Joseph

Join us as we pray the *Prayer to Saint Joseph* at the conclusion of Mass throughout the remainder of this Year of Saint 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.*



# 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 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. 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.

Marriage is to help married people sanctify themselves and others. For this reason they receive a special grace in the sacrament which Jesus Christ instituted. Those who are called to the married state will, with the grace of God, find within their state everything they need to be holy.  
(Saint Josemaria Escriva)



## Quotes of the Week

Vocations aren't the result of planning, but an encounter with God that changes your life.

Our Lady accompanies us also in making this definitive choice, the choice of a vocation, because she accompanied her Son on His vocational path, which was so difficult, so painful. She accompanies us always.

~Pope Francis

## 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, 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, 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

**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

**Coordinator of Religious Education**

Mrs. Lynda Batten

**Phone Number:** 610-237-1633

**Fax Number:** 610-237-9626

## 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 8:00 AM Mass on Saturdays

**Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet** - Thursdays 7:00 PM

## Daily Readings & Mass Intentions

**Sunday, July 18:** Jeremiah 23: 1-6; Ephesians 2: 13-18;

Mark 6: 30-34 - **16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM Pro Populo and Dolly Mount

*Requested by: Bill Battagliese*

10:30 AM Marcy MacMillan

*Requested by: Denis and Pat Casey*

**Monday, July 19:** Exodus 14: 5-18; Matthew 12: 38-42

4:00 PM Richard Stefankiewicz

*Requested by: Family*

**Tuesday, July 20:** Exodus 14: 21-15:1; Matthew 12: 46-50

4:00 PM Arthur and Madeline Mulrooney

*Requested by: Ann O'Connor*

**Wednesday, July 21:** Exodus 16: 1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13: 1-9

4:00 PM Jack Finnegan

*Requested by: McGlone Family*

**Thursday, July 22:** Song of Songs 3: 1-4b; Jn 20: 1-2, 11-18

4:00 PM Deceased members of the O'Connor

**Family**

*Requested by: Ann O'Connor*

**Friday, July 23:** Exodus 20: 1-17; Matthew 13: 18-23

4:00 PM Robert Smalley

*Requested by: Mary Smalley*

**Saturday, July 24:** Exodus 24: 3-8; Matthew 13: 24-30

4:30 PM Jerry Dinan

*Requested by: Pat Dinan*

**Sunday, July 25:** 2 Kings 4: 42-44; Ephesians 4: 1-6; John 6: 1-15: **17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM Pro Populo - with a special remembrance of those who were unable to come together at Christmas 2020

## Sunday continued...

10:30 AM Selvan Subban

*Requested by: Christina Lelli*

*Pro Populo means "for the people" of Holy Spirit and St. George Parish.*

## 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**

## Contributions

This week's bulletin issue was printed in advance. For Mass counts and contribution totals, please feel free to contact the Rectory Office. **If you are unable to join us for Mass, we respectfully ask that you remember to send in your weekly envelopes to the Rectory Office.** Thank you and God bless you.

## Need to Locate a Church?

Visit [www.maptimes.org](http://www.maptimes.org) to locate a church nearest your vacation destination when you are away this summer.

# Gospel Reflection and Parish

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

It was 7 year old Ricky who got my vote for "best entry" when he made me laugh out loud as I read his comment. It was the last of a 10 item list of "Kid's Comments about Love" that I found on Facebook. This is what Ricky wrote: "Tell your wife she is beautiful even if she looks like a truck."

Granted that Ricky will one day, along with us, have to concede that things like love and bodily appearance change with time, and that beauty is often only skin deep, remaining mostly in the eye of the beholder.

But a question arises from time to time related to this matter of beauty, namely "What does God look like?" Without any full scriptural description of Jesus to go by, we only have hints, as in Our Lord's famous answer to His apostle Philip: "He who sees Me sees the Father." But we're not as fortunate as Philip was, even without the details we might yearn to have. Yes, we do have the holy Shroud of Turin, but that at best gives us an idea of what Jesus our God looked like in death, and not in life.

