

Saint George Church - Worcester and Holden

February 5, 2023 - Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

40 Brattle Street Worcester, MA 01606
Parish Office: 508-853-0183 Ext. 110
www.saintgeorgesparish.org

Parish Staff: It is our privilege to serve you.

Rev. Edward D. Nicolls, Pastor Ext. 112
Rev. Miguel A. Pagan, Assoc. Pastor Ext 117
Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext.113

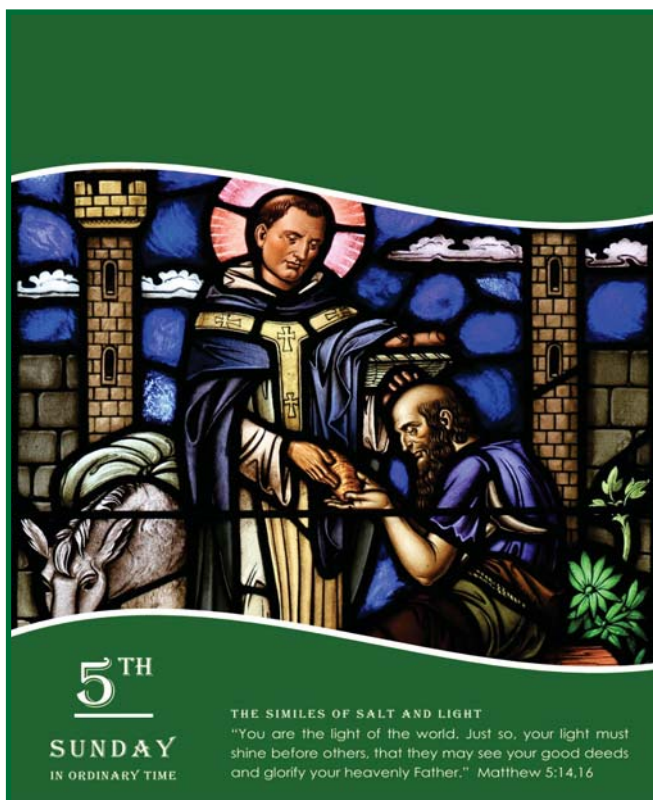
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.111

Patty LaBonte, Parish Admin Assistant
office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.110
Fax 508-854-0864

Current Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Online Giving: Kathy Hessel at:
mkhessel@aol.com

For information regarding Pastoral Care of the Sick, Marriage Preparation, Confirmation, and Ministry Involvement, we invite you to call the Parish Office.



St. George Catholic Church

Baptism Information:

Please contact
Susan Pacek at 508-856-9960 or
email: st.geobaptism@gmail.com

Eucharist Celebrated:

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
Live-Streamed Mass is offered on our parish website each Sunday at 10:00 AM.

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00 AM
Tuesday 12:10 PM, and Thursday 5:30 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions are heard inside the church
2:30 PM—3:15 PM on Saturdays.

Parish Mission Statement

We, the parish community of St George, celebrate the welcoming presence of Christ in our lives. Together with the universal Church, we are nourished and sustained through the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist, and we are inspired by the proclamation of the Word, guided by the Holy Spirit.

We continually seek to grow in a deeper understanding of our faith, to respect the sanctity of human life, and respond to what Jesus asks of us in our time by sharing our gifts and participating in parish activities and outreach to others.

A Community of Ministries, February 5, 2023

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

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From Your Pastor

All of our experiences of Jesus should bring about a change in our lives, and today's gospel is no exception. In receiving Jesus in the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist – Holy Communion – we become one with him and are empowered to love others as he has loved us. Our faith tells us this essential truth and we make this truth real by putting our faith into action. Jesus uses the examples of salt and light in this gospel to illustrate that when we fail to live out our faith, we become ineffective just like salt and light which are not used properly. As a result our faith, like these two items, are then not good for anything. The good works which come from an active use of our faith are not performed for our glory but for God's. We give all of ourselves back to God. Our receiving the Eucharist regularly helps us to appreciate our faith better because we encounter our Lord in a way in which we share our lives as he shares his life with us. In the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah we hear the words, "Share your bread with the hungry..." As we continue on with our lives today, having been empowered by the Holy Eucharist, our thirsty and hungry souls are satisfied and filled with the good things that come from God.

