

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden
July 12, 2020: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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. Nicolls, Pastor Ext. 112

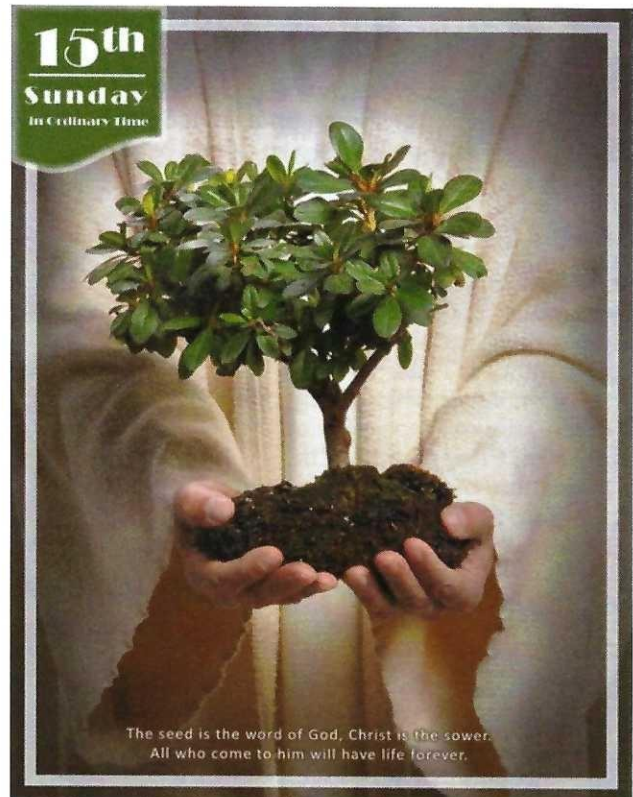
Rev. Thiago DaSilva, Associate Pastor,
Ext. 117

Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 113

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 111

Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary
office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 110
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:

Online Mass offered each Sunday at 10:00AM. Also, 4:00 PM on Saturday and 10:00 AM Sunday Mass in the church by reservation. Sign up on our parish website. Live week-day Masses will be held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 AM in the church. Please visit our parish website for full details.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions will be heard inside the church
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, July 12, 2020

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Mass Intentions

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

Phase B - Began July 1

4:00 p.m. Saturday July 4

For the Community of St. George

10:00 a.m. Sunday, July 11th

In memory of Maureen O'Connor, req. by Ann Walsh

8:00 a.m. Monday, July 13th

In memory of Peter Gabour

8:00 a.m. Wednesday, July, 15th

In memory of Francis Fuller

8:00 a.m. Friday, July 17th

In memory of Eugene Binnette

4:00 p.m. Saturday, July 18th

5th Anniversary Allan Marzilli requested by family

- One parishioner-attended Mass offered Sundays at 10:00 AM .
- One parishioner-attended Mass offered Saturdays at 4:00 PM
-

Sign-up on our parish website or

call our Parish Outreach Coordinator

Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134 if you are in need of
assistance with registering for seating at Mass.

Weekday Mass at 8:00 AM, Monday, Wednesday
and Friday in the **church**

- One online Mass offered for each weekend to be
made available at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings

Note: Mass will be live-streamed at approximately
10:00 A.M. on Sundays

Confessions will be heard in the **church**
3:00-3:30 PM on Saturdays



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" contin-
ues 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 fully 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 is
welcoming it's vibrant community 'home' in gradual
phases, following State and Diocesan Guidelines.

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 avail-
able and checked regularly. Some parishioners may
choose to send their donations through the regular
mail.

