

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

September 24, 2017: Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

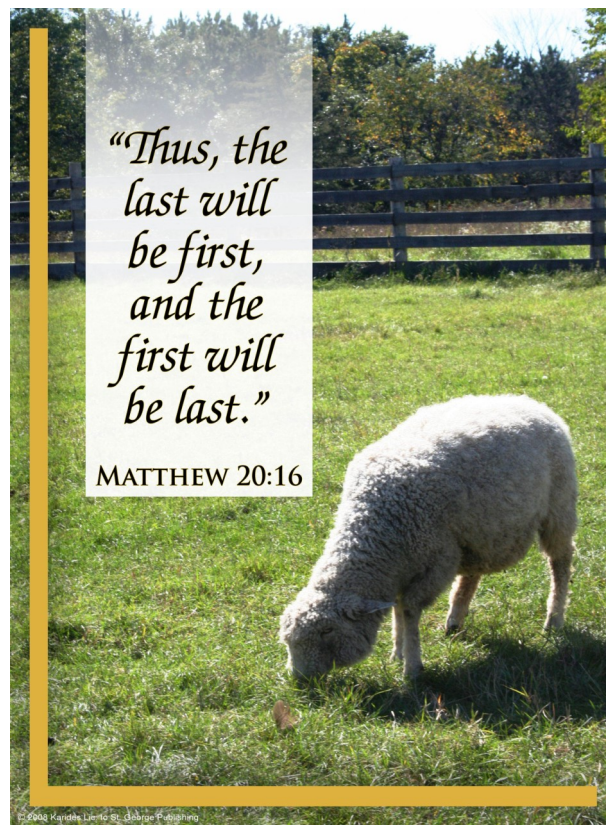
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach

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:

First Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM - Chapel

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, September 24, 2017

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 23: Vigil

4:00 PM Memorial for Barbara Welch by
Virginia Keith

Sunday, September 24: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Memorial for James McDonald by
Paul Slukis
9:00 AM Memorial for Robert Mendonsa by family
11:00 AM Memorial for Barbara Welch by the
Robert Pike family

Monday, September 25:

8:00 AM Birthday Remembrance for William Horan
by family

Tuesday, September 26: Sts. Cosmas & Damian

8:00 AM For those affected by the hurricanes

Wednesday, September 27: St. Vincent de Paul

8:00 AM Memorial for Kathleen E. Sampson by her
niece

Thursday, September 28: St. Wenceslaus

8:00 AM Birthday Remembrance by Kathy Dausch
by Patty LaHair

Friday, September 29: Sts. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael

8:00 AM Birthday Remembrance for Brett Kachura
By Sarah & Charlie Caliri

Saturday, September 30: Vigil

4:00 PM 1st Anniversary for Marty Forhan by his
wife & family

Sunday, October 1: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM For the Community of St. George
9:00 AM Memorial for Marcel & Rosemary Mathias
by family
11:00 AM Memorial for Virginia Johnson by the Pike
family

Bulletin Deadlines

Weekend of

Due to parish

October 8	Wednesday, Sept. 27
October 15	Wednesday, Oct. 4
October 22	Wednesday, Oct. 11

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

Saturday, September 23:

5:15 PM Spiritual Growth Ministry Meeting Confr Rm
8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, September 24:

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

Monday, September 25:

4:15 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 1-6 Center
5:45 PM Yoga Hall

Tuesday, September 26:

10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting Hall
4:15 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 1-6 Center

6:30 PM Women's Day of Spirituality Planning
Meeting Confr Rm

Wednesday, September 27:

7:00 PM Faith Sharing Group Confr Rm

Thursday, September 28:

6:30 PM Family Prayer Church

Friday, September 29:

10:00 AM Faith Sharing Group Center

Saturday, September 30:

10:00 PM Blessing of the Animals Parking Lot
8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, October 1:

8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall
9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Rm
9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Confr Rm

Scripture for the week of September 24, 2017

24	SUN	Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a
25	Mon	Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18
26	Tue	Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21
27	Wed	Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6
28	Thu	Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9
29	Fri	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Jn 1:47-51
30	Sat	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45
1	SUN	Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32
2		



Second Collection

This weekend, there will be a Second Collection after
all Masses for the Annual Catholic Schools Appeal.

