

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

April 26, 2020: Third Sunday of Easter

40 Brattle Street Worcester, MA 01606
Parish Office: 508-853-0183
www.saintgeorgesparish.org

Parish Staff:

It is our privilege to serve you.

Rev. Edward D. Niccolls, Pastor Ext. 12

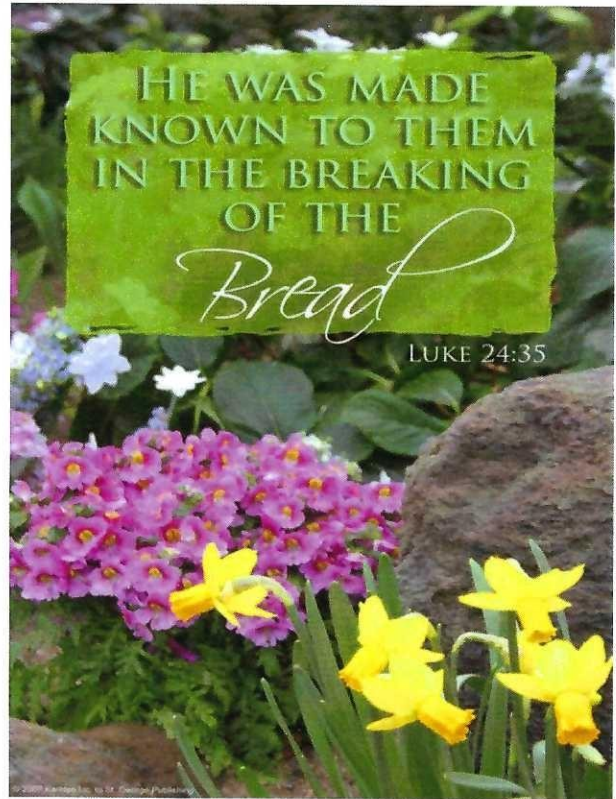
Rev. Joseph M. Nally, Senior Priest Ext. 24

Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 13

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 11

Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary
office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 10
Fax 508-854-0864

Online Giving: Kathy Hessel at:
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

Eucharist Celebrated:

Mass will be live-streamed at approximately 9:45AM Sundays. The public celebration of Holy Mass will resume at a later date. Please see page 2 for more information.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions will be heard outside near the Parish Center 3:00-3:30 PM on Saturdays

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, April 26, 2020

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Mass Intentions

As you may know, during this unprecedented time we are not celebrating public Masses in church. We, your priests, are encouraged by Bishop McManus to celebrate private Masses each day. In light of this we list the following Mass intentions and the days that we will offer these Masses:

Saturday, April 25: Vigil

In Memory of Barbara Callan requested by family

Sunday, April 26: Third Sunday of Easter

For the Community of Saint George

In Memory of Armand Audette, Jr.

Requested by Family

1st Anniversary for George Paulin

Requested by his family

Saturday, May 2: Vigil

In Memory of Francis, Alice and Robert Audette

Requested by Deacon and Marilyn Audette

Sunday, May 3: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Birthday Remembrance Patricia Potter

Requested by her family

In Memory of Floria and Arthur Wentzel

Requested by family

Note:

Mass will be live-streamed
at approximately 9:45 A.M. on Sundays

Confessions will be heard outside near the
Parish Center 3:00-3:30 PM on Saturdays

Parish Calendar

Regularly scheduled events will resume at a later date. Thank you for your understanding. Stay well.

St. George Parish Prays Together from Home Every Friday

We invite you to join us in prayer from your home every Friday. Together we pray for an end to the Corona virus pandemic, the healing of the sick, those who died from the virus and the protection of Health Care Workers and those who, in the words of our Holy Father Pope Francis, are writing the decisive moments of our time - supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, transportation providers, first responders and other volunteers.

Please consider taking a specific hour to pray every Friday. If you are able to do this, please contact JoAnn Nally 508-5276973 or jnallyspirit77@aol.com, with the hour you choose.



Sign up to receive e-news!
To hear about updates and notifications
from St. George Parish, simply visit
www.saintgeorgesparish.org
and click on the yellow link
"Join Our Email List"
on the homepage to
add your email address.

