

## **Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden**

**February 19, 2017: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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40 Brattle Street Worcester, MA 01606  
Parish Office: 508-853-0183  
[www.saintgeorgesparish.org](http://www.saintgeorgesparish.org)

**Office Hours:**

Monday & Wednesday 9:00AM to 5:00PM  
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00AM to 4:00PM

**Parish Staff:**

*It is our privilege to serve you.*

Rev. Edward D. Niccolls Pastor Ext. 12

Rev. Charles P.O. Omolo, Associate Pastor  
Ext. 24

Rev. Patrick Ssekoyole, In Residence Ext. 30

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach

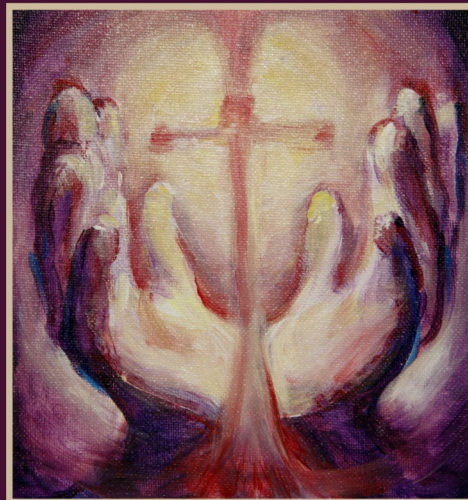
[annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 11

Joan Koppenal, Parish Secretary

[stgeooffice@gmail.com](mailto:stgeooffice@gmail.com) Ext. 10

Fax 508-854-0864

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



The LORD said to Moses,  
"Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.

Leviticus 19:1,2

# **St. George Catholic Church**

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

**Baptism Information:** Please contact Susan Pacek at 508-856-9960 or email: [st.geobaptism@gmail.com](mailto:st.geobaptism@gmail.com)

**Eucharist Celebrated:**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM

Monday through Friday at 8:00 AM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday 3:00 to 3:30 PM and  
by appointment

***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 19, 2017***

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### Mass Intentions

**Saturday, February 18:** Vigil  
4:00 PM Birthday Remembrance for Alvin Hinckley  
by the Girard family  
**Sunday, February 19:** 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
7:30 AM 1st Anniversary for Raymond Barton by  
his daughter  
9:00 AM Memorial for James Purcell by family  
11:00 AM Memorial for Richard Severance by the  
Moran family  
**Monday, February 20:**  
8:00 AM In memory of Arthur Sullivan  
**Tuesday, February 21:** St. Peter Damian  
8:00 AM Birthday memorial for Darlene Drake  
by Heidi Drake  
**Wednesday, February 22:** The Chair of St. Peter  
8:00 AM For the Community of St. George  
**Thursday, February 23:** St. Polycarp  
8:00 AM For the sick of the parish  
**Friday, February 24:**  
8:00 AM Mass for Marty Forhan  
**Saturday, February 25:** Vigil  
4:00 PM Memorial for Bob Reidy by  
the Murphy family  
**Sunday, February 26:** 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
7:30 AM 1st Anniversary for Sue Charbonneau Beane  
by family  
9:00 AM Memorial for Armand & Jeanette Audette  
by family  
11:00 AM Memorial for Gale Murphy by the  
Staff of St. George's

### Bulletin Deadlines

<u>Weekend of</u>	<u>Due to parish</u>
March 5	Wednesday, Feb. 22
March 12	Wednesday, March 1
March 19	Wednesday, March 8

Items must be submitted by 5:00 PM on the due date.  
Email items to [stgeooffice@gmail.com](mailto:stgeooffice@gmail.com), or fax to the  
Rectory.

### Altar Ministries

We are thankful to the Altar Servers and Ministers of Holy  
Communion from TEAM B who will serve at our Masses  
next weekend.

### Attention Parents of Young Children

The Church building is open to all. We ask that parents of  
young children to please accompany them at all times.  
Thank you.

