

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

October 11, 2020: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

40 Brattle Street Worcester, MA 01606
Parish Office: 508-853-0183 Ext. 110
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

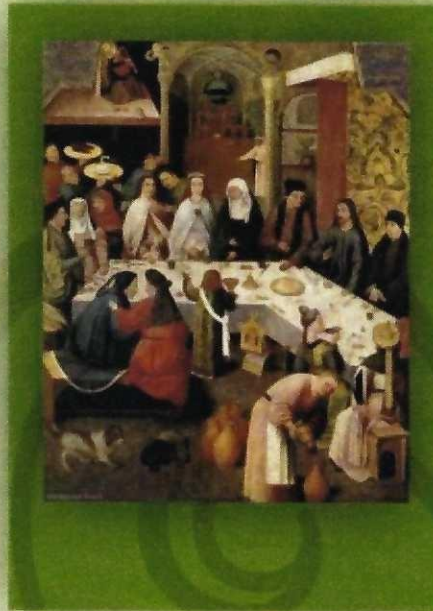
Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 113

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

For information regarding Pastoral Care of the Sick, Marriage Preparation, Confirmation, and Ministry Involvement, we invite you to call the Parish Office.



St. George Catholic Church

Baptism Information:

Please contact
Susan Pacek at 508-856-9960 or
email: st.geobaptism@gmail.com

Eucharist Celebrated:

Live Weekend Masses are offered at 4:00 PM
on Saturday and 10:00 AM Sunday.

Please visit our parish website for details.

Live-Streamed Mass is offered on our parish
website each Sunday at 10:00AM.

Live weekday Masses are held on Monday,
Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00 AM

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, October 11, 2020

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Mass Intentions

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

Phase B

One live Mass is offered Saturdays at 4:00 PM

One live Mass is offered Sundays at 10:00 AM

Live Mass is offered in the church at 8:00 AM on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Saturday, October 10, 4:00 PM

Memorial Mass for Anne Callan requested by family

Sunday, October 11, 10:00 AM

Special Intention

Monday, October 12, 8:00 AM

First Anniversary Mass for Melba Sanford requested by her husband

Wednesday, October 14, 8:00 AM

In Memory of Susan Hadley DiDonato requested by Margaret Lohman and family

Friday, October 16, 8:00 AM

Special Intention

Saturday, October 17, 4:00 PM

For the Community of Saint George

Live-streamed Mass is offered on our parish website Sundays at 10:00 AM

Live weekday Mass is celebrated at 8:00 AM, Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Confessions are heard in the church 3:00-3:30 PM on Saturdays

Bulletin Item Due Dates:

Weekend of:	Due by:
October 24/25, 2020	October 15, 2020
Oct. 31/Nov. 1, 2020	October 21, 2020
November 8, 2020	October 30, 2020

Please submit items by 10:00 a.m. on the due date.
E-mail our Parish Secretary
Kate Lockney at: office@saintgeorgesparish.org.



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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.



From Your Pastor

Richard Gaillardetz, a professor of Systematic Theology at Boston College, shares some interesting insights with us into this weekend's readings.

In the First Reading he points out that the Prophet Isaiah describes the biblical image of God's reign as a celebratory banquet. At this banquet a community is shown gathered in grateful response to an entirely unmerited invitation that frees God's people to delight in one another's company. He also mentions that wedding feasts appear frequently in Jesus' teachings.

In this weekend's Gospel, we are reminded to keep in mind two realities. The first is the promise of the coming reign of God which has begun in Jesus. This promise is directed to all of us as an invitation that we have not earned by our behavior or social status. The second reality is that we cannot earn an invitation but must respond to it with generous hearts.

We have to be willing to give ourselves over to the etiquette of banquet feasts. We have to come to the banquet, wearing the appropriate "attire" of hearts open to conversion.

