

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

January 16, 2022 — Second Sunday in 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. Niccolls, Pastor Ext. 112

Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 113

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

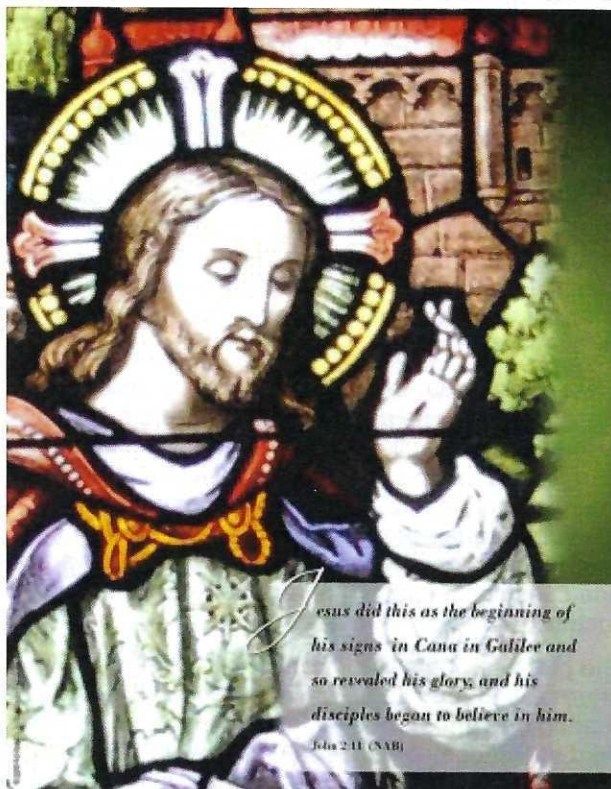
Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary
office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 110
Fax 508-854-0864

Current Office Hours:

Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM
Thursday 9:00 AM - 12PM

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 10:00AM.

Weekday Masses

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions are heard inside the church
2:30 - 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, January 16, 2022

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From Your Pastor

In today's Gospel, taken from the beginning of the second chapter of St. John, we see Jesus as he performs his first miracle while at a wedding in Cana. This is important because it communicates to us the Father's intention, in a certain sense, to marry himself to his creation. He intends to bring us back into right relationship with him and breathe his divine life into us to make us new and whole.

It can be said that this intention may be what Pope Francis sees for us as Church in calling a synod on synodality. In a bulletin article of a few months ago, I mentioned that a synod is a council of a church, composed of an ecclesial assembly of clergy and/or laity. It is usually convened – depending upon its geographic scope by the Pope or Bishop(s) to provide consultation and input for decisions on issues of doctrine, administration or application.

The purpose of a synod, from ancient times in the Church, is to provide an environment of listening and hearing one another on all facets of church life. The word synod comes from two Greek words meaning "journeying together." The concept of synods, or what is also called synodality, recognizes that as we journey together along the way to the Kingdom of God, the Holy Spirit works through all the baptized.

Synods are a form of that journeying together by which Church leaders are called to discern what the Spirit is saying to the Church, not by themselves alone, but by listening to the People of God, testing everything and retaining what is good (*Synod Preparatory Document*, 14).

Like the Prophet Isaiah in today's first reading, we cannot be silent or deaf to what the Holy Spirit may be trying to tell us. Rather, we are called upon to acknowledge God's effort and action in our lives and "proclaim his marvelous deeds to all."

Year 2022 Calendars are available for anyone who wants one.

Fr. Nicolls

More and more I've come to understand that listening is one of the most important things we can do for one another. Whether the other be an adult or a child, our engagement in listening to who that person is can often be our greatest gift. Whether that person is speaking or playing or dancing, building or singing or painting, if we care, we can listen.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 15, 2022

4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Edmund Bouchard
Requested by Dennis and Sharon Bouchard

Sunday, January 16, 2022

8:00 AM For the Community of Saint George

10:00 AM Birthday Remembrance for
Raymond Hurley - Requested by his family

Monday, January 17, 2022

8:00 AM

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

8:00 AM

Friday, January 21, 2022

8:00 AM In Memory of Fr. Ridick

Requested by JoAnn Nally

Saturday, January 22, 2022

4:00 PM In Memory of Deceased Family Members

Kathleen Carlo and Joseph Carlo

Requested by the Carlo Family

Sunday, January 23, 2022

8:00 AM For the Community of Saint George

10:00 AM In Memory of Rev. Joseph Nally

Requested by his sister JoAnn Nally

Stewardship Thought for the Week

In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Corinthians (and us) that all of our gifts are from God and that they are given, not for ourselves alone, but for the common good. But the generosity of God knows no limits - the miracle at Cana reminds us that whenever we faithfully do as God asks, He can hange our gifts of water into wine!