### Parish Calendar

**Saturday, February 18:**  
8:00 PM AA Hall  
**Sunday, February 19:**  
8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall  
9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Rm  
9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Confr Rm  
**Monday, February 20:**  
7:00 PM Youth Music Ministry Choir Loft  
**Tuesday, February 21:**  
6:00 PM Weight Loss Group Center  
**Wednesday, February 22:**  
7:00 PM Faith Sharing Group Confr Rm  
**Thursday, February 23:**  
6:30 PM Family Prayer Church  
**Friday, February 24:**  
10:00 AM Faith Sharing Group Center  
**Saturday, February 25:**  
5:15 PM Spiritual Growth Ministry Meeting Confr Rm  
8:00 PM AA Hall  
**Sunday, February 26:**  
8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall  
9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Rm  
9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Confr Rm  
6:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 6-9 Hall/Center

### Scripture for the week of February 19, 2017

19 SUN	Lv 19:1-2,17-18/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48
20 Mon	Sir 1:1-10/Mk 9:14-29
21 Tue	Sir 2:1-11/Mk 9:30-37
22 Wed	1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
23 Thu	Sir 5:1-8/Mk 9:41-50
24 Fri	Sir 6:5-17/Mk 10:1-12
25 Sat	Sir 17:1-15/Mk 10:13-16
26 SUN	Is 49:14-15/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34



**If you or someone you know** – has been sexually  
abused by a priest, religious or lay person working for  
the Church, and you need a place to talk about your  
feeling of betrayal or hurt by the Church, call the Of-  
fice of Healing and Prevention, 508-929-4363. A 24  
hour confidential voicemail is available.

### This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

In today's first reading, the Israelites are urged to  
love their neighbors as themselves. In the Gospel,  
Jesus spells out how we are to do that - to give gen-  
erously to those who ask of us and not to turn our  
backs on those who seek to borrow.

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**Weekend of February 12, 2017**

Total Weekly Ordinary: \$6,129.85

Thank you for your support!



**CRS Rice Bowls**

More than 10,000 parishes across the United States participate each Lent through the traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Catholic Relief Services fund poverty alleviation efforts internationally and locally. Rice Bowl banks will be available soon.



**St. George Men's Club  
is hosting an...**

**"Irish Celebration Spectacular"  
Saturday, March 18, 2017 6-9 PM**

All proceeds will be used to offset the many activities involving our youth and Church.

Live entertainment will be provided by:

Mike Ladd of the "Blackstone Cúil"

And

The Famous "McInerney Step Dancers"....

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner  
Dinner will be served for your eating pleasure!

Tickets are \$15.00  
and will be sold after all Masses  
until March 12. Seats are limited...

Questions: Call Joe Cote at 508-852-7718



Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest things right, and doing all for love.

... St. Therese of Lisieux

*We Commend to your Prayers*

Carol Desmaris

*May the Angels lead her into Paradise*



*From Your Pastor*

Bishop McManus has asked me and all the other priests of the Diocese of Worcester to extend an invitation to the young men of our parishes who are in high school or older to consider a vocation to the priesthood. As a priest for almost 43 years, I know that I would not have considered this calling if it were not for the example of priesthood that I saw lived out faithfully and prayerfully by the priests in my home parish. I certainly witnessed in these priests an excellent example of what was meant by giving of oneself totally to God. Their giftedness and self-sacrifice were certainly a great inspiration for me. For any young man who has ever considered the priesthood, please feel free to speak with me or Fr. Charles. I might also mention that our diocese annually sponsors a retreat, led by Bishop McManus, for young men to discern or prayerfully consider if the priesthood is for them. This year's retreat is scheduled for the weekend of April 7/8, from 6:00 P.M Friday to 6:00 P.M. Saturday at Immaculate Conception Retreat Center in Putnam, CT. (This retreat center is only 30 minutes from Worcester.) It is open to men who are of high school age and older. The cost is free, and transportation is also provided to and from the retreat center. For more information about this retreat and to sign up for it, please see me or contact our Vocations Director, Fr. James Mazzone at 508-340-5788, by email at [jmazzone@charter.net](mailto:jmazzone@charter.net).

