



St. George Catholic Church

200 North Third Street
New Baden, Illinois 62265



Dragon Tails Newsletter

September, 2015

New & Exciting Changes

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PARISH MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUE STATEMENTS

Revised and Approved



During the months of April, May, and June, parish leaders from the parish council, finance council, youth ministry, Deacon Fridley, and Fr. Neff met to review and revise our parish vision, mission, and core value statements.

Mr. Lynn Clapp, a consultant with Vertical Performance, Inc., based in Belleville, IL, facilitated the process. The next step is for leadership to evaluate the various aspects of this parish's ministry in light of these statements, then to engage in long range strategic planning. It is a time to look to the future. Our mission to *"Live by Faith-Love like Christ!"* will guide us as we strive to make our vision of St. George Parish a reality.



New Parishioners - To become a member of St. George Parish, please register by: **1) contacting the rectory for a registration form** (Tuesday –Thursday 9:00 am–4:00 pm); **2) complete the registration form** (forms are available on the website); **3) return the registration form to the rectory** (forms can be returned via dropping off at the rectory, weekend collection, or mail).

PARISH MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUE STATEMENTS



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Live by Faith – Love like Christ!



VISION STATEMENT:

St. George Parish will be a spiritual rock and inspiration that builds a welcoming community of faith to strengthen relationships with God. We will be an engaging spiritual environment by encouraging partnerships and providing services to respond to the needs of those around us. We will empower our parish by accepting everyone and providing a refuge for all. We will engage and appeal to all youth, giving them a voice and a part to play in our parish life. We will encourage all parishioners to be active and vibrant members of St. George Catholic Church. We will build leaders from within by providing ample opportunities to serve and lead. We will share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all those we meet so that they know what we stand for and Who we serve. Amen!



CORE VALUE STATEMENT:

Central to the Mission of St. George Faith Community are the following values:

Hospitality: Welcoming and including all as a family of Christ.

Compassion: Comforting others in their time of need with empathy.

Community: Living and loving like Christ, diverse in our membership, unified by our purpose.

Charity: Supporting those in need through acts of kindness and love.

Faith-Filled: Praising God in all we do with enduring trust and conviction in His word.

PARISH PARTNERSHIP APPROVES A JOINT MISSION STATEMENT

“The Catholic Community of Western Clinton County composed of the parishes of St. Mary, Trenton, and St. George, New Baden, with the Eucharist as the center of our lives and served by one pastoral staff will together strive to be servant, herald, sacrament, administrative, and community in the image of Jesus the Christ. We will evangelize our area and grow our Catholic community as we proclaim the Gospel.”

Church Renovation Completion:



On January 26, 2015, the parish moved out of the church building. Renovation work began the next day. On June 21, 2015, entering in joyful procession, we celebrated the first Mass in our newly renovated house of prayer.

The success of our Capital Fund Drive has indeed helped us to *Celebrate our Faith ... Renew our Environment ... Embrace our Tradition!*

At the close of the reopening Mass, Co-Chairperson, Jeff Bair thanked all who helped with the success of this renovation. When thanking the Renovation Committee, he asked that we remember committee member and parishioner, Colette Kennett.

Colette, a life-long parishioner of St. George parish, died last November (2014). For 30+ years she was the director of our Diocesan Youth Ministry Office. She also served this parish as our Sister Parish representative and as a member of the Church Renovation Committee. At the center of her life, as Msgr. Scherrer said at her funeral, was her ministry to children in Haiti and Guatemala; teens, and parents of teens, throughout Southern Illinois; prisoners at Menard Correctional Center; senior citizens at Clinton Manor. She, like Jesus, gave God's selfless love a human face."

Colette also had a passion for photography. In her memory, and as a reminder of what God's selfless love looks like, the comfort area in the church (formerly the "cry room" and restroom) has been decorated in memory of Colette Kennett.

The church renovation may be finished, but the Capital Fund Campaign is not finished. Renovating the church was Phase I of the campaign. Also included in this campaign is landscaping, repairs and some renovation in the Community Life Center (CLC), addressing possible parking needs, and strengthening the Cemetery Endowment Fund. Every dollar pledged and donations made to the Capital Fund Campaign have been earmarked for use. **Please continue to make your payments.** Landscaping will be complete this Autumn. Some new carpet has been installed in the CLC, and work has begun on moisture abatement in the basement.



Cemetery Restoration & Improvements



By the time you receive this edition of “Dragon Tails” the improvements to our cemeteries should be nearing completion. This has been a long project, a labor of love, that *Marvin Spaeth* has completed for our beloved dead and their families. His love for the New Baden community, St. George Parish, our God, and the many veterans who served our country in the military, especially in war time, has been the fuel that ignited his passion to complete this work.

