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

Lourdes Center Offerings: 605-988-3775
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.

Join the Knights of Columbus online. Visit KofC.org/Joinus

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

Silent Retreats:

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 Retreatdirected 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

<u>creighton.edu/retreatcenter/scheduleofretretreats</u> or scan the code

Choose one from these available dates:

- 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 **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 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.

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-

**St George will reimburse half of early bird registration for registered members of the parish once camp has been attended!

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Saint George Parish

December 24, 2023 The Fourth Sunday of Advent Month of the Divine Infancy

408 S Western Ave | PO Box 577 | Hartford, SD 57033 www.stgeorgehartford.com | 605-528-3902 Emergency: Please email the priests

Pastor: Fr Thomas Hartman-frthomashartman@sfcatholic.org **Parochial Vicars:** Fr Daniel Smith-frdanielsmith@sfcatholic.org

Fr Andrew Thuringer-frandrewthuringer@sfcatholic.org

Office Administrator: Rechelle Dissing-rdissing@stgeorgehartford.com
Director of Education: Dana Webskowski-DRE@stgeorgehartford.com

Director of Music: Ann Gooley-prayinsong@yahoo.com

Merry Christmas!

On behalf of Fr. Andy, Fr. Dan, and myself, we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Amid the challenges of a new pastorate, thank you for making each of us feel welcomed and for your patience amidst the changes and challenges that have been set before us.

In the last days of Advent and into Christmas, we immerse ourselves in the Christmas story from the Angel Gabriel appearing to Mary, to the story of Elizabeth and Zachariah, and finally the travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem where the Savior of the world is born in that manger.

Sometimes journeys can be a long road, and the Holy family was no exception. At the call of Caesar Augustus for the census, Mary and Joseph had to make a journey that was about 100 miles long from Nazareth to Bethlehem. In my imagination, I prefer to see Mary riding on a donkey with Joseph leading her but Deacon John reminds me that the reality is that Mary may have had to walk that journey. Having traveled by bus and seeing the landscape they would have walked, I can't imagine how arduous this journey was for them.

Maybe some of you are on an arduous journey in your life right now. I think of our brothers and sisters in prison, they don't have far to travel up/down those prison halls but how arduous that road must be away from family and in the constant poverty of their cell. Or how about families who have suffered recent tragedies in our community, losing a home or a loved one, certainly they know a long road or the poverty of the manger. Whom do you know this Christmas season that the Lord brings to mind/heart?

Maybe Mary didn't have a donkey to ride on as Deacon John said, but the question is did someone else recognize the arduous journey of a pregnant woman and her husband? My hope is that in their travels, another person or family recognized a need and helped them on the journey. Jesus in Mathew 25 says, "That whatever you did for one of these, the least of my brothers, you did it for me."

Thank you to both parishes who helped contribute to our Advent giving projects, whether it was through the Advent Baby Shower or the various missions here in Sioux Falls. You certainly amaze me at your generosity. At the same time, let us pray that the Lord opens our eyes to recognize someone on a long journey or who suffers the poverty of a manger. What a beautiful thought that in these gestures, we, in someway, return the gift/favor to the Ultimate Giver who bestowed on us Our Savior. That's a gift to place by the manger!

God bless you all,

Fr. Tom

Mass Times:

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 p957

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

Tuesday, December 26 | 5:30pm

+Fr Roger Geditz

Wednesday, December 27 | 8:00am

+Mary Lou Lusch

Thursday, December 28 | 5:30pm

+Loren Even

Friday, December 29 | 8:00am

+Kenneth +Ardell Lewin

Saturday, December 30 | 5:00pm

+Lowell +JoAnn Miles

Sunday, December 31 | 9:30am

+Sr JoAnn Sturzl

The Christmas flowers at St George are given in memory of:

Saige Jueneman, Robert & Lois O'Kane, Leroy Puthoff, Robert & Irene Even, Howard & Stephen McNamara, Lowell & LaWanda Huls, Paul J Huls, Andrew & Jennifer Hoefert, Abbi Vitek, Osiecki & Bauer Families, Todd Heiberger, Neal Even Family, Carl & Leona Rose, Pearl & Rod Johnson, Paul & Eileen Bruggeman, Ejner & Betty Andersen, Bonnie Steffen, Paul Rodgers, Lowell & Kitty Andersen, Elden Rand, Ed Hanson, Chris Hanisch, Diane Robbins, Bubbles Peterson, George Weber, Carl & Bernadette Even, Jan Meile, Pat Waller, Beck Family, Mary Lou Lusch, Dolan Family, Gene Munce, Delbert & Lorna Spielmann, Doug Sittig, Pat & Theresa Whalen Family, John & Johanna Lewis Family, Roy Ulmer, LeAnne Ulmer, Harry & Pat Knust

Donations for Christmas flowers can be placed in an envelope labelled "Christmas Flowers" and put in the offertory. Please include who the donation is in memory of.

The liturgical schedule for January and February has been emailed. Paper copies are available in the foyer.

We are 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!



Liturgical Ministers

Saturday December 30

Altar Servers: Camden Bjergaard, Chris Ebsen,

Destry Wilking

Read: Mike Cypher

Usher: Brad & Anthony Bjergaard, Mike Cypher,

Gilbert Mohrhauser

EMOHC: Gilbert & Rosemary Mohrhauser, NEED

Offertory: Brad & Laura Bjergaard

Sacristan: Mike Jesse

Sunday December 31

Altar Servers: Mason Nester,

Eliot & Sarah Beth Nielsen

Read: Ellen Nester

Usher: Marlyn Bergeson, Greg Boggs,

Gerald Dvorak, Barry Lammers

EMOHC: Ellen Nester, Christine Scovill, NEED

Offertory: Phil & Teri Michaels
Sacristan: Patty Lammers

Donuts: Doug & Brenda Deffenbaugh

Welcome by the waters of Baptism Isla Blair, daughter of Seth and Jocelyn Titus

May she always walk in the light of Christ



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.

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.

If you were unable to attend the 27th Annual Christmas at the Cathedral or wish to watch it from the comfort of your home once again, please tune in to KELO TV on December 25th at 6:30pm. We hope you enjoy this year's performance of "The Heavens Declare!"

Please sign up in the foyer to serve meals at the Hartford Senior Center in the month of January.

Sacrificial Giving as of December 21, 2023 ~Thank you for your generosity

General Needs:

Weekly Collection Needs \$ 5,952.83 Weekly Receipts-Actual \$ 6,967.00 Weekly-Overage (Shortfall) \$ 1,014.17

Year-To-Date Receipts-Budget
Year-To-Date-Actual
Year-To-Date-Overage (Shortfall)
CFSA Overage (Shortfall)
Actual Overage (Shortfall)
\$ 148,820.75
\$ 149,785.50
\$ 964.75
\$ 27,594.03
\$ 28,558.78

 CFSA 2023:
 Receipts

 Goal
 \$58,000.00

 Receipts-Actual
 \$85,594.03

 YTD
 \$27,594.03

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

Cost to attenu. \$150.00

Covers all lodging, retreat materials and food.

Travel is not included.

Contact Dana for more information

St George Knights News
Knight of the Month for December:
George Pelletier
Knight Family of the Month for December:
Tim & Patty McMahon

Congratulations and thank you for your service.

St George Knights of Columbus BEST Breakfast (FULL MENU)
January 7th
8am-11:30am



Upcoming MeetingsParish Society: January 5 @ 8:30am

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".

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

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

IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS ED DATES:

*** Steubenville meeting: Sunday, January 21st after 9:30am Mass in the St Joseph room at St George.

*** First Reconciliation Retreat: Sunday, January 14th at 8am in the Parish Hall. NO DONUTS will be served this date.

***Confirmation for Juniors will be Saturday January 20th at St Michael's.

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

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

Play, cribs & bedding, high chairs, bath toys

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 Missionary Benedictine Sisters will be hosting a Come & See the first weekend of February. This allows young women to live in the Missionary Benedictine lifestyle for a few days to learn about the way of life and to help in discerning one's vocation.

Young adults Feb 2-4, 2024 High school women Feb 3-4, 2024.

Register at least one week prior to the retreat at https://www.mbsmissionaries.org/ and go to the appropriate form under the Vocations tab.

Contact Sr. Sarah Elizabeth McMahon (sr.sarahelizabeth@gmail.com or 402-992-7839) if you have any questions.