So along come our imaginations, as varied as there are people living on the planet with us. Add in the portraits of great artists. Then we have to factor in the faces of the many actors who have taken on the role of Jesus for movies about Him. You may have a favorite.

The 4 evangelists who grace our world with their gospels apparently had no interest in this subject, which means that neither did the Holy Spirit who is, after all, their inspiration. The gospels are mainly interested in being catechetical instruments for their readers to get to know and love Jesus. To acknowledge Him as the "Way, the Truth and the Life." But every now and then the Holy Spirit lets us deduce certain characteristics of Christ that lead us to picture His face and enhance our devotion. Take the words of St. Mark today: "Jesus saw the crowd and His heart was moved with compassion, for they were like sheep without a shepherd." I picture a look of concern on His Face, and the look of love in His Hebrew eyes.

Reflecting further, we also have here a clear refutation of all those portraits of God as a hardened old man, white-whiskered and watchful for His next opportunity to pounce on us for our least infraction. What a tragedy to carry around such an image of God! I've often thought how it's such a shame that we have few painted portraits that capture Jesus smiling. He had to look that way when He was with the children, or they might have stayed away from Him. I bet He might have smiled as He pulled St. Peter out of the sea as the Big Fisherman had to be rescued from his short-lived walk on water.

But then there is our belief that we can see Him in the face of others. The people around our dining room table to start. Then on to the faces of our friends old and new. Strangers everywhere. Perhaps even in the face of an elderly bishop whose story fits well with the current Year of St. Joseph.

During Vatican Council II, an aged bishop from Yugoslavia shuffled up to the podium and appealed to the assembled bishops to include the name of Joseph in the First Eucharistic Prayer, or traditional Canon of the Mass. To the majority present this seemed unimportant at the moment. They were concerned with major changes and expressed their disapproval in the routine fashion they had of slapping the bench in unison to the chant, "Non ad rem!" (not to the point).

The old bishop then left the podium and tottered back to his place. But in the papal apartments, Pope (later Saint) John XXIII (who watched all the proceedings on closed-circuit TV) was not amused. He knew that this old bishop had been imprisoned for 9 years in a Communist jail, and that his captors had broken both his legs and simply left him in his pain. During this ordeal the agonizing bishop had prayed to St. Joseph. ~ God bless you and give you his peace!

**We miss you!**  
**Spread the word to family and friends!**  
**St. George is open for Mass.**  
**Nothings compares to being there.**



**Join us today!**  
**He awaits you in the Eucharist.**  
**Find the peace only Christ can offer.**  
**Our church is sanitized and ready for you.**



## Saint John's Hospice Good Shepherd Program

It is with pleasure that we announce the return of the Good Shepherd Casserole Program. St. John's Hospice has a brand new truck and the program is back up and running! Casserole pans will be

available at the doors of the church next weekend, **July 24-25**, or can be obtained at the Rectory Office. In order to be ready for the August pick up, frozen casseroles must be returned by **Monday, August 2nd**.

Also, men's toiletries (travel size) and men's socks are always needed. Please drop off your donations to the Rectory Office any time during business hours ((**Summer Hours: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday to Friday**)).

Thank you for reaching out to those who are homeless and in need of a meal and hospitality.

## Sponsor of the Week

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# Parish and Vocations



## A Message from Fr. Oswald

Please check out my weekly video reflections at [www.stgeorgeparish.org](http://www.stgeorgeparish.org) or on our Facebook page at St. George Church, Glenolden, PA. God bless you, one and all!