Marvin, THANK YOU! (Thanks too, to Darlene, your partner in life, who supported you every step of the way in this project). This parish, this community, is eternally grateful for your service to us, and for your unbelievably magnanimous gift to us. Please know that we shall never take your generosity and commitment to this community, your God and church, and this country for granted. Surely as the history of New Baden is written, your name will be listed as one of those who made a difference in the positive quality of our lives. Thank You!

Thanks also to the many individuals who helped you in this labor of love: your employees, Myron Mugele, and others.

Faith Formation

Parish School of Religion (PSR) is for students in grades K-8 will begin on **Sunday, Sept. 13** from 10:00-11:00 am @ St. George Community Life Center. To register or if you have any questions please contact the Parish Office at saintgcatholicchurch@gmail.com or 588-4323.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word is more age appropriate and to their level of understanding held during the 9:00 am Mass beginning on **Sunday, Sept. 13** @ St. George Church. No need to register.

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is for those interested in learning about the Catholic Christian faith. Inquiry Sessions will begin **Wednesday, Sept. 16** at 7:00 pm @ St. George Community Life Center. To register contact Deacon John Fridley at fridleyj@ezeeweb.com; jfridley63@gmail.com; or call 588-4805.

Community Life Center

In the past year the **parish offices** have been relocated to the Community Life Center. While the hours for the Administrative Assistant (Jeanne Langenhorst) and the Bookkeeper (Kelly Ferri) remain the same for their service to St. George parish, the office hours are now Tuesday through Thursday, 9 am until 4 pm.

The **quilting room** was moved from the stage in Hodapp Hall to a classroom next to the new **Faith Formation Office**. The parish **Youth Ministry Room**, also new, is located on the south end of the building, sharing their room with a PSR class.

Four former classrooms, Rooms #3, 4, 5, and 6 have been re-carpeted. In September the parish office and faith formation office will also receive new carpet.

Annual Financial Report

**Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015
is enclosed with this edition of "Dragon Tails."**

Again this past fiscal year the parishioners of St. George Parish have supported generously the Vision and Mission of the parish. You continue to build a community of faith through your support of our Parish School of Religion, the high school youth program, and participation in the sacramental life of the parish. Guided by Christ's example of charity, your generous support to our sister parish in Guatemala, the NC Vicariate Hispanic Ministry, the Food Pantry & Voucher Programs, Christmas Gifts and school back packs for the needy. Thank you for your continued support to fulfill your pledge commitments to the Capital Fund and the CSMA Diocesan Fund Drive. The spirit of joy, hospitality, compassion, and service is lived out through your support of the bereavement ministry, care for our cemeteries, volunteering your time on one or more of the councils and committees, and/or the fundraising events. In so many ways many of you have been generous and faithful stewards of your time, your talents, and your treasure. You are indeed an Eucharistic community of faith knowing, loving and serving God. **Thank You!!!**

Thanks to Kelly Ferri, our bookkeeper, and **John Schomaker**, our finance council chairperson and accountant, for providing this for us. Please note the expenses to the Capital Fund for FY 2014-15. These are the expenses for the church renovation. A few expenses for the renovation were paid after the end of the fiscal year and will be in next year's annual report. To date, the cost of the church renovation is \$418,411.51.

On the next page of this newsletter we have printed the form that can be used if you wish to have your regular weekly/monthly monetary contribution to St. George automatically deposited into the parish account. Some parishioners are already using this service. If you wish to take advantage of this service, fill out the form and return it to the parish rectory. Our bookkeeper, Kelly Ferri, will contact you when we receive your form.

Direct Payment by ACH

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AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR DIRECT PAYMENT BY ACH (ACH DEBITS)

(Direct Payment by ACH is the transfer of funds from an individual's account for the purpose of making a payment).

I (we) hereby authorize **St. George Roman Catholic Church, New Baden, IL**, ("Company") to electronically debit my (our) account *(and if necessary, electronically credit my (our) account to correct erroneous debit entries)* as follows.

 Checking Account *or* Savings Account *(select one)* at the financial institution named below. I (we) agree that the origination of ACH transactions to my (our) account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

Financial Institution Name: _____

Routing Number: _____ **Account Number:** _____

Payment Amount for Acceptable Dollar Amount(s) Authorized:

(Dollar Amount) \$ _____ **Per Week**

Payment schedule of debit(s):

Date(s) and/or frequency when the debit will post to your account: **28th of each month**

We will take your dollar amount above multiply by 52(weeks) and divide by 12(months) to get the total that will be taken out at the end of each month. You will be contacted with final amount prior to first withdrawal. Until then please keep using your envelopes.