Scripture for the week of April 26, 2020

- | | | |
|----|-----|--|
| 26 | SUN | Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35 |
| 27 | Mon | Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29 |
| 28 | Tue | Acts 7:51—8:1a/Jn 6:30-35 |
| 29 | Wed | Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40 |
| 30 | Thu | Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51 |
| 1 | Fri | Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59 |
| 2 | Sat | Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69 |
| 3 | SUN | Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10 |

The Road to Emmaus

An important reality is revealed to us in today's gospel. When others remind us of Jesus' words in the scriptures, it can touch and in fact move our hearts. This is what happened in today's gospel reading. Downhearted followers of Jesus were returning home after his crucifixion. A stranger approached them, and hearing their story, he reminded them of the words of Jesus in the scriptures, that all this had to take place before he would come back risen.

It is likewise true for ourselves when we hear the words of Jesus from a Sunday gospel or his words are quoted to us by another person. It can, like in today's gospel, touch our hearts and often times inspire and motivate us to act in a new way. By His words we are given hope and an awareness that our Lord is with us in spite of our failings, questions, and doubts. This is what happened in today's gospel story.

At times whether we are happy and filled with joy or where we may become downhearted as often happens in life, the words, the sayings, the teachings of Jesus are meant personally for us. They lift our spirits, they point the way and remind us that our Lord is with us.

The words of Jesus are meant for us, "do not let your hearts be troubled, have faith in God and faith in me". "I am the way, the truth and the life. Whoever believes in me will live."

Fr. Nally

Hope for Housing (HFH) Cards



You Can Help to Prevent Homelessness by using "Hope for Housing cards" to buy your weekly groceries.

You receive the full value of the a 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.

Cards are still being sold. Special arrangements are available.

Call Dave and Sue Genereux at 508-829-5776 or email them WaysideATQ@aol.com for more information.



From Your Pastor

First of all, I want to thank you for your generosity in sending in all your donations for the parish offertory, Easter and the other parish collections. This has greatly helped in meeting our parish payroll, our expenses to our parish vendors and utilities and other expenses like the health insurance payment for your priests. These acts of kindness are very much appreciated!

One morning as I was praying the daily Office of Readings, I paused to reflect upon these words taken from the Second Reading for this part of the Liturgy of the Hours which said the following: *"Strengthen your heart, then, by receiving this bread as spiritual bread, and bring joy to the face of your soul. May purity of conscience remove the veil from the face of your soul so that be contemplating the glory of the Lord, as in a mirror, you may be transformed from glory to glory in Christ Jesus our Lord. To him be glory for ever and ever."* In these days, when we have not been able to gather to worship as a family of faith and receive our Lord in the sacrament of His Body and Blood, we are reminded of how special a gift we have been given in this sacrament and how we long for it when we are unable to receive him. It is all the more important and necessary for us to stay close to our Lord by making a spiritual communion as often as possible. A spiritual communion, recommended by the saints for centuries, is a prayer professing faith in Jesus presence in the Eucharist and inviting him to live in our hearts. You make a spiritual communion by beginning with an examination of your conscience and making a good Act of Contrition. Then you pray one of the prayers recommended by the saints for inviting Christ into your heart. Here is a prayer given to us by St. Alphonsus Liguori:

"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually

into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite

myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen."

As I have mentioned before, this type of communion can never replace receiving our Lord Jesus in Holy Communion at Mass, but it can help us to stay close to Jesus in this Most Blessed Sacrament of His Body and Blood in these extraordinary times.

Fr. Niccolls

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

email: sarah.Kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

First Communion Updates

Families have received an email explaining the postponement of this year's First Holy Communion.



Retreat/Rehearsal Dates:

Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:15-6:15 pm

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 4:15-5:15 pm

1st Communion

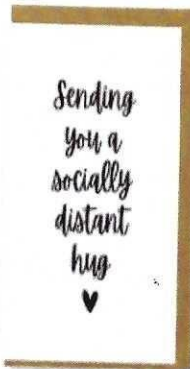
Saturday, August 29, 2020 10:00 am

COVID-19 Updates:

Please be sure to check emails for any updates as well as online resources during this time of social distancing.

Adoration Chapel Notice

Due to the concerns regarding the Corona Virus, the Adoration Chapel will **be closed** until further notice. In the meantime, you are most welcome to visit our Lord in the church which is accessible by using the lower side door that faces toward the rectory. We thank you for your understanding.



Looking Forward To Being Together Again!

Send a Card to a Homebound Parishioner

Many of our parish friends are homebound these days! Staying home can sometimes be boring or sad. You can help to brighten someone's day by sending them a card to let them know that you are thinking of them.

