

Youth Trips 2024

Guatemala Mission Trip- July 2024- Dates TBA
Juniors, Seniors, college and older can attend. Whole families can attend. Cost \$1750-\$2000 per person.

CHWH-(Catholic Heart Work Camp) June 8-15 2024.
Cost to attend \$800.00. Ages: Those entering 9th grade fall of 2024.

Steubenville Youth Conference: July 12-14, 2024.
Cost \$600-\$800- depending on the number of youth attending. Includes hotel, conference fees, conference t-shirt, all food and transportation.

Please contact Dana if you are interested in attending any of these events.

Are you NEW to the Hartford area or are you LOOKING for a parish to join? We welcome you to Saint George! If you are interested in becoming members of our parish just contact the office by phone or email. Contact info can be found on the cover of the bulletin. Registration forms can be found in the rack in the foyer as well as online at www.stgeorgehartford.com

Camp Sydney-The Lourdes Center will be offering a Grief Camp for youth and their families at Broom Tree Retreat Center, beginning at 6:00 p.m. June 21, 2024 until 11:00 a.m. June 23, 2024. This two day camp will include fun activities, discussion and support. The Grief Camp is offered free of charge. Please register at thelourdescenter.com Registration will begin January 15, 2024 at 8:00am. Call The Lourdes Center for more information.

Held Grief Series This eight-week grief series will begin February 6 from 6-8 p.m. The series will blend education and faith surrounding the loss of a loved one through death. Each session will allow for small group discussion according to your particular loss (loss of a child, spouse, parent/sibling). Registration is required. Free-will donations accepted.

Broom Tree Schedule: 605-263-1040 or email: broomtree@sfcatholic.org; www.broom-tree.org

Women: Feb 1-4, Feb 29-March 3, April 18-21
Men: Feb 15-18, April 4-7

Day of Recollection: Broom Tree Days of Recollection begin at 10 a.m. and include conferences, time for Adoration, Mass, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day ends in mid-afternoon. *Because lunch is served, we ask that you please register.* A prayerful donation is requested.

Jan 16: Live Today Well: The path to ordinary holiness-
Fr Tom Anderson

Feb 13: Romance in Sacred Scripture:
Man & Woman made for love-Fr Joe Forcelle
March 5: Fr Nick Haiar

Healing Retreat: Feb 23-25 Undone: A Healing Retreat-
 directed by Fr. Scott Traynor
 This retreat will assist participants in becoming aware of
 Jesus' desire to bring restoration in their lives.

Couples Retreat: April 12-14 During this retreat, couples will have the blessed opportunity to spend time together receiving from the very heart of God. The environment at Broom Tree makes for a perfect couples get-away: no TV, no radio, no phones or computers, just beautiful, peaceful surroundings, good food, and all the time and good direction you need to experience renewal in your marriage. Register early.

Come away to the quiet and be present to what God wants to offer you. Creighton University Retreat Center, located one hour east of Omaha in Griswold, IA is offering 3 Day Silent Directed Retreats at the times listed below. Retreats begin 6 p.m. supper the first day and end at 3 p.m. the last day. The cost is \$375 for room, meals and one-on-one spiritual direction sessions. Register at creighton.edu/retreatcenter/scheduleofretreats or scan the code

- Thurs-Sun Jan 18-21, 2024
- Thurs-Sun Mar 21-24, 2024
- Thurs-Sun May 2-5, 2024
- Sun-Wed July 14-17, 2024



The Banquet is a feeding ministry that is seeking individual volunteers to help prepare & serve meals. Just a few volunteer hours on any given day makes a real difference. The Banquet has a need for **individual volunteers**. While various groups make up a large part of our volunteer base, individual volunteers are needed & welcomed! For open days & times, please go to <https://thebanquetsf.org/volunteer> or call 335 7066.

The USCCB is inviting YOU to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, July 17-21, 2024. This is a pivotal moment in the life of the Church in the USA. Tickets are only \$200 for a limited time if you get them through the diocese. That is a savings of \$175! Get all the info at sfcatholic.org/eucharist.

Please Note: By policy of the Diocese of Sioux Falls, priests and deacons will not request financial assistance for their personal needs (cash or gift cards) from you via text message or email. As many have posed as our clergy while trying to scam parishioners of funds, we urge individuals to first verify they know the sender before ever giving money. If you are in doubt, please call the parish's office.

St George: Please be kind and tidy up around you after Mass. Please take care to leave the pew, hymnals etc as you found them. Please put the prayer sheets behind the hymnals & pick up any bulletins & garbage that may be lying around you. **Please refrain from braiding the hymnal ribbons.** Please take pride in your parish & its contents! The cleaning staff is part time & the volunteers are few so any help that you offer is greatly appreciated!