Next weekend, there will be a Second Collection for
the Hurricane Relief to assist those in Florida and
the Caribbean suffering from the devastation of Hurri-
cane Irma. Please see Bishop McManus' letter on
page 5.

Thank you for your generosity.

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Weekend of September 17, 2017

Total Weekly Ordinary: \$6,044.25

Thank you for your support!



From Your Pastor

Help Save The Parish Money

Thank you for your generous weekly contributions which help keep our parish vibrant and growing. Please be aware the envelope company charges the parish an additional .25 cents per donation if your contribution is not enclosed in the Offering Envelope. Using your envelopes saves the parish a considerable amount at the end of the year. Thank you for helping us in this effort. An additional thank you to all our "Online Givers".



Blessing of the Animals
Saturday, September 30
10:00 to 11:00 AM



All are invited to the St. Francis of Assisi Celebration. Come with your pets or without animals to celebrate all creatures of the earth. Gathering will take place at the St. Francis Peace Pole... Rain or Shine.



Coffee Shop Captain

October 1, 2017
Don Viens: 508-852-5658

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

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "I am free to do as I please with my money, am I not?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

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.

Like last year, you will also notice that over the next several weeks there will be additional altar servers in the sanctuary. These additional servers are in training to serve at our weekend Masses. They will be formally installed as altar servers on the weekend of October 21/22.

On Sunday, November 26th, the Solemnity of Christ the King, Bishop McManus will be here to celebrate the 11:00 A.M. Mass and bless our new organ and music ministry space here in our church.

Fr. Niccolls

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.

Bereavement Support Group Our Lady of Good Counsel

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish will hold a six-session bereavement support group beginning, Monday, October 16th 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) please call Renate Isbell at (508) 835-3286.

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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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

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

Religious Education Classes have Begun

Many thanks to our dedicated teachers who are sharing their time and talents to help pass our Catholic faith on to our youngest parishioners. In today's busy world it is especially inspirational that so many of our young and busy families are actively living their faith in thanksgiving to our loving and generous God.

Religious Education Grades 6-9

Upper Grade Religious Education classes have begun! We meet in the Church Hall from 6:00-7:30 PM for pizza, prayer, music, fun games, and a chance to get to know your teachers and one another. Our second meeting will be today...Sunday, September 24th from 6:00-7:30 PM.

Toddler & Children's Liturgy of the Word

Toddlers and young children are invited to hear the Readings and Gospel in an age appropriate way during the 9:00 AM Mass. Please join us!



Welcome back from summer vacations!

UMass Cancer Walk - Karina's Crew

The Lubowicki family invites you to join the UMass Cancer Walk on Sunday, September 24th. We walk in honor of Karina's battle with brain cancer that began six years ago, and to raise funds for research and treatment for other cancer patients. To join our team, or make a donation, please go to:

<https://www.firstgiving.com/team/353547>

Thank you for your prayers and support!!



Why a "Community of Ministries"?

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 humility and unity, that we hope to continue to grow "as one" in Christ.



Have you ever considered the idea of becoming Catholic or receiving the Sacraments of Holy Communion, Confirmation and/or Marriage ? Do you have a friend, neighbor, or relative who might be curious about the Catholic faith?

Our priests are happy to speak with anyone who is interested in exploring this thought
or feel free to contact

Annie Doyle at 508-853-0183 x11
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org with any questions.

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End of Life Conference

End-Of Life Conference in Worcester Converging Roads, a medical ethics conference on end-of-life issues, will take place on **Monday, October 23** at Assumption College, 500 Salisbury St., Worcester. Converging Roads is an initiative of the St. John Paul II Foundation and presented in collaboration with the Diocese of Worcester and the Massachusetts Catholic Conference. Presentations on many aspects of end-of-life care and decision-making will be given by nationally recognized speakers and experts, including Bishop Robert J. McManus, Dr. William Toffler, Dr. Marie Hilliard, and more. Continuing education credits for health care professionals are available. To learn more, and to register, visit www.convergingroads.com/wma17



Baptism Preparation

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. Dates for upcoming classes are October 22, February 4 (snow date make up class March 4), and May 20, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Conference Room.