Professor Gaillardetz tells us that full participation is more than just showing up. It means submitting ourselves to a new world run by the logic of gift and celebration, not scarcity and competition. In what we see in today's world, it will do us well to reflect upon this message.

In November we will be observing the month of All Souls when we remember those who have preceded us in death. In past years our parish has extended an invitation to the families of those parishioners who had died during the past 12 months to gather for a special Mass of remembrance. This year, because of the covid-19 pandemic, the Mass will be open only to a limited number of family members of these deceased parishioners to attend.

Invitations will be mailed to these families, explaining the protocols that we will be following for this Mass. The Mass will be live-streamed on Saturday, November 14th, at 9:00 A.M.

We invite you to view this Mass at this date and time to remember these deceased parishioners and all of our beloved dead. Since this Mass is just a little more than four weeks away, please make a note of it.

Fr. Niccolls

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In the Face of Escalating Violence,

Escalate Love: Some forms of violence are hard to counteract. But this need not lead us to despair or paralysis. We can offset massive violence by escalating the number of random acts of kindness we perform. Keep in mind it's not the quantity of such deeds but the quality of each deed. Jesus, help us to give ourselves as fully and lovingly as we can, wherever we can. Multiply our random acts of kindness. Rekindle our hope that your light has truly overcome the darkness; that love, not violence, is the last word. How can you escalate love this week?



Total Weekly Collection

September 21-27, 2020

On line giving	\$ 1,712.00
Ordinary Collection	\$ 3,446.00
Total	\$ 5,158.00

We are so grateful for your generous support especially during these pressing times!



As this pandemic continues to present its unique challenges, our St. George parishioners have responded with equally inventive ways - streaming the Mass on Sunday in their homes, outdoor Faith Sharing groups, prayer shawls knitted at home now, phoning a fellow parishioner for her shopping list and leaving groceries at her door, or Zoom meetings in place of face-to-face Faith Sharing. It's a testament to the strength and devotion of our parish that we continue to support each other and our church in these creative ways.

Thank you to each of you who have continued to financially support our parish over the months. You have found ways to make sure your offertory makes it's way to our virtual 'collection' - whether through dropping it at the doorway on your way into Mass or, more likely, sending it through the mail or delivering it to the rectory. Our Online Giving has seen an increase in its users as many find this an easy way to make an ongoing gift for weekly Mass as well as one-time special collections or Religious Education fees. Use our Online Giving icon on the parish website or contact Kathy Hessel at mkhessel@aol.com for assistance.

Please know that we are sensitive to the households impacted by the financial stress of these trying times.

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

Thank you again for your continued generosity. We look forward to the day we all can once again gather together safely in St. George's as a "Community of Ministries" fully rejoicing in service and praise of our God.

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

email: sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Registration 2020-2021

All registration information for grades 1-9 and Confirmation can now be found on the parish website. Families will be able to register, and even pay by way of the parish website. We are asking to have all registrations completed by October 2, 2020.

In order to accommodate different comfort levels on returning to in person learning, and to be in compliance with safety standards, things will look a little different this year. Below is an explanation of how classes will work at the different grade levels.

We will to split the year into 2 sessions for grades 1-9.

For Grades 1-5, The 1st session will run from October 19 until the end of January on Mondays or Tuesdays 4:15-5:15pm. The 2nd session will run from the beginning of February until the end of April on Monday or Tuesdays 4:15-5:15pm. Families will choose which session and day their child(ren) would like to attend. There will be 11 in person classes in each of the sessions. During the session that your children are not in person, they will have a monthly Zoom lesson with a family assignment/project to work on throughout the month.

The option to complete the typical 2nd grade year sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion will be available in both sessions. If you attend in person classes in session one, you will receive your sacraments in session one. Those attending in person classes in session two will receive their sacraments in session two.

