

**Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden**  
**February 2, 2020: The Presentation of the Lord**

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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 3:00PM  
Thursday 9AM to 12 noon, Closed on Fridays

**Parish Staff:**

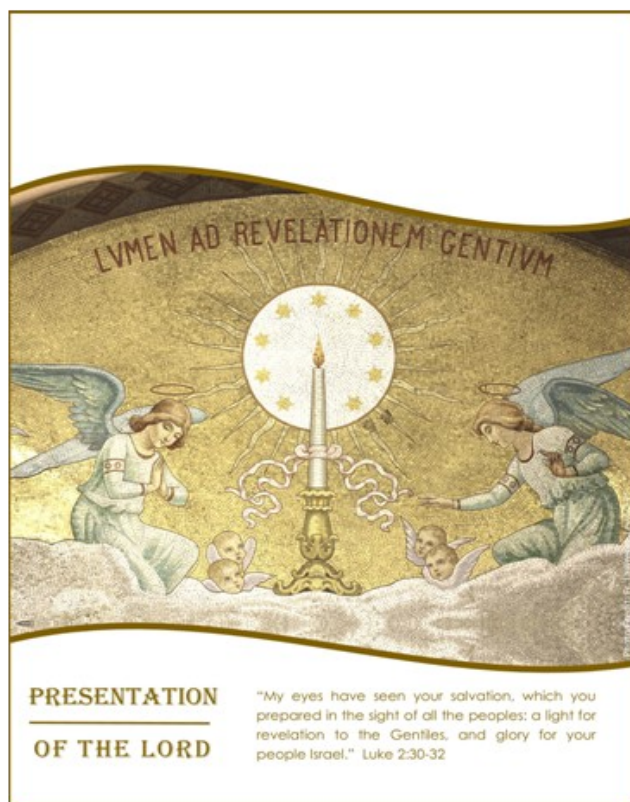
*It is our privilege to serve you.*

Rev. Edward D. Niccolls, Pastor Ext. 12  
Rev. Joseph M. Nally, Senior Priest Ext. 24  
Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 13

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach  
[annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 11

Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary  
[office@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 10  
Fax 508-854-0864

Online Giving: Kathy Hessel at:  
[mkhessel@aol.com](mailto:mkhessel@aol.com)



## *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, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 AM  
Wednesday: 6:30 PM

**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 2, 2020*

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**Mass Intentions**



**Saturday, February 1, Vigil** Blessing of the Throats  
 4:00 PM Memorial Mass for John Callan req. by family

**Sunday, February 2, Presentation of the Lord**  
 7:30 Memorial Mass for Mary Kent req. by Bob and Linda Mulhearn  
 9:00 AM Memorial Mass for Irene Cariglia req. by family  
 11:00 AM Memorial Mass for Mark Cannell req. by Jim Sanford

**Monday, February 3: Saint Blaise**  
 8:00 AM In Memory of Pasquale & Barbara Quitadamo

**Tuesday, February 4:**  
 8:00 AM Memorial Mass for Rev. Jeddie Brooks req. by Liz Woods

**Wednesday, February 5: Saint Agatha**  
 6:30 PM In Memory of Donald & Bernadette Boyce

**Thursday, February 6: Saint Paul Miki and Companions**  
 8:00 AM Memory of Katherine & Marion Gallagher

**Friday, February 7:**  
 8:00 AM 4th Anniversary Mass for James Purcell req. by his wife Joyce

**Saturday, February 8: Vigil**  
 4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Carol Mea ( Casey ) Feeley req. by family

**Sunday, February 9:**  
 7:30 AM Memorial Mass for Sue Charbonnea Beane req. by family  
 9:00 AM In Memory of Joseph Swiedals req. by Murphy Family  
 11:00 AM One Month Minds Mass for Lorraine Vayo req. by Margaret Lohman

**Total Weekly Ordinary  
 Collection Weekend January 26, 2020:**

On line giving: \$ 1,417.00  
 Ordinary Collection: \$ 6,121.60



Your generosity helps us to continue to be a vibrant parish community worshipping our Risen Lord and reaching out to our neighbors in need.

