

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

December 30, 2018: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

40 Brattle Street Worcester, MA 01606

Parish Office: 508-853-0183

www.saintgeorgesparish.org

Office Hours:

Monday till Thursday 9:00AM to 3:00PM

Closed on Fridays

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

Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 13

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach

annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 11

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, 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, December 30, 2018

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 29: Vigil

4:00 PM 50th Anniversary of the Indian Hill Fire Tragedy

Sunday, December 30: Feast of The Holy Family

7:30 AM Memorial for Dorothy Groden by the Duclos family

9:00 AM Memorial for Francis X. Naughton Jr. by family

11:00 AM Memorial for Sebastiana Gomes by Judy and Jim Pickett

Monday, December 31: St. Sylvester

8:00 AM For the Community of St. George

Tuesday, January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:00 AM 35th anniversary for George Anderson by wife and family

10:00 AM Memorial for Kathleen P. Foley by family

Wednesday, January 2: Sts. Basil & Gregory

6:30 PM For the community of St. George

Thursday, January 3: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:00 AM In memory of Robert & Rosalie Corcoran

Friday, January 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:00 AM In memory of Paul Ziegler

Saturday, January 5: St. John Neumann

4:00 PM Memorial for Robert & Cheri LaPan by family

Sunday, January 6: The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 AM Memorial for Gerald Duclos by family

9:00 AM Special Intention

11:00 AM Memorial for Sebastiana Gomes by Judy & Jim Pickett

Altar Ministries

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

Second Collection

Next weekend, a special collection will be taken up at all Masses for the **Catholic University of America**.

Please see the Bishops letter on page 5.

Bulletin Deadlines

Weekend of

Due to parish

January 13, 2019

Wednesday, December 26

January 20, 2019

Wednesday, January 9

January 27, 2019

Wednesday, January 16

Items must be submitted by 3:00 PM on the due date.

Email items to stgeooffice@gmail.com, or fax to the rectory.

Parish Calendar

Saturday, December 29:

8:00 PM AA

Hall

Sunday, December 30:

Rectory Open House

Monday, December 31:

No Yoga

Tuesday, January 1:

Wednesday, January 2:

7:00 PM Faith Sharing Group

Conf Rm

Thursday, January 3:

6:30 PM Family Prayer

Church

Friday, January 4:

10:00 AM Faith Sharing Group

2nd Fl Ctr

Saturday, January 5:

10:00 AM Directors Rel Ed Mtg

Hall

8:00 PM AA

Hall

Sunday, January 6:

8:00 AM Coffee Shop

Hall

9:00 AM Children's Liturgy

St. George Rm

9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy

Conf Rm

9:00 AM Confirmation Mass & Mtg

Church/ Ctr

4:00 PM Rel Ed gr 6-9

Hall / Ctr

St. George Rectory Open House

All are invited to the parish rectory on

This Sunday, December 30, 2018

After all Sunday Masses

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

Refreshments will be provided

Daily Scripture Readings

Daily Scripture Readings are available at the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops Web site: <http://usccb.org/>



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 *next* Sunday. The children will be given the tickets while at the Liturgy to be redeemed after Mass. Best Wishes to our young Catholics.



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**Weekend of
December 16, 2018**

Total Weekly Ordinary: \$8754.26

Thank you for your support! Your generosity helps us to continue to be a caring and vibrant community!

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for December

In the Service of the Transmission of Faith, that people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

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...

On this Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, let us pray together for all families throughout the world, that they may begin this New Year in PEACE and JOY.

Holy Hour for Priests

On Friday, January 11, 2019, a holy hour to pray for priests will take place from 7 to 8 pm at Immaculate Conception. This holy hour will consist of adoration, a short reflection, the rosary, silent prayer and benediction. This holy hour will be held on the second Friday of each month.

Online giving is one method of making your financial contributions to St. George Parish through an electronic network. It eliminates paper envelopes, thereby reducing the cost of printing, postage and processing.



In whatever manner you choose to give to our parish, be it electronically, by using weekly envelopes or the basket, know that your donations are essential and always greatly appreciated.

If you would like assistance contact Kathy Hessel at MKHessel@aol.com



From Your Pastor

We extend to you & your loved ones our prayerful best wishes for a Happy New Year!

This year our holiday open house at the rectory will take place after the 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 A.M. Masses this Sunday, December 30th. You are most welcome to attend.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank you for your many cards, gifts (and treats which will come in handily at the holiday open house this morning as well as being shared with the parish staff). Your overwhelming generosity at this time of the year is gratefully appreciated. Thank you!!!