**Catholic Free Press:** February is Catholic Free Press month. We hope that many of you will either begin or renew a subscription to our diocesan newspaper. Won't you help us by subscribing today? You can use the envelope in your church envelope packet or pick up an envelope at the church doorways and place the remittance into the collection basket.

*Fr. Niccolls*



**Coffee Shop**

February 26, 2017  
John Lewczyk: 508-856-9567

All men are invited to join the Men's Club...be part of a Coffee Shop Team to serve every 9 weeks. Contact Jim Sanford at 508-852-0293.

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### ***Religious Education***

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784  
Email : [sarah.Kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:sarah.Kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org)

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### **Emails**

Information for religious education is posted here in the bulletin, on our parish website [www.saintgeorgesparish.org/religious-education](http://www.saintgeorgesparish.org/religious-education) and through email. Please let Sarah Kelly know at [sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org) if you are not receiving emails. Thank you!

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### **Religious Education Grades 6-9**

Kevin Browne, Coordinator 508-450-2512  
E-mail : [kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org)

Religious Ed for Grades 6-9 will be Sunday, February 26th from 6:00-7:30 (with a Pizza Social from 5:30-6:00)

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### ***Eucharist and Prayers for the Sick***

Please: Call to let us know if a family member or neighbor is hospitalized, homebound or ill. We can arrange to visit and 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 told that you are a patient. We call the area hospitals each week to see if any of our parishioners are hospitalized. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

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### **Women's Day of Spirituality - Save The Date**

Please plan to join us on Saturday, March 25, for our Women's Day of Spirituality. We look forward to welcoming you to this gathering of women for an enriching presentation by Jaymie Stuart Wolfe. More information to follow in March bulletins.

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### **Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for February**

During the month of February Pope Francis has asked for comfort for the afflicted. Pray that all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.

### **17th Annual Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference at Assumption College**

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled for **Assumption College** on Saturday, April 1st. Visit the conference website at [www.firstmensconf.org](http://www.firstmensconf.org) for information and to purchase tickets online and elsewhere. Come and hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: **Father Chase Hilgenbrinck, Shawn Carney, Chris Stewart, Tony Brandt, Joe Dittmar, and Jeff Cavins**. Bishops and priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. For a Conference brochure, further information or registration, call Julie Schroeder at 508-929-4345. Adult tickets are \$45 until March 15th, afterwards \$60. Student tickets are always \$30.

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### **Help families who are on the brink of homelessness and continue to honor Matt Ryan**

Stop by our church hall after Mass and buy a Hope for Housing caring card. You receive the full face value of the card in the amount you choose. The stores - CVS, Panera Bread, Dunkin Donuts and local grocery stores - donate up to 5% of that amount to "Hope For Housing" to assist the most vulnerable; children with families in crisis.



Since Matt passed away in November of 2016 we have sold \$17,410 worth of "caring cards" here at St. George. That means that in less than three months \$870.50 has been donated to Hope for Housing to help prevent homelessness. At this rate, our parish is on track to donate more than \$2,500 this year!

If several more St. George families begin to use "caring cards" to buy their weekly groceries, we might be able to help even more families to move from a shelter to a new home.

At the IHN shelter we have seen the faces of the children in these families and we know the stress that life in a shelter puts on parents and the little ones. Please pray for them and continue to be as generous as you always are.

See Sue or Dave Genereux after Mass or contact them at 508-829-5776 or email [WaysideATQ@aol.com](mailto:WaysideATQ@aol.com) for more information.

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## **7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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 St. George Publishing  
[jim@stgeorgepublishing.com](mailto:jim@stgeorgepublishing.com)*

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Take THREE minutes each day to retreat to God's presence. Visit the parish website [www.saintgeorgesparish.org](http://www.saintgeorgesparish.org) and click on Three Minute Retreat. Enjoy these brief posts from Loyola Press that provide us with a few moments with God during these wintry days.