Eucharistic Adoration

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

1. Thank you Lord for all you do for us. May our new addition be healthy & strong.
2. Thank you God for answering my prayers.

All are invited to Eucharist Adoration between 4:00 AM and 9:00 PM every day. Come and spend time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and feel the peace of His presence.

JHC Hospice Care Volunteers

JHC Hospice Care, serving Worcester and surrounding towns, currently seeks those who like to meet & connect with others, enhancing their lives & those of their loved ones. Volunteer to make weekly patient visits base on your own availability.

On-going Hospice Team support with initial Volunteer training begins in October. For more details call Harriett Katz (supervisor of volunteers) 508 -713 - 0564 or email harriettk@jhchospice.com. Check the volunteer link on our website jhchospice.com.

A Letter from Bishop McManus

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we watched Hurricane Harvey ravage the communities on the Gulf Coast, who could have imagined that Hurricane Irma would be immediately on its heels with one of the worst storms in history bringing devastation to so much of the Caribbean and parts of Florida. The scenes coming to us in the media in recent days are somber and our hearts go out to so many people whose lives, whose homes, and whose livelihoods have been crushed by this disaster.

Once again, we are called to respond. I ask that we join with Catholic Dioceses around our nation in taking up a second collection for relief work in the Caribbean and Florida. Given that we have already scheduled the annual Catholic School Appeal on September 24, I ask that we prepare for a **Relief Collection at all Masses on September 30 and October 1**. We will also provide for an online donation form on our website at worcesterdioocese.org which can be used at any time.

Since my arrival in the Diocese of Worcester, I have on many occasions commented on the wonderful generosity of the people of our Diocese. I pray that our continued sense of gratitude for the gifts God has bestowed on us will encourage us to help our brother and sisters in this time of need. Thank you for your assistance and may God continue to bless you and your families.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

Taize Prayer at Assumption College

Taize Prayer, a service of song, silence and contemplation, is celebrated on the **Second Friday of every Month at 8 pm** at the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Assumption College, 500 Salisbury St., Worcester. For more information please call 508-791-0808.

Before Mass talk to God...

During Mass let God talk to you...

After Mass talk about God to everyone...



A Community of Ministries



PARISH OUTREACH

Annie Doyle - 508-853-0183
Ext. 11

Office hours Mon-Tue-Wed 9-5
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Gimme, gimme, gimme - I want it ALL. Buy one, get one free. Charge now, pay when they catch you. Get your fair share-you have a right to it. When did those become the new commandments, Lord? I don't remember your mentioning them. I remember something about being your brother's keeper, learning from the lilies of the field. When did children decide the world owed them the good life? When did they start expecting everything for nothing? Why do they think they should get it ALL – not as a reward for hard work, but as a RIGHT? We both know when and why, Lord. They have been taught this by the media, world leaders, and the adults they see in their everyday life. Thankfully ALL kids do not expect ALL. Some are still being taught about your love and commandments, about integrity and honor, about the value of hard work and high morals. Help us, Lord, to change that "some" to "most". Help us have the courage, Lord, to speak up and speak out, to demand greater integrity from our leaders—and from ourselves. ([Painting Rainbows With Broken Crayons](#) by Bernadette McCarver Snyder; Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame IN)

Dear Friends,

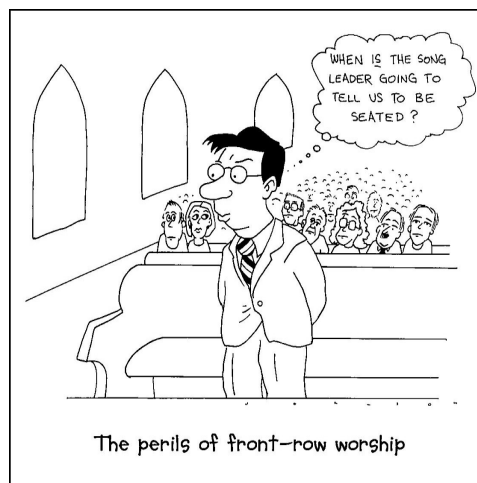
For the past few weeks I have been away in Ireland. I originally went for a brief visit with an old friend but ended up extending my stay due to a health issue. I have returned healthy and delighted that my friend and I were able to spend a good amount of time together and I had a little extra time for reflection.

