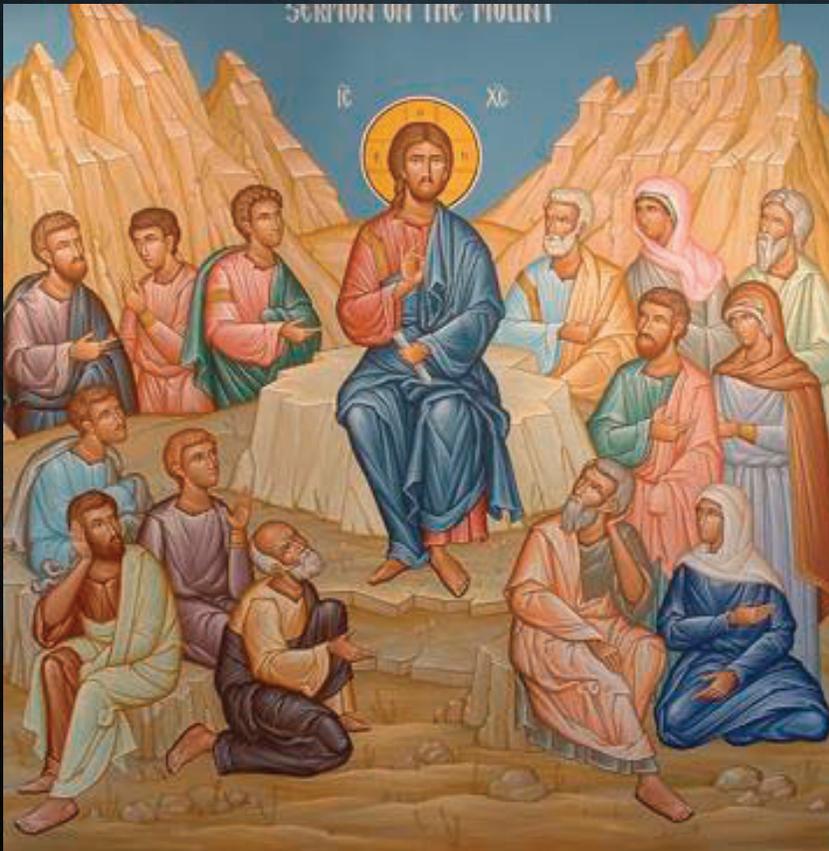


St. George Catholic Church

Established 1851



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Welcome

Our parish family extends a warm welcome to all who are joining us for worship, guidance or instruction. If you are new to the area or coming home, we invite you to register and make St. George Catholic Church your parish. Registration forms can be obtained in the church vestibule, at the office or online.

Mission Statement

The Gospel calls all people to holiness of life. Saint George Catholic Church is a family of faith, committing ourselves as a welcoming Catholic community to worship God in Word and in Sacrament; to live and to share our faith; to serve the poor, the vulnerable, and those in need; and to reconcile ourselves with God and one another.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses: *Tues., Wed., Thur., Fri., Sat.:* 9:00AM

Weekend Masses: **Saturday** — 5:00PM,
Sunday — 7:30AM, 10:30AM, 2:00PM (in Vietnamese)

Holy Day Masses — 9AM & 7PM...or as announced

St. Francis Xavier Mission Chapel (on St. George Island)

Saturday — 7:00PM (*May–September: after Memorial Day to Labor Day)

Holy Hour w/ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction & EP:

Tuesday to Friday 5-6PM, **Saturday** 9:30-10:30AM

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Paul Nguyen, *Pastor*

Mrs. Kimberley Browne, *Minister of Religious Education*

Mrs. Laura Lancaster, *Bookkeeper*

Mrs. Divine Stachowski, *Parish Secretary*

Mr. Rico Romero, *Facility Maintenance*

OFFICE HOURS

Closed on Mondays

Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am – 4:00pm

Wednesday & Friday 10:00am – 2:00pm

19199 St. George's Church Rd.
Valley Lee, Maryland 20692

Phone: 301-994-0607

Website: www.StGeorgeRCC.org
Email: secretary@stgeorgerrcc.org

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Youth Faith Formation (YFF) meets in the Community Center 9:00-10:15 AM. Contact Kim Browne for class enrollment and for more information: (301) 994-0737 or email: kim.browne@stgeorgerrcc.org

