

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

March 12, 2017: Second Sunday of Lent

40 Brattle Street Worcester, MA 01606
Parish Office: 508-853-0183
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

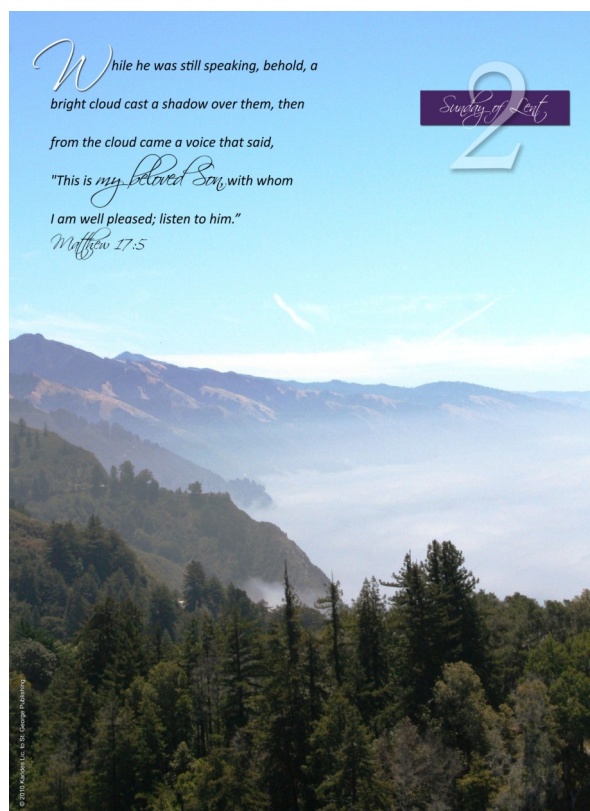
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach

annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 11

Joan Koppenal, Parish Secretary

stgeooffice@gmail.com Ext. 10

Fax 508-854-0864



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

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, March 12, 2017

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 11: Vigil

4:00 PM 25th Anniversary Richard Merrill Englehart
by the Englehart family

Sunday, March 12: Second Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM Anniversary Mass for Lena Barton
by her daughter

9:00 AM Memorial for Elaine Zona by the
Koppental family

11:00 AM 20th Anniversary for Joseph Carlo
by the Carlo family

Monday, March 13:

8:00AM In memory of Bernie & Philomenia Cournoyer

Tuesday, March 14:

8:00 AM For the Community of St. George

Wednesday, March 15:

8:00 AM In memory of Clara & Gunner Berglund

6:30 PM In memory of Mary Butler

Thursday, March 16:

8:00 AM Memorial for James Walsh by Ann Walsh

Friday, March 17:

8:00 AM In memory of Denis & Theresa Reen

Saturday, March 18: Vigil

4:00 PM Memorial for Nelson Boucher by his wife &
Al LeFrancois by family

Sunday, March 19: Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM Memorial for Helen Duclos by family

9:00 AM 9th Anniversary for Philip Neilan by family

11:00 AM 2nd Anniversary for Roger Hessel by family

1:00 PM Sacrament of Baptism

6:00 PM Confirmation Class Penance Service

Bulletin Deadlines

Weekend of

March 19

March 26

April 2

Due to parish

Wednesday, March 8

Wednesday, March 15

Wednesday, March 22

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

Altar Ministries

We are thankful to the Altar Servers and Ministers of Holy
Communion from TEAM D 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

Catholic Worker Bake Sale after all Masses

Saturday, March 11:

8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, March 12:

8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall

9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Rm

9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Confr Rm

9:00 AM Confirmation Mass & Meeting Church/Center

10:00 AM Men's Club Confr Rm

6:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 6-9 Hall/Center

Monday, March 13:

4:15 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 1-6 Center

5:45 PM Yoga Hall

7:00 PM Youth Music Ministry Choir Loft

7:00 PM Pieta Confr Rm

Tuesday, March 14:

10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Hall

4:15 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 1-6 Center

6:00 PM Weight Loss Group Center

7:00 PM Pastoral Council Confr Rm

Wednesday, March 15:

6:30 PM Daughters of Isabella Hall

7:15 PM Faith Sharing Group #1&2 Confr Rm/ Center

Thursday, March 16:

6:30 PM Family Prayer Church

Friday, March 17:

10:00 AM Faith Sharing Group Center

11:00 AM Grandparent Prayer Group Confr Rm

Saturday, March 18:

6:00 PM Irish Celebration Spectacular Hall

Sunday, March 19:

8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall

9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Rm

9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Confr Rm

6:00 AM Confirmation Penance Service Church

Scripture for the week of March 12, 2017

12 SUN Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

13 Mon Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38

14 Tue Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12

15 Wed Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28

16 Thu Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31

17 Fri Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

18 Sat Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

19 SUN Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42



Diocesan Daily Mass on TV

Daily Mass is LIVE each weekday morning on Charter
TV3 (Ch193), delay Broadcast on Shrewsbury TV28
at 4:30 pm and Clinton Cable TV8 at 4:30 pm.

