

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

May 31, 2020: Pentecost

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

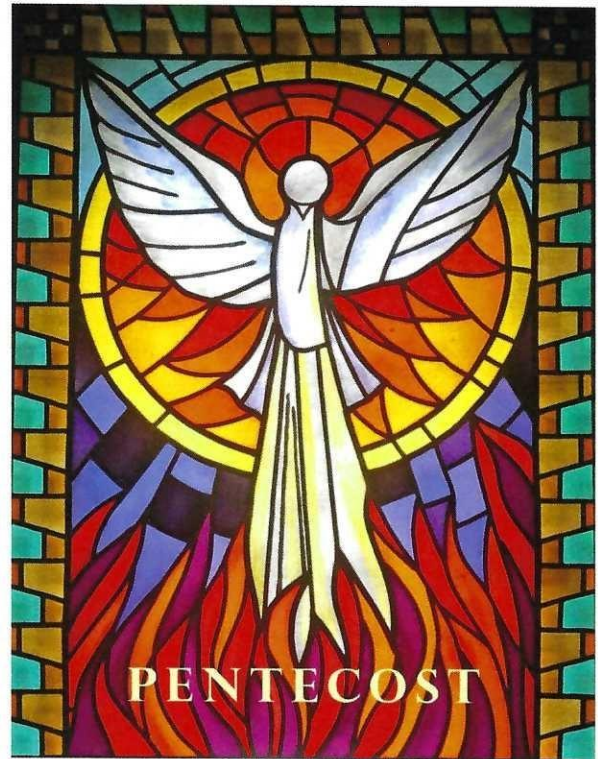
Rev. Joseph M. Nally, Senior Priest Ext. 24

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. Please visit our parish website for full details.

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, May 31, 2020

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Mass Intentions

Currently we are celebrating Masses in church on a limited schedule.

Phase A - beginning on Sunday, May 31

- One parishioner-attended Mass offered Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
- One online Mass offered for each weekend to be made available at 9:45 am on Sunday mornings

Sunday, May 31, 9:54 AM

Second Anniversary Mass for Patricia Celona
Requested by Steve Celona

Sunday, May 31, 10:00 AM

37th Anniversary Mass for Albert Marzilli
Requested by family

Sunday, June 7 10:00 AM

Fourth Anniversary Mass for Rich Godek
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



Sign up
for E-news

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.

Parish Calendar

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

During this time our "Community of Ministries" continues to meet virtually. Our Parish staff and Ministry Leaders are planning and looking forward to gradually and safely resuming the lively expression of our worship and the fullness of community life.

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.

Scripture for the week of May 31, 2020

31	SUN	Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Day: Acts 2:1-11/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23
1	Mon	Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Jn 19:25-34
2	Tue	2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/Mk 12:13-17
3	Wed	2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/Mk 12:18-27
4	Thu	2 Tm 2:8-15/Mk 12:28-34
5	Fri	2 Tm 3:10-17/Mk 12:35-37
6	Sat	2 Tm 4:1-8/Mk 12:38-44
7	SUN	Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18

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Letter from Bishop McManus

Dear friends in Christ,

Our mission as the Catholic Church relies on our ability to proclaim – to communicate – the Good News of salvation. Pentecost reminds us that we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to get out from behind closed doors and to have the courage to share God's love with others by our words and our deeds.

I am sure it has occurred to you as it has to me that recently we have been living our lives like the Apostles who were locked away in the upper room after Jesus ascended into heaven. Public safety measures have not only encouraged "stay at home" measures but prohibited gathering as a community to be fed by the Word of God and the Blessed Sacrament. Now, while following proper precautions, we are beginning to gather responsibly as a community. What kept us feeling like we were part of a parish family while we were isolated? Communications: emails, social media, websites, videos, conference calls, even bulletins and letters in the mail; all served as means by which we combatted social and spiritual isolation and by which we were at least fed by the Word of God while fasting from the Eucharist.