**Thank you for your support!**

**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.



**Parish Calendar**



**Saturday, February 1:**  
 8:00 PM AA Hall

**Sunday, February 2:**  
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall  
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Room  
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Conf. Room

**Monday, February 3:**  
 4:15 PM Religious Ed., Gr. 1-5 Center  
 5:45 PM Yoga Church Hall  
 7:00 PM Bible Study Church Hall

**Tuesday, February 4:**  
 4:15 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 1-5 Center

**Wednesday, February 5:**  
 5:30 PM Liturgy Committee Mtg. Parish Center  
 7:00 PM Faith Sharing Group Conf. Room

**Thursday, February 6:**  
 6:30 PM Day of Spirituality Mtg. Conf. Room  
 6:30 PM Family Prayer Church

**Friday, February 7:**

**Saturday, February 8:**  
 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Pastoral Council Retreat  
 8:00 PM AA Hall

**Sunday, February 9:**  
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall  
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Room  
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Conf. Room

**MEN'S CLUB MEETING**



The monthly Men's Club meeting will be held *NEXT* Sunday, February 9th, in the Conference Room after the 9:00 AM Mass. Men's Club members and parish staff are welcome to attend. The coffee is on us!!!

**Please Join Us!**

Join us downstairs in the Church Hall after Sunday Mass for coffee, and donuts as well as to enjoy being part of the parish community.

Coffee Shop Captain February 9  
 Steve Toole  
 508-856-7443



All men and women are invited to join one of the St. George Coffee Shop Teams to serve once every 9 weeks. Please contact John Beahn 508-852-3115 for more information. All are welcome!

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*Letter from Bishop McManus*

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Many dioceses here in the United States face challenges due to priest shortages, lack of funds, remote geography, or impoverished parishes. The **Catholic Home Missions Appeal** supports these dioceses that struggle to make ends meet and to serve the many needs of their parishioners. Home mission dioceses are those dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services to Catholics without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass and the other sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and lay people. Right now, over 40% of dioceses are considered home mission. Thanks to your generosity, these dioceses were assisted with nearly \$10 million in assistance in 2019.

American Samoa, an archipelago of seven islands in the South Pacific and the only United States territory south of the equator, is located over 500 miles closer to New Zealand than it is to Hawaii. Over 97% of the territory's population lives on the largest Island, Tutuila, leaving the small number of residents in the outlying Manu'a islands to be served by one catechist and one priest, who visits monthly to celebrate Mass and to bring sacraments to the faithful. Despite these limited resources, the residents of Manu'a are growing in faith, with more becoming interested in being baptized and welcomed into the Church.

Your generosity has helped sustain this invaluable ministry to the faithful in the isolated environment of the Diocese of Samoa-Pago Pago. By supporting the Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA), you continue a tradition of support for mission dioceses in the United States dating back to 1924.

I encourage you to be generous on the weekend of **February 2** to help strengthen the Church at home. Your support will truly make a difference. For more information, please visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus



*From Your Pastor*

The Blessing of Throats will take place after all Masses this weekend, February 1-2.

Today we celebrate the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. This feast may seem to us to be out of context with the time of the year that we observe in our liturgical calendar since we are already two weeks into what we refer to as Ordinary Time. However, according to the Law of Moses, in Jesus' time a male child had to be presented in the temple for a purification rite 40 days after birth, and today is 40 days, inclusive, after Christmas. An appropriate offering of either a one-year old lamb if a family could afford it or two turtle doves or young pigeons if they could not, was made at the time of this ritual. Its symbolism should not be lost on us for in bringing Jesus to the Temple, his parents are giving back the very gift that God has given to them. This gesture of whole-hearted thanksgiving to God becomes the pattern of salvation and the way of all Christian living. While we Christians are no longer dedicated according to the Law of Moses, we are presented at Baptism, by name, and through the grace of this sacrament are conformed to the very identity and sacrifice that Jesus ultimately made for us. The life that God has given to us is therefore best lived (*offered up*) by our own loving, thankful and obedient service to God.

This Monday evening, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will hold another session of our Bible Study, entitled Sip, Snack and Scripture. This Bible Study will take place in the church hall from 7:00 – 8:30 P.M. On that night we will focus on the theme of the temptations of Jesus in the desert as told in the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke. All are welcome to attend.

Within four weeks we will be entering the season of Lent, and soon our Lenten brochure should be arriving at your home. All Lenten information as well as the liturgies and services for Holy Week and Easter will be included in that brochure.

*Fr. Niccolls*



**Second Collection**

This weekend, a special collection will be taken up at all Masses for the

**Catholic Home Missions Appeal.**

*Thank you*

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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)

**Important Dates for First Reconciliation  
and First Communion**

1st Holy Communion Retreat & Potluck  
Dinner-

Saturday, March 28, 2020, 2:30-6:00 P.M.