Mail the card to our Outreach Coordinator:

Mrs. Ann Doyle

81 Barrett Ave.

Worcester Ma. 01605

Mrs. Doyle will forward your card to someone who will be very happy to receive it. Thank You!



Offertory Alternatives

During this time, as we await the day when our parish may open its doors again, we continue to pray for those affected by the virus, the healthcare workers, and all whose livelihood is disrupted. Our parish will be ready to welcome it's vibrant community 'home' as soon as it's feasible and safe.

Our buildings must be maintained and no one could predict this extraordinary event. As you are able, our offertory donations can be delivered in several ways. Online giving is an easy and safe method – simply go to our parish website at www.saintgeorgesparish.org and follow the icons for Online Giving. You may now make your donations weekly or monthly. If you need assistance with online giving, please contact Kathy Hessel at mkhessel@aol.com

Alternatively, should you wish to drop your envelopes at the rectory, the mail box on the front porch is available and checked regularly. Finally, some parishioners send their donations through the regular mail.

Please know that we are sensitive to the households already impacted by this temporary loss of employment. Thank you for your support of our parish.

If you or anyone in your family is in need of assistance, please contact our Pastoral Outreach Coordinator, Annie Doyle, at 508-450-4134.

Total Weekly Collection April 12, 2020

On line giving:	\$3,325.00 (4/6 - 4/16)
Ordinary Collection	\$5,025.00
Total	\$8,350.00



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,
especially during this difficult time!

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Prayers for the Sick

Please, especially during these troubling times, call our parish office to let us know if a family member, friend or neighbor is hospitalized, homebound or ill. Since we can't always be together these days, you can help us to hold one another close in prayer.

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. Thank you for your understanding.

Pieta

Pieta is an ongoing support group for bereaved parents. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child is welcome to attend.



The May 4th Pieta Bereavement Mass has been **rescheduled** to September 28th, 2020.

This weeks Gospel –The Road to Emmaus

The disciples on the road to Emmaus walked and talked with Jesus all day long, but it was not until they offered him hospitality and He blessed and broke the bread that they recognized Him. Simple acts of loving kindness *still* reveal the presence of God in our midst.



Legacy of Hope Campaign Update

Last month our **parish goal was revised to \$400,000** which we and the Diocese believe is attainable.

With just one week remaining in our Legacy of Hope effort, **we are now at \$380,000 or 95% of our goal!** We appreciate the generous support provided to date by 180 families in our parish.

If you have yet to participate in the Campaign, please help us attain our goal by making a gift or multi-year pledge on-line using the Diocese's secure website:

legacyofhope.worcesterdiocese.org

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



Notes from the Mustard Seed



A New

Tent!

A new tent is now on loan to help protect the guests from the rain and sun! Several picnic tables will be moved under the tent to provide this temporary shelter where guests can eat their evening meal. Of course there is social distancing in line and only two guests per table at one time.

Simple Face Coverings Needed

Now that wearing face masks has been recommended for everyone, the guests at the Mustard seed are asking for help.

Many thanks to Kathy and Donna who have donated beautifully sewed masks, and simple long strips of cloth to just tie on. No-sew instructions on line are very helpful. Please call Annie Doyle 508-450-4134 if you can help with this need.



Food Still Needed

Your food donations are still picked up from the "Outreach Collection Area". Non perishable food items, toilet paper, and cleaning products are a constant need as well.



A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

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

April 13, 2020

Dear Parish Family,

As this Easter Season continues, I notice that it can be a bit challenging at times, to feel the full joy of Easter.

The bright symbols of the Easter Vigil fire, candle light, Holy Water and lilies are on pause. I miss being with all of you. I especially missed being with the children on Easter morning.

Yet during the best moments I confidently believe and I can see that Christ is Risen and lives among us.

- The Litany of the Saints that we usually pray this time of year, reminds me of the Communion of everyday saints from our parish; Matt Ryan, Roger Hessel, Mary Butler, Fr. Henry, the Litchfields, Bob Reidy, Millie O'Connor, our children who died too young, and so, so many more. Truly Christ is Risen and lives on in our memory of these holy men, women and children.
- Folks who generously shop for our homebound parishioners help to bring the love of Jesus to life and makes it easy to say, Alleluia! Alleluia!
- Familiar hymns, prayers, and videos on our parish website continue to spread Christ's Resurrection message; "Peace be with you." I was totally filled with Easter joy listening and watching the "Morning Has Broken" video!
- On an evening walk recently I remembered Jesus joining his friends on the road to Emmaus. I recalled the words to a hymn that parishioners Sharon and Scott wrote. Each year they sing it with our First Communion class. "Jesus walks with me, He is not dead, God is alive and He is living in Bread".