RCIA (Preparation for Easter Sacraments)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process of inquiry and discernment for those who wish to come into full communion with the Catholic faith and are above the age of infant baptism. Classes are held Saturdays at 11:00am-12:30pm in the Community Center beginning in October and ending in May. For more information and registration, please contact Fr. Paul at the church office or email: fr.paulnguyen@stgeorgerrcc.org

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL: LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL (pre-K – 8th grades)

For registration or information, please call LFS at (301) 994-0404 or visit us online www.littleflowercatholic.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Our parish Youth Group meets Sundays from 6:30pm to 8pm at alternating locations between St. George Community Center and Holy Face Church. For more information, contact the parish office or our youth minister Leon Gilmore Faithformation@md.metrocast.net or call 301-994-0525.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM:

Arrangements must be made in advance with Father Paul by at least one parent for children under the age of seven. A Baptismal preparation class is required for first time parents. Children over the age of 7 will need instructions in RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children) and will receive the sacraments of initiations at Easter Vigil.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/ FIRST EUCHARIST:

Contact Mrs. Kimberley Browne for more information: kim.browne@stgeorgerrcc.org

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is celebrated in the Fall and requires a 2-year preparation in our Sunday Youth Faith Formation. Contact Mrs. Kimberley Browne for more information: kim.browne@stgeorgerrcc.org

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION:

1st Fridays 9:45am-10:30am, Saturdays 9:45am-10:30am & 4:00pm-4:45pm, or by appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & HOLY EUCHARIST:

Parishioners unable to attend Mass on the weekends or who are ill are encouraged to call the parish office to receive the Sacrament of anointing of the sick and Holy Communion.

MARRIAGE

Couples should contact the parish office and priest to make arrangement **at least 6 months** in advance of the wedding. Pre-Cana Classes or Engagement Encounter is required.

DEVOTIONS

Holy Rosary: After Daily Masses, Sat. 4:30pm, Sun 10:00am + **Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Fridays after Daily Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesday-Friday 5:00pm-6:00pm + Saturday 9:30am-10:30am

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Tue	Jan 31	9:00am	Janice Lynch
Wed	Feb 1	9:00am	James Greg Adams
Thu	Feb 2	9:00am	Pat Womer
Fri	Feb 3	9:00am	Rhonda Greene Justice
Sat	Feb 4	9:00am	Vocation
		5:00pm	Gary Hurley
Sun	Feb 5	7:30am	Johnathan Geary
		10:30am	Michael Trent Jr.
		2:00pm	Vinh Son

WEEKDAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Daily Lector: J. Blackwell, G. Frauenfelder, F. Grider, B. Gallo, M. Goldsmith

LITURGICAL FEAST DAYS

Tue. Jan 31 ST. JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST

Thu. Feb 2 THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Fri. Feb 3 St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr
St. Ansgar, Bishop



Remember in our Prayers

Please remember our parishioners who are sick, homebound and those in the nursing homes and hospitals, and all in need of our prayers, especially those who serve our country and their families, and all who are listed in our Parish Book of Intentions.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

[Zep 2:3 – 3: 12-13; Ps 146: 6-10; 1 Cor 1: 26-31; Mt 5: 1-12A](#)



Today's Gospel Reading from Matthew recounts what we know as Christ's Sermon on the Mount. This entire reflection could be devoted to that, of course, but as always, there are also messages that are important in the other readings. The Sermon on the Mount is the first of five teachings Jesus gives us in the Gospel of Matthew. The Lord gives this relatively early in His Ministry, not long after He has been baptized. In the entire New Testament this is the longest continuous section of Jesus speaking, and it is perhaps the most widely quoted of part of the four Canonical Gospels. It contains, after all, the central rules of discipleship.

