

Saint George Church - Worcester and Holden

February 20, 2022 - Seventh 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

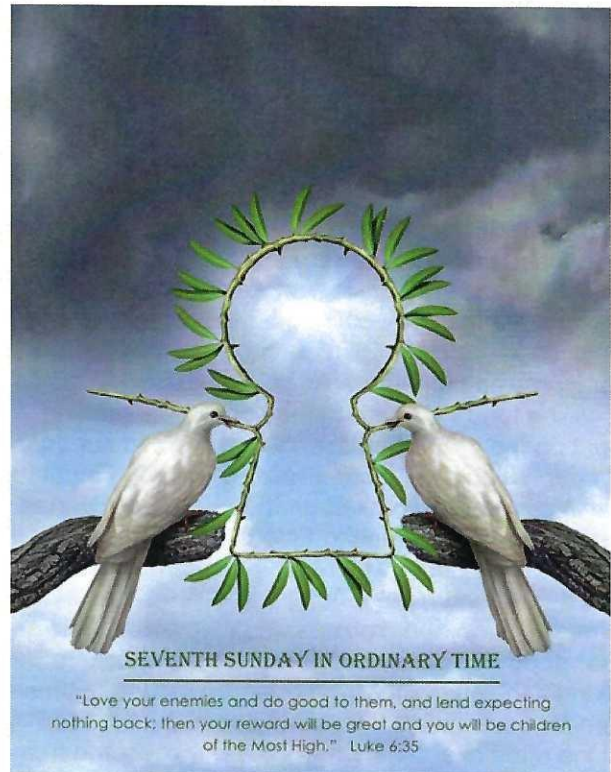
Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary
office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 110
Fax 508-854-0864

Current Office Hours:

Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Thursday 9:00 AM - 12:00 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 10:00AM.

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.

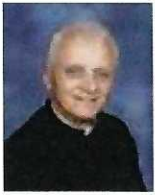
Parish Mission Statement

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, February 20, 2022

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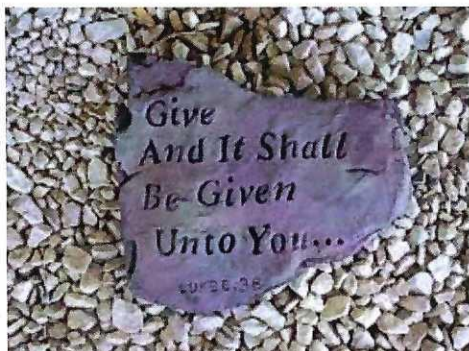
From Your Pastor

At the conclusion of my bulletin article of last week, I mentioned that our Diocese of Worcester would be seeking broad input as to how the worldwide synod's journeying together would be happening here and what steps the Holy Spirit will be inviting us to take in our journeying together. As you know Pope Francis is calling for this synod for the purpose of seeking input on the process of synodality. Here in our country our nation's bishops will also be seeking input for the three-year National Eucharistic Revival planned for Dioceses in the United States which will begin this Spring. In our own Diocese of Worcester we will also be seeking input for ongoing evangelization efforts. This synodal process has the potential to bear good fruit if taken seriously. It could help to rekindle the spark of evangelization and the enthusiasm for our baptismal faith which can tend to fade all too often over time. In whatever fruits come from this three-fold synodal process, the Holy Spirit will be there to accompany us on this journey.

Fr. Niccolls

Stewardship Thought for the Week

Today's Gospel has encouraging words for good stewards: "Give and it shall be given to you. For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." What encouragement to give generously of the resources entrust to our care!