Rehearsals- April 28 & 29, 2020 4:15-5:15 P.M.

Mass- Sunday, May 2, 2020 10:00 A.M.



**Bulletin Item Due Dates**

February 9, 2020

Monday, February 3

February 16, 2020

Monday, February 9

February 23, 2020

Monday, February 17

Please submit items by 10:00 AM on the due date.  
email to our parish Secretary at:  
[office@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org)

*Free Donut Chips*

Free Donut Chips to our  
youngest parishioners  
next weekend February 9th!



**Scripture for the week of January 26, 2020**

26	SUN	Is 8:23—9:3/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17
27	Mon	2 Sm 5:1-7,10/Mk 3:22-30
28	Tue	2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Mk 3:31-35
29	Wed	2 Sm 7:4-17/Mk 4:1-20
30	Thu	2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Mk 4:21-25
31	Fri	2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Mk 4:26-34
1	Sat	2 Sm 12:1-7a,10-17/Mk 4:35-41

**Attention Parents of Young Children**

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



**PIETA**

Pieta 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: Monday, February 10th at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room. Please join us.



**A Thank You Note**

This Amaryllis plant was sent to our parish by Sr. Lucy "as a Thank You Note" for the Giving Tree gifts that we shared with the needy folks who Sr. Lucy ministers to.

Sr. Lucy is a Xaverian Sister who said that this plant was like "a parable of the St. George Giving Tree". With care and light it reached out and grew from an ugly lifeless brown bulb into a beautiful flower.



Likewise, our community Giving Tree blossoms and gives "precious gifts to many people." This lovely "thank you" gift continues to reach out to the sun in our church hall Conference Room.

**"Just One Thing"**

**Mass  
Notes**

Our lives can be filled with so much! Yet God is present and speaks to us always, especially at Mass. We hear it sometimes, but at times the clutter of life can cause us to miss it or forget.

When you join us for Mass - listen and pray for JUST ONE THING. Ask God to help you hear JUST ONE THING: one word or idea, one challenge or invitation. Jot it down - Pencils and "Mass Notes" paper are at each church entrance.

Hold this ONE THING in your mind and heart during the next week. Pray and trust. God's love for you will grow this "ONE THING" within you into what it is meant to be.



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*Eucharist and Prayers for the Sick*



Please: Call to let us know if a family member or neighbor is hospitalized, home bound 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.

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**Year-End Donation Information**

Many thanks for your wonderful and continuing generosity to our parish. Please be advised that all contributions, made via Weekly Offering Envelopes, received by December 31, 2019, have been sent to the parish envelope company to be credited to calendar year 2019. End of year statements will be mailed from the envelope company by January 31, 2020.

All gifts received the weekend of Jan.1 forward will be credited to calendar year 2020.

If you contribute to the parish via "On line Giving" a statement of your contributions may be printed off on line.

If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 508-853-0183 or [office@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org) and we will be happy to assist you.

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**Legacy of Hope  
Campaign Update**

We are just over 65% of our goal for the Legacy of Hope Campaign. Thank you to everyone who has given to date! We will be collecting pledges through the month of January, so if you have yet to participate, please take one of the pledge envelopes in the pews home with you today. You can mail your pledge in that envelope or put the envelope in the collection basket at Mass next weekend.

Remember St. George will receive 40% of the Funds we raise for the Campaign. Thank you!



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*From Father Nally:*

**ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE:  
JANUARY 2020**

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373 designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.**"

As individuals, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or almsgiving. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides resources to help parishes, schools, families, ministries, and individual Catholics participate in this important day of prayer and penance.

In addition, the USCCB also sponsors an annual nationwide novena called "**9 Days for Life,**" which surrounds the liturgical observance of the Day of Prayer. Each day for nine days, a different intention is featured, accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions, and related information as we pray for the respect and protection of every human life. In 2020, the novena is took place **Tuesday, January 21 - Wednesday, January 29.**

A sample timeline and activity, homily helps, announcements, and more are provided to help you get started. You are encouraged to adapt these resources as needed to fit your specific parish, school, or ministry.

**Free downloads and additional resources can be found at [respectlifeprogram.org/january](http://respectlifeprogram.org/january).**

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*A Community of Ministries*



**St. George  
Parish Outreach**

Ann Doyle 508-853-0183  
Ext. 11  
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

Thank You for  
"Having a Heart"  
for our neighbors in need !