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www.stgeorgehartford.com | 605-528-3902
Emergency: Please email the priests

Office Administrator: Rechelle Dissing-rdissing@stgeorgehartford.com
Director of Education: Dana Webskowsky-DRE@stgeorgehartford.com
Director of Music: Ann Gooley-prayinsong@yahoo.com

Our Gospel this weekend comes from John where **Testimony** is a major theme. This theme comes to a head during Jesus' trial before the Sanhedren:

The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? (John 18:19-20)

That question is important: Why do you ask me? In the rules of the Sanhedren, the accused cannot be asked to give testimony against himself. Think of it like pleading the fifth. Rather the court must provide witnesses whose testimonies agree. In other Gospels we see that witnesses are brought forward but they all contradict one another. Here in John's Gospel we never even hear about the witnesses. In short, according to their own rules Jesus' trial is a sham.

Contrast this with John's Gospel. Does Jesus have witnesses whose testimonies agree? First we find John the Baptist:

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God...And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. (John 1:19-32)

And the entire Gospel closes with this:

This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. (John 21:24)

John the Evangelist steps forward and offers his entire Gospel as an eyewitness testimony. It seems Jesus has two witnesses, both named John, who agree that he is the Christ. ~Fr Andy

Saturday-5pm | Sunday-9:30am | Tuesday & Thursday 5:30pm | Wednesday & Friday 8am | First Saturday 8:30am
Confession: *Tuesday 4:45pm / Thursday 6-7pm | Saturday 3:30-4:30pm | First Saturday-before\after 8:30am Mass*
Rosary: *Thirty minutes prior to weekend Masses*
Divine Mercy Chaplet: *First Sunday prior to Mass*
Adoration: *Thursday 6-9pm ~ Julie: 605-359-5428 for info*
Office Hours: *Monday-Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm*
Bulletin: *Please email or call Rechelle ~ Deadline *10AM Wednesday**
Religious Education: *Please contact Dana*
Baptism, Matrimony & Member Registration: *Please contact the office*

Mass Intentions

Order of Mass p7 | Readings p956

Saturday, December 16 | 5:00pm
Int of Camden Bjergaard

Sunday, December 17 | 9:30am
+Jim +Katherine Schartz

Monday, December 18 | NO MASS

Tuesday, December 19 | 5:30pm
+Nick Penning

Wednesday, December 20 | 8:00am
+Steve +Connie Cook

Thursday, December 21 | 5:30pm
+Joe +Alice Burggraff

Friday, December 22 | 8:00am
+Jim LeTendre

Saturday, December 23 | 5:00pm
+Andrew +Jennifer Hoefert +Abbi Vitek

Sunday, December 24 | 9:30am
+James +Donna Hoey

Sunday, December 24 | 4:00pm
+Leo +Cindy Liesinger

Sunday, December 24 | 10:00pm
+Shawn Klein

Monday, December 25 | 9:30am
+Benjamin Goehring

Help is needed on December 17th after Mass to decorate for Christmas at St George! Any and ALL help would be greatly appreciated!

Donations for Christmas flowers can be marked as such and placed in the offertory. Thank you!

D-Camp 2024 – Registration is OPEN –Register by January 31 to take advantage of the Early Bird discount. **This makes a great Christmas gift from parents, grandparents or even godparents.** Discipleship Camp is a transformative experience for the youth in the Diocese of Sioux Falls. It is designed to help teens deepen their prayer life, grow in their understanding of who God is, and meet other teens who are engaged in their faith from throughout the Diocese. With the help of Lumen Christi missionaries who are committed to helping teens encounter Jesus, D-Camp makes faith come alive to hundreds of young people each summer. Through small groups, powerful testimonies, and daily opportunities to receive the sacraments, D-Camp is more than just a fun event. It is a moment in a young person’s life when they step further into following God. For more information please visit: www.sfcatholic.org/youth/d-camp/
**St George will reimburse half of early bird registration for registered members of the parish once camp has been attended!

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday December 23

Altar Servers: Zoe & Ema Dissing, NEED

Read: Eric Dissing

Usher: Eric Dissing, Terry & Cody McMahon, Dave Puthoff

EMOHC: Eric Dissing, Mike Jesse, Bill Zortman

Offertory: Eric & Rechelle Dissing

Sacristan: Mike Jesse

Sunday December 24

Altar Servers: Jaysa Lupkes, Brooklyn & Kelsey Sundermann

Read: Karen Sundermann

Usher: Greg Anderson, Joe Blocker, Jerry Jueneman, Brian Sundermann

EMOHC: Greg Anderson, Jerry Jueneman, Karen Sundermann

Offertory: Scott & Vanessa Pulse

Sacristan: Gerald Dvorak

Donuts: NO DONUTS

Welcome by the waters of Baptism

Alexis Ann, daughter of Andrew Ideker and Katie Kruger

May she always walk in the light of Christ

Take Note

This year, the fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas are both days of obligation. These are two distinct obligations. There is an obligation to attend Mass for the Sunday, which can be fulfilled either Saturday evening after 4 pm or Sunday during the day before 4 pm. The obligation to attend Mass for Christmas can be fulfilled either Christmas Eve after 4 pm (Sunday evening) or on Christmas Day at any time. One must go to Mass twice--meaning, you could go to Sunday Mass in the morning and Christmas Eve Mass later that same day.