**At this time there will be no general collection
taken during the Presentation of the Gifts at Mass.
However, there will be baskets located at the rail-
ing for parishioners to leave gifts either before or
after Mass.**

Please know that we are sensitive to the households
already impacted by this temporary loss of employ-
ment. 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 June 29 - July 5, 2020

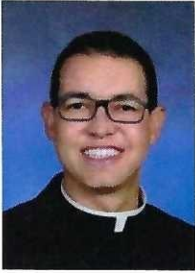
On line giving: \$ 2,790.00
Ordinary Collection \$ 5,062.00
Total \$ 7,852.00

June:
Fuel \$ 305.00
Air Conditioning 795.00
Repairs 365.00
Total \$1,465.00

**We are so
grateful for your
generous support!**



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**Greetings From the New
Associate Pastor**

I am Fr. Thiago DaSilva, the new associate pastor at Saint George's Parish.

I was born on August 31, 1983 in the Southeast part of Brazil, in a city called Governador Valadares, Minas Gerais. My city is about 8 hours away from Brasilia, the Capital of my country. My

parents, Paulo and Selma, live in Brazil and my only brother Paulo Junio as well. He is younger than me.

I lived my childhood, adolescence, and part of my youth in Fernandes Tourinho-MG, where I was educated as a child in the Catholic faith. The education in the Catholic Faith is the most beautiful testimony I have from my mother and my grandmother. My happiest memories on Sunday were those that we spent together as a family going to Mass.

In my grandmother's house, there was also my cousins. Community life has never been a challenge for me because it was introduced to me very early in my life. Everything was shared among us. In my house, everything that we desired we did not have, but we had what we needed: love.

I remember very clearly the beautiful paintings with images of saints on the wall of the house of my grandmother: The Holy Family, the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart Mary. These images remain alive in feeding my faith. As a child, I learned to pray the rosary with my grandmother every day at 6 pm. I praise God for the faith inherited from my family. Faith in God is the legacy that I carry with me forever. The foundation of my faith is my family.

I was 11 years old when I felt the desire for the priesthood. I was preparing to receive my first communion. Then, the day for my First Communion came, and I needed to make my First Confession. I did it, and when I finished my confession, and Fr. Marcos gave me the absolution, I felt God calling me to be a priest. Then I said to him: Father Marcos, I want to become a priest. I was too young, the Father told me.

I believe that my vocation to the priesthood was born in this confession and the experience with the Eucharist. That day, I was surrounded by such a great mystery that it is hard to describe. Throughout the Mass, I was not thinking about anything except the time of Communion. My heart was pounding, and my legs were shaking. Nothing compares to the joy I felt that day receiving Jesus for the first time in my life.

I started a vocational journey in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Governador Valadares, at the age of 15. So, at the age of 17, I entered the seminary and started my studies to the priesthood. I studied Philosophy for three years and Theology for four years.

I remember that in 2014 I was walking through the mall, and I met the bishop of my home Diocese. I stopped, and I said hello to him. At that moment, he asked me about my life and my vocation to the priesthood. We talked for a while, and he invited me to return to the diocese and make a vocational discernment.

I accepted his invitation and begun my vocational discernment in a Parish that had one main Church and seventeen chapels without a priest, just me under God's protection.

In October of 2014, I received a phone call. It was Fr. Adriano, who is my friend and former classmate. Fr. Adriano introduced me to Bishop McManus. I remember Fr. Adriano telling me, "You have been invited to be a priest here in the United States because in our diocese has more and more Brazilians and we need a Brazilian Priest, can we count on you?". At that moment, my heart was pounding, and I asked him to give a week to think about it, but he returned the call the next day.

From October 2014 to June 2015, I did vocational discernment with Fr. Mazzone, and in August 2015, I arrived here in the United States and started my English classes at Clark University. There I studied for 2 years.

During the time I was a seminarian, I did my weekend and summer assignments at St. Mary's Parish in Milford (2015-2016), weekend assignment at St. Mary's in Uxbridge (2016-2017), summer assignment at Saint Cecilia in Leominster (2017) and the last summer at Annunciation Parish in Gardner (2018).

In September 2017, I left Clark University and went to St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore, MD, where I finished my studies to the priesthood, and I was ordained a priest in June 2019. I went to St. Mary's Parish in Milford, where I was an associate pastor.