Truly Christ is Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Peace Be With You,
Annie Doyle



The Family Connection



UMASS Donation Request

We are in need of masks (surgical and N95), protective medical gowns and other protective clothing, eye protection (both face/splash shields and safety goggles).

We are taking donations at the UMass Hahnemann Campus (281 Lincoln Street, Worcester, MA). Deliveries can be made to the loading dock which is on Duxbury Road (off of Lincoln Street). There is a large rolling garage door with a door bell to the left. Once here ring the bell and staff will come out and assist.

Donation Center hours at Hahnemann Campus Hours are Monday through Friday 8:30-4:30 and Saturday and Sunday 9-4:30.

Join St. George's "Food Donation Team"

For information on bargains and/or to join the team, just email Dave at DavewithFDT@gmail.com

Special needs for April are:
Mac & cheese, Cereal and Peanut Butter

Please leave donations in the "Outreach Collection Area" of the church basement. Thank You!

Our Parish Vision: To *welcome* all, build *connections* to Christ and one another, and *live our faith* as true disciples of Jesus.

Join Our Prayer Shawl Ministry Knit or Crochet At Home



Thank you to all of our faithful knitters who continue to spread comfort and kindness through their generous work!

During this difficult time we knit and pray as we work from home.

New members are invited to join this important ministry of outreach to the sick, suffering and lonely.

When this time of social distancing is over we will gather and share the work that is being done now. It will be great to be able to be together again! There will be many folks in need of the gifts we are preparing for them. As we work, our prayers will comfort those who are suffering. Feel free to contact Kathy Hessel with any questions at mkhessel@aol.com



Spiritual Growth Ministry

Ministry Contact: JoAnn Nally
508-527-6973



Prayer- "The Flowering of Grace Now"
Open my eyes to the moments of Resurrection that surround me every day.

There is always something rising, opening to new life,
budding and blossoming, forgiving and transforming.

Teach me to live awake that I may recognize the renaissance being celebrated at every moment.

Make me a disciple of joy. Amen.
Macrina Wiederkehr



Is God Calling You To Deepen Your Faith?

No matter how crazy life gets,
we are always here for you.

- If you've been away from church for a while, consider reconnecting. Join us in prayer from your home or visit our website for more information.
- If you are an unmarried couple or were married by a Justice of the Peace, have you considered receiving the Sacrament of Marriage (commonly referred to as having your marriage blessed)?
- Do you have an older child or a grandchild who was never Baptized? If you want to learn more about receiving this Sacrament of welcome, we invite you to contact us.
- If you or an adult friend or a family member, who never received Confirmation but would like to learn more about this Sacrament, consider contacting us for more information. For any of the above, please call one of our priests, or email: Annie Doyle at annie@saintgeorgesparish.org.

Praying as a Parish Family

Recently, Bishop McManus asked that each Parish in the Diocese commit **ONE DAY EACH WEEK** to pray for the wellbeing and protection of all affected, in any way, by Covid-19. Our Parish Day of Prayer is **EVERY FRIDAY**.

Thank You to the many parishioners who have already committed to an hour of prayer. If you would like to sign up for a specific hour, please call JoAnn Nally @ 508-527-6973 or email me @ jnally-spirit77@aol.com.

Although we cannot gather together at this time, we still have the opportunity to unite in spirit as a Faith Community giving thanks to our Loving God. Like you, I look forward to the day when we will come together to worship and celebrate God's great goodness to each one of us and our Parish Family. If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me and know that I hold you in prayer each day.

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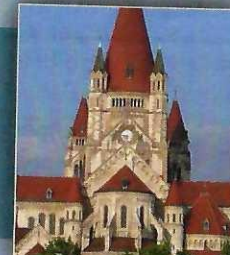


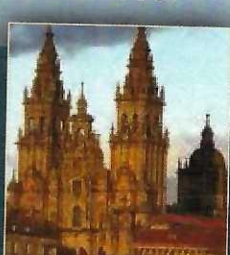




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