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.

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to

~1 Corinthians 12:12-13

drink of one Spirit.

# 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 and10:00 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.

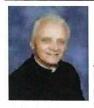
#### **Parish Mission Statement**

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

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.

#### January 23, 2022 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



#### From Your Pastor

As Christians we share in Jesus' ministry so beautifully summarized in the words of the Prophet Isaiah found in today's Gospel. Jesus knew him-

self to be the one anointed by God to bring glad tidings to the poor and recovery of sight to the blind, to proclaim liberty to captives, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. We, as God's anointed, are now being called upon to do what Jesus did. In a very special way we are being called upon by Christ's vicar here on earth, Pope Francis, to enter into a spirit of synodality. Pope Francis sees synodality as defining the form, style and structure of the Church but not implying a dynamic of democracy within the Church. Synods may be at the heart of a hierarchically structured community but are consultative assemblies in which the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyze, dialog, discern and offer advice on taking pastoral decisions as closely as possible to God's will. Synodality provides essential input to those to whom the governance of the various levels of the Church from the Vatican to your local parish is entrusted.

#### Fr. Niccolls

#### Stewardship Thought for the Week

The U.S. Bishops' Pastoral on stewardship reinforces today's reading from 1 Corinthians: "Because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and well being are the responsibility of the members—the personal responsibility of each one of us. We all are stewards of the Church'.



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"



#### Mass Intentions



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

Monday, January 24, 2022 8:00 AM Memorial Mass for Karen MacGillivray Requested by her husband

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 8:00 AM Memorial Mass for Jean Corio Requested by her family

Friday, January 28, 2022 8:00 AM In Memory of Thomas Kim Requested by his wife

Saturday, January 29, 2022 4:00 PM Sunday, January 30, 2022 8:00 AM For the Community of Saint George 10:00 AM

#### Parish Calendar

Sunday, January 23, 2022 NO COFFEE SHOP THIS WEEK 6:00 PM Religious Ed. GRADES 6-9 Parish Center

Monday January 24, 2022 4:30-5:30PM Religious Ed Grades 1-5 Center

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:30-5:30PM Religious Ed Grades 1-5 Center

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 7:00-8:15 PM Faith Sharing Group Conf. Room

**Thursday, January 27, 2022**6:00 PM Family Prayer Night Upper Church

Friday, January 28, 2022 10:00 AM Faith Sharing Church Hall

Saturday, January 29 2022 1:30-2:20 PM 1st Reconciliation Retreat Church 8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall Sunday, January 30, 2022

#### January 23, 2022 — Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### **YOU CAN HELP BUILD A CULTURE OF LIFE!**

Please join us for any of the events taking place this January to pray and advocate for a renewed reverence for the sacredness of every human life from conception to natural death. Join the National Novena for Life -January 19-27. 9 Days for Life is a focused period of prayer, penance, and pilgrimage set aside to mark the tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 which legalized abortion during all nine months of pregnancy. Join together with thousands of Catholics across the country in prayer for the nationwide novena taking place from January 19 through 27, 2022. Visit www.9daysforlife.com to learn more and to download a free app for your smartphone or to sign up for daily emails or text messages with each day's prayer intention. Your prayers matter! Your sacrifices make a difference! For more information: Respect Life Office Diocese of Worcester aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org

#### Weekly Collection January, 10, 2022-January 16, 2022

Total

\$7,058.00

Thank you

Thank you for your generosity. We are so grateful!

#### Year End Donation Information:

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 <a href="mailto:mkhessel@aol.com">mkhessel@aol.com</a>.

#### 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.



## 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
  Postponed for Covid precaution -
- Jan. 30 Dave Walsh and Team

## 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.

#### January 23, 2022 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### 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.

#### **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:**

| Weekend of:       | Due by:           |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| February 6, 2022  | January 26, 2022  |
| February 13, 2022 | February 3, 2022  |
| February 20, 2022 | February 10, 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 before the first Friday of each month.



#### From Deacon Paul Audette

Henri writes on the meaning of the Eucharist to the parents of children preparing for their First Communion. (taken from "Love, Henri: Letters on the Spiritual Life"):

Dear Kathy, Joe and Mary, Joan and Robin, ...the Eucharist is the central Sacrament of the Church. It is the place through which God really enters our lives. That is why you can look at the other six Sacraments as standing in a circle around the Eucharist. Baptism introduces us to the Eucharist; the Sacrament of Reconciliation restores us to the double fellowship of the Eucharist; ordination to the Priesthood is to set some people aside to preside over the Eucharist in the name of Jesus; Marriage is to bind husband and wife to each other in the same Faithfulness with which Jesus has bound himself to the Church: and Sacrament of the Sick is a Sacrament to heal people for an ongoing Eucharistic life and/or to prepare them to enter into the final, full communion with Jesus. Thus the Eucharist is really the center of our spiritual life, and, if we live it that way, gradually all of our life can become Eucharistic, i.e., lived in deep communion with Jesus..." Much love, Henry

Bahtisms
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

#### January 23, 2022 — Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



#### 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 February 6 and March 6, 2022. Dates for the Retreat, the final class and the Rehearsal TBD. Confirmation will take place May 15,

#### **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.

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 <a href="mailto:sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org">sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org</a>

#### **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 6
We look forward to seeing everyone soon
and pray that everyone stays healthy!

