

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden
October 31, Thirtieth-first 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

Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext.113

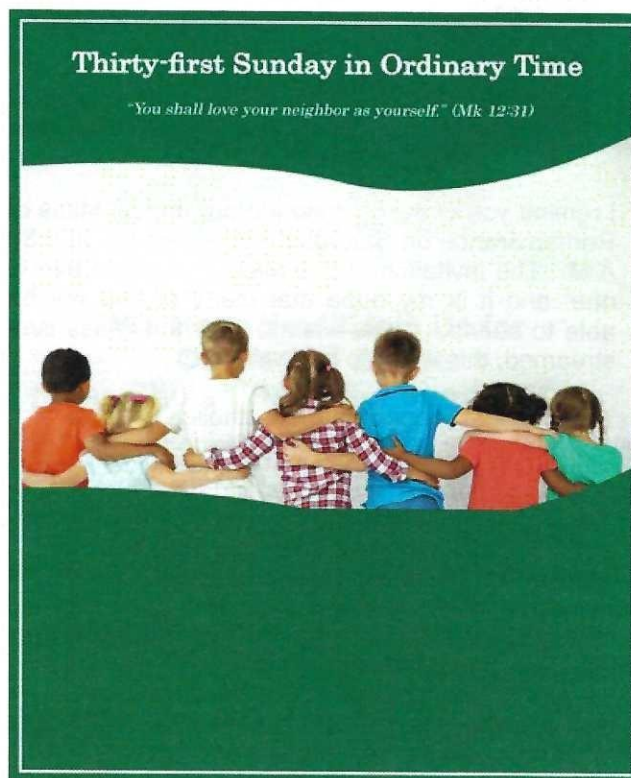
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.111

Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary
office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.110
Fax 508-854-0864

Current Office Hours:
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM
Thursday 9:00 AM- 1:30 PM

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:

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

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

Weekday Masses

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions are heard inside the church
2:30 -3:15 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 31, 2021

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From Your Pastor

Monday, November 1st, the Solemnity of All Saints, is not observed as a Mass obligation this year.

I remind you of the invitation to our annual Mass of Remembrance on Saturday, November 6th, at 9:30 A.M. The invitation to this Mass is open to everyone, and it is my hope that many of you will be able to attend. If you wish to view this Mass live-streamed, this will also be available.

The Synodal Process in the Catholic Church 3

Since in the previous article we spoke of collegiality and its importance to governing the church regarding the Pope and the bishops, we now turn to how we as church want to incorporate the fruits of Vatican II in becoming a more of synodal church. I mentioned earlier that the concept of collegiality is rooted in a spirit of collaboration, the ideal way for the Church to function. Collaboration means that we as church must work together to complete a task or achieve a goal. Thus, collaboration is similar to cooperation. In a diocese a bishop will need to collaborate with his priests and deacons since they are the leadership of the local church in the diocese. In turn the priests and deacons will need to collaborate with the people in their parishes, especially but not exclusively with those in leadership positions in the parish.

In moving forward with this plan for a more synodal church, we must come to terms with our parish's present pastoral situation, particularly in light of the past eighteen months with the Covid-19 pandemic. I want to say right here that for any mistakes that might have been made pertaining to ministry during this time, I am truly sorry. However, we must now be forward-looking people as we look at our future. This look forward is similar to driving a vehicle. If we only look through the rear-view mirror, we run the risk of causing harm not only to ourselves but to other people as well. We may need to look through the rear-view mirror occasionally but we should do so as a learning experience that gives us a better perspective of life while we continue to look ahead and watch where we are driving. It is for this purpose that we will need to be more collaborative. We can all have a part in this process but need to realize that no one has all the answers. Listening to each other as well as speaking with each other is vitally important to making the process of collaboration work.

Fr. Niccolls' message continued next column:

Fr. Niccolls' message continued:

We will be getting direction from our diocese regarding this synodal process, but I ask you to prayerfully keep the direction of this task in your prayers and prayer intentions. Also, keep in mind what was said in the previous article about being focused as a Eucharistic people. As was mentioned in that previous article, it is by our baptism that we have become instruments of Christ's Holy Spirit in the world. I repeat that this lies at the heart of what collegiality and collaboration mean in becoming that synodal church of which Pope Francis speaks.