~Father Oswald, Pastor

## 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 they rest in the peace of Christ.

## Pray for Our Sick

Christine and Grayson Bailey, Al Beck, Helen Belcher, Dan and Marie Bellinger, Beligionino family, Roberta Bennett, Michael Berger, Kay Bittle, Ryan Bostedo, Irene Burns, Helena Butler, Suzie Carboni, Rose Celia, John Cianciarulo, Fred Cuccinello, Lenora Cuccinello, Rosemary DiDonato, Betty DiGrasso, Leonard DiGrasso, Terry Dolores, Mark Ednie, Christine Huf, Mark Gallagher, Kathleen Higgins, Patricia Johnson, Rev. Ignatius Marneni, Rev. John Muange Katuba, Doris Kerker, Sr. Ann Marie Loftus, Madeline Loftus, Margie Loftus, Karen Lyons, Angela Mahoney, Rev. Ignatius Marneni, Bridget McCann, Maureen McCann, Peg McCann, Bethann McCormick, Larry McCusker, Michael McFadden, David McFarland, Julia McGlenn, Anna Marie McIntyre, Eic Mullica, Rev. Leo P. Oswald, Barbara Partridge, Pastore family, Madeline Pfaff, George Phillips, Marie Prince, Joan Ratch, Harry Sperone, Michael Talent, Mary Wizda, Carmella Young and Mary Ann Zeller.

## Adult Choir

The St. George Adult Choir is on summer vacation. We wish all of our choir members a happy, healthy and safe summer!

If you would like to consider joining us in September, 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!

Practice will resume on *Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM in the church beginning in September.*

Enjoy the summer break.



## Priest Schedule

July 24-25, 2021

|          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| 4:30 PM  | Father Oswald    |
| 8:00 AM  | Father Oswald    |
| 10:30 AM | Father McCartney |



## St. George Parish 100th Anniversary

Coming in 2023...Stay tuned for details.

## Happy Birthday

We wish everyone who is celebrating a birthday this week a happy and healthy year ahead. **Happy Birthday, one and all!**



## Rosary Group



The Rosary Group meets 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 and for an end to the Coronavirus.

*"The praying of the Rosary helps us to open ourselves so that Mary can teach us to intercede for priests and vocations. Her maternal charity for priests can be infused into our hearts as we ponder the mysteries of Christ's life. She will help us fall in love with Jesus and His priests. Mary also keep us mindful of the invaluable gift that the priest gives to the Church, the Eucharist."*

~Kathleen Beckman, *Praying for Priests; A Mission for the New Evangelization*, 2014, P. 143.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, or if you were baptized Catholic but never completed the Sacraments of Initiation, or if you were never baptized or baptized in another faith and would like to become Catholic, please consider joining our R.C.I.A. program. Gatherings are held each **Thursday evening in the Convent at 6:30 PM**. Each week, a member of our R.C.I.A. team will present a different topic about our faith. And if you find you are not ready to become fully initiated at this time, there is no obligation to do so. This informative program is a wonderful way to learn more, to discern, and to come together in a peaceful and relaxing setting. For details or to register, contact Sr. Lorraine at 610-237-1633.

## Thank a Priest Today

Just in case you haven't done it in a while, or have never done it, tell the priests you know "Thank you." A simple thank you for their unconditional "yes" will probably do, but we can all extend a special sense of gratitude for particular aspects of their priestly ministry. Thank a priest after they offer the Sacrifice of the Mass, and always thank them after hearing your confession. Think about it, had they not said "yes" to God's call, how different would your life be? May God continue to bless all our priests abundantly for their heroic lives of virtue and sacrifice!

## What is a Vocation?

Simply put, a vocation is, essentially, an occupation. It could be marriage or single life, priesthood or religious life, or a choice of career such as a doctor, lawyer, some form of ministry, etc. In a religious context, a vocation implies someone has had a divine call to live a religious life. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we all have one calling in our lives: holiness. This means following Jesus to the best of our abilities.

## Vocation Page



### A Message from Bishop Senior

Dear Seminary Community,

Midway through the summer of 2021, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary is alive and well! Our newest alumni from the Ordination Class of 2021 are transitioning to new assignments and looking forward to coming together in September to concelebrate Mass with the seminary community. Seminarians, while not on campus for the summer break, are engaged in pastoral assignments, Spanish language immersion programs, summer jobs and opportunities to deepen and solidify their formation goals.