These cold mid winter days are an ongoing challenge for homeless folks trying to live in cars, on porches or in other slightly protected areas. I have spoken to some who are even trying to live outdoors in tents.

Every night at the Mustard Seed I hear requests for sleeping bags, warm clothing and blankets. Thanks to your generosity we are able to pass your donations on to them. Sadly the storage shelves are nearly empty now and I bring every item I find in our Outreach Collection Area down to Piedmont Street as often as possible.

I have posted some of the current needs for our neighbors at the Mustard Seed and the Interfaith Hospitality Network at each exit of the church. If you are able, please choose a ticket to help fill a need.

I also ask for your prayers. The struggles of our neighbors in need are very complex. Only God's grace can untangle the troubles, illnesses and anxieties that fill their lives.

Gratefully yours,  
Annie Doyle

P.S.-Gently used boots are a special need.

Thank you for the non-perishable food items that you provide for so many families every week!

**THE FAMILY CONNECTION**

You must try to bring the presence of God to your families. I think that just being together and loving one another brings peace and joy and strengthens the bond between family members in the home. That is the way to overcome all the evil that is in the world.

*Mother Teresa*



**"I'LL BET GOLIATH IS TAKING HIS VITAMINS."**

**Blessing of Throats - St. Blaise**  
**This weekend February 1st and 2nd**

Saint Blaise was the bishop in Armenia during the fourth century. Very little is known about his life. According to various accounts he was a physician before becoming a bishop. He was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy who nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. From the eighth century he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat. During the Blessing of Throats, the following words are said: "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

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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.*



**You Can Help to  
Prevent Homelessness  
after Mass today**

We invite you to use "Hope for Housing cards" to buy your weekly groceries or prescriptions. You receive the full face value of the card in the amount you choose. The stores donate up to 5% of that amount to "Hope for Housing" to assist children with families in crisis. See Dave and Sue Genereux who are in the Church Hall after every Mass. Contact them at 508-829-5776 or email [WaysideATQ@aol.com](mailto:WaysideATQ@aol.com) for more information.

**St. George's "Food Donation Team"**

For information on bargains and/or to join the team,  
just email Dave at

[DavewithFDT@gmail.com](mailto:DavewithFDT@gmail.com)

Special Needs for February are:  
Cereal, canned tuna and peanut butter.

Lenten Parish Mission 2020

Valentine's Giving Tree  
Weekends 2/1 & 2/8

*Please help our Lenten Parish Mission 2020.*

*Take a Tag off the Giving Tree  
and Return the Tag and Donations  
by the weekend 2/15.*

*Items can be returned to the Church at the  
Valentine's Giving Tree or the Registration Table in  
the Church Hall.*

*Questions, Contact Andrea 508-330-0267*

**The Faith Sharing Group Meets  
Every Wednesday at 7pm  
Church Hall Conference Room**

We now have **NEW OPENINGS** for more people who  
would like to attend the Wednesday Evening Faith  
Sharing Group.

You don't have to attend every week  
No need to RSVP  
Facilitator: Ann Walsh

For More Information/Questions  
Contact JoAnn Nally at 508-527-6973



**Spiritual Growth Ministry**

Ministry Contact: JoAnn Nally  
508-527-6973



**Lenten Faith Sharing Groups:**

New groups start: Week of February 24<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday: 7:15 – 8:00 PM Conference Room  
Thursday: 10:00-11:15 AM Home Group  
Friday: 10:00 – 11:15 AM Parish Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
\*\*Saturday: 8:00 – 9:00 AM – Church Hall  
\*\*( Men's Group with Fr. Nally)

Please stop by the Registration Table in the Church  
Hall

to register or get additional information or  
to purchase a new Insight Reflection Book (\$12)

If you have questions, please talk with  
one of the Priests or call

Joyce ( 508-852-3304) or JoAnn ( 508-527-6973 )



**St. George Church**

Lenten Parish Mission  
March 7-9, 2020

Presenter: Rev. John Predmore, S.J.  
Topic: "GOD, WE ARE ALL EARS!"

Developing Greater Awareness of God's Presence in  
our Daily Lives

Day and Evening Events  
Encompassing All Age Groups

Information table, detailed brochures and registration,  
Weekends: January 11-12, and 18-19, 2020  
Please Call Joanne ( 508-527-6973)  
or Andrea ( 508-330-0267) for additional information.