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Weekend of March 5, 2017

Total Weekly Ordinary: \$5,806.00

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 are available at all exits.



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



Coffee Shop

March 19, 2017

Dave Walsh: 508-854-1332

All men and women are invited to join the St. George Coffee Shop Teams to serve once every 9 weeks. Contact Jim Sanford at 508-852-0293.



From Your Pastor

Next weekend we will be conducting our annual collection for the diocesan Partners in Charity appeal. We are joining with the other parishes in our diocese in making this appeal during the Lenten season. Many of you will have already received letters from both Bishop McManus and me about this appeal. In past years you have been very generous to this appeal, having exceeded our parish's goal. Our goal for this year is the same as it has been for the past two years - \$100,00. I am sure that we can have another successful year in meeting this year's appeal. As in the past, we would like to reach our goal by June 1st. Please be as generous as you can in helping to meet the needs of our Diocese of Worcester.

Once again, I am extending 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.

*Why not dedicate the first hour of your
families' work week to God?*

Fr. Niccolls

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784
Email : sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Emails

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

Religious Education Grades 6-9

Kevin Browne, Coordinator 508-450-2512
E-mail : kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org

Religious Ed for Grades 6-9 will have two classes this month:

Sunday, March 12th from 6:00-7:30

Sunday, March 26th from 6:00-7:30 (with a Pizza Social from 5:30-6:00)

Confirmation

Coordinators: Michael and Linda Ohl
stgconfirm13@gmail.com
(508) 735-4633

Candidates have completed three quarters of their classes in the preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. Upcoming events include:

March 12- 9 am mass & class 10-11:30

March 19- Penance Service at 6 pm

April 2- 11 am mass & rehearsal

May 7- Confirmation mass at 3 pm at
St. Paul's Cathedral

Dispensation from Abstinence on Friday, March 17

This year the Liturgical Memorial of St. Patrick, March 17, falls on a Friday of the Second Week of Lent, a day of abstinence. In light of the number of inquiries about my granting a dispensation from the requirement to refrain from eating meat on the Fridays of Lent, I am granting a diocesan-wide dispensation from the law of abstinence on Friday, March 17, 2017. I would ask the Catholic faithful who take advantage of this general dispensation to perform another act of penance on either the day before or after March 17, 2017.

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

"Bear your share of the hardship for the Gospel," St. Paul tells Timothy in today's second reading. What sacrifice is asked of me for the sake of the Gospel? How willing am I to bear my share?

Pietà

Is an ongoing support group for bereaved parents. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child is welcome to attend. The next meeting will be on March 13 at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room. Please join us.

This Lent – 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 for more information.

This Week...

Pray for the elderly of our community who feel lonely and forgotten. Thank you to the caring people of our parish will make time each week to visit them.

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Pastoral Council Update

Just a reminder that the Pastoral Council will be holding its next monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 14th at 7 PM in the Parish Center (2nd Floor). Our monthly meetings are open to all parishioners; separately, our meeting minutes will be posted on the parish website.

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.



St. Patrick's Day Raffle

As part of our St. Patrick's Celebration, there will be a raffle of gift baskets. Raffle tickets will be sold this weekend, March 11-12, 2017 and at the St. Patrick's Dinner, March 18, 2017.

You Do Not Have To Be Present In Order To Win

Daughters of Isabella

The Daughters of Isabella, Saint Katharine Drexel Circle, will meet on Wednesday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Some of the topics to be discussed are the St. Patrick's Day Parade and plans for the Spring Fling – our Ham and Bean Supper. This will be held at the Holy Family Church (St. Joseph's) on Hamilton Street. This event has been moved from October. Members are asked to bring empty baskets to this meeting if they have any extra ones. They will be used for drawings. Also, we are planning to sell solid chocolate crosses prior to Easter. They will be great for Easter baskets and First Communions.

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for March

During the month of March Pope Francis has asked that persecuted Christians may be supported by prayers and material help of the whole world.



Happy St. Patrick's Day



Women's Day of Spirituality

Please join us in our church hall for spiritual reflection and community on Saturday, March 25. Jaymie Stuart Wolfe, author, columnist, speaker and musician will be our presenter. Her topic will be "Crib, Cross and Crown: Moments With Jesus and Mary". Sign-in begins at 9:00 AM with coffee and pastry being offered. Jaymie's presentation will begin at 10:00 AM. Our gathering will conclude by 1:00 PM. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at the conclusion of the day. Luncheon is included with the \$15 offering. To register please call Joan Talbot @[508 853-0654](tel:5088530654) before Monday, March 20.

