

**Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden**  
**October 25, 2020: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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40 Brattle Street Worcester, MA 01606  
Parish Office: 508-853-0183 Ext. 110  
[www.saintgeorgesparish.org](http://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

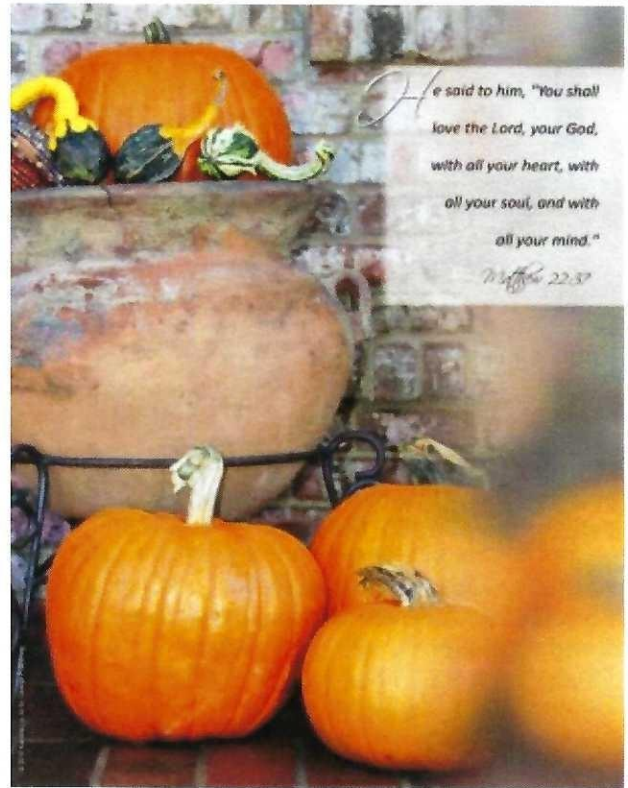
Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 113

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach  
[annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 111

Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary  
[office@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 110  
Fax 508-854-0864

Online Giving: Kathy Hessel at:  
[mkhessel@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 25, 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 24, 4:00 PM**

Special Intention

**Sunday, October 25, 10:00 AM**

Mass of Thanksgiving, requested by a parishioner

**Monday, October 26, 8:00 AM**

**Wednesday, October 28, 8:00 AM**

**Friday, October 30, 8:00 AM**

**Saturday, October 31, 4:00 PM**

For the Community of Saint George

**Sunday, November 1, 10:00 AM**

8th Anniversary Mass for Roland Berard

Requested by his family

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

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#### **Bulletin Item Due Dates:**

Weekend of:	<u>Due by:</u>
November 8, 2020	October 30, 2020
November 15, 2020	November 5, 2020
November 22, 2020	November 12, 2020

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



Sign up  
for E-news

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To hear about updates and notifications  
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simply visit [www.saintgeorgesparish.org](http://www.saintgeorgesparish.org)  
and click on the yellow link  
"Join Our Email List" on the homepage to  
add your email address.



### *From Your Pastor*

In recent weeks we have seen Jesus continually involved with his opponents, the religious leaders of his time in some serious disputes. They have discussed such subject as those who are worthy of the Kingdom of God, true worship and respect for God and love of God being seen and witnessed in true love for one's neighbor, no matter who he or she may be. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, tells us that we always need to be open to the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives. This is something that the Pharisees and their associates failed to do because their minds were focused on fulfilling the precepts of the Law for its own sake and not in the spirit of God. By enlightening their hearts and being more sensitive to the things of God, they would live much more faith-filled lives. This is what Pope Francis calls us to do. Such openness makes us see God's goodness and beauty in everything and in everyone. This is an invitation for the Holy Spirit to reign in our hearts, in our minds and in our life each and every day.

Over the next month you will not be seeing our associate pastor, Fr. Thiago. He has gone home to his native country, Brazil, to renew his visa with the plan for applying for his green card. This process will eventually lead to his becoming a citizen of the United States. He will be returning here on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

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 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 two weeks away, please make a note of it.