Sign up to receive e-news! To hear about updates and notifications from St. George Parish simply visit

www.saintgeorgesparish.org

and click on the yellow link

"Join Our Email List"

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**Weekly Collection December 27, 2021-
January 3, 2022**

Online Giving	\$ 2,077.00
Regular Offertory	5,316.00
Total	\$ 7,393.00

Monthly totals for December 2021:	
Fuel	\$ 710.00
A/C	155.00
Repairs	797.00
Total	\$ 1,662.00



Year End Donation Information:

Many thanks for your wonderful and continued generosity to our parish. Please be advised that all contributions, made via Weekly Offering Envelopes, received by December 31, 2021, will be sent to the parish envelope company to be credited to calendar year 2021. End of year statements will be mailed from the envelope company by January 31, 2022.

All gifts received after January 1, 2022 will be credited to calendar year 2022.

For online givers, the recent upgrade in the software has caused a delay in populating your record with weekly or monthly donation history. The data transfer will be complete in January and we will notify you when that has taken place. For any questions, contact mkhessel@aol.com.

If you have any questions please contact the Parish office at 508-853-0183 Ext. 110 or office@saintgeorgesparish.org for assistance.



**We Hope You'll Join Us for
Coffee and Donuts**

The Coffee Shop ministry of hospitality has begun as "Coffee Shop Express". This is a modified gathering following the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses on Sunday Mornings.

**Thank You To Our
Ministers of Coffee Shop Hospitality:**

- Jan. 2 - Steve Toole, Tim Bouchard & John Pacek
- Jan. 9 - Postponed for Covid precaution - Jim Moughan and Team
- Jan. 16 - Postponed for Covid precaution - Kathy Hessel, Jim Dupre, Julie Currier and Stephen Willand
- Jan. 23 - Mark Cormier & Tom Pirani
- Jan. 30 - Dave Walsh and Team

Can you help on Sunday morning ?
Call Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134

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 that you are a patient. Thank you for your understanding.

**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.

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Weekly Collection: January 3—January 9, 2022

On Line Giving \$ 3,234.00
Ordinary Collection 6,716.75
Total \$ 9,950.75

THANK YOU for your generosity.
We are so grateful!

Thank
you 

Eucharistic Adoration

The Thursday evening Eucharistic Exposition
& Adoration for will be held on Thursday,
February 3 from 6:00 until 7:00 PM and
Friday, February 4 from the end of the 8:00
AM Mass until 10:00 AM



If you are unable to join us in person, we invite you to
visit our parish website to view the
"Eucharistic Adoration" video on the homepage.

Bulletin Item Due Dates:

<u>Weekend of:</u>	<u>Due by:</u>
January 30, 2022	January 19, 2022
February 6, 2022	January 26, 2022
February 13, 2022	February 3, 2022

Please submit items by 10:00 AM on or before the due
date. E-mail our Parish Secretary, Kate Lockney at
office@saintgeorgesparish.org

Also, the best way to book/reserve a Mass is to call
our office and speak to Kate directly.



We are honored and delighted to
**WELCOME NEW
PARISHIONERS**
to our parish family!

Contact Annie Doyle at
508-450-4134 for an introduction,
depending on your interests,
to our parish spaces and ministries.

Family Prayer Night at St. George Church
Every Thursday at 6:00 PM
In the Upper Church

There is a gathering of people who pray for all families.

Everyone is invited to join us!

The Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed
during this time. 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

From Deacon Paul Audette

Henri Nouwen Speaks to us through his Letters

To a reader who wrote about her mother's death,
Henri
addresses questions about eternity. (taken from
"Love, Henri:
Letters on the Spiritual Life"):

Dear Marca,

...My main conviction is that God, who has loved
us from all eternity, will hold us in that love through
all eternity, and that love is stronger than death.
That is the message of Jesus for us to say 'yes' to
the One who says to us, 'You are my beloved; on
you my favor rests.' As I grow older, I experience
more and more that the few years of my life are
years in which I have the opportunity to give a
great 'YES' to the One who says to me, 'I love you,'
and that our final death is a return to that sacred
place of love from where we have come..."
With many blessings,
Yours,
Henry



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**

**Children's and Toddler's
Liturgy of the Word**
takes place on Sundays,
During the 10AM Mass

Toddlers with a parent are invited to
attend.