Next weekend I invite you to participate in the nationwide **Catholic Communications Campaign**. Half of that collection is used to support the national office whose voice represents the Church in the national media and provides interdiocesan communications. The remainder serves as an important part of a multi-faceted funding for our local communications which provide, among other things, a framework for parish and diocesan-wide email, websites, online and cable Masses, and local representation in secular news outlets. Had it not been for the Communications Ministry set in place nearly three years ago, it would have been very difficult for us to have been so connected and informed throughout this pandemic. In the "New Normal" of parish and diocesan life, we will be stronger still, thanks to improved social communications.

Please accept my sincere thanks for any contribution you can make for the Catholic Communications Campaign in your parish collection **on the weekend of June 7th**, or online at worcesterdiocese.org. My fervent prayer this Pentecost is that the Holy Spirit will bestow on each of us "the joys that never end."

With every prayerful best wish, I remain
Sincerely yours in Christ
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus



From Your Pastor

During the past week two of our seminarians who have been here with us and have provided much needed service at our liturgies for the past two and a half months have left for their summer assignments. Peter Bui has been assigned to St. Joseph Parish in Charlton and Julio Bonilla to St. John Paul II Parish in Southbridge. We wish them well and extend the support of our prayers to them as they begin these assignments.

This week, as we welcome those of you back to church who will attend our weekend Mass at 10:00 A.M., we ask you to be familiar with the plan and procedures that have to be in place if you have signed up to attend this Mass. We will be taking every precaution to be in compliance with the regulations set in place by our state officials and the Diocese of Worcester. We know that you will want a safe environment in which to worship and we are making every effort to guaranty that this will occur. We remind those of you who either were not able to sign up or still have not decided when to return that Bishop McManus' suspension of the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in effect until the end of this year. Also, for this same period of time we will continue to offer the weekend Mass by way of live-stream (or recording) on Sundays at 9:45 A.M. as a service to you.

Since we are celebrating Pentecost this weekend, please be sure to watch the reflection that has been prepared for this solemnity immediately following the recorded Mass.

Fr. Nicolls

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.

Staying Connected

As a member of the Faith Sharing Groups and Spiritual Growth Ministry, I wanted to connect with people in these groups while we are still apart. I realized that not everyone has access to a computer to do an online group. I began calling people in these groups plus others in the parish on a regular basis. Everyone appreciates getting a call, and I enjoy reaching out to others. It is a simple way to stay in touch. So, pick up your phone today and give someone a call!
Joyce Purcell

**The church
has left
the building.**



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May 31, 2020: Pentecost



Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

email: sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Religious Education Updates

We are not sure what the Fall will look like for our religious education classes, but please know that our religious education board is discussing different options for how to safely comply with state and diocesan regulations. As we know more, we will share information about registration for the fall. All of our religious education families continue to be in our prayers!

A Way To Be Together During This Time Apart

If your children are anything like mine, then they miss being with their friends at school, religious education, sports, other activities and at mass. Seeing their friends on Zoom meetings has helped a bit. One thing that I had not realized would make such a difference for my children's sense of comfort and normalcy was being able to watch mass at our own St George Parish. Recently when given the choice between watching mass online at St George or watching an online mass that was significantly shorter, they emphatically chose the St. George mass. They wanted to see "their" priests, deacons and seminarians, and to hear Mr. White's music. So much of life feels out of sorts right now, but every Sunday since Palm Sunday, we have looked forward to being able to take part in mass at our beloved St George, even if it is only remotely. I hope that watching St George masses online can bring your family comfort until we can all be together again!

Sarah Kelly :-)

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.

A Message from Fr. Nally

We receive gifts in our lives on many occasions, like birthdays, graduation, weddings, retirement, etc. Today we are clearly reminded of a gift that comes to all of us and that is the Holy Spirit. As God the Father sent his son Jesus to us, together both have sent themselves in the Holy Spirit to us as a comfort, a guide, a light, a wind beneath our wings, a grace, a peace in difficult times, a strength and power and an assurance we do not walk alone.