As many of you know, over 40 years ago I was a nurse in a rural mission hospital in Sierra Leone, West Africa. During those years, my Irish friend was a Holy Rosary Sister and the doctor in charge of that hospital. Since then, Sr. Hilary and I have stayed in touch and gotten together quite often despite the miles between us. During this visit there were many opportunities to reminisce and reflect on the experience of service together. Ironically, my cell phone continued to be connected to our current Confirmation Candidates here at St. George's and I received many emails with their reflections on the summer service they recently experienced. Unexpectedly, I began to see a connection between the community work which, for me, began long ago in Africa and the community work I am currently involved in here. Teaching young mothers to prevent malnutrition in an African village is not that different from making and sharing healthy meals with the families at the June Street shelter. Lately I have been working on plans to upgrade the lavatories at the Mustard Seed; in Africa I was working with villagers to dig pit latrines! In Africa I'd learn and pray with the people and here with you, I am still learning and praying!

So with time to reflect and count many blessings, I am in awe of the gift of service and the privilege of being able to continue it for many years, in many ways, and in many places. I have always received so much more than I am able to give and learn so more than I am able to teach.

Through it all, good friends have traveled this journey with me and I am so very grateful. As companions on this journey, I look forward to new adventures with you this year!

Peace and Joy,
Annie Doyle



Prayer Shawl Ministry

New members are invited to join this important ministry of outreach to the sick and suffering. You might want to knit or crochet – here at our bimonthly meetings or at home. Please call Annie Doyle at the Rectory for more information 508-853-0183.

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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.*

Faith Into Action Ministry

Faith Into Action Ministry continues to work to prevent family homelessness every weekend!



Please visit the home page of our parish website to see the inspiring story of our parishioner Matt Ryan who began the "Hope for Housing" project! We invite you to begin today to join this effort. Use "Hope for Housing Cards" to buy your weekly groceries or prescriptions at CVS. Give a Dunkin Donut or Panera Bread Gift Card as a birthday gift to a friend.

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.

See Sue or Dave Genereux after Mass or contact them at 508-829-5776 or email Way-sideATQ@aol.com for more information. They are happy to explain more about how "Hope for Housing Cards" help families on the brink of homelessness.



We invite you to consider joining us to promote a heightened awareness and support for Catholic Church teachings as related to social justice, non-violence, dignity of life and caring for creation issues within our parish and the world. Join us in action:

- Consider buying a "Hope for Housing Card" in the church hall after Mass. See Dave and Sue
- Support poor farmers worldwide by buying "Fair Trade" coffee in our Coffee Shop
- Read about Catholic Social Teaching by taking home a theme card from the table in the back of the church hall
- Contact us if you are interested in joining our ministry. Our next meeting is August 30.

Contact Joyce Purcell for details:
jap64us@gmail.com or 508-852-3304



Spiritual Growth Ministry

Did I...

Did I offer peace today?
Did I bring a smile to someone's face?
Did I say words of healing?
Did I let go of my anger and resentment?
Did I forgive?
Did I love?

These are the real questions.
I must trust that the little bit of love that
I sow now will be many fruits,
Here in this world and in the life to come.

(Henri Nouwen)

Young Women's Evening of Gathering and Reflection

Thursday, October 5, 2017
6:00 - 9:00 PM - Church Hall

Registration Forms are available online, at the Religious Ed. Office, or in the Church Hall after the 9:00 AM Mass.

\$5.00- Registration Fee Requested
Deadline for Registration Sunday, October 1st

Faith Sharing Groups

There is still time to participate in a Faith Sharing Group

For more information, please speak with
Fr. Nicolls, Fr. Charles,
JoAnn Nally or Joyce Purcell
Groups Meet on
Wednesday: 7:00- 8:15 PM or
Friday: 10:00- 11:15 AM



Parish
Pastoral
Council

"Meet the Members"

Members of the Pastoral Council will be available after all masses the weekend of September 30th and October 1st. Please stop by to find out who we are, what we do, and to share any comments or suggestions on our Parish.