Fr. Niccolls



Being a follower of Christ is about service, not power.

When one serves the needs of others, our light, the light of Christ, shines for all to see. We make sacrifices, live the values of God's Kingdom and become those who preach and practice the Beatitudes and the Works of Mercy. God is glorified by acts of love and selflessness, not strength and domination.

One of the most encouraging signs of the gospel at work in our midst is the growth of social justice ministries in Catholic parishes. Across the country, countless local communities of faith are serving those in need, working for justice, and sharing our social teaching as never before. Millions of parishioners are applying the gospel and church teaching in their own families, work, and communities. More and more, the social justice dimensions of our faith are becoming an integral part of local Catholic life. What's happening in your parish? How can you and your family get involved?

Practicing our faith gives us a vision to see others as God sees them and act accordingly. We have the power to change the world, one life at a time. Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and consoling the sorrowful are not far off works of mercy. They are the way we become salt and light in everyday life, the practical ways in which we serve, heal, and pray. They may not be played out on a world stage, nor will they make the news. They do, however, make the light of Christ shine in our world.

~James Gaffney © Pilot Bulletins

Mass Intentions



Saturday, February 4, 2023

4:00 PM In Memory of C. Louise Hadley
Requested by Craig and Ann Hadley

Sunday, February 5, 2023

8:00 AM For the Community of Saint George

10:00 AM In Memory of Elizabeth Brosnihan
Requested by her Family

Monday, February 6, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Robert Cronin
Requested by Joan Talbot

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

12:10 PM In Memory of George Paulin

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Eleanor Lemire

Thursday, February 9, 2023

5:30 PM In Memory of Joan Sullivan

Friday, February 10, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Loretta Ballotte

Saturday, February 11, 2023

4:00 PM In Memory of Victor and Kathleen Carlo
and their son Joseph Carlo
Requested by the Carlo Family

Sunday, February 12, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of William P. Woods, Jr.
Requested by his Family

10:00 AM In Memory of Michael Savino
Requested by his Family

We commend to your prayers

Elinor C. Lamberton

May the angels lead her into paradise.



Stewardship Thought of the Week

In the first reading, Isaiah urges us in the name of the Lord to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and clothe the naked. If we do so, he assures, us, the Lord will hear and answer *our* cries for help in time of need.



Readings To-Go!

*5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 5, 2023*

*Scan QR code to see
this week's readings!*

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

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Weekly Collection

January 23, 2023 - January 29, 2023

On Line Giving: \$ 1,279.00
 Ordinary Collection: \$ 6,521.00
Total: \$ 7,800.00

**Thank you! We are grateful
and truly Blessed.**

Parish Calendar

Saturday, February 4, 2023

8:00 AM Rosary Prayer Group Church
 8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

Sunday, February 5, 2023

After 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Coffee Shop Church Hall
 10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy Church Hall
 11:00-12:15 PM Confirmation Classes Parish Center
 6:00-7:30 PM Religious Ed classes gr 6-9 Parish Center

Monday, February 6, 2023

4:30-5:30 PM Religious Ed classes gr 1-5 Parish Center

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

4:30-5:30 PM Religious Ed classes gr 1-5 Parish Center
 6:30-7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop Meeting Church Hall

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Virtual Yoga - Contact Sue Stevens

Thursday, February 9, 2023

11:00 AM Faith Sharing Church Hall
 6:00 PM Family Prayer Night Church

Friday, February 10, 2023

Saturday, February 11, 2023

8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

Sunday, February 12, 2023

After 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Coffee Shop Church Hall
 10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy Church Hall
 10:00 AM Mass Bring Guest/Be Our Guest Church
 After 10:00 AM Mass Mardi Gras Party Church Hall

Ham Dinner in Northbridge

**St. Peter Parish on Saturday, Feb. 11th
at 5:30 PM on 39 Church Street,
Northbridge in the Parish Hall.**



Bring your family and friends for a wonderful meal and meet some new friends! Tickets are \$17.00 per dinner and include salad and dessert. To go meals will be available for pick up at 5:00 PM and all orders must be purchased in advance. "Pay It Forward" purchase an extra dinner and we will deliver it to someone in need in our local community.

