

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden
July 19, 2020: Sixteenth 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. Niccolls, Pastor Ext. 112

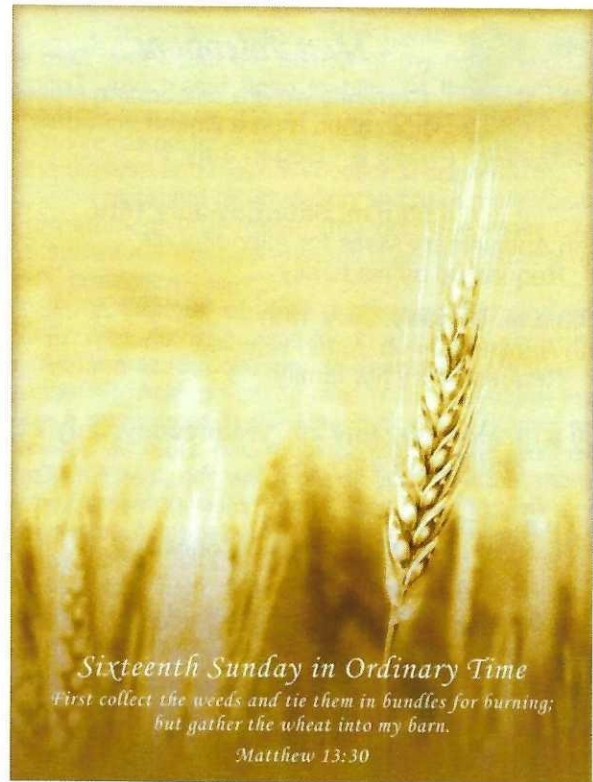
Rev. Thiago DaSilva, Associate Pastor,
Ext. 117

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



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning;
but gather the wheat into my barn.
Matthew 13:30

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 19, 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 18th

5th Anniversary Mass for Allan Marzilli
Requested by his family

10:00 a.m. Sunday, July 19th

4th Anniversary for Judith Ritchie
Requested by her family

**8:00 a.m. Monday, July 20, Wednesday, July 22,
and Friday July 24**

4:00 p.m. Saturday, July 25th

Memorial Mass for Madeline Courville

- 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**



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 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 available 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 railing 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 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 July 6 - 11, 2020

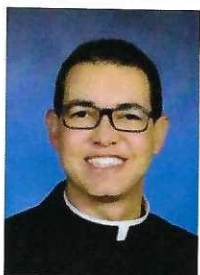
On line giving: \$ 1, 400.00
Ordinary Collection \$ 5, 290.00
Total \$ 6, 690.00



**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. Nicolls as an associate pastor. I hope to learn much more from you. I thank Fr. Nicolls 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 :-)

Many thanks to Aaron and Karen Fuller for their coordinating and organizing our Vacation Bible Camp experience this year. Since we could not hold a live Vacation Bible Camp this year, the Fullers created the program that we offered virtually through our parish website. If you have not seen it yet, you can check it out on our website .

Very often in my ministry as a priest, I get questions about the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. I share with you some thoughts about this Sacrament from our Pope Emeritus, Pope Benedict XVI, which actually is a good catechesis regarding this Sacrament and when one might receive it. Here is what Pope Benedict has to say:

"The anointing of the sick is meant to help with a spiritual process that in some circumstances can become a process of healing. This is the Church's sacramental help in the situation of illness. It's less a matter of the moment of death. In that case, the true Viaticum is the Eucharist.... The anointing of the sick is more a help toward an acceptance of suffering. It is meant to help me, by lifting up my pain and suffering into Christ, to enter into sacramental fellowship with him. This is not necessarily a matter of physical healing. For illness can indeed heal me spiritually; I may even have spiritual need of it. Christ, by teaching me how to suffer and by suffering with me, may truly become my doctor, who overcomes the deep spiritual sickness within my soul."

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:

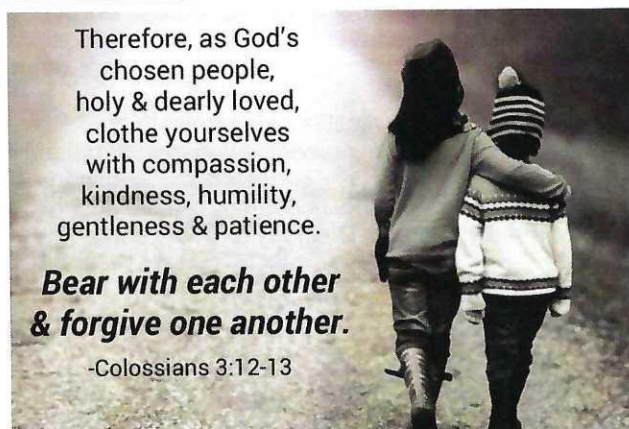
Please be sure to check emails for any updates as well as online resources during this time of social distancing.

