

News For Those Sixty And Over, Caregivers, And The Saint George Parish Community

SixtyPlus

Newsletter



**Celebrating a
Century of Serving...**

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2021-22 ISSUE

Advent has a two-fold character that celebrates the “already, but not yet” aspect of Christ in our world. It is a



season of preparation for the anniversary celebration of Christ’s becoming human, the Incarnation.

And, it is a season to consider and prepare for Christ’s

second coming at the end of time. There is a sense of expectation and waiting. In this context, the phrase “soon and very soon we are going to see the King” refers to both the celebration of Christ’s birth and our final meeting with Him.

We will be celebrating the season this year TOGETHER and for some; TOGETHER, BUT APART. Here is how:

We will be joining together for masses and special events throughout this season. Christmas Eve we will have our regular Mass times 4:30pm, 7:00pm and 10:00pm. However, please note that there will be only ONE 4:30pm Mass in the church, there will be no Mass in the gym.

Christmas Morning our Mass times will be 7:30am and 9:30am.

Unlike last year, we will NOT be requiring tickets to attend Mass. We do encourage safety protocols of wearing masks, ESPECIALLY, if you are not vaccinated, and please stay home if you are ill.

If you are unable to join us in person; our Masses will continue to be streamed LIVE on our NEW YouTube Channel. (If you have not accessed it: search for Saint George Roman Catholic Church, Erie, PA in the YouTube search bar and then press SUBSCRIBE! You will be able to enjoy Masses and special events streamed directly to your Smart TV, Phone, or PC.)

Finally, be sure to read your Bulletin either online or in print for ministries, events and special holiday announcements.

My prayer for you this Advent season, Christmas and New Year is that you will encounter the living Christ. That He can be both “the already, but not yet” in your own heart. He is waiting for you there.

Fr. Brian Vossler

God Bless,
Fr. Brian

2022 marks the 100th Year of Saint George Parish. We have much to be thankful for as we reflect on this momentous occasion. Throughout the year we will be celebrating the years of ministry, family and friends, and faithfulness here in what was once called Woodlawn Heights.

Please SAVE THE DATE for August 6, 2022 when we will be celebrating with a Mass at 4:30pm with an event to follow. This is the actual day of the opening of Saint George Church in 1922.

Our weekly bulletin will be your main source of information as we move into 2022. Look for historical references, photos and church memorabilia. Also, don’t forget about the 100th anniversary book that is being written as we speak! The book has already been available for pre-sale and will be available for sale once it is published. Stay tuned!



Raise The Roof End Of Year Recap

Work continues on the Roof and Window project here at Saint George. The workers are braving the cold, wind, and rain and hope to be finished with Phase One by December 3, 2021 or soon after.

All of the work done thus far was recently reported in our Annual Report published in Mid-November. We have reached our \$1,216,500 Phase One goal! We continue the work of fundraising and renovation of the Rectory building in Phase Two which will begin Spring of 2022. We hope to raise an additional \$238,116.

We are so very thankful that as of November 22, 2021 we have 439 families that have pledged \$1,283,659 to this historical project! Please consider a pledge in 2022 if you have not been able to participate. No gift is too small.

As I always say, “A sense of community and commitment describes the men and women who built our church



We have a new YouTube Channel



In case you missed it: we have new High-Definition Cameras in the church for our streaming operations. With the new cameras, came a new YouTube Channel. Please go to YouTube and search for SAINT GEORGE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH and press the red SUBSCRIBE in the upper right portion of the page. The Sunday 9:30am Mass, the School Masses and funerals and special events will now be streamed on this channel.

in 1959. We now continue this commitment as we invest in our place of worship and provide for future generations. Thank you to our parish community for your prayerful consideration and commitment to Saint George.” Fr. Brian

Please note: Any additional contributions over our goal for the 2022 Catholic Services Appeal will help to reach our goal for Phase Two of our Raise the Roof Appeal. Look for more information on the CSA in February.

PHASE TWO includes:

- **Rectory windows, doors, patios, masonry and HVAC repairs**
- **Garage ventilation, man door, electric, paint and repairs**
- **Site storm water and piping, concrete work for curb and sidewalks, asphalt and retaining wall**

YOUR MONEY

Marquette's New Innovation & Learning Center!



As you may have heard, Marquette Savings Bank opened the doors to the Innovation and Learning Center this summer. It is located at 930 Peach Street. You may be interested in coming to visit us to see our beautiful new facility, have a nice lunch or espresso at the Main Street Cakery Café and learn about several regularly scheduled one-hour classes which are presented by our own Operations Analysts and Security and Fraud Experts which are open to the public.