Now I am here with you and Fr. Niccolls as an associate pastor. I hope to learn much more from you. I thank Fr. Niccolls and each one of you for opening the doors of this Church for me.

In my free time, I like to walk around, play soccer, go to the movies and go to the gym. Including my major strengths that I have as a priest, I would say that they are prayer, responsibility, creativity, kindness, and love for the vocation that God has given to me as a precious gift. As a limitation to my strength is the English language, which I want to grow in. If you are curious, I am 6 feet, 5 inches tall (laughs).

Finally, I would say that I am here in the United States because of the kingdom of God. Every day it grows more and more in my heart, and I am trying to respond to the call of God in my life as a priest.

Please, keep me in your daily prayers and ask God to make me a humble priest.

God Bless You,
Fr. Thiago

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

email: sarah.Kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org



From Your Pastor

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 :-)

In today's Gospel Jesus uses agricultural terms to make himself easily understood since most people of his time had to live off the land. Like the farmer's seed, our faith has to be nurtured and fed as well as protected and cared for. Just as the farmer has to separate the wheat from the chaff and prune his larger plants for a more bountiful harvest, so do we have to learn to separate good from evil and submit ourselves to the pruning of our sins so that we can experience the glory of God in this life and in the next. The seeds of our faith have to be deeply rooted in Christ and his Church so that nothing like the temptation to do wrong, not pride nor prejudice, not wealth nor power, can cause these seeds to wither. When the Word of God takes root in our lives, and our faith grows, we can offer our selves back to the One who has given everything to us. We do so through acts of love for him and for each other, just as Jesus did for us.

Fr. Nicolls

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.

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Like most of you, we have spent more time at home in the last several months. We have watched many movies and series, some very good and others not worth mentioning.

"The Chosen" was recently recommended to us. Based on the Bible, it follows the life of Jesus and Apostles. We have found it to be informative, with great acting and so entertaining!

To watch "The Chosen", you need to download the app. The eight episodes, each about an hour long, can also be found on Youtube as it was shown globally for eight successive nights during late March. We hope you will enjoy this series!

David & Patti Walsh

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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:

May our stewardship of time, talent and treasure show us to be among those who have heard the message of Christ and taken it in, yielding a Hundred - or sixty - or thirty fold!

Call for Gardeners

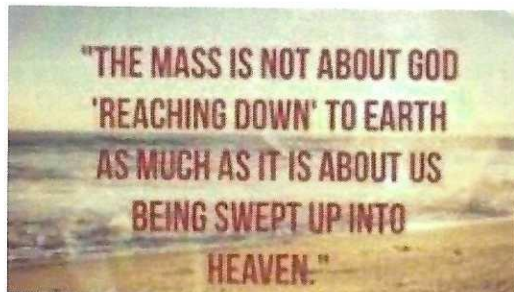
Interested in helping maintain the church property? The weeds will grow independent of COVID and any time you care to spend weeding, raking or planting around the rectory, church and



Mary Garden is greatly appreciated.

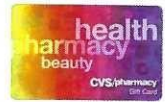
Consider spending 15, 30 or 60 minutes a week in the Parish gardens. A little help goes a long way.

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



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.

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

Message from Pastoral Council:

"The Pastoral Council met on the evening of June 9th to discuss current events and the progress of reopening. At this time, the Council finds that the reopening transition has been running smoothly and are excited to see parishioners that are ready to attend Mass again. Currently, some major events that were scheduled for the fall are either cancelled or on hold at the moment. Stay tuned to the bulletin for any potential upcoming events. The Council is on summer break and is planning to meet in September."

Elyse Gemme, Pastoral Council Secretary

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, July 13 at 7:00 PM in the Church Hall. Please join us.

For more information, please call Terry Gentile at [508-284-0796](tel:508-284-0796) or Sue Stevens at [508-852-4887](tel:508-852-4887), or email pieta3@gmail.com.