Please call the parish office at 508-234-2156 or email parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org to purchase tickets or if you have any questions.

Join us for Coffee Shop Club after 8:00 & 10:00 AM Masses

February 5 - The Mark Team
 February 12 - Bob Gray and Team
 February 19 - Jim Moughan and Team
 February 26 - Kathy Hessel and Team
 March 5 - Andy Fish and Team



Coffee, donuts, bulkies, and fellowship! **\$1.00 each**
 And why not join a team? These donuts don't serve themselves! Each team serves once every 10 weeks and all teams need help! Sign up at the Coffee Shop or come to find out more. Coffee Club operation meetings are held 2nd Sunday every other month. All are welcome!

Next meeting: March 12th at 9:15 AM, conference room.

**Contact Andy Fish at: andy@andyfish.com
or call 508-901-7813 with questions.**

Do you like to draw or enjoy making art?



Come join open studio event once a month!

Saturday, February 25th, 2023

5:00 - 7:00 PM in the Church Hall.

Bring your own materials and drop in to doodle, finish a project or work in your sketchbook.

For teens to adults (ages 13+).

For more information contact: Veronica Fish at:

veronica@undercoverfish.com

Gentle Yoga for "Every Body"

Virtually on Wednesdays 6:00 PM



Virtual Yoga will start in February.

Contact Sue Stevens, email: MonarchYoga@gmail.com

22nd Annual Catholic Men's Conference

Come join us on **Saturday, March 25 starts at 7:30 AM**
Assumption University, 500 Salisbury St., Worcester.

Please join a thousand men and enjoy: inspiring talks from outstanding dynamic and Catholic leaders, about 50 relevant exhibitors with free material, important sponsors, beautiful music, old friends, lunch, optional Rosary, Confession, Adoration & Mass: **Bishop McManus 4 PM.**

For more information: email cathmenworc@gmail.com

or visit the new website www.catholicmenworc.com

Bulletin Item Due Dates:

<u>Weekend of:</u>	<u>Due by:</u>
February 19, 2023	February 9, 2023
February 26, 2023	February 16, 2023

Please submit items by 10:00 AM on or before the due date.
 E-mail our Parish Admin Assistant Patty LaBonte at office@saintgeorgesparish.org The best way to book or reserve a Mass is to call our office: 508-853-0183.

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Prayer Before Mass

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Help Prevent Family Homelessness

Please buy "Hope for Housing Cards" after the 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday, and after the 8:00 AM or 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday. See Dave and Sue Genereux in the Church Hall after EVERY Mass. If needed, contact Dave and Sue at 978-833-0306.

Notice from the Diocesan Office of Healing and Prevention

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church, please believe in the possibility for hope and help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. The victim assistance coordinator for the Diocese of Worcester is Judith Audette at (508) 929-4363.

Eucharist and Prayers for the Sick

Especially during these difficult times, please call to let us know if a family member or neighbor is hospitalized, home bound or ill. Call Ann Doyle at 508-450-4134. We want to be with you in prayer and support. We can perhaps arrange a visit and possibly bring Eucharist. Remember that due to HIPAA regulations, unless you allow the hospital or health care institution to release information and list St. George's as your religious affiliation, we are not informed that you are a patient. Thank you for your understanding.