Sarah Kelly 508-852-1784



As Fr. Niccolls shares with us in his weekly letters on page 2 of this bulletin, 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?

"The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention.... A loving silence often has far more power to heal and to connect than the most well-intentioned words."

## A Community of Ministries





#### St. George Parish Outreach

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

#### Our Mustard Seed Meal was this past Friday, January 21, 2022

Many thanks to everyone who helped to prepare the meal and to all who donated towards the cost of the meal. Your generosity of sharing your time, talent and treasure makes it possible for our parish to provide this essential meal of hospitality to our most vulnerable neighbors in need.

#### THE FAMILY CONNECTION

O God we pray for all families...for those who are forced to live apart for various reasons. Embrace them all and uphold them Lord and send them Your comfort. Give them hope Lord for Your peace and truth Lord. Grant them all courage and love Lord.





To receive a free weekly food bargain grid, join St. George's "Food Donation Team" just email Dave at <a href="mailto:DavewithFDT@gmail.com">DavewithFDT@gmail.com</a>

## 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!

We again refer to James Martin S.J.'s book, 'Learning to Pray'. He writes of William J. Barry S.J. who in his book, 'God and You' suggests that the way we think about human friendship can help us deepen our relationship with God. We take a look here at six aspects of friendship.

<u>Time</u> To develop and maintain friends in life we need to spend time with them. So too, we need to set aside time to consciously be with God in prayer and conversation.

Learning We are eager to find out about the lives of our friends. This is also true of ourselves and God. We find out about God when we learn of the experiences of others as they live and pray. We may read Scripture which tells us of God's relationship with humanity through the ages. We get to know Jesus in the Gospels and writings of the New Testament. We may look at the lives of holy men and women inspired to bring God to the world.

<u>Honesty</u> Not being honest with a friend risks the loss of that friendship. Saying what we really want to say to God in prayer instead of what we think we should say fosters the relationship between God and the person praying. Father Barry makes the point that anger, sadness, depression, suffering and disappointment have a long history in prayer.

Listening When with a friend, talking is important. So too, is listening. As we pray we may feel that we are not getting a response. It may be reassuring to know that very rarely does a person hear God's voice. Father Martin tells us God most often speaks to us through emotions, insights, memories, desires, words, feelings and mystical experiences.

<u>Change</u> As we go through life with friends aspects of our relationship may undergo some changes. These adjustments may come from a change

of location or other circumstances of life. Perhaps we think our relationship with God should remain as it was when we were growing up. Many of us recall the emphasis placed on rules and regulations and the consequences of breaking those rules. Today, we hear of God's mercy and love. Is it time to ask ourselves, 'Who is God for me now?"

<u>Silence</u> We have friends we may not hear from for a long time but we know they are still friends. Whether or not we feel God's presence in the silence of prayer He is there. We may find resting in silence in the presence of God very welcome in a world that does not place a high value on silence.

# Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden January 23, 2022 — Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Parish Vision: To **welcome** all, build **connect**ions 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

The Spiritual Growth Committee Minutes from Monday, November 29, 2021 Meeting:

- Final preparations are being made for the Advent Evening of Reflection on Mon., Dec. 20 from 6:30 8:00 pm.
- Listening sessions with our youth in conjunction with the 2023 Synod in Rome will be held soon.
   Sessions with adults will await guidelines from the Diocese after the holidays.
- Guidelines for the 2022 Lenten Reflection Booklet will be sent out to volunteers within the next few weeks.
- Final preparations are being made for the 2022
  Day of Spirituality to be held on Sat., March 5
  from 9 am to 2 pm with Fr. Predmore as the presenter. Tickets will go on sale on Jan. 9.
- Bonnie reported on an excellent evangelization conference that she and Deacon Paul attended by ZOOM. Giving witness to our faith, sharing our faith, inviting families back to church and sponsoring family-based events and liturgies were among the themes she described.
- Bonnie encouraged committee members to be informed about Mass. Senate Bill #1384 and House Bill #2381 which would legalize physician -assisted suicide.

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

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 <a href="mailto:saintgeorgespiritu-algrowth@gmail.com">saintgeorgespiritu-algrowth@gmail.com</a>.



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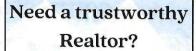


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