Our summer School of Theological Studies program is in full swing. We have 26 sisters on campus from all over the country studying towards Masters degrees (see more below). The Masters of Arts in Theology classes continue this summer along with the online Catechetical Institute. For more information about registering for the Catechetical Institute, visit [www.scs.edu](http://www.scs.edu).

Our Priest Alumni Retreat will take place on the seminary grounds during the *last week of July*. Father Paul Scalia, who currently serves as the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy and directs the permanent diaconate program for the Diocese of Arlington, will serve as retreat master. We are pleased to report that the 2021 Alumni Priest Retreat is filled to capacity.

Plans to relocate the seminary to a parcel of land adjacent to Gwynedd Mercy University are moving forward. The architects have started conducting focus groups, and we have formed an art committee to review and make recommendations concerning the seminary's art holdings, including sculptures, antiques, stained glass, ecclesiastical, liturgical and fine art. The art committee is comprised of current students, faculty, staff and alumni. The proceeds collected from the sale of any pieces in the seminary's art collection will be used towards building the new seminary.

Please continue to keep our seminary community in your prayers as we continue our mission: *to form priests who are shepherds after the Heart of Jesus Christ, and to prepare permanent deacons, religious and lay men and women for various forms of ministry, service, and discipleship*. Know that you and yours are remembered in our prayers as well. ~Most Rev. Timothy Senior

## Priestly Formation

The fundamental mission of Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary is the formation of Catholic men of partner dioceses and religious communities for pastoral service in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. The Seminary is committed to providing a unified college and theology program of formation in priestly spirituality, pastoral ministry, celibate witness, emotional maturity, intellectual integrity, and physical wellness.

Formation towards the ministerial Priesthood centers on the Word of God and the Sacraments of the Church; most especially Eucharist and Reconciliation. This is complemented by personal and community prayer, a comprehensive academic program of liberal arts and theological studies, and a program of pastoral preparation designed primarily for parochial ministry.

The Seminary recognizes the diverse challenges of our time and promotes in the seminarian a commitment to work in unity with others in the Church with a pastoral sensitivity that is exercised in fidelity to the Magisterium of the Church.

Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary provides an atmosphere that fosters and ensures a thorough process of formation, so that the man called to the Priesthood by God will have a strong priestly identity, a desire to serve, and a love for the people of God.

In *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, Pope John Paul II described the principal foundations for priestly formation as human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral. Each area, while distinct in itself, is naturally linked to the others. The four dimensions form the comprehensive structure of formation that guides the development of the candidate toward Priesthood.

### Human Formation

The purpose of Human Formation is to assist the seminarian in his task of becoming a man of integrity with the personality necessary for priestly ministry in the Church. It "seeks to prepare men to be bridges for, not obstacles to, the spread of the Gospel." (Program of Priestly Formation, 83) The community life of the seminary and the various services and co-curricular programs of the Human Formation Program are ordered to assist the seminarian to grow in true freedom, to develop a solid moral character, to be well-oriented to the truth, to become a man of communion, to evidence affective maturity, to be respectful of every person, to exercise appropriate care for his physical well-being, to be a good steward with respect to temporal goods, and to be a confident leader.

### Spiritual Formation

In the area of spiritual formation, our seminarians seek to grow in their relationship with Christ through prayer and contemplation. In this relationship, they encounter the overwhelming love of God in their lives and share in His merciful compassion.

### Intellectual Formation

In the area of intellectual formation, our seminarians seek to deepen their faith through study of the philosophy and theology so that they may authentically proclaim Jesus as the Way, the Truth, and the Life to the faith communities they serve. Our seminarians learn the skills and develop the disposition necessary to be ministers of the Gospel in all things and at all times.

### Pastoral & Apostolic Formation

Every Thursday during the academic year, seminarians in both the College and Theologate participate in supervised field education assignments. Placements include: Parishes (varied cultural experiences), nursing homes, senior citizen centers, special education schools, social service agencies, hospices, soup kitchens, hospitals, high schools, and prisons.