Grades 6-9 will follow a similar format with 8 ninety minute in person meetings on Sunday evenings in one session and 3 monthly Zoom meetings in the other session. Grades 6-9 sessions will be mid October-the end of January and February-mid May. Students would be in person for one session and in Zoom meetings in the other. Offering in-person classes will be contingent upon availability of volunteer teachers. Other models will be explored if we experience a shortage of available teachers.

Confirmation will conduct the 6 of their classes in the first semester (October - January) online through an invited Zoom link on Sunday mornings. The hope is that we will be able to conduct the remaining 2 classes, Penance Service, Retreat, and Confirmation practice IN PERSON during the Spring Semester (February-May). All Second Semester dates are TBD based on whether or not the Cathedral will host Confirmation this year or if we will hold the Confirmation in local parishes as was needed during the spring of 2020.

Sarah

From Deacon Paul Audette:

Annual Bereavement Mass will be held as a separate event on Sat., Nov. 14 at 9 am.

The previously announced plan to incorporate our annual Bereavement Mass into our regularly scheduled 10 am Mass on Sun., Nov. 1 has been changed. Planners of the event are concerned that so many people will want to attend that our church capacity will be exceeded and people will have to be turned away. Instead, the COVID precautions will be taken. There will be no reception after Mass. The number of family members allowed to attend will be limited to four. Family members will not be invited to enter the sanctuary to light a candle. Invitations will soon be mailed to the families of the 27 parishioners who will be remembered on that day. Their names will be published in a future bulletin so that all of you can lift them and their families in love and support.

2020 Pro-Life Awards

The Diocese of Worcester's annual Pro-Life Awards were presented at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert J. McManus on Respect Life Sunday, October 4, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul.

Congratulations to Fr. Joseph Nally, one of this year's awardees!

Respect life. All life is sacred.



Saint George's Parish Community joyfully welcomes four newly baptized members:



Ryan Daniel Lauring
John Raymond Lauring
Abigail Diane Lauring
Ryan John Shoro

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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.



The Parish Pastoral Council team met during the week of September 7th to reconnect after the summer break.

It was noted that the Fall Social was cancelled due to Covid and is scheduled for the fall of 2021. Planning for the event will commence January/ February 2021.

In recent news, the two trees located in front of the parish were removed due to declining health.

Thoughts about addressing the appeal and functionality of the front entrance were discussed including ideas for a new sign.

At the current time, the Parish is focusing on upcoming CCD classes which is to take on a hybrid learning style. The council wishes all students a safe start to The new school year.

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought:

In today's second reading Saint Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity!

St. George Parish Day of Prayer

Our Parish Day of Prayer for the wellbeing and protection of all affected, in any way by Covid-19, is **EVERY FRIDAY**. Please join us from home or work wherever and whenever you are able as we pray together while apart.



- Have you visited our Parish Website recently? There is an inspiring video on Eucharistic Adoration!
- Have you thought about praising God among friends more often lately? Holy Mass is celebrated here 5 days a week and live-streamed every Sunday morning.
- How about joining a Faith Sharing Group? They meet regularly here at St. George.
- Have you perhaps heard God calling you to a deeper and more challenging faith life? The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one way to restart and begin anew. It's offered here every Saturday.
- Have you ever considered helping to pass on our faith on to young parishioners? Help is needed in Religious Education. Call Sarah.
- Why not join in from home? Every Friday we "Pray together while Apart".
- Want to practice the "Works of Mercy"? As a "Community of Peacemakers" we continue to feed the hungry, shelter homeless families, and donate essential items for neighbors in need.
- Do you enjoy working outdoors? Gardeners gather to keep our parish grounds looking beautiful - they are looking for help?
- Our Prayer Shawl Ministers continue to work from home. Why not join them?

Read on, more information about these opportunities can be found in this bulletin!

A Notice from the Diocesan Office of Healing and Prevention

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 assistance coordinator for the Diocese of Worcester is Judith Audette at (508) 929-4363.