SCRIPTURE READINGS 2023

5TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Feb 5	Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/ Mt 5:13-16
MONDAY Feb 6	Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c/ Mk 6:53-56
TUESDAY Feb 7	Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 7:1-13
WEDNESDAY Feb 8	<i>Saint Jerome Emiliani; Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin</i> Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/ Mk 7:14-23
THURSDAY Feb 9	Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30
FRIDAY Feb 10	<i>Saint Scholastica, Virgin</i> Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 7:31-37
SATURDAY Feb 11	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10
6TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Feb 12	Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/ Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Deacon Paul Audette

James Martin Speaks to us through his "Essential Writings"

James Martin attended the Wharton School of Business and worked for 6 years in corporate finance. Here he uses his experiences in corporate life to inform a sketch of the challenges and possibilities for living a spiritual life in the business world. (Part III): "Living the spiritual life is a conscious choice," one friend remarked, noting that while he found it difficult at times, he could avoid what he called 'the trap of constant work' only by sacrificing some upward mobility and choosing to spend time with his family and in pursuit of the spiritual life. Otherwise, he said, life inevitably becomes informed solely by work and, without the nourishment of either individual or communal prayer, one's spiritual life slowly atrophies... But while my friend is a busy man with a growing family, he is also a successful investment banker and can perhaps afford to forgo a rung on the corporate ladder. More difficult challenges attend the lives of people struggling to make ends meet: the single mother working two jobs or the underpaid father desperate to earn a better living for his family. Here the challenge of finding God at work takes on greater import and meaning."

Eucharistic Adoration



The Thursday evening and Friday morning Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration will be:
Thursday, March 2nd, 2023 6:00-7:00 PM
Friday, March 3rd, 2023 after 8:00 Mass-10:00 AM

We hope you can come join us in prayer and to spend time in the presence of Jesus Christ.

PIETA

is an ongoing support group for bereaved parents. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child is welcome to attend. Next meeting on:



Monday, February 13th at 7:00 PM Conference Room
For more information, call Terry Gentile [508-284-0796](tel:508-284-0796) or Sue Stevens at [508-852-4887](tel:508-852-4887), email pieta3@gmail.com.



Family Prayer Night Every Thursday 6:00 PM in the Church

In the Church, there is a gathering of people who pray for all families. The Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary are prayed. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn to pray the Rosary. Eucharistic Adoration is Also a part of this wonderful time of prayer on the Thursday before the first Friday of each month.

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith" Sarah Kelly, Administrator
Phone: 508-852-1784

Sarah Kelly's email: sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org
Kevin Browne's email: kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org

Just a few reminders for schedules and times:

Confirmation Classes:

Students registered for confirmation classes will meet this Sunday, February 5th, 2023 in the Parish Center from 11:00 AM-12:15 PM. Candidates are expected to attend the 10:00 AM Mass. The next class will be on March 5th, 2023.

Confirmation Students & Community Service:

Join in our ongoing Parish Outreach Experiences. To help, simply text Annie Doyle's cell phone for details at: 508-450-4134.

Grades 1-5 Classes:

Classes will take place on February 6th, and 7th, 2023 from 4:30 to 5:30 PM in the Parish Center.

Grades 6-9 Classes:

Classes will take place on February 5th, and 26th, 2023 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM in the Parish Center.

If interested in helping or if you have any questions then please reach out to Sarah or Kevin via email.

Grades 1-5 or for Confirmation questions:

Please email Sarah Kelly.

sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Grades 6-9, and Youth Ministry questions:

Please email Kevin Browne.

kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org

THE FAMILY CONNECTION

The Psalmist declares Be still and know that I am God! (Psalm 46 :10) God in our busyness may our families have quiet moments in which they are still and reflect on your presence in their lives.



Campbell

"I shouldn't be surprised. I was in the check-out line."

GRANDPARENTS: All interested grandparents are asked to pray for the safety and well-being of their grandchildren. Copies of Grandparent Prayers are available on the back table in the church hall under the bulletin board.

Contact Ruth at: ruthviens@charter.net
or 508-852-5658 for more information.

**Grandparents make memories
that the heart holds forever.**



Girl Scout Troop 64885
Meet the first and third Tuesdays

Our next meeting will be on:
Tuesday February 7th, at 6:30-7:30 PM
in the Church Hall

Contact Michelle Vigneux email: Mrs.vigneux@gmail.com



Baptisms in the Church Family

If you, a family member, or friend is Interested in receiving the Sacrament of Baptism, we invite you to contact us today:

Susan Pacek at 508-856-9960 or
email: st.geobaptism@gmail.com



Youth Ministry Gathering

Please contact Kevin Browne
For next gathering.