In our Online Banking Series, we will cover banking securely using online

and mobile banking options and how to deposit money, pay bills and without having to leave the comfort of you home. We also offer a series on fraud detection and prevention that focuses on issues such as identity theft, phishing, imposter scams, how to spot a scam and phone calls you should never answer. If you are interested in learning about how to detect these scams and prevent them from happening, or if you know someone who may benefit from this information you will be pleased to know, the classes are offered free of charge.

Yes, you read that correctly - all the classes are open to the public and there is no cost to attend! If you cannot make it downtown, there are other options. You can attend at any branch conference room, or you can Zoom from the comfort of your own home. For more information about the schedule and to learn how to register, please reach out to Andrea Orzechowski by calling 814-314-8226.

Marquette
SAVINGS BANK



Festival of Lessons and Carols

On Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7pm, Saint George will host a special Festival of Lessons and Carols. This special service has a long history in the Church of England, or the Anglican Church, and is a beautiful way to prepare oneself for Christmas. Traditionally, the Festival of Lessons and Carols would occur on Christmas Eve and tells the story of Salvation History: the fall of humanity,

the promise of the Messiah, and the Birth of Jesus. This story of our faith is told in nine lessons which are taken from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns and choir anthems.

The Festival of Lessons and Carols occurs at the close of Advent and at the crest of Christmas, a transition point from a season of preparation to a season of celebration. Our evensong of Lessons and Carols takes the gifts of our musicians and the cooperation of the congregation to bring the true spirit of Christmas into our hearts and our church.

At Saint George, we are exceptionally blessed with awe-inspiring talent. From our music director Emily Cabanillas and renowned Daniel Cabanillas, to our own choir members, we look forward to an alluring evening of scripture, prayer, worship, and carols. Plan on joining us to prepare your heart for the celebration of the coming of Jesus Christ!

**This event is free of charge
and no reservations are necessary.**



Give the gift of self-care

We have all learned to sacrifice in unexpected ways over the past two years. At a time when we have felt the strongest desire to cling to our loved ones, we have been forced to distance from one another. This is especially challenging during the holidays.

We have mastered creative, new ways to work, play, learn and connect. We have learned new hobbies.

We have discovered what real disinfecting looks and smells like and how undervalued the lower half of our faces are. We have gotten to know our grocery delivery people so well they have become like family, and our "Happy Birthday" song hand-washing has become the trendiest game. We now respect the value of toilet tissue.

We have spent time reflecting on how different things used to be and wondered if we will ever return to the way we were.

And we have been sad. And angry. And lonely. And stressed. And anxious. And scared. And discouraged. And unsure.

When you feel that you are missing information, watch, listen to, or read the news from reliable sources. You are not alone. Resources are available to help you with any stress or feelings of grief, loss, worry or personal challenges you might be experiencing.

We all react to situations differently, and our feelings will change over time.

I do not know when things will turn around for good, but I do know how adaptive and resilient we are. And I know that taking care of ourselves mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally bends our perspective in a much more positive direction. Remind yourself of your strength. Remind yourself of your strengths.

This holiday season, I encourage you to make your personal health a priority.

Maintain healthy relationships, and build a strong support system. Share your stories with someone. With emotional healing, thoughts and dreams about an experience will be less painful. In time, you will have gained some emotional distance from the event.

Schedule your wellness visit. Keep current on immunizations. Have honest conversations with your doctor. Doctors have spent countless hours researching science so they can best answer your questions. Research is how doctors and scientists learn if and how things work to diagnose, treat or prevent disease.

The good news is I hereby grant you permission to fully enjoy your sweet and savory holiday dishes. But then remember to eat whole foods without added sugars whenever possible. And get moving! Believe it or not, exercise has been proven to lessen fatigue, anxiety or sadness. Most important: Remember to get enough sleep!

Treat yourself to the most important gift this holiday season. Speak to your healthcare provider about any concerns you are having. You can always contact my office at 814-868-3488.

LECOM
INSTITUTE FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING

Millcreek Community Hospital 5515
Peach Street, Erie, PA 16509
Call: (814) 864-4031



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

December 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Mass Times:
6:45am, 12:10pm, 7:00pm

December 12 Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe
Explanatory Mass for Faith Formation Students at the 9:30 am Mass

December 15 The Light is On: Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:30-6:30 pm

December 21 Lessons in Carols 7:00 pm

December 24-27 Rectory Office Closed

**December 31-
January 3** Rectory Office Closed

Christmas Eve Mass Times: 4:30pm (Mass in Church only), 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Christmas Day Mass Times: 7:30am and 9:30am

New Years Eve Mass Time: Daily: 6:45am and 8:00am; Evening: 5:30pm

New Year's Day Mass Times: 8:00am