Grade school age children are welcome to attend
the group for older children.

Many thanks to Ruby Moran for her kind and faithful
assistance.



The Church is a
family of families,
constantly enriched by the
lives of all those
domestic churches.

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Kein.brown@saintgeorgesparish.org

Religious Education 2021-2022

Please keep our students and their teachers in your prayers.

Confirmation Preparation classes will meet following the 10:00am Mass on January 9, February 6 and March 6, 2022. Dates for the Retreat, the final class and the Rehearsal TBD. Confirmation will take place May 15, 2022 at St. Paul Cathedral.

Confirmation Service Experiences

This year's Confirmation Service Experiences are an "Introduction to Ministry at St. George Parish". Candidates have each chosen a Sunday morning date to serve (7:30-12N) with our parish ministers of Music, Hospitality, Videography, Greeters, Collectors, Coffee Shop Ministers and others.

Next years dates for service are February 13 and March 13, 2022. Thank you to those who have served already.

Website Be sure to check the parish website regularly for updated information.

www.saintgeorgesparish.org

Tuition Fees

We still have some families who need to submit fees for religious education. If you would like to check your payment status, just email Sarah Kelly at sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

IMPORTANT First Communion Date Changes:

Due to postponing of classes we will need to make a change to the 1st Reconciliation Retreat. We will also need to make a change to the 1st Communion date due to scheduling conflicts. Changes are indicated with * below:

First Reconciliation Preparation and Dates

Retreat: January 22, 2022 1:30-2:30pm in Church*

The students attend with one or both parents.

Ceremony: January 29, 2022, 10:00am in the Church

First Communion Preparation

Retreat & Family Dinner

March 26, 2022 2:30-6:00pm in Church Hall

The students attend the retreat portion with one or both parents.

Everyone then participates in the 4:00pm Mass.

Families, including siblings, then all join together in the Church Hall for a shared meal.

First Communion Dates

Rehearsals: April 19 & 20, 2022 4:30-5:30pm

Mass: Sunday, April 24, 2022 2:00pm*

Religious Education Classes Postponed

Our hope is that the time off will allow time for this current surge to die down a bit before we return to classes

Classes will resume as follows

Grades 1-5 will return on Monday

January, 24 and Tuesday January 25

Grades 6-9 will return on Sunday, January 23

Confirmation will return on Sunday, February 9

We look forward to seeing everyone soon

and pray that everyone stays healthy!

Sarah Kelly 508-852-1784



The Synod on Synodality is a two-year process of listening and dialogue which began with a solemn opening in Rome on October 9 and 10, 2021 with each individual diocese and church celebrating the following week on October 17. The synodal process will conclude in 2023.

Pope Francis invites the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium." This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church's "renewal" proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, and to open Herself to mission.

The Pope asks us to consider where the Spirit is leading the Church on our "common road" (A translation of synodality).

Can you imagine? A listening Church? A servant Church? A prayerful Church? A humble Church?

What are your thoughts? Your hopes? Your worries? Your joys? Your prayers?

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A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

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

Our next Mustard Seed Meal is Friday, January 21, 2022

Volunteers are invited to help prepare the meal of 200 Hot Dogs, Potato Chips, fruit and dessert. The work begins at 2PM on that Friday in the church hall. Please call Annie if you can help out. Donations of \$5 dollars per meal are gratefully welcome. We hope to be able to serve 100 meals.



Help Prevent Family Homelessness Buy "Hope for Housing Cards"

after the 4 PM Mass Saturday,
And after the 8AM or 10 AM Mass Sunday.

See **Dave and Sue Genereux** who are in the Church Hall EVERY Mass. If needed contact them at 978-833-0306 for more information.