Liturgical ministry sign up for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is located in the foyer. Mass times for Christmas Eve are 4pm and 10pm and Christmas Day at 9:30am.

The Solemnity of Mary, January 1st, is NOT a holy day of obligation this year. However, Mass will be held at 9am on January 1st for anyone who wishes to attend.

Communal Penance will be held at St George on December 17th at 4pm. Confessions are available each week: Tuesdays 4:45-5:15pm, Thursdays 6-7pm, & Saturdays 3:30-4:30pm

Communal Penance will be held at St Michael’s on December 19th at 7pm.

Sacrificial Giving as of December 14, 2023

~Thank you for your generosity

General Needs:

Weekly Collection Needs\$ 5,952.83

Weekly Receipts-Actual\$10,009.00

Weekly-Overage (Shortfall)\$ 4,056.17

Year-To-Date Receipts-Budget\$142,867.92

Year-To-Date-Actual\$142,818.50

Year-To-Date-Overage (Shortfall)(\$ 49.42)

CFSa Overage (Shortfall)\$ 24,043.00

Actual Overage (Shortfall)\$ 23,993.58

CFSa 2023:

Goal\$58,000.00

Receipts-Actual\$82,043.00

YTD\$24,043.00

St George is accepting Mass Intentions. There are quite a few open **weekdays** in the next month. Please limit your requests to 10 per year. \$10/Intention. Please place in an envelope in the offertory labelled “Rechelle”.

Men’s Emmaus Retreat: A great Christmas gift for your husband or adult children. Men's Emmaus Retreat February 9-11 Location: Shetek Bible Camp- Garvin Mn Cost to attend: \$150.00 Covers all lodging, retreat materials and food. Travel is not included. Contact Dana for more information

Upcoming Meetings

- 4th Degree Knights: December 18 @ 6:45pm
- Knights: December 18 @ 7:30pm

The Abbey of the Hills Inn & Retreat Center Marvin, SD

www.abbeyofthehills.org or 605-398-9200

There will be rosary following 8am Mass at St George each Wednesday in support of LIFE as we continue to free our country from the culture of death and bring it back to a culture of life.

The Hartford/Humboldt Right to Life is sponsoring an advent baby shower through December 25th. Please only donate new items. Infant thru 24month Clothing, diapers size 3-5, wipes, baby lotions/creams, shampoo, laundry soap, formula, bottles, car seats, strollers, Pack & Play, cribs & bedding, high chairs, bath toys

Donations can be left in the foyer of St George. Donations will be given to the local food pantries and the Alpha Center.

Risen Savior-Brandon “Glorious Light of Christmas” A Christmas Cantata December 17th at 5:30pm at Risen Savior in Brandon with a potluck to follow and December 20th at 7:30pm at St Rose of Lima in Garretson. Free will donation welcome

St. George Religious Education

Family Formation (K-5) & CGS (pre-k) 6:30pm (5:45 dinner)

Jan 10, Feb 7, Mar 13, Apr 10, May 8

First Communion

Retreats: Jan 14 & April 14

First Communion April 28th @ 9:30am

Ignite (6-11) 6:30pm

Dec 20 Jan 3, 17, 24 Feb 21, 28 Mar 6, 20 Apr 3, 17, 24

Special Event dates

Feb 14-Ash Wednesday

Confirmation-Juniors

Saturday January 20th @ 10am @ St Michael’s

Dead Theologian’s Society (9th-young adult)

All IGNITE nights 8-9pm

St George Prayer Chain:

Please contact Cindy Steinhauer at 605-351-7502, stgeorgeprayer@gmail.com, or call the office with prayer requests or to join the Prayer Chain

The Gospel Hustle: God's Work Inside the Prison Walls

21+

January 2, 2024

Featured Speaker Mo Irvine

Buffalo Ridge Brewery 102 N Main Ave. Hartford, SD

Social Time: 6:30-7:00

Speaker: 7:00-7:30

Q&A/Social Time: 7:30-8:00

We will be selling crucifixes in the Parish Office. They are made from Olive wood in the Holy Land. All proceeds will go back to the Holy Land to aid them during the war. We have 2 different styles and each crucifix costs \$30. Stop in and check them out!

The **Catholic Daughters** of the Americas Court St. George #2688 has St. Gerard, patron saint of motherhood and expectant mothers, medals for any expectant mother or any mother who would like one. The medals are given anonymously. If interested call Brenda at 526-6780

The Men of the Jericho Wall pray the Patriotic Rosary at 7pm each Tuesday at St George. All are welcome to join in praying for the conversion of our country.