Fr. Niccolls

Therefore, as God's
chosen people,
holy & dearly loved,
clothe yourselves
with compassion,
kindness, humility,
gentleness & patience.

***Bear with each other
& forgive one another.***

-Colossians 3:12-13



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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:

"Those who are just must be kind," says today's first reading. If our words and deeds are kind and selfless, we will be like the good seed in the Gospel parable and gathered as wheat in the Lord's harvest.



**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 homeless



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

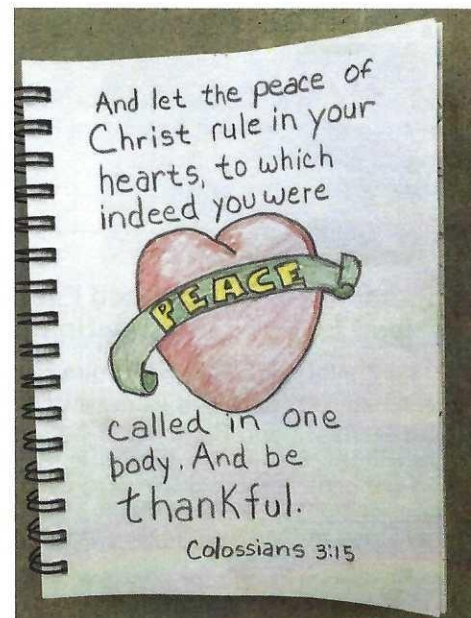
Staying Connected

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



A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

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

Let's Continue to be a Community of Peacemakers

- Donate \$5 to cover the **cost of a meal** for a Mustard Seed Guest in need (See details ⇨)
- Large Adult Cleansing **Bath Wipes** are \$3 per pack. We have bought 20 packs but more are needed. Your donation could make it possible. With showers closed these are very much appreciated.
- Small **travel tooth brushes and tooth paste** Usually \$1 at the dollar store
- Small **wash cloths and hand towels**
- Small bars of **soap and toilet paper**
- Men's and Women's **socks** (the homeless walk many miles every day to find food pantries, meal programs and thrift stores) Rain is always an added challenge.
- Men's and Women's **underwear**- these are essential, expensive and greatly appreciated.

All donations can be left in the St. George Outreach Collection Area at the church basement level, inside the parking lot side door.

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

Mustard Seed Meals

Due to the pandemic, bagged "To Go" meals are 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". Many Thanks!

Homeless Living in Wooded Areas of our City

Hygiene items are needed for folks who are homeless and living out in wooded areas around the city. It is estimated that about 150 to 200 individuals are living outdoors in secluded area where they feel safe. Now that many stores, restaurants, and public buildings are closed, there is a citywide effort underway to provide much needed toilets, showers, and drinking water. In the meantime, we are trying to help out by providing small portable hygiene items such as the ones

⇨ described here.

Many thanks to Aaron and Karen Fuller
for teaching us about
Jesus as a Peacemaker
at St. George Virtual Vacation Bible Camp.
By their inspiration,



**Let's continue being
A Community of Peacemakers!**
(See our Parish Website for more information)

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,

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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.*

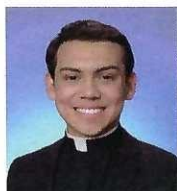
Praying as a Parish Family

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

Bible Study Classes
Monday, July 20 at 7PM
Please Join Us!

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. Please visit our Parish website for details.

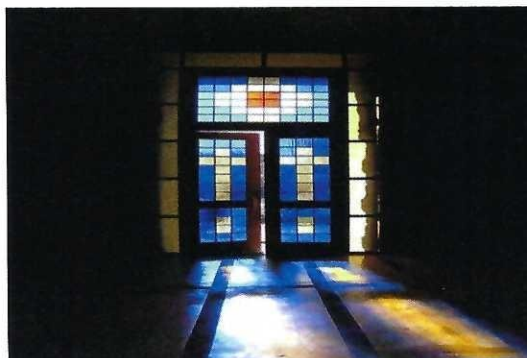
A Series Explaining the Mass

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

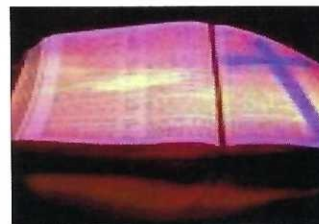
Ministry Contact: JoAnn Nally
508-527-6973



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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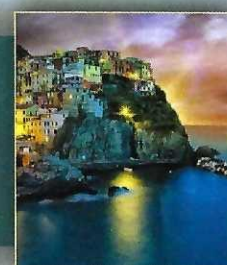
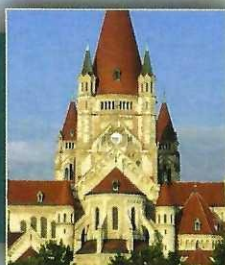
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