Today is Pentecost, a celebration of the ongoing presence, support and strength of God our Father and the Lord Jesus through the Holy Spirit as we strive to be his followers, helpers and his friends to others. By the good news of salvation, by the gospel and the words of Jesus, and through the sacraments we are called to abide by grace, to be mindful of the presence and assistance of the Holy Spirit and to proclaim to ourselves and to others whenever the occasion may pass our way that God has sent his Holy Spirit and has sent his Power to assist us. Hence we do not walk alone.

The time at Pentecost is called ordinary time but when we think about it, it is no longer ordinary time. The Holy Spirit is sent to us, to walk with us, inspire and assure us, to empower and strengthen us in living and bringing Christ to others. Let us prayerfully take the time to celebrate the message and reality of Pentecost. It is meant to fill our spirits and to strengthen us to stay close to God today and every day.

Fr. Nally

Total Weekly Collection May 12 - May 25, 2020

On line giving:	\$3,287.00
Ordinary Collection	<u>\$4,727.00</u>
Total	\$8,014.00



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

Second Collection

Next weekend, a special collection will be taken up at all Masses for the Catholic Communication Campaign

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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.

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought:

In today's Gospel, Jesus prays, "I have given You glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do." Good stewards follow His example by using their time and talents for the glory of God.

Call for Gardeners

Interested in helping maintain the church property? The weeds will grow independent of COVID and any time you care to spend weeding, raking or planting around the rectory, church and Mary Garden is greatly appreciated.



Consider spending 15, 30 or 60 minutes a week in the Parish gardens. A little help goes a long way.

If interested, please contact Andy Labrecque at 508-873-2728 (call or text) or e-mail alabrecque2016@outlook.com

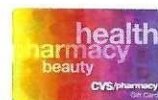
St. George Bible Camp July 6-10, 2020.

We are currently planning activities for each day of the camp, July 6-10, which will be available on the website for anyone who wants to participate. It is not a 'zoom' situation. We'll have a list of activities and some pre-recorded videos.

Contact Aaron and Karen Fuller for more information at Kfuller217@gmail.com

Buy a "Hope for Housing" Grocery Card

to help prevent family homelessness



Contact Sue & Dave Genereux at 508-829-5776 or email WaysideATQ@aol.com for information about special arrangements.

Love and kindness
are never wasted.
They always make
a difference.

Food Donations Appreciated and are Still Needed

Thank you to everyone who continues to donate food!

Non perishable food items, toilet paper, as well as cleaning and hygiene products continue to be a constant need.



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 May are:

**Tuna Fish, Canned vegetables,
and Tomato Pasta Sauce**

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

St. George Parish Scholarship Applications 2020

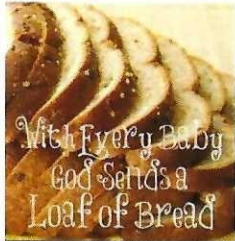
This year's Scholarship Applications are available on our Parish Website. The due date is June 1, 2020.



Congratulations to all of our Graduating Seniors!

The date of the Baccalaureate Mass will be announced some time in the future.

A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

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

May 14, 2020.

Dear St. George Parishioners,

An old proverb says, "With every baby God sends a loaf of bread." ... the "bread" of joy and reassurance that God will provide all that is needed. We thank you all for being the God-sent "loaf of bread" which has added so much joy to the birth of our first grandchild!

For years you shared pictures and stories of your own grandchildren. You brought them to church, instilling in me the hope that one day I might become a grandparent.

Early on, when my daughter Hilary became pregnant, you joined my husband John and I as we prayed for a healthy mom and baby. When the Corona virus happened and their life in Brooklyn N.Y. was disrupted, my very pregnant daughter came to live with us here in Worcester.