*Fr. Niccolls*



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## THE FAMILY CONNECTION

### *Is Your Family Prayer-Conditioned?*

*Family prayer can happen in every family despite the demands of things like homework, meetings and jobs. In today's world it isn't easy to bring up a family within a Christian framework. The values of a consumer society are so often opposed to the values of Jesus. The hectic pace of our lives cries out for time to be together, to pray together.*



### **Total Weekly Collection October 18, 2020**

On line giving 10/5-10/11	\$ 2,200.00
On line giving 10/12-10/18	\$ 1,755.00
Ordinary Collection	\$ 3,268.70
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,223.70</b>



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

### ***This Weekend's Stewardship Thought:***

We fulfill the commandment to love our neighbor when we exercise good stewardship — joyfully sharing our gifts of life, abilities, and resources to meet our neighbor's need.



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 its 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](mailto: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.



**Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden**  
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*Religious Education*

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

email: [sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto: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.

**Eucharistic Adoration**

*Your next opportunity to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament will be on Fri., Nov. 6 (First Friday) immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 10:00 a.m. We strongly urge you to participate in this powerful*



**St. George Parish Day of Prayer**

**LET'S PRAY  
TOGETHER**

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

*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.

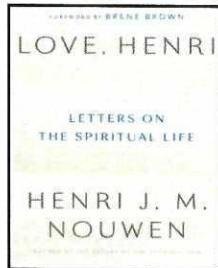
Due to HIPAA regulations, unless you allow the hospital or health care institution to release information and list St. George's as your religious affiliation, we are not told that you are a patient. Thank you for your understanding.



## Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden

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**From Deacon Paul Audette:**  
Henri Nouwen Speaks to us  
through his Letters



Excerpts from a letter to a friend who is struggling with his faith (taken from *Love, Henri: Letters on the Spiritual Life*)

*...I do not think that the life of Faithfulness in response to God is a very complex affair. I believe that it is a very simple affair and therefore so very hard!...A simple-minded, simple-eyed commitment to God is all that counts...The first and most important task we have is to keep our eyes on God and Him alone. We will never overcome the demons by analyzing them...Demons like to be analyzed, because that keeps our attention directed to them. God wants to be loved...I write you all of this because your letter told me that you are spiritually tired, feel a certain loss of vitality and spontaneity and suffer from a narrowing down of perspective. Well I share a lot of that with you....My only fear is that you will fight your fight on the wrong front. Don't spend too much time fighting demons, but give all you have to God...Nurture your contemplative side, be in a constant conversation with Him, who loves you most intimately, and let yourself be swept off your feet in that great encounter*  
With love, Henri

### The Spiritual Growth Committee met on Mon., Oct. 5:

-Joan Talbot is coordinating the annual Bereavement Mass to be held on Sat., Nov. 14 @ 9am.

-Changes will be made to the Eucharistic Adoration schedule. Beginning immediately, Eucharistic Adoration will be available only on the first Friday of the month at the conclusion of the 8 am Mass until 10 am. Upcoming dates will be Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5 and Mar. 5.

-Fr. Nicolls, Fr. DaSilva, Deacon Paul and other Spiritual Growth Committee members will participate in a drive-by blessing and greeting on Sat., Dec. 5 from 12:30 – 2 pm at the church. Annie Doyle is coordinating a combined holiday food drive and our annual Giving Tree gift collection at that same time. Parishioners will be encouraged to place their donations in the trunks of their cars. Confirmation candidates and others will carry the donations into the church.

-Bonnie Moran is working with Mike Savino to include a 15-minute segment just prior to the weekly 10 am streamed Mass to promote spiritual growth and other parish activities. Bonnie welcomes ideas for use of that segment. Bonnie is also coordinating a brief survey outreach (via our website and bulletin insert) to get feedback on how we are doing during this pandemic year in light of the isolation forced on people by COVID.