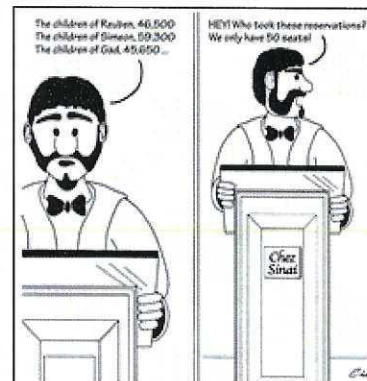
To receive a free weekly food bargain grid, join St. George's "Food Donation Team" just email Dave at DavewithFDT@gmail.com

Special needs for January are: Peanut Butter and Jelly

Thank you to everyone who continue to bring food donations to keep our 3 food pantries going!

THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Media, Faith, and Families... Establish limits on how much screen time your family watches. Plan your TV viewing. Make TV watching an interactive event. Watch it together.



GRANDPARENTS:

All interested grandparents are asked to pray for the safety and well-being of their grandchildren. Prayers are available by sending a long self addressed stamped envelope to Ruth Viens, 20 Mary Scano Drive, Apt. 223, Worcester MA 01605. As meetings resume in the parish it is hoped that the eight year monthly Grandparent Group will again be available.

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

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

ON LINE GIVING:

There have been some changes to the Online Giving Software.



When you log on through the link on our parish website, you will see a new screen that requests your email rather than a USERID. Use your email address that is on record with the parish and the password you have used most recently for Online Giving (which you used with your former USERID), and you should now be able to access screens for giving and for your recent giving history. The changes by the vendor are continuing. We will keep you updated. Due to the vendor's software changes still underway, you may now see your deductions being made to RCB (Roman Catholic Bishop) of Worcester rather than St. George Parish. It's still being directed to your account at St. George.

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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.*

**Virtual by ZOOM
DAY OF SPIRITUALITY**

March 5, 2022
9am-11:30am
\$15 per person
*Registration Packet and
ZOOM Access Code*

**Father John Predmore
presenting
PATH TO A BETTER FUTURE**

What has unstoppable meant to us
as we all were stopped in our tracks in
March 2020?

Registration beginning January 8th

Registration available after all
weekend masses or download
from Website

For More Information Contact Andrea
Svagdys-Gumbrell
andrea@svagdys.com or 508-330-0267

Saint George Rosary Group

You're invited to attend our once a
month Saturday morning Rosary Group.
First Saturday of every month.

Currently we are meeting at 7:30 a.m.
If interested you may contact
Jim Hachey at 508-579-9623



**Join Our Prayer Shawl Ministry
Knit or Crochet At Home**

New members are invited to join this important ministry of outreach to the sick, suffering and lonely. We have now given out all the shawls that we have.

Please join us in prayer, knitting and crocheting from home. Hats and warm scarves for the homeless are also greatly appreciated.

Call Annie Doyle for more info: 508-450-4134



**Spiritual Growth
Ministry Corner**

Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran
Saintgeorgespiritgrowth@gmail.com

The second Sunday of ordinary time is upon us. Today's second reading (1Cor 12:4-11) details the Spirit given to each of God's children.

This spirit dwells within each one of us. Each receiving a very special one when God the Creator gives us life. After baptism this spirit takes on a private dwelling within, forever turning us to God.

As Catholics we must individually and collectively recognize this connection to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. For the spirit to mature one must be still, listen, pray, work charitably, and know the word of God. The gifts of the spirit emerge. The growth of the spirit within is a lifelong journey, always beckoning for a return to God if the way is lost.

In today's Gospel reading Mary, Mother of Jesus, instructed the servers at the wedding in Cana to "do whatever He tells you" - even though Jesus had clearly stated, "woman how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."

Jesus had been invited to the wedding at Cana, where this miracle of turning water into wine occurred. Similarly, you will need to invite the Holy Spirit to work within you. Then be ready as God will use any means of people, places, and things, to strengthen the spirit within. Tending the spirit will require your continued examination, and prayer. Naturally, as a server, you must "do whatever He tells you." He is always waiting for you - before and after your hour comes.

The Spiritual growth committee continually works to offer events, services, and ideas to parishioners for the purpose of nurturing and growing the spirit within. Your comments, thoughts and ideas are always welcome, reach us by email saintgeorgespiritgrowth@gmail.com.

Spiritual Growth Committee members are: Bonnie Moran - Chair; Andrea Svagdys-Gumbrell; Joan Talbot; Patty Walsh; Kyle Lewandowski and Helen Hurley. Fr. Nicolls and Deacon Paul serve as *ex officio* members.

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