Mass Intentions



Saturday, February 19, 2022

4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Gene Cournoyer Requested by Ann Walsh

Sunday, February 20, 2022

8:00 AM Memorial Mass for Susan

Charbonneau Beane Requested by her family

10:00 AM 2nd Anniversary Mass for Robert Shays Requested by his family

Monday, February 21, 2022

8:00 AM In Memory of Robert & Dorothy Vaught

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

8:00 AM Memorial Mass for Karyn MacGillivray Requested by her husband Robert

Friday, February 25, 2022

8:00 AM In Memory of Shirley Foran

Saturday, February 26, 2022

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

Sunday, February 27, 2022

8:00 AM 2nd Anniversary Jerry Duclos Requested by his family

10:00 AM For the Community of Saint George

Parish Calendar

What's Happening

Sunday, February 20, 2022

Coffee Shop Express following 8AM & 10AM Mass
Church Hall
10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy of the Word
Church Hall and Alcove
11:00-12:15 PM Confirmation Class Parish Center
6:00 PM Religious Ed. Grades 6-9 Parish Center

Monday February 21, 2022

4:30-5:30PM Religious Ed Grades 1-5 Center
7:00-8:30 PM Faith Sharing Group Parish Center

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

4:30-5:30PM Religious Ed Grades 1-5 Center

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

7:00-8:15 PM Faith Sharing Group Parish Center

Thursday, February 24, 2022

6:00 PM Family Prayer Night Upper Church

Friday, February 25, 2022

10:00 AM Faith Sharing Church Hall

Saturday, February 26 2022

9:00 AM -12:00 PM Diocesan Youth Group Parish Center
8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

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Weekly Collection: February 7 - 13, 2022

On line giving: \$ 2,672.00
Regular Offertory 6,122.00
Total \$ 8,794.00



**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.

Online givers may now access their giving history for 2021. The calendar year donation report can be downloaded and used for tax filing purposes.

For any questions, contact mkhessel@aol.com.

Bulletin Item Due Dates:

<u>Weekend of:</u>	<u>Due by:</u>
February 27, 2022	February 15, 2022
March 6, 2022	February 22, 2022
March 13, 2022	March 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.

"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."



**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:**

Feb. 6 - First Sunday of the month
Steve Toole, Tim Bouchard & John Pacek
Feb. 13 - Second Sunday of the Month
Jim Moughan and Team
Feb. 20 - Third Sunday of the Month
Kathy Hessel, Jim Dupre, and Stephen Willand
Feb. 27 - Fourth Sunday of the month
Mark Cormier & Tom Pirani
May 29 - Fifth Sunday of the month
Dave Walsh and Team

Can you help on a 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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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, March 3 from 6:00 until 7:00 PM and Friday, March 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.



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



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 Nouwen Speaks to us through his Letters

Henri writes a letter of consolation to a young man who has lost his best friend to suicide. This is Part IV (and conclusion) of his response. (taken from "Love, Henri: Letters on the Spiritual Life"):

Dear Ashok,

...Please do not feel that you could in any way have done anything to prevent his death. Maybe there are places in your heart where you feel that you have not done enough for him, or maybe there are places in your heart where you are angry that he left you alone. I very much understand these feelings because I have had them too when dear friends died, but I really want you to know that Nevin's death in no way is your fault, nor that he wanted to hurt you in any way by leaving you.... Trust that you are a very good person and that you are deeply loved by God and that your friendship was a gift given to you that will bear fruit in your life as you continue living it..."

Yours,

Henry Nouwen



March 2, 2022 - April 10,
40 Days for Life
Spring Campaign

Volunteers are needed and welcome to participate in prayerful, peaceful vigil for an end to abortion during the 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign which begins

on March 2. Your prayers make a difference and save lives! For more information visit www.40daysforlife.com/worcester.

For questions please contact

Susan Pacek at st.geobaptism@gmail.com

You are welcome to join us to pray on Thursdays from 10-11am across the street from Planned Parenthood on Pleasant St. Worcester, MA

In Case You Missed It

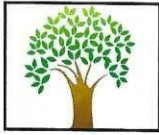
Videos of two special pro-life events sponsored by the Diocese of Worcester in January are now available for viewing. Click the links below to watch the videos!