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church (# 1716) this idea is supported in the following passage that states, "The Beatitudes are at the heart of Jesus' preaching. They take up the promises made to the chosen people since Abraham. The Beatitudes fulfill the promises by ordering them no longer merely to the possession of a territory, but to the Kingdom of heaven."

Probably every Catholic theologian and cleric has addressed the Beatitudes. On a Sunday with this same reading in his homily Pope Francis said in 2014, "These are our new commandments. However, if we do not have a heart open to the Holy Spirit, they will seem silly. The thought of being poor, being meek, being merciful does not seem to lead to what we consider to be modern success. But if we do not have an open heart and if we have not experienced the consolation of the Holy Spirit, which is salvation, we cannot understand this. This is the law of the free, with the freedom of the Holy Spirit."

The First Reading is drawn from the Old Testament Book of Zephaniah. It was written at about the same time as Isaiah. We do not often hear readings from Zephaniah as it only contains about 1,400 words (compare that to our other two readings sources, 1 Corinthians with almost 7,000 words, and Matthew with more than 18,000 words.). The First Reading touches on traits on which we will be judged. It emphasizes the importance of humility,

justice, and being lowly. Just as Pope Francis indicated in his homily on the Beatitudes, these are not traits many people in our world seek. Yet, these are exactly the kinds of attributes that follow lives of stewardship. That is why it is not easy.

In Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (our Second Reading) the Apostle Paul also describes what it means to be a Christian and a steward, paralleling the First Reading and the Gospel. He reminds the Corinthians that they, too, need to be humble. It is possible that they, like many who felt they were "chosen," had an inflated opinion of themselves, thinking that God favored them. In this reading Paul gently reminds them that God does not work that way. We need to keep that in mind ourselves; it is very easy when we feel that we have completely captured the secret of living, which may be true; however, we must take caution not to be self-righteous. Paul tells the Corinthians that they are not chosen because they are great, but because God is great.

Paul knows this firsthand; he was an educated man, but he also understood that the Lord selected fishermen and farmers first, and people like him second; the shepherds came first, then the wise men. Paul uses three words to emphasize his meaning — righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. Righteousness on our part is trying to live as Jesus told us; sanctification implies how we live, how we recognize that it is only through Christ that we are sanctified; and redemption reminds us of the sacrifice the Lord made in our behalf so we could be free, and God would forgive our sins.

As indicated in the opening of this reflection, today's Gospel provides us with instructions from Jesus as to what kind of people His disciples should be. There are more than enough key words on which to reflect and pray: poor, mourn, meek, hunger, mercy, peacemakers, clean, and persecuted to name a few. We could concentrate on each one, but it is worth pointing out that these are traits the Lord calls us to, and what He may mean by them.

For example, when Jesus says that to be blessed, we need to "hunger and thirst for righteousness," He is

reminding us of what our focus in life should be. In our world people hunger for many things that may not be

that important — things like power and success and wealth and possessions and comfort. The idea of being righteous in His eyes is more important than any of those. When He calls us to be peacemakers, He probably does not mean that we do not just live in peace, but that we need to bring peace to others.

Finally, He reminds us that the reward for living in these ways may well be persecution. Why? Quite simply because the world has a differing view of these character traits and values. The question we are called to answer through our lives is, “Are these Beatitudes reflective of our lives?” Indeed, they need to be.

Weekly Financial Stewardship Report

Last Week's collection: January 22, 2023	
Offertory	\$2,053.00
Maintenance	\$50.00
Poor Box	\$166.00
Donations	\$1,257.00

Thank you for your faithful Parish support.

THOUGHTS ON THE MASS READINGS

“Consider your own calling, brothers and sisters. Not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. Rather, God chose the foolish of this world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong, and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something, so that no human being might boast before God.”

Imagine opening a letter, or as the Corinthians, listening to the reading of a letter, offering such ideas. Would we not rather hear something positive? But as we reread this message, we find Paul reflecting the teaching of the beatitudes of the Sermon on the Mount - probably before Matthew's gospel was written.