Several additional "thank-you"s are also in order this week:

THANK YOU to those who helped in decorating the church for the Christmas season. Many comments were shared with me as to how nice and festive the church looked.

THANK YOU to our Music Ministry for the spiritually uplifting music you provided to make these special days of Advent and Christmas so festive. Your service was very much appreciated, as always.

THANK YOU to those of you who volunteered as Altar Servers, Lectors, Communion Ministers and Greeters for the Masses at Christmas. Your service, too, was very much appreciated.

Tuesday, January 1st, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God and a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be on Tuesday at 8:00 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.

Year 2019 Calendars are available for anyone who wants one.

Fr. Niccolls

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 service coordinator for the Diocese of Worcester is Judith Audette. A report can be made by phone to (508) 929-4363.



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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



Christmas Break

Grades 1-5 : We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends. Classes will resume in the new year on Monday, January 7th and Tuesday, January 8th. We are looking forward to seeing all the wonderful students in our religious education program again in 2019!

Upcoming Events for Grade Two

1st Reconciliation Retreat
Saturday, January 12, 2019, 2:30-4 P.M.
(1st Communion dates are chosen at this retreat)

1st Reconciliation Ceremony
Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.
More information will be coming home with families when classes resume.

Grades 6-9: See you in 2019 on January 6 & 27!

The Mustard Seed guests are grateful to the students in Grades 6 –9 and their families for the wonderful Reindeer Snack Bags of Christmas treats!
Everyone really enjoyed the food and especially the playing cards!



Wondering about becoming Catholic?

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 or annie@saintgeorgesparish.org with any questions.

*Welcome to all family & friends
who are worshipping here with us today.*

Join Us! Pick up a **Ministry Booklet** on the Resource Table at the back of the Church Hall today. Choose a ministry that you might be interested in and call the Ministry Leader to find out more.

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours

Open 4:30 AM to 8:00 PM Daily

Please consider visiting the Chapel
All are welcome!

Note: The chapel is closed during the hours when students are in the building as of September 16th and continuing until the end of April..

Times are posted on the door.



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, 2018, will be sent to the parish envelope company to be credited to calendar year 2018. End of year statements will be mailed from the envelope company by January 31, 2019.

All gifts received the weekend of Jan.1 forward will be credited to calendar year 2019.

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 stgeooffice@gmail.com. and we will be happy to assist you.

St. George's "Food Donation Team"

For information on bargains and/or to join the team, just email Dave at DavewithFDT@gmail.com
Special food pantry needs for December are:

Cans of Tuna Fish (flip top if possible)
100% Juice Boxes and Granola Bars



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Room for Christ

"It is no use saying that we are born 2000 years too late to give room to Christ... Christ is always with us, always asking for room in our hearts. But now it is with the

heart of anyone in need that He longs for shelter. And giving shelter or food to anyone who asks for it, or needs it, is giving it to Christ."

Dorothy Day 1897-1980

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.

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.

Coffee Shop Captain

December 30, 2018
at the Rectory open house
John Lewczyk
508-856-9567



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.

Note: Team Listings and Schedule of Teams 2019 can be found on our parish website.

Marriage Enrichment Weekends

Consider attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend to enrich your Sacrament of Marriage.

The next Weekend is Jan 18-20, 2019 in South Kingstown, RI. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.

December 28, 2018

Bishop's Letter

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, I appeal to you to give generously next weekend to the National Collection for The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Established in 1887, the University has served the Church, students and the community for generations and is the only American University with ecclesiastical faculties granting canonical degrees in canon law, philosophy and theology.

Catholic University is helping to renew and strengthen the Church. The University has always

been the research institution where the Church comes to think. Through hosting a national conference series focused on laity response to the sex abuse crisis, and in creating an Institute for Diocesan Excellence in Administration (IDEA), where lay scholars and professionals can support clergy by providing expertise and accountability in the areas of education, finance, canon law, culture, and more, Catholic University will serve as a springboard in renewing and strengthening Catholicism in our country.

Catholic University serves the Church by engaging its students to discover knowledge and truth through excellence in teaching and research. With its 12 schools and 23 research centers, the University provides an exceptional Catholic education to almost 7,000 students annually. By way of its many programs, such as those in ethical business practices; classical architecture; intelligence studies; neuroscience; nursing; Spanish language and Hispanic ministry; social service; and Catholic bioethics the University prepares students to respond to the many issues facing the Church and society today.