Open to grades 7-12, Please contact
Kevin Browne: kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org

Family Faith Byte

How to help others:

**Give flowers to your friends,
real or artificial.**



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A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

Ann Doyle 508-450-4134
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

Please Help Feed the Hungry!

Holiday donations are over so food pantry supplies are so much less now. Covid food relief programs are concluding; as of March 1, 2023 each family's monthly food benefit will be about \$82.00 less than it is now!

Special Needs for February are: Breakfast Cereal and Packages of Dry Soup



All types of food donations are welcome and can be left in the "Outreach Collection Area" just outside the entrance to the Church Hall on the basement level.

Words of Encouragement

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ~Philippians 4:4-7

Parish Outreach Needs

Mustard Seed Catholic Worker: Warm men's clothing, blankets, gently used sleeping bags as well as warm hats and especially gloves continue to be needed by the homeless guests at the Mustard Seed.

IHN Family Shelter: There is a need for Ramen Noodles at our IHN Family Shelter. The children really enjoy this as an after school snack. There is often a need for volunteers to "fill in" during evening and overnight shifts. For details and more information call Sheri at 508-755-2212.

Our Afghanistan Families: Please pray for our families who have recently experienced tragic deaths among members of their families who still remain in their country of origin. Violence and hunger continue to occur there every day. When I visit our families they often express how grateful they are to be here in safety. They always ask us to pray with them.

Reflection by Bishop Robert Barron on: The Parable of the Mustard Seed - Mark 4:26-34

How does God tend to work? From the very small to the very great - and by a slow, gradual process. God tends to operate under the radar, on the edges of things, quietly, clandestinely, not drawing attention to himself.

C.S. Lewis speaks to this principle. How, he asks, did God enter history? Quietly, in a forgotten corner of the Roman Empire, sneaking behind enemy lines. How was European Christianity established? Through the handful of people that listened to St. Paul in Philippi and Athens. How did the mighty Franciscan movement come to be? One odd, mystical kid who heard a voice coming from a crucifix: "Francis, rebuild my Church, which is falling into ruin." A handful of followers joined him in his quixotic project, then dozens, then hundreds, then thousands.

So don't be afraid to do small things at the prompting of God! Plant the seed, make the move, take the risk - take even the smallest step, and don't worry about who notices or how much attention you're getting. Sow the seed and leave the rest to the mercy and providence of God.

Thank You to these and many more parishioners of St. George for your courage to "follow the prompting of God":

- To (PC) who shared a donation towards food for the poor and a word of encouragement on the way out of church.
- To (AF) who tenderly welcomes Jesus in Holy Communion each week. You listen and share so lovingly!
- To (DJ) who generously and quietly donates cases of food for the hungry every week.
- To (BW) who always prays from home for our parish community and for those in need.
- To (RB) who so lovingly supports so many of us with words of kindness.
- To (KC) for dedication to the "slow, gradual process" of encouraging true discipleship.
- To (RM) who creatively shares God's love with our young parishioners every Sunday.
- To so many in our Coffee Shop, Faith Sharing Groups, Religious Education and Faith Formation Ministries, Ministries of Outreach and Communication as well as those in Pastor Advisory and Liturgical Ministries - for "sowing so many seeds and leaving the rest to the mercy and providence of God".