It is due to him that we are in Christ Jesus, offering us His wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. That is what really matters. Take no offence in Paul's description and in your prayer, thank God that He chose you.

CATHOLIC TEACHINGS

A MINUTE IN THE CHURCH. BASICS OF THE FAITH.

Explanations of Catholic Practice and Devotions

Preparation of the Gifts

The Mass is both a sacrifice and a meal. It is the heavenly banquet of the Lamb made present to us. You'll find that the Preparation of the Gifts is probably similar to a meal you would have at home. How? First, we set the table.

At home, you probably say a blessing over the food. At Mass, the priest says a blessing over the bread and the wine and the congregation responds, “Blessed be God forever.” Before blessing the chalice, the priest adds a drop of water to the wine. This reminds us of the two natures of Christ, and recalls the blood and water that flowed from his side on the cross. The priest prays, “By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.”

Before eating at home, you probably wash your hands. So does the priest as he prays, “Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.” At Sunday Mass, these actions may all take place quietly as the congregation sings a hymn.

Finally, we all stand and join in prayer as the priest says, “Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.” We respond, “May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.”

Copyright © 2017 by Gus Lloyd. Scriptures text used in this work are taken from the new American Bible, copyright © 1991, 1986, and 1970 by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC 20017 and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All rights reserved.

PARISH NEWS

QUILTS OF VALOR SEW-IN

The February QOV Sew-In and Organizational Meeting for the Pax Sound of Freedom quilters group has been moved up one week earlier to Feb 4th. The time and location remains the same, from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM in the Community Center. If you are interested in volunteering, please join us.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

YFF Program, formerly CCD

Children's Sunday School (Pre-K to 8th grades)

Pre-K to 6th grades meets on **Sunday 9am-10:15am**

7th to 9th grades meets on **Sunday at 6:45pm-8:00pm**

For more information, please contact Kim Browne at

kim.browne@stgeorgercc.org

BIBLE STUDY

As Bishop Barron states.... "The great sacraments of the structured countless lives. Everything in the Church's life comes from and returns to them. But there is far more to these ancient rites than meets the eye."

We invite you to join our newest Bible Study classes which consist of video presentations, questions/discussion and reading assignments.

Sundays: 9:00am – 10:15am in Community Center

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

MEN, INQUIRE AND BECOME A KNIGHT - Make a difference <https://www.kofc.org> and look it over. You may join for free there, be sure to enter our council #13091.

Last Chance To Apply for Knights of Columbus Scholarships Available

College Bound Students - The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council web site WWW.KofC.org Tab "What WE DO"; click **Scholarships**; Last year nearly \$1 million provided in scholarships for students attending colleges, universities and seminaries.

Maryland State Applications Due by February 1st - The Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus is the sponsor of several High School scholarships up to four years for its members and for Catholic Students in general.

- **The Frederick M. Gossman Memorial High School Scholarship** - Member Scholarship Program for Catholic High School \$1,500/Year

- **The William J. O'Brien Jr., Memorial Catholic High School Scholarship** - Open to all Catholic High School Students \$1,500/Year

See High School Scholarship Programs at <https://kofc-md.org/> for more information and application.

WEEKLY SUNDAY ROSARY - Come early to the Sunday Masses and join the Knights in prayer reciting the mysteries of the Rosary:

4:30 PM Saturday

7:00AM Sunday, 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM .

1/29 - COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER - 2:30pm - 5:30PM at Immaculate Heart of Mary Hall; 22375 Three Notch Road; Lexington Park, MD; hosted by IHM Auxiliary - bring baby shower style gift. See Flyer at St. George Website under Ministries, Knights of Columbus.

1/31 - at 6:30 PM; KOFC COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING at the Community Center with refreshments and snacks after the meeting.

2/7 - at 6:30 PM; KOFC COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - at the Community Center with refreshments, 50/50 raffle, light dinner and snacks after the meeting.

REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL: LFS

Little Flower School will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week from **Jan. 29-Feb. 3**. We celebrate our core values of LFS: learning, faith, and service. The school will be open to the public for an Open House on Thursday, Feb. 2 from 9-11am.

If you are interested in a Catholic education for your child and would like to learn more about our school, please register at: <https://forms.office.com/r/AtzL2eiRGg>.

NEWS IN OUR AREA

WOMEN'S NIGHT OF RECOLLECTION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 7:00PM. ST. CECILIA CHURCH, St. Mary's City. This month's talk is "Encountering Forgiveness: Confession," given by Fr. Larry Swink and visiting priest. Through the sacrament of Penance, God desires to strengthen and heal our soul, deepen our relationship with Him. What is the teaching of this sacrament, and how is it a source of healing? This month's format includes 2 Talks, Adoration and Confession.



• Tree & Stump Removal
• Pruning • Seal Coating
• Asphalt Repair

301-997-0006
24 Hour Emergency Service
www.Jeffstree.com



ST. MARY'S
Nursing & Rehabilitation
Center

21585 Peabody Street
Leonardtown, MD 20650
301-475-8000 • www.smci.org



MATTINGLEY ~
Gardiner
FUNERAL HOME
and CREMATION SERVICES, P.A.

301-475-8500

41590 Fenwick Street • P.O. Box 270
Leonardtown, MD 20650
www.mgfh.com

SELECTED Independent FUNERAL HOMES
CANA MEMBER Cremation Association of North America



Begin your day with a grateful heart.

BON Venture

You sure I'm in the right car seat?



LEARN MORE

NHTSA ad

Help the ASPCA put a stop to animal cruelty.



ASPCA
ASPCA.ORG
WE ARE THEIR VOICE.

www.aspca.org



PAUL HALL CENTER
FOR
MARITIME TRAINING & EDUCATION
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Piney Point, MD
301-994-0010



Brinsfield
LIFE CELEBRATION FUNERAL
HOMES & CREMATORY

Traditional Funerals • Cremation Services • Pre-Need Services • Live Streaming

Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.
22955 Hollywood Road
Leonardtown, MD 20650
301-475-5588

Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.
30195 Three Notch Road
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
301-472-4400

www.brinsfieldfuneral.com

Survey Results from the University of Missouri

- ★ 97% of families surveyed take at least one bulletin home each week.
- 74% of families surveyed read each bulletin.
- 62% of families surveyed keep the bulletin in their home for one week.
- 70% of all family members surveyed consciously look at the ad page of the bulletin.
- ★ 41% of all family members surveyed patronize a business specifically because it advertises in the bulletin.
- 68% of the families surveyed are more inclined to patronize a business that does advertise in the bulletin rather than a non-advertiser.
- ★ 22% of the families surveyed go out to lunch, brunch or dinner after church each week.

This Space Is Currently Available To You!!



GIVE A HOOT!
DON'T POLLUTE

Thanks for giving a hoot!
Woody

NeNa's Oriental Market & Carry Out
Filipino Restaurant • Grocery

PARISHIONER **240-237-8162**

21600 #27 Great Mills Road • Lexington Park MD 20653

Let The Experts Do the Dirty Work!



Larry Hills & Sons Excavating Inc.
(301) 994-9700

Excavation & Asphalt Repair • Septic Services

READY.GOV
Don't be afraid...Be Ready



LYMBER BUILDING CENTER & HARDWARE STORE
Since 1921 **301-994-9000**
20375 POINT LOOKOUT ROAD • GREAT MILLS, MD 20634
www.dysonbuildingcenter.com



WREATHS across AMERICA

Sponsor a veterans' wreath at a cemetery near you.

To sponsor, volunteer or donate, visit
wreathscrossamerica.org

ADVERTISERS NEEDED!

PLEASE CALL JERRY ENGEL
1-800-364-0684 Ext. 91
or CELL 410-707-1975



Act now to help end hunger.

In the United States, 1 in 9 people face hunger.

FEEDING AMERICA
feedingamerica.org