I (we) understand that this authorization will remain in full force and effect until I (we) notify St. George Catholic Church, New Baden, IL, that I (we) want to revoke this authorization. I (we) understand that St. George Catholic Church, New Baden, IL, requires at least 2 weeks prior notice I order to cancel this authorization.

Parishioner acknowledges that they have read, understand, and agree to the terms and conditions of the authorization.

Name(s): _____ (Please Print)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**PLEASE ATTACH COPY OF VOIDED CHECK TO THIS FORM
(Customers should keep a copy of this form for his/her records)**

Family Life & Social Activities Committee

The Family Life and Social Activities has some exciting events coming up. We will be hosting a **Craft and Vendor Fair on September 19 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm** at the St. George Community Life Center. The Knights of Columbus will be selling food and the Youth Group will be selling drinks. We will have a large number of crafters and vendors as well as a small pumpkin patch for the children.

We will also be hosting a **Monthly Open Gym starting in September**. This will be a time for anyone who would like to get together and play basketball, volleyball or other sports in the gym of the CLC or in the yard. This will be a fun, active opportunity for fellowship among parishioners! Keep an eye out in the bulletin for more information about Open Gym!

We will also be hosting a **Birthday Party for Jesus in December!** This will be a time to celebrate the true reason for the Christmas season. Keep a look out for dates, times and activities as December grows closer!

FLSA will be putting together a **Parish Cookbook over the winter months** and we will need your assistance! If you have any tried and true recipes, we would love to include them in the cookbook. Once the cookbook is compiled, it will be for sale. Please contact Dana Wolfslau with recipes you'd like to submit!

The Anniversary Dinner will also take place in the spring. We will be celebrating couples who have celebrated a milestone anniversary (5,10,15,20, etc) in 2015 or will celebrate a milestone anniversary in 2016.

We are always looking for additional committee members! If you would be interested in being a part of the Family Life and Social Activities committee, please contact Dana Wolfslau. We'd love to have you!

Mark Your Calendars

Catholic Ministry to Sick & Aged - 30th Annual RAUCHENFEST on **Thursday, September 24** with *Cocktails* at 6:00 pm; *German Buffet* at 6:30 pm; “*Waterloo German Band*”; *Attendance Prizes-Raffle*; *Silent Auction*. To be held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center - 2620 Lebanon Avenue - Belleville, IL. Cost is \$80 per couple, \$40 per person before Sept. 20 and \$45 per person after Sept. 20.

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Lebanon - Golf Tournament on **Saturday, September 26** with tee off at 8:30 am at Hills Golf Course at McKendree University in Lebanon. Cost is \$65 per person, \$260 per team, which includes green fees, carts, drinks and lunch. Skins and Mulligans are optional. Awarding great prizes. To be a sponsor, play or donate a prize, contact Andy Fairlie 618-537-4946.

St. Bernard Catholic Church, Albers - Fall Festival on **Saturday, October 3** beginning with *Grandparents Mass* at 4 pm in Church; *Pork Sausage Dinner & Country Store* from 4:00-7:00 pm in the parish Center; *Quilt & Cash Bingo Picnic Style* starting at 7:00 pm at Albers Elementary Gym.

Outdoor Activities: *Children Rides & Games and Pony Rides* starting at 5:00 pm; *Live Music “Bobby & the Buzzards”* from 6:30-10:30 pm; *Food, Beer, Soda & more* on the parish grounds.

ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH
200 North Third Street
New Baden, IL 62265-1306

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

New Baden Organizations Events

SEPTEMBER

- 20th - *Knights of Columbus Breakfast***
7:00-11:00 am @ St. George CLC
- 24th - *Knights of Columbus Blood Drive***
3:30-6:30 pm @ St. George CLC
- 26th - *Zion UCC Donut Dash***
Packet Pick-up 7:00-8:45 am
@ New Baden Park

OCTOBER

- 4th - *Lions Club Clinton County Amazing Race***
Registration begins at 11:00 am
@ New Baden Civic Center
- 12th - *Columbus Day***
- 24th - *Chilli & Soup Cook-Off***
3:00 pm @ New Baden Park
- 31st - *Halloween Trick or Treating*** 5:30-8:30 pm

NOVEMBER

- 1st - *Daylight Savings Time Ends***
- 7th - *Chicken Dinner & Quilt Raffle***
4:00 pm @ Zion UCC
- 8th - *St. George Chicken Dinner***
11:00 am @ St. George CLC
- 11th - *Veteran's Day***
- 15th - *Food Sanitation Class***
8:00 am @ Zion UCC
- 20th - 22nd - *Zion UCC Festival of Trees***
@ New Baden Civic Center
- 21st - *Scouting For Food—Pick UP***
8:00 am
- 25th - *Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service***
7:00 pm @ Zion UCC
- 26th - *Thanksgiving***
9 am Mass @ St. George Church