# Parish Religious Education and Vocations



## Registration for the Parish Religious Education Program

If your child will be joining us this fall to complete his or her religious education and the Sacraments of Initiation, (Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation) registration is now due. **Levels 1-6** will receive instruction at St. Gabriel Parish, choosing either *Wednesdays In-Person at 3:15 PM - 4:45 PM*, or *Sundays In-person at 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM*. *Preparation, rehearsal and celebration of sacraments will remain at St. George Church*. For students in **Levels 7 & 8**, lessons will continue to held in St. George Church on *Monday evenings from 6:45 PM to 8:00 PM*. All in-person classes include the wearing of masks, sanitation, and social distancing. All registrations go directly through St. George Rectory. **If you have a child who will begin 1st grade in Fall 2021, registration is necessary at this time.** Please contact Mrs. Lynda Batten, Coordinator of Religious Education, at 610-237-1633 for more details. Confirmation candidates in Level 7 this year are reminded that this is an 8-year program. We expect to see you back in the fall to complete your last year of religious education in PREP. Register today!

## Women Religious at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

*"Every vocation is born of sacrifice, is maintained by sacrifice and is measured in the apostolate by the sacrifice of those whom God calls to the priesthood or the religious life. This should not be surprising, once we realize that it was by His sacrifice that Christ redeemed the world. The servant is not greater than his Master. In fact, the more intimate is one's vocation to the service of Christ, the more demanding will be the sacrifices required," (Hardon).*

Each year, women Religious from across the country arrive on the seminary's campus for graduate studies in Theology during the summer months at The School of Theological Studies for religious and laity.

The School of Theological Studies was founded at the Seminary in 1969 in direct response to the call of two magisterial documents from the Second Vatican Council which focused on graduate education in Theology; Declaration on Christian Education, *Gravissimum Educationis* (Paul VI, 1965, p. 10), which was proclaimed by His Holiness Pope Paul VI on October 28, 1965 and the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity *Apostolicam actuositatem*, (Paul VI, 1965, p. 23-32) promulgated by His Holiness Pope Paul VI on November 18, 1965. Both documents encouraged the creation of a graduate program in Theology be made available to the Laity and Women Religious so the students would be best prepared to evangelize and build up the Church through teaching, pastoral work and effective spiritual and educational formation.

The sisters who attend the graduate school earn a Master of Arts degree in Theology. They are members of various religious congregations in the United States who are serving in teaching or pastoral missions or serving in assignment in other countries.

Staff prepares the dormitories for the sisters to take up residence in their own quarters. Each community has its own group of rooms. Once settled, the sisters usually explore the beautiful campus which includes historic Chapels, elegant buildings and paintings, an impressive research library, classrooms, a Refectory, winding paths across campus for quiet walks, a Grotto for prayer, an open-air interior garden courtyard with Stations of the Cross for solitary or group prayer.

The priests and lay staff working on campus in the summer look forward to the sisters' summer semester because of their vibrant witness of faith in joy through their lives lived in Christ. The various religious habits of each community draw attention to their unique sign of conviction in religious life. The sisters countenance is accompanied by their own individual personalities as they engage in conversations with professors and staff in their shared Catholic faith. Fresh flowers appear in small vases on Chapel altars or near a Crucifix, Our Lady, or St. Joseph on campus; a sign that a sister has visited in prayer.

The priests and Father Daniel Mackle, a professor and Director of Liturgy, provide a rich sacramental life for the visiting sisters and staff. The sisters study with a dedicated commitment that is recognized by Professors and fellow students as a spiritual expression of honoring God for their gift of intellect and in appreciation for the opportunity to study Theology more deeply in a rigorous and respected program. The goal is to evangelize the Gospel in every moment within their missions of teaching and pastoral work.

For more information on our programs, please visit our website which features the programs at <https://www.scs.edu/school-theological-studies>. ~By Suzanne Mulrain, Coordinator, School of Theological Studies



Imagine a world without priests.  
There would be no sacraments.  
There would be no Eucharist.  
The priests of tomorrow are in our midst.  
They are members of our own families.  
They are members of our parish.  
Pray for vocations.  
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