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### **St. George's Book Discussion Group**

The next meeting of the St. George Book Discussion Group will be held on Monday, February 27, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. After sharing a meal of soups and stews we will discuss, "Stars at Night" by Paula D'Arcy. Please contact Joyce Purcell at [508-852-3304](tel:508-852-3304) if you would like to join the group or for more information.

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### **Spend a Day at NDA!**

Notre Dame Academy is inviting all current seventh grade and transfer students to spend an academic day at NDA through May 1st. If you are interested, please contact the Office of Admissions at 508-757-6200, Ext. 229 or email us at [admissions@nda-worc.org](mailto:admissions@nda-worc.org). NDA is the only Catholic, college preparatory school for young women in Central Massachusetts. Please visit our website at [www.nda-worc.org](http://www.nda-worc.org) to learn more about the NDA experience!

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### **Baptism Preparation**

A special welcome to the five families who just completed their preparation during this winter session. Thanks to our Baptism team, led by Andrea and John Berger, for their hospitality and expertise.

The next Baptism Preparation sessions are:

May 21 and June 4, 2017

and

July 23 and July 30., 2017

Families usually attend both sessions

Godparents and children are always welcome

This Sacrament welcomes everyone. For registration and information about selection of Godparents, please contact Susan Pacek at 508-856-9960 or Email: [st.geobaptism@gmail.com](mailto:st.geobaptism@gmail.com).

Baptisms are usually held monthly following the preparation sessions and completion of paperwork.

Our Baptism Preparation Team looks forward to celebrating this wonderful Sacrament of with you and your family.

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### **Bereavement Support Group at Our Lady of Good Counsel**

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish will hold a six-session bereavement support group beginning, Monday, February 27th, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in the parish hall, 111 Worcester Street, West Boylston. The faith based program offers insights about grieving in a healthy way to work toward healing.

For more information or to register (required prior to the start of the meetings) call Renate Isbell at (508) 835-3286.

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## *A Community of Ministries*



Annie Doyle - 508-853-0183  
Ext. 11  
Office hours Mon-Tue-Wed 9-5  
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

### **Next Mustard Seed Meal for 200 Guests**

is scheduled for Friday, March 17, 2017. To donate or volunteer see the Outreach Boards in the church hall and at all church exits in the beginning of March.

### **Lenten Food Drive**

On March 25/26 non-perishable food items and paper goods will be collected at all weekend Masses. Donations will be given to the Mustard Seed Food Pantry and our "Loaves and Fishes". Food Pantries everywhere are struggling to fill the needs of families this time of year. Please be as generous as you always are.

Many thanks to so many of you who "had a heart for the homeless" lately! You filled the Outreach Collection Area with paper products, food and warm clothing! It is so appreciated!

### **Purses for Women in Need**

Many thanks to Arlene's granddaughter and friends who gathered together and filled ladies pocketbooks with special items for women. What a wonderful idea to bring comfort and caring to women in need! Homeless women at the Mustard Seed and women suffering from mental illness were so happy for these gifts! Socks, tissue, lotion, tooth paste and sanitary products filled each bag. A special thank you to Clare Robbins and family for contributing towards this thoughtful outreach.

### **Thanks to Children's Liturgy Lectors**

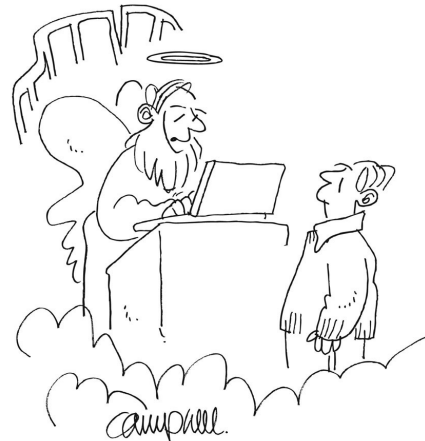
Thanks to Lectors for our Children's Liturgy of the Word. Your faithful witness and dedication to our parish children is a gift of love. and faith.