Baptism Preparation



The next Baptism Preparation sessions are:
May 21 and June 4, 2017

and

July 23 and July 30., 2017

Families 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.

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

Free Donut Tickets for Children's Liturgy

The Men's Club will be offering "Free Donut Tickets" to all participants to the "Children's Liturgy" during the 9:00 AM Mass *this* Sunday. The children will be given the tickets while at the Liturgy to be redeemed after Mass. Best Wishes to our young Catholics.

Saints Francis & Therese Catholic Worker Bake Sale March 11 & 12



Members of Saints Francis & Therese Catholic Worker will be here on the weekend of March 11 and 12, 2017 with our homemade baked goods.

The sale of our wholesome bread and muffins, made with organic ingredients, is the main source of income which supports our ministries.

We shelter homeless men and women, and we work for justice and peace. There is no set price for the bread as we prefer to depend on your generosity to carry on the works of mercy.

A Community of Ministries



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

Many Thanks for Warm Clothing and food

Many thanks to all of you who have made lovely warm scarves and hats for our neighbors in need! I am so proud to be part of a parish community that reaches out to the poor and homeless so generously!

Your food donations have helped to fill the shelves of the food pantry at the Mustard Seed. Each week the supplies thin out and our parish helps to give enough food to give out to the 30 families who come in great need. Our local "Loaves and Fishes" food pantry also share in the bounty of your generosity and kindness.

Next Mustard Seed Meal for 200 Guests

This meal is scheduled for Friday, March 17, 2017. To donate please contact Annie Doyle.

Lenten Food Drive

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

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.



Love. Grow. Serve.



I was like a stone lying in the deep mire;
and He that is mighty came, and in His
mercy lifted me up, and verily raised me
aloft and placed me on the top of the
wall.

... St. Patrick of Ireland

The Cross: God, there was a time when I imagined designing my own cross, choosing the time and place I would lift it to my shoulder, and carrying it about for all to see. There was a time when I had an exaggerated sense of control over myself and my life. I thought You were demanding nothing less than extraordinary heroics from me. I eventually realized that I didn't have that kind of control and that I don't have to go looking for crosses. I simply have to recognize them and face them as they come barging uninvited into my world each day. And so God, help me not to miss the importance of the cross in my life. Help me to truly understand that taking up my daily crosses in faithfulness to You marks me as a disciple of Your Son.



"First, you have to get their attention."

Grandparent Prayer Group Friday March 17, 11:00 to 11:45 am in the Conference Room in the church hall. More information contact Ruth Viens, Family Ministry Coordinator, [508-852-5658](tel:508-852-5658), ruthviens@charter.net.

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.

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March 12, 2017: Second Sunday of Lent

*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 Lent

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 to explore some of the opportunities that will match your gifts and talents.



Spiritual Growth Ministry

A Prayer For Lent

Do not look forward in fear to the changes in life;
rather, look to them with full hope that as they arise,
God, whose very own you are,
will lead you safely through all things;
and when you cannot stand it,
God will care you in His arms.
Do not fear what may happen tomorrow;
the same understanding Father who cares for
you today will take care of you then and every day.
He will either shield you from suffering
or give you unfailing strength to bear it.
Be at peace.
and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.
Amen. (St. Francis DeSales)

Pastoral Council Update

As a result of the Pastoral Council's recent day long planning retreat, we will be initiating some new initiatives for the upcoming year in order to facilitate communication between parishioners and the Council. On the first Sunday of each month, members of the Pastoral Council will be available in the coffee shop after each mass to discuss current happenings and thoughts for our Parish. For those attending the Saturday mass, we plan to hold a similar event starting on March 4th (other Saturday event dates to be determined). We look forward to meeting you! Separately, feel free to reach out to any Pastoral Council member at any time (members listed on the parish website) with questions or ideas. Our monthly meetings are open to all parishioners and are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM in the Parish Center (2nd Floor). Be sure to check the parish website for posting of our monthly meeting minutes.

SAVE THE DATE

Lenten Evening Of Prayer And Reflection
Tuesday, April 4, 7:00 - 8:30 PM in the Church

During this time, you will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

JUST A REMINDER

LENTEN SCHEDULE FOR CONFESSION:

TUESDAY: 7:00 -7:30 PM

SATURDAY: 3:00 - 3:30 AND 5:00 - 5:30PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

FRIDAY, 6:30 PM in the CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY: 3:00 PM in the CHURCH

World Wide Marriage Encounter

"So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Encourage the Holy Spirit to perfect your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are March 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI and April 22-23, 2017 in Brewster, MA. For more information, call Stephen and Michelle O'Leary at [800 - 710 - 9963](tel:800-710-9963) or visit us at WWMEMA.org.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration



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

1. Thank you God my good health.
2. Thank you Lord for everything you have provided.