

St. George Church
JANUARY 8th & 9th
BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SHARING OUR TREASURE

-- WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 27th – January 2, 2022

\$5888

Building fund Campaign

December 2021, \$2710

With a YTD total of \$70.074

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

--PRAYER LINE - PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Scott Brassea; Londa Carder; Carter Fortin; Patricia Glaeser; Antoinette Granger; Arnold Guimond; Judy Kinder; Stephen Meredith; Eva Raymond; Cliff Rusk; Jim Saindon; Carl Tosi; Dave Zivo; Special Intention

--REMINDER To add OR remove a loved one to the Prayer Line please call the Parish Office:
815-939-1851

WEEKLY MINISTER SCHEDULE

Sat. 5:00pm January 15

READER: Sandy Blanchette

USHER: Marty Knight

GREETER: Mary DePatis

SACRISTAN: John Mroz

L/EM: Rita Mroz

EM Choir: Denise Dillard

Sun 8:00 am January 16

READER: Lisa Berg

USHER: Joe Verrill

GREETER: Karen Verrill

SACRISTAN: Rosa Carroll

L/EM: Lisa Conrad

EM Choir: Terri Henderson

Sun 10:15 am January 16

READER: Sharon Merten

USHER: Mike Blanchette

GREETER: Cooper Austin

SACRISTAN: Mary Ann Kingsnorth

L/EM: Scott Austin

EM Choir: Marsha Saathoff

UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday, January 12th

8am *Maxine Lambert Nyc (Pam Cuchiara)

Friday, January 13th

8am *The Repose of The Souls of The Springer Family (The Richard H. & Alice R. McMurry Fund)

Saturday, January 15th

5PM *Larry & Rita Walsh (Their Family)

*Jeannette Gregoire (Terri Henderson)

Sunday, January 16th

8AM *Ken Bunnell (Terri Henderson)

*Greg Lambert (Betty & Larry Blanchette)

10:15 AM * Peter Wonaitis (Karen Wollenzein)

*The Parishioners of St. George

**Please remember to respect others
space and beliefs.**

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- **January 16th – 4th-7th** Family Gathering. K-3 In classroom; 4PM Confirmation Class
- **January 23rd**- K-3 In class; 4-7 On-line
- **January 30th**- Children's Liturgy

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **January 14th**- Bowling with Father Dan 6:30 at Brookmont Bowling Center
- **February 11th** – Pre-Superbowl Chili Cookoff Party at 6PM.
- **February 26th** – Trivia Night at 6:00

Hospitality Sunday

January 23rd from 8:45-9:45 in the Parish Hall. Please join us for a homemade breakfast hosted by Rosa Carroll

SUPPORT LOCAL MINISTRY

St. George will continue to collect items for several ministries. Thank you for your generosity.

- Pregnancy Resource Center needs diaper sizes newborn, 4, 5, & 6, diaper cream, and baby body wash.
- JPPI Food Pantry accepts food items as well as paper products such as paper towels, Kleenex, and toilet paper.
- Deacon Milt's Ministry appreciates cash to continue buying snacks and supplies for the various nursing homes he and Juliet visit.

All items can be left in the back of church labeled for what group they are intended. Money can be left in an envelope marked Deacon Milt in the collection basket.

PARISHIONERS' STORIES/MEMORIES

"Little did we know that some 30 years later, we would become parishioners of St. George.

The first time that Marcia and I saw the town of St. George was 37 years ago in 1984. All my family from the Chicago area arrived to celebrate the 25th anniversary of ordination for my dad's youngest brother, the pastor of St. George Parish, Fr. Frank Czerwionka. My first impression of St. George was somewhat startling. While speeding along a two-lane country road, an old stone church plus a few scattered buildings seemed to suddenly sprout up from the farm fields, a tiny community with no stop lights, no sidewalks, no stores. It certainly was nothing like Chicago.

My uncle, Fr. Frank, was the pastor of St. George for nine years, from 1983 to 1992, and he returned in subsequent years to help as needed. During his years as pastor, he also enjoyed serving as chaplain for the Manteno State Mental Hospital. Before he had been ordained a priest, Fr. Frank had been a Viatorian Brother for 10 years and taught at various high schools; and prior to that, he was a soldier with General George Patton's Third Army in Europe. His job was to drive a truck that refueled tanks and halftracks. It was in the thick of battle that he confirmed a commitment to become a priest. While part of Patton's 'Spearhead Division' he earned 5 battle stars.

On his anniversary day in 1984 after the celebration of Mass, all the family and friends thronged across the road for a luncheon and speeches in the old church hall. The hall was a frame building on the other side of the main road in front of the church. There were lots of local

friends because Fr. Frank had taught shop and religion for several years at St. Patrick's High School – the predecessor to Bishop McNamara High School—and had served in many local parishes, including as Associate Pastor for Kankakee's St. Patrick Church. Also, at the luncheon were lots of family members. Fr. Frank was from a big family on the Northside of Chicago. He was one of 7 children, his mother had been one of 14, and his father had been one of 11. So, lots of family were in attendance including almost 40 nephews and nieces along with all of their spouses and children.

During Fr. Frank's tenure as pastor, he was proud that a new brick church hall had been built, just a bit to the west of the church. Fr. Czerwionka's name is inscribed on the dedication stone imbedded on the front of that building.

Fr. Frank died in 2005. In his 46 years of priestly ministry, he had been the priest and chaplain for a good number of Kankakee parishes, hospitals, and nursing homes. He always said, however, that his best years were the nine that he spent as pastor of St. George. It was that ministry and those people that he loved the most. In fact, he went to considerable effort to be able to be buried in the St. George Cemetery behind the church and behind his old rectory.

All the deceased Viatorian priests and brothers, some 60 of them who ministered to the people of Kankakee County and its surrounding areas, are buried in the northwest corner of the Canterbury Lane section of Maternity BVM Cemetery. In order to be exempted from this cemetery, Fr. Frank had to file a special request with the Viatorian Order's Superior for a special permission. So now his final resting place is with his beloved St. George. His grave site is in the center of the cemetery where the center road and pathway meet. His is the only grave with two headstones, or rather a headstone and a footstone. The one stone acknowledges him as our family member and priest. The other, added by the U.S. Military, recognizes his Bronze Star service to the nation during World War II."

- Jim Czerwionka

VIEW OUR CHURCH WEBSITE

For current information and events view our website at www.stgeorgeil.com or "like" our Facebook page **St. George Church & Family Ministry.**