Spiritual Growth Committee members are: Deacon Paul – Chair; Andrea Svagdys-Gumbrell; Joyce Purcell; Joan Talbot; Bonnie Moran; and Patty Walsh. Fr. Nicolls and Fr. DaSilva serve as *ex officio* members



- 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.



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## *A Community of Ministries*



### **St. George Parish Outreach**

Annie Doyle Ext.111  
508-450-4134  
[annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org)

### **Outreach Opportunities**

**UPDATE - Giving Tree Gift Tag Availability Begins November 7 on our parish website.** The Diocese of Worcester has just sent us Giving Tree Guidelines for Safety during the pandemic. These include using virtual Giving Trees and loosely bagged gifts. More information will be on the website and in next weeks bulletin.



**Thanksgiving Food Collection Drop off Saturday, November 14th Any time before 3:00PM** - This year our food collection will be led by our Confirmation Candidates who have been invited to solicit and collect food in their neighborhoods. Food will be dropped off in the Outreach Collection Area. Parishioners can join in and leave their donations in that same area.



### **Donations for Turkeys and/or Giving Tree Gifts**

This year we invite you to mail your donation to the parish office, drop it in the basket beside the door at Mass or give it as a "one time gift" through Online Giving. Add a note so we will use it as you intend.

### **Thanksgiving Day Mass 8:00AM, November 26**

Please join us for Mass on this day of giving thanks to God for many blessings. We invite you to bring food for a blessing for the congregation as a whole.

### **Gifts, Food and Blessing Drive-Through Saturday, December 5th 12:30 till 2PM**

All are invited to drive through the church parking lot with Giving Tree Gifts and non-perishable food items in the trunk of your car. Confirmation candidates and volunteers will be happy to remove the items from your trunk and bring them into the church. A Christmas Blessing area of the parking lot will be set aside by our Spiritual Growth Ministry for those who would like to receive a blessing from our priests while you are in your car. These items can always be left in the Outreach Collection Area.

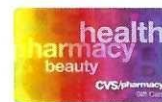
### **Why a "Community of Ministries"?**

Here at St. George Parish we strive to work together as a "Community of Ministries" who collaborate and cooperate with one another. It is in this spirit of humility and unity, that we hope to continue to grow "as one" in Christ.



### **You Can Help to Prevent Homelessness after the 4 PM Mass Saturday and 10 AM Mass Sundays Welcome Back Dave and Sue!**

We invite you to use "Hope for Housing cards" to buy your weekly groceries or prescriptions. You receive the full face 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. See Dave and Sue Genereux who are in the Church Hall after both Masses. Contact them at 508-829-5776 or email [WaysideATQ@aol.com](mailto:WaysideATQ@aol.com) for more information or for special arrangements.



### **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](mailto:DavewithFDT@gmail.com)

Special needs for October are:

**Pasta and  
Tuna Fish**

**Thank You!**





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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](mailto: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.





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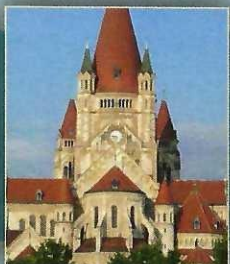

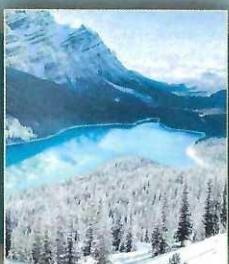
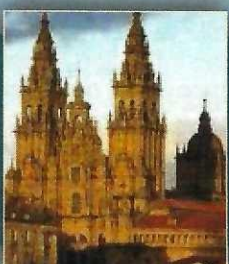
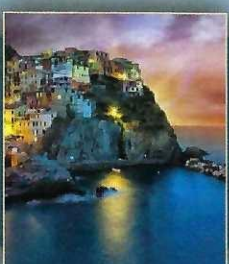
  
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