Annie Doyle

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*Our Parish Vision: To **welcome** all, build **connections** to Christ
and one another, and **live our faith** as true disciples of Jesus.*



Hosted by



**Belonging
Warm Hospitality
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**We Invite You to Experience the
St. George Community
40 Brattle Street ~ Worcester MA**

**BRING A GUEST
BE OUR GUEST**

**Sunday, February 12, 2023
after the 10:00 AM Mass**

**Mardi Gras Celebration
in the Church Hall**

**Coffee Shop is Open
Kings Cake
Prize for finding Baby Jesus**

**Featuring:
Emmaus
Breakfast Sandwich**
(sandwich proceeds go towards programming)



Spiritual Growth Ministry Corner
Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran
Saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com

On January 10, the Church returned to "Ordinary Time" following the seasons of Advent and Christmas. We will remain in Ordinary Time until Ash Wednesday on February 22. So that we don't misunderstand the adjective "ordinary," we share with you this week excerpts from an essay about Ordinary Time found in the Saint Andrew Bible Missal: "Wasted time is not a prized commodity in American society. We are a people ruled by the clock. Time is money because time is to be filled with purposeful controlled activity which is productive of things which can be sold. We are convinced that we must be in control of time. The last thing the productive American would want to do is waste time playing around with realities that do not produce a saleable commodity... But the Creator of heaven and earth is described by the scriptures as the original and the best of 'play-ers.' Creative activity is playful, and creative people do not feel that what they do is a job. Creative people also have a sense that their creativity and all that they fashion in the creative spirit are gifts they have received. The Christian can speak of this and the contemplative vision which sees all reality as 'gift' or 'grace.' Our thankful response we call worship or Eucharist... Ordinary Time is not very ordinary at all. Ordinary Time, the celebration of Sunday, is the identifying mark of the Christian community which comes together, remembering that on this first day of the week the Lord of Life was raised up and creation came at last to completion. Sunday as a day of play and worship is a sacrament of redeemed time. How we live Sunday proclaims to the world what we believe about redeemed time now and for ever... What happens in our churches every Sunday is the fruit of our week. What happens as the fruit of the week past is the beginning of the week to come. Sunday, like all sacraments, is simultaneously a point of arrival and departure for Christians on their way to the fullness of the kingdom. This is not ordinary at all. This is the fabric of Christian living."

Spiritual Growth Committee members: Bonnie Moran – Chair; Joan Talbot; Patti Walsh; Helen Hurley, and Kyle Lewandowski. Fr. Niccolls, Fr. Pagan and Deacon Paul as ex officio members.

Faith Sharing Groups

**Registration: Lenten Faith Sharing Group
After 8:00 and 10:00 AM Sunday Masses.**

Monday Faith Sharing Group will meet:
February 20th at 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
in the Parish Center, Room 107



Lenten Faith Sharing Group will meet:
Wednesday, starts February 22nd at 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM
in the Parish Center, Room 107

Handicapped Accessible.

Call JoAnn Nally 508-527-6973 with any questions.

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

2022 Parish Contribution Statements

Contribution Statements will be available for parishioners who wish to have a record of their 2022 contributions by contacting our Admin. Assistant at the Parish Office at 508-853-0183, extension 110 to request one.

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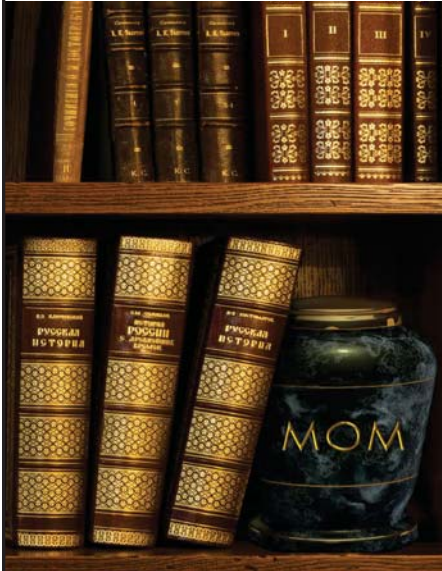
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"Feed My Sheep" John 21:17


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WRONG

For Catholics there is right way and wrong way to handle cremated remains.

Please call us today and arrange for the permanent placement of your loved one in a place of peace and reverence.

RIGHT





St. John Cemetery System
 Diocese of Worcester
www.worcesterdiocese.org/st-john-cemetery

Administrative Offices:
 260 Cambridge Street
 Worcester, MA 01603
 Telephone: 508-757-7415