A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

Annie Doyle Ext.111
508-450-4134
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

The Pandemic has Increased Families Need for Food - Please Help

Thank you for continuing your generous food donations to the Mustard Seed Food Panty and to our local "Loaves and Fishes" Food Pantry.

For free Information on Bargains join
St. George's "Food Donation Team"
just email Dave at DavewithFDT@gmail.com

Special needs for July are:
Tuna, Soup, Canned Vegetables

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

July 17th Mustard Seed Meal

Our regularly scheduled Mustard Seed Meal is the third Friday of this month. Due to the pandemic, bagged "To Go" meals will be prepared by Mustard Seed volunteers and distributed from the outdoor porch area for about 100 guests. Outdoor picnic tables, covered by an open air tent are available and each seat is safely socially distanced.



St. George parishioners are invited to donate \$5.00 to cover the cost of a meal; complete with a healthy sandwich, a bottle of water, fruit and dessert. Please consider donating the cost of a meal or two. Donations can be mailed to the parish office or left in the mail box on the porch of the rectory. Please label your donation "Mustard Seed Meal". If you have any questions, please call Annie Doyle. Many Thanks!

Hygiene Supplies Needed

Small wash cloths and socks are needed for guests who are homeless and living out in wooded areas around the city. Now that many stores, restaurants, and public buildings are closed, there is an effort underway to provide these supplies, as well as much needed toilets, showers, and drinking water. (Please pray for this effort) These items can be left in the Outreach Collection Area of the church basement.

Sharing



Sitting under the trees,
near Mary's Garden,
peaceful warm breeze
bright sunshine
happy and joyful
companions
sharing our faith.

We all have our masks on
6 feet apart
enjoying sharing
The "Book of JOY"
by the Dali Lama and
Bishop Desmond Tutu.

By Shelia Dickman
Faith Sharing Group Member
Parish Pastoral Council Member



Many thanks to Aaron and Karen Fuller
for teaching us about

Jesus as a Peacemaker

at St. George Virtual Vacation Bible Camp
this past week!



We learned this wonderful prayer,
a favorite of St. Mother Theresa
which was written by Pope St. Paul VI

Make Us Worthy Lord

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow men
throughout the world who
live and die in poverty and hunger.
Give them through our hands,
this day their daily bread,
and by our understanding love,
give peace and joy. Amen

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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.*

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.



Thiago Ibiapina, Seminarian

**We have got something
exciting to announce!**

**Bible Study Classes
Coming Soon**

We should not be intimidated approaching the Scriptures, on the contrary, we are called to be more familiar with the Word of God trying to apply its message. So, motivated by that, our seminarian Thiago Ibiapina will be teaching Bible Study Classes on the Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles on Zoom. So, stay tuned! The course is coming up in the next two/three weeks.

A Series Explaining the Mass

Have you asked yourself why does the priest kiss the altar? Or why do we make specific gestures during specific times at Mass? Seminarian Thiago Ibiapina will be giving us some explanations about those questions on a videos series explaining the Mass. It will be coming soon! Stay tuned!

Spiritual Growth Ministry

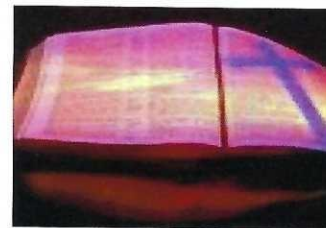
Ministry Contact: JoAnn Nally
508-527-6973



May the Church be a place of God's mercy and hope, where all feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live according to the good life of the Gospel. May the Church make others feel welcomed, loved, forgiven, and encouraged.

The Church must be with doors wide open so that all may enter. We must go through these doors and proclaim the Gospel.

FAITH SHARING GROUPS



At this time, 2 Faith Sharing Groups meet weekly. Jere and Rachael Bradly have an outside afternoon group- Participants are very conscious of social distancing and wearing masks.

JoAnn facilitates a virtual group through Zoom. At this time, we are discussing the possibility of an outside morning Faith Sharing Group. Stay tuned for updates.

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