I encourage you to be generous in the special collection for The Catholic University of America, to be taken at the Lord's Day Masses in all the parishes throughout the Diocese of Worcester next weekend,

January 5 & 6. With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus

Bishop of Worcester

A Community of Ministries



PARISH OUTREACH

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

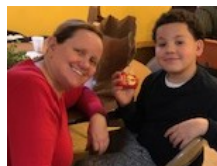
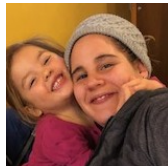
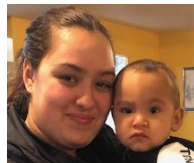
...Brothers and sisters: Put on, as
God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
heartfelt compassion, kindness,
humility, gentleness, and patience...
Colossians 3:12-17



Dear Friends,

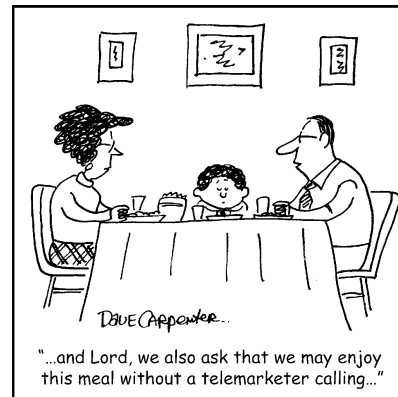
Thank you to all who recently put
these words from today's Reading
into action.

- To the Giving Tree donors and organizers Ann, Andy, sorting crews and all gift givers; your compassion reached into the homes of so many families in need
- To Daniel, Stan, John and others who delivered gifts and helped prepare the Mustard Seed dining room to receive guests for the Family Christmas Party
- To Trudy and Marie, who provided nutritious food for the party
- To Bob and Marie who lovingly welcomed each guest to the party
- To Patty, Dave and Mark who kindly transported family bundles of gifts
- To the Russo family, Sandra, Kathy and others who served food and attended to the parents as well as doing crafts and games with the children
- To the Moughan family who brought the magic of Christmas to the party. Your patience and kindness filled many hearts with joy!



THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Today is Holy Family Sunday which is celebrated on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's Day. It is an opportunity to celebrate your own "holy family". Plan a family activity, whether a visit to other family members, a game, a family movie, or something else your family particularly enjoys. Take time to explain to your children that this is a "family" day in your house because it is the day when the church celebrates the family of Jesus and all our families. Make it a traditional fun day, one the whole family will anticipate each year.



Consider Joining Our Community of Ministries
Call or e-mail the Parish Office today to check out the
many possibilities.
We have something for everyone!

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 semi-monthly meetings or at home. Please call Annie Doyle at the Rectory for more information 508-853-0183.

Gatherings are in the church hall at 10:30 AM on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

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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 family homelessness !



Use "Hope for Housing Cards" to buy your weekly groceries Prescriptions at CVS or a treat at Panera or Dunkin Donuts.

CMHA celebrates and thanks you for helping!

- * 283 households with 408 children avoided homelessness
- * 596 senior homeowners maintained independent living
- * 190 families were housed safely and securely from shelter
- * 1,227 individuals received furniture and household goods
- * 209 families were provided stabilization and work-force development services

Join us this New Year! You receive the full face value of a 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 children with families in crisis.

See Sue & Dave Genereux who are selling these cards in the Church Hall after every Mass. Contact them at 508-829-5776 or email

WaysideATQ@aol.com for more information.



Spiritual Growth Ministry

3rd Annual: Young Women's Evening of Faith and Fellowship

Thursday, January 31, 2019
6:00 – 9:00 PM

Contact Sarah Kelly 508-852-1784 or
Kate Connor 508-829-4250 for details

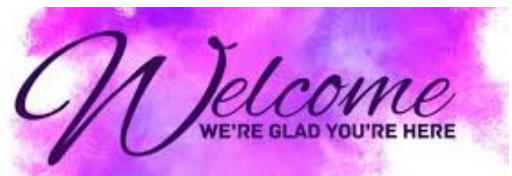


Collecting Continues

As winter continues so does the collecting of warm hats, mittens, and gloves sponsored by the Spiritual Growth Ministry.



A collection box is located in the church hall. Thank you for your generosity.



A special invitation to Families with Toddlers & Young Children Join us at 9AM Mass on Sunday Mornings

The community of St. George warmly welcomes children

- Toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarteners, accompanied by a parent, can move around a bit, downstairs - sing, and listen to the Gospel story in a simple way.
- Children in Grades 1-3 are invited to attend the "Children's Liturgy of the Word" downstairs where they will hear the Readings and Gospel in an age appropriate way.
- After Mass come to coffee shop in the church hall. Children play together while parents can relax with a cup of coffee. Donuts are free for children the second Sunday of each month.

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. Please contact Sue for dates and times of the upcoming classes.

Eucharistic Adoration

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death. May our worship of this sacrament of your Body and Blood help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the kingdom where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.