- You quickly helped us find a local Obstetrician and Pediatrician
- As we quarantined, we doubled and tripled our prayers together
- You dropped off gifts; food, home made candy, books, baby clothes and a beautiful Prayer Shawl were left on our doorstep
- You even gave our daughter a surprise Baby Shower - so many amazing gifts and well wishes!
- When Theo was born you breathed a sigh of relief with us and we rejoiced together via text, emails and phone calls

So I wholeheartedly thank you for your kindness and prayers. You are a part of the "Loaf of Bread" that God sent to our family along with our healthy grandson Theo Doyle-Hitt. You have multiplied our joy many times over!

Peace and Joy to you all,
John and Annie Doyle



Interfaith Hospitality Network Shelter



A collection box for IHN has been set up in our St. George Outreach Collection Area.

Here are some of the items that are needed:

- Paper towels, toilet paper, tissues
- Hand soap, bath soap, laundry detergent, and dish washing liquid
- Disinfectant spray and bleach

St. George Parish Service Week June 21 -27, 2020.

During these uncertain times, this year our on-site volunteer presence will be covered by a donation to cover the 84 hours that our parish volunteers and Confirmation Candidates usually supply. Grocery Cards that have been donated to cover the meals. As

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



*Consecration to the
Blessed Virgin Mary*

"In this difficult time, we turn to the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church and Queen of Peace, to ask that she intercede with her Son for all those who are affected, in any way, by this pandemic. As we renew the consecration of our country and of ourselves to the Mother of God, we implore her maternal care for her

children."

Praying this Consecration often will give you a greater sense of peace and trust, knowing that you are never alone and always held close to the heart of our Heavenly Mother.

Extra copies of the weekly Parish bulletin can be found on the table just inside the Church.



Praying as a Parish Family

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 @ jnallyspirit77@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.

Spiritual Growth Ministry

Ministry Contact: JoAnn Nally
508-527-6973

Thoughts to Ponder

"Lord, help me to live this day quietly, easily.
To lean upon Thy great strength, trustfully, restfully.
To wait for the unfolding of Thy will, patiently, serenely.
To meet others, peacefully, joyfully.
To face tomorrow, confidently, courageously."
St. Francis of Assisi

Novena to the Holy Spirit

In last week's Parish bulletin, there was an insert of the 9 day Novena to the Holy Spirit.

If, for some reason, you did not get a copy, extra copies of the novena are on the table just inside the Church.

While the novena began on May 22, it is not too late to start now. In fact, the novena can be prayed at any time or multiple times throughout the year. Praying the Novena to the Holy Spirit will give you great consolation. Calling on the Holy Spirit to shower His gifts and graces on you, will deepen your spiritual life and draw you closer to God.

**CELEBRATING the
FEAST of PENTECOST,
SUNDAY, MAY 31ST**

This picture illustrates part of Jesus' Passion and the handing over of His Spirit as recorded in St. John's Gospel (19:30). In the Acts of the Apostles, when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples with tongues of fire, they began to speak in tongues as well. During this reflection, the presenters will "speak in tongues" - English, Vietnamese, Spanish, Portuguese and French.

This powerful depiction will serve as inspiration for our celebration on the Feast of Pentecost. This thoughtful Pentecost reflection will be live streamed immediately following the live streamed 9:45 AM Mass on Sunday, May 31th.



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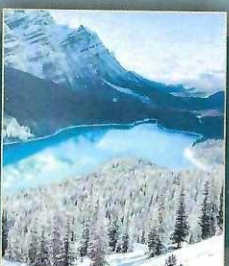
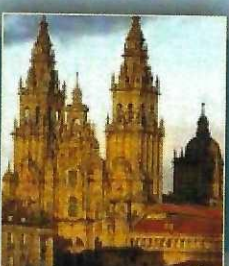
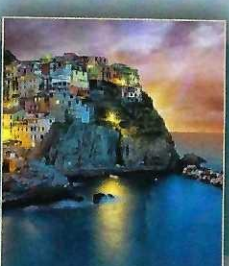
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