A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

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



Many thanks to all the volunteer gardeners who have kept up the parish grounds this spring, summer and fall! Your dedicated work continues to help make our parish a place that is well cared for and welcoming!



Holiday Outreach Plans Begin What are your thoughts?



Dear Friends,

Given these challenging times we have begun to plan a bit early for our holiday outreach to vulnerable neighbors in need. This year we hope to simplify our food and gift collections and focus on serving the neediest among us.

Ann Luring has generously volunteered to contact local agencies again this year. We are considering contactless drop off and pick up of donations. Our website administrator has generously volunteered to explore the possibility of a virtual Giving Tree on line.

Please keep these efforts in your prayers and if you have ideas or suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me at the email and phone number listed above. I am confident and looking forward to serving in new and creative ways this Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

Peace to You all,
Annie Doyle

A Thank You Note from Worcester Outreach Workers serving the Unsheltered:

Dear St. George Parishioners,
Thank you so much for the Bath Wipes, soap, wash cloths, toilet paper, socks and underwear! Those we serve really need these items and they appreciate being remembered by people like you who don't even know them. You make a difference to some of the most vulnerable people in our city. Thank You!
Barbara, Brian and Michael

With Gratitude!



Our "Loaves and Fishes" food pantry sends thanks to the people of St. George parish for all the school supplies donated last month.

Dozens of pack packed filled with crayons, pens, pencils, notebooks and much more were assembled and given to families with children in need.

Please continue to keep the children and teachers of our cities and towns in your prayers as they navigate this school year amid the challenges of this pandemic.

Families Need 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 October are:

**Pasta and Tuna Fish
Thank You!**

**Last weekend we restocked the Food Pantry at
the Mustard Seed with your generous donations!**

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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.*



**Gardeners Needed
Join Us for Fall Clean up**

Interested in helping maintain the church property?

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



**Video Series
"Explaining the Mass"**
Can now be enjoyed on our parish website!

Our Seminarian Thiago Ibiapina has recorded a series giving us some explanations about the Mass. This video series is clear and informative, as well as beautiful! The music is an added treat! Visit our parish website today!



St. George Prayer Shawl Ministry



"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls

have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..." Janet Severi Bristow, Co-Founder of the national Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. George continues its ministry started over 20 years ago. In need of prayer shawl for yourself or a loved one? Call Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER - MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Volunteers Needed

Call our Religious Education Ministry today!
See page 4 for details



St. George Bulletin Ambassadors

Generous St. George volunteers continue to hand deliver our weekly bulletin to their neighbors each week. How about joining this effort to deliver the bulletin to a neighborhood near you?

Call Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134 for more information.

**Make sure you are counted in the 2020
Federal Government Census !**

How can I get counted?

Go online at my2020census.gov

or

Call 844-330-2020

Every person matters!



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"God is Love" 1 John 4:8

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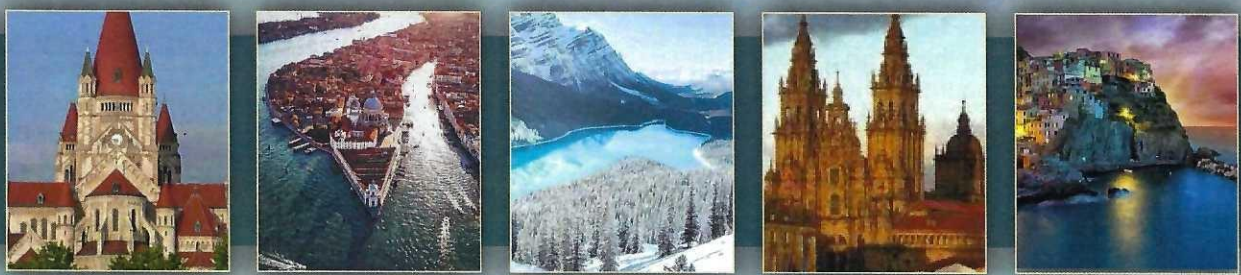



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