Fr. Niccolls



Mass Intentions

Saturday, 30, 2021

4:00 PM 5th Anniversary Mass for Matthew Ryan Requested by his family

Sunday, October 31, 2021

8:00 AM For the Community of Saint George

10:00 AM Special Intention

Monday, November 1, 2021

8:00 AM In Memory of Trudy Sands

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

8:00 AM In Memory of Gordon Newcomb

Friday, November 5, 2021

8:00 AM Mass for All Souls

Requested by the Bui family

Saturday, November 6, 2021

9:30 AM Mass of Remembrance

4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Peter Klejna

Requested by his wife Ann

Sunday, November 7, 2021

8:00 AM Memorial Mass for Jack Hanlon

Requested by his family

10:00 AM In Memory of Rev. Joseph Nally

Requested by the Request Life Committee



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.

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Parish Calendar

Sunday, October 31, 2021

7:30AM-12N Confirmation Service Church Hall
Coffee Shop Express following 8AM & 10AM Mass Church Hall
10:00AM Toddler and Children's Liturgy of the Word Church Hall and Alcove

Monday, November 1, 2021

4:30-5:30PM Religious Ed Grades 1-5 Center

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

4:30-5:30PM Religious Ed Grades 1-5 Center
6:30PM - 7:30PM Girl Scouts Parish Hall

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Liturgy Committee

Thursday, November 4, 2021

11:00AM-12:15PM Faith Sharing Church Hall
6:00PM-7:00PM Family Prayer & Adoration Upper Church

Friday, November 5, 2021

Saturday, November 6, 2021

7:30AM Rosary Group Church Hall
8:00PM AA Meeting Church Hall

Sunday, November 7, 2021

Coffee Shop Express following 8AM & 10AM Mass Church Hall
10:00AM Toddler and Children's Liturgy of the Word Church Hall and Alcove
Following the 10:00AM Mass Confirmation Class Parish Center
6:00PM Religious Ed Grades 6-9 Parish Center



We Hope You'll Join Us for Coffee and Donuts In the Church Hall After Sunday Mass

The Coffee Shop ministry of hospitality has begun as "Coffee Shop Express". This is a modified, socially distanced gathering following the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses on Sunday Mornings. Please join us.



Eucharist and Prayers for the Sick

Especially during these difficult times, please call to let us know if a family member or neighbor is hospitalized, home bound or ill.

(Ann Doyle at 508-450-4134)

We want to be with you in prayer and support. We can perhaps arrange a visit and possibly bring Eucharist. Remember that 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

Thank you for your understanding.



Regular Offertory Donations, Special collections and donations are available through Online Giving.

Access is available through our website - click on the icon like the one pictured here.

Kathy Hessel is always happy to assist you at mkhessel@aol.com

Many thanks to all of our on line givers who help to provide faithful and consistent financial support to our parish during this time of great need.

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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**Family Prayer Night at
St. George Church**

**Every Thursday at 6:00 PM
In the Upper Church**

There is a gathering of people
who pray for all families.

Everyone is invited to join us!

The Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed during this time. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn to pray the Rosary. Eucharistic Adoration is also a part of this wonderful time of prayer on the Thursday before the first Friday of each month.

Eucharistic Adoration

**Thursday, November 4th
from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM
and Friday, November 5th
from the end of the 8:00 AM
Mass until 10:00 AM**



If you are unable to join us in person, we invite you to visit our parish website to view the "Eucharistic Adoration" video on the homepage.

**Weekly Collection:
October 18th-October 24**

On Line Giving	\$ 1664.00
Ordinary Collection	\$ 4019.15
Total	\$ 5683.15



*Thank you for your generosity.
We are so grateful for your support!*

Bulletin Item Due Dates:

<u>Weekend of:</u>	<u>Due by:</u>
November 14, 2021	November 3, 2021
November 21, 2021	November 10, 2021
November 28, 2021	November 17, 2021

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

We are honored and delighted to
WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!
to our parish family!

Contact Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134 for an introduction, depending on your interests, to our parish spaces and ministries.

From Deacon Paul Audette

Henri Nouwen Speaks to us
through his Letters

Fred Rogers, the creator and host of the children's television program Mister Rogers Neighborhood, befriended Henri in 1984. Henri is responding to a letter from Fred about some criticism he has received and how it has hurt him.

(taken from "Love, Henri: Letters on the Spiritual Life"):

Dear Fred,

...It must be really painful to be confronted with a total misunderstanding of your mission and your spiritual intentions. It is these little persecutions within the church that hurt the most. I simply hope that you are not too surprised by them. They come and will keep coming precisely when you do something significant for the Kingdom...It has always struck me that the real pain comes often from the people from whom we expected real support. It was Jesus' experience and the experience of all the great visionaries in the church, and it continues to be the experience of many who are committed to Jesus...Some of the criticisms we simply have to suffer and see as invitations to enter deeper into the heart of Jesus...Let us pray for each other, that we remain faithful and not become bitter and that we continue to return to the center where we can find the joy and peace that is not of this world..."