A MORNING FOR LIFE - "HOW PRECIOUS LIFE IS" (Jan. 15) presented by Monsignor James Moroney

MASS FOR LIFE (Jan. 20) with Bishop Robert J. McManus

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

sarah.Kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Kevin.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 March 6, 2022. Dates for the Retreat, the final class and the Rehearsal TBD. Confirmation will take place May 15, 2022 at St. Paul

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.

The last date for service is March 13, 2022.

Thank you to those who have served.

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 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*

Confirmation

Classes resumed on Sunday, February 6 immediately following the 10:00am Mass.

Be sure to always check with the website for any changes or updates to the schedule.

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

THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Families who are faithful are loyal. We don't talk negatively about other family members outside of their presence. When we do slip and gossip about one another, one of us gently interrupts us to focus on the positive



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.**

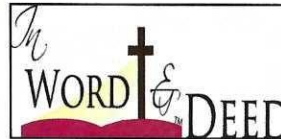


A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

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



**7th Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

Afghan Refugee Family News:

The dad's of both families are studying English and taking language and driving lessons now. The moms are now also taking English language lessons every Saturday morning. Three of the children, in the family that arrived most recently, will soon be enrolled in school. The families are both really looking forward to moving to their new address, maybe next week!, where they will each have their own separate apartments in the same house.

Mustard Seed News:

- A special "Thank You" to our knitting parishioners who keep up the supply of hats and scarves for our homeless guests who walk all day long in the cold and snow
- A current need is for donations to "Parish Outreach" in any amount - to go towards the purchase of women's underwear.

IHN Family Shelter News:

- Heartfelt thanks to Mike Ohl who is helping to repair the second floor bathroom at the shelter
- Thank you to all who buy weekly "Hope for Housing" grocery cards. They are an essential help towards paying the security deposit when an apartment is found for a family in need.
- Donations of toilet paper and paper towels are needed.



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 February are: Cans of Tuna Fish and Small bags of Rice

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

When people are appreciative of the opportunities they receive which they can't repay, they promise to share their good fortune with others by 'paying it forward.' It's a way of sharing with someone else the gift they have received so it will also help someone else. It becomes a gift that keeps on giving.

As much as Jesus loved the disciples, the gifts of faith and forgiveness that He entrusts to them are not meant for them alone; rather, they are to be shared and proclaimed so that God's love and power will renew the face of the earth. The sacrifice of Jesus is freely given to all those who need salvation. Through the words and deeds of His followers, Jesus' gift of life and grace is offered to everyone.

We have been given so much by God and by those who have gone before us. These gifts all come from the heart and so they must be passed on from the heart as well. When we love others and share with them what we have received, when we forgive others, we indeed pay faith forward, making God's Kingdom a little more visible and accessible for those who need it most.

James Gaffney, © 2011 Karides Lic. to Pilot Bulletins

Synod Prayer

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

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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
Saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com

"We are all called to be great saints, don't miss the opportunity." These are some of the words that Mother Angelica used to open her TV show almost 30 years ago. These words ring true always, but are certainly important to keep in mind in light of today's world, and all the uncertainty that we face. Every day, we are presented with challenges and struggles, some greater than others, but all of them require resolve to overcome. Many of us are growing tired and weary, dealing with one thing after another, but as this week's Gospel reminds us, "Rejoice, and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven." In these tumultuous times, many of us do face poverty, hunger, sorrow, hatred, and many other serious troubles, but we must remember that we are not alone in them. We must keep our faith in God and trust in Him, as the first reading says, "Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is the Lord. He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream." By surrendering our wills to God's Will, we allow Him to strengthen us and act through us, just as the water from the stream courses through the tree's roots, keeping it alive and strengthening it. This is ultimately what sainthood is, surrendering our wills to God's, and we can be given hope that in every challenge, every situation in our lives, great or small, each of them can bring us closer to holiness and grace.

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 the email listed above.

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