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Looking for ways to participate in outreach? Hungry for an idea of how to do more service work? Visit the parish website. Click on Community, and then Ongoing Outreach Opportunities.

### **THE FAMILY CONNECTION**

A major challenge on our journey through life is constantly to be aware of Jesus' presence. In life we meet many people who are Jesus-in-disguise. "In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." (Mt. 25:40) Who are the "least of these" that you encounter on a daily basis? Picture them in your mind. See the image of our Lord shining through their faces. What are their most pressing needs? Ask the Lord to give you insight on how they need you, your touch, your smile, your acceptance, your support. Will you respond to those needs?



**"When I type in your name and 'sin,' sir,  
there are over 20 million results."**

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*A Christian Steward receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with all, and returns them with increase to the Lord.*

### ***This Week...***

Pray for all missionaries who have given up everything to Christ, that their lives of sacrifice may speak truth in the midst of cultures that value possessions over human life.

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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.*

### Join our "Community of Ministries" this year!

Help is needed to pray, listen, teach, share faith, guide, serve, host, welcome and support others.

Help is also needed to bake, cook, decorate, weed, garden, knit, sew, drive, repair, paint, file, type and much more!

Here at St. George Parish we strive to work together as a "Community of Ministries" who collaborate and cooperate with one another. It is in this spirit of humility and unity that we hope to continue to grow "as one in Christ."

Contact Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134 or [annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org) to explore some of the opportunities that will match your gifts and talents.



Youth ministry is a faith based group focused on achieving a personal relationship with God through service, music ministry and group activities.

Youth Ministry members have the opportunity to lead initiatives,

bring new ideas into the group, and build a strong foundation in faith to carry with them in discipleship as they enter into adulthood. This is a recent email from Stephanie, a past Youth Group member:

"Everything is going great with me. I've just been enjoying my time living in Cape Cod and working as a teacher. I go to church here and I sing in the choir. I am also in a community theater group so I still do drama, dancing and singing! Please give everyone at church my love. Lets keep in touch. [stephanie.polito@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanie.polito@yahoo.com) ." Stephanie Polito

To learn more about our Youth Group contact Kevin Cusack at [kcuse@mac.com](mailto:kcuse@mac.com).



### Spiritual Growth Ministry

"We turn to You, God who gives grace in unexpected places.

You teach us to look with expectation to all around us. As we learn to see through your eyes, we are less and less disappointed, and more and more grateful that your grace in us continues to prevail. for this we praise you and give You thanks." (Mariam Therese Winter)

### Lenten Faith Sharing Groups

Registration for the 6 week Lenten Faith Sharing Groups is taking place this weekend. Please sign up at the registration table in the Church Hall after Sunday Mass. If you attend the 4:00PM Mass on Saturday, please see Alan in the Sacristy after Mass. Groups are scheduled for Sunday @ 2:00 PM, Wednesday @ 7:15 PM and Friday @ 10:00 AM. Stop by the registration table and talk with people who are already participating in a Faith Sharing Group.

In each group, we read the upcoming Sunday Gospel and discuss different ideas from the Gospel and talk about how we can live the Gospel message in our daily life. Prayerfully consider participating. You will be giving God and yourself a great gift.

### Lenten Reflection Books

At all the entrances to the Church, you will find Reflection Books for Lent. Please take a copy and use the reflections from this small book to enhance your prayer time during the Holy Season of Lent. A special thank you to two very generous, anonymous donors. We are deeply grateful to you for your generosity to us as a Parish Community.



### Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

The Adorers of the Perpetual Adoration Chapel wish to thank Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for these favors:

1. Thank you prayers answered.
2. Thank you Lord for giving me a new day.



**Love. Grow. Serve.**