*Much love,
Henri Nouwen*



*"Love the Lord your God
with all your heart and
with all your soul and with
all your strength and with
all your mind; and, Love
your neighbor as yourself."*

Luke 10:27

Stewardship Thought for the Week

What percentage does God ask of me as a good steward? *All of my heart, all of my soul, all of my mind and all of my strength!*

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784

sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Kein.brown@saintgeorgesparish.org

Religious Education 2021-2022

Religious Education for students in **Grades 1-5 and 6-9** is off to an exciting start. Please keep our students and their teachers in your prayers.

Confirmation Preparation classes will begin **November 7th** and will meet following the 10:00am Mass until 12:15 p.m. and again on November 21 & December 12, 2021. Next year's dates are January 9, February 6 and March 6, 2022. Dates for the Retreat, the final class and the Rehearsal TBD. Confirmation will take place May 15, 2022 at St.



Confirmation Service Experiences

This year's Confirmation Service Experiences are an "Introduction to Ministry at St. George Parish". Candidates have each chosen a Sunday morning date to serve (7:30-12N) with our parish ministers of Music, Hospitality, Videography, Greeters, Collectors and Coffee Shop Ministers and others. Thank you to Anne and Camden who will serve this Sunday. I look forward to serving with you,
Annie Doyle
Parish Outreach Coordinator
508-450-4134

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Begins This Sunday,

October 31 During the 10 AM Mass
All Students Grade 1 to Grade 4 are invited.

Students will leave the church by the two exits on either side of the altar and gather in the stage area of the Church Hall.

Please contact Sarah Kelly if you have any questions.



First Reconciliation Preparation and Dates

Retreat: January 15, 2022 2:30-4:00pm in Church Hall. The students attend with one or both parents.

Ceremony: January 29, 2022, 10:00am in the Church

First Communion Preparation

Retreat & Family Dinner

March 26, 2022 2:30-6:00pm in Church Hall

The students attend the retreat portion with one or both parents.

Everyone then participates in the 4:00pm Mass.

Families, including siblings, then all join together in the Church Hall for a shared meal.

First Communion Dates

Rehearsals: April 19 & 20, 2022 4:30-5:30pm

Mass: Saturday, April 23, 2022 10:00am



Volunteer opportunities

We are in great need of volunteers willing to be on a substitute list for religious education teachers. We would also love to have more parent volunteers on our rotating schedule for Children's Liturgy of the Word. Annie Doyle handles the Toddler group, with veteran volunteers filling in for her when needed. With the "Big kid" group, we have a small group of parents who take turns. Depending on how many volunteers we have, you would be assigned to approximately one Sunday a month. Everything is provided for you and we'd be happy to go over how it all works or to have you sit in one week. Please consider helping with these great ministries. Contact Sarah Kelly at sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Toddler Liturgy of the Word

Begins this Sunday,
October 31
During the 10AM Mass

Toddlers with a parent are invited to attend. We will exit the church through the main central exit and gather in the alcove of the church hall.

Please call Ann Doyle at 508-450-4134 if you have any questions.



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A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

Ann Doyle 508-450-4134
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

Holiday Outreach

November 6 & 7 - Thanksgiving Food Drive and collection for Turkey. Please label envelope "For Turkeys" - Mail in or add to Collection Basket at Mass.



November 13 & 14 - Today the Giving Tree Tags Will be available on the "Giving Tree" in our church.

November 19 - Mustard Seed Meal for 100 guests. Please call Annie to help prepare the meal.

Donations towards the \$5 cost of each meal are needed.



November 27 & 28 - Christmas Food Drive

December 4 & 5 - Giving Tree Gift Returns

Want to begin planning and shopping a bit early for folks who would otherwise do without?

Food Drive items that are typically needed are Turkey Stuffing Mix, cans of gravy, corn bread mix, small canned hams, cream of mushroom soup, cans of green beans and cans of vegetables.

Giving Tree Items that we know will be needed are men's zip up hooded sweatshirts, men's sweat pants, and children's gifts. Also, shower gel and body lotion.

Our thanks to Ann Luring who has generously agreed to contact the agencies that we have assisted in the past.

As we become aware of more specific needs we will include them here and of course on our "Giving Tree".

Food for Folks in Need

To receive a free weekly food bargain grid, join St. George's "Food Donation Team" just email Dave at DavewithFDT@gmail.com

**Special needs for November are:
Cans of Tuna and Cereal**

Help Prevent Family Homelessness Buy "Hope for Housing Cards"

after the 4 PM Mass Saturday,
And after the 8AM or 10 AM Mass Sunday.
See Dave and Sue Genereux who are in the Church Hall EVERY Mass.

If needed contact them at
978-833-0306 for more information.



THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Tonight many people will celebrate Halloween or All Saints Eve. Our faith invites us to welcome the stranger, and giving treats to trick or treaters is literally a form of open door hospitality. If your neighborhood observes this custom you will be opening your door to a variety of strangers tonight! Welcome the children. Welcome them without judgment. They are saints in the making!



GRANDPARENTS:

All interested grandparents are asked to pray for the safety and well-being of their grandchildren. Prayers are available by sending a long self addressed stamped envelope to Ruth Viens, 20 Mary Scano Drive, Apt. 223, Worcester MA 01605. As meetings resume in the parish it is hoped that the eight year monthly Grandparent Group will again be available.

Contact Ruth at ruthviens@charter.net,
508-852-5658 for more information.

Grandparents make memories that the heart holds forever.

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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.*

**"Welcome Baskets" for Refugees Delivered
Your Generosity was overwhelming!**

Sixteen baskets/bags/buckets were delivered to the Refugee and Immigrant Assistant Center (RIAC) in Worcester. They were delighted with your gifts.

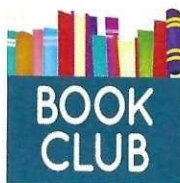
The Refugee Story Continues

A family of seven has arrived from Afghanistan. They are seven delightful children, all under 10 years of age, and their parents. They are settled into a nearby apartment. With your generous donations to St. George Parish Outreach we were able to welcome them by supplying some of the food they requested; potatoes, okra, tomatoes and bread.

Your generosity also supplied laundry detergent and we shared how to use the washing machine. The children enjoyed several books, paper and crayons that we gave them. Little by little, we hope to continue to support them in the ways that are most essential to them.

**St. George
Book Club Meets**

Second Tuesday of every other
month in the Church Hall



**How about joining us?
November 16, 2021**

Contact Nancy Forhan at 508-963-9909



**Join Our Prayer Shawl Ministry
Knit or Crochet At Home**

Thank you to all of our faithful knitters who continue to spread comfort and kindness through their generous work!

New members are invited to join this important ministry of outreach to the sick, suffering and lonely.

Do you know anyone who would like a Prayer Shawl? Call Annie Doyle today: 508-450-4134



Spiritual Growth Ministry

Bonnie Moran

saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com

The Spiritual Growth Committee met on
August 23, 2021

- Plans for the Spiritual Growth Committee's participation in Welcome Weekend activities were discussed.
- Eat, Pray and Share will probably be offered in November.
- An additional evening Faith Sharing group is being considered.
- About 20 people have offered to write reflections for the upcoming Lenten Reflection Booklet. More are being sought.
- Plans for 2022 Day of Spirituality are ongoing.
- Joan Talbot is coordinating the 2021 Day of Remembrance Mass to be held on Sat., Nov. 6 at 9:30 am.
- The 2021 Advent Evening of Reflection will be held on Mon., Dec. 20 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.
- Bonnie Moran is coordinating a "Spiritual Growth Corner" weekly bulletin article.
- The 1st Saturday of the month rosary recitation at 7 am will continue.
- Annie Doyle organizes outreach to home bound parishioners for Communion visits.
- Spiritual Growth Committee members are: Bonnie Moran – Chair; Andrea Svagdys-Gumbrell; Joyce Purcell; Joan Talbot; Patty Walsh; and Kyle Lewandowski. Fr. Niccolls and Deacon Paul serve as *ex officio* members

Saint George Rosary Group

You're invited to attend our once a month Saturday morning Rosary Group. First Saturday of every month. Please join us on :

Saturday, November 6th.

Currently we are meeting at 7:30 a.m.

If interested you may contact
Jim Hachey at 508-579-9623



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 *\$100 ADT Visa Reward Card: Requires 36-month monitoring contract starting at \$38.99/mo. (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees from \$695.76), and enrollment in ADT EasyPay. Requires minimum purchase price of \$449. One (1) Visa Reward Card valued at \$100 is redeemable seven (7) days after system is installed, wherein an email is sent to the customer's email address associated with their account with a promo code. The customer must validate the promo code on the website provided in the email and a physical card will be sent in the mail. Installation must occur within 60 days of offer expiration date to receive card. Applicable to new and resale sale types only. Card is issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC, pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. No cash access or recurring payments. Can be used everywhere Visa debit cards are accepted. Card valid for up to 6 months; unused funds will forfeit after the valid thru date. Card terms and conditions apply. General: Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. System remains property of ADT. Local permit fees may be required. Prices and offers subject to change and may vary by market. Additional taxes and fees may apply. Satisfactory credit required. A security deposit may be required. Simulated screen images and photos are for illustrative purposes only.
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