November 21, 2021, Thirty-fourth Sunday - Christ the King

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

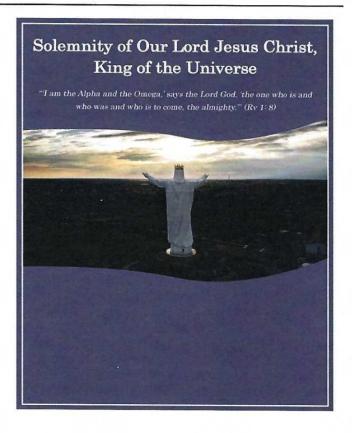
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.111

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



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, November 21, 2021

November 21, 2021 Thirty-fourth Sunday - Christ the King



From Your Pastor

This coming Thursday, November 25th, we will be celebrating our American feast of Thanksgiving, a fall holiday which is a festive celebra-

tion and a time to recall our responsibilities as Christian stewards as well. Although it is a national holiday, this feast echoes the basic orientation of our Christian faith. It is naturally expressed in our central ritual of worship, the Eucharist, which comes from the Greek word for Thanksgiving. Every time that we celebrate the Eucharist we should remind ourselves that everything we have and all we are comes from God. As we celebrate this festive holiday, we will offer one Mass for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 25th, at 8:00 A.M. We will also have the special blessing of food during this liturgy. Please bring something to church that you are going to serve at your Thanksgiving meal for this blessing.

Coming Home to Church 3

At the conclusion of last week's article about the worldwide synod and the need for us to be a Eucharistic people, it was mentioned that at Mass, we lay our joys and our brokenness on the altar together with those of our brothers and sisters. In return, we get the support of the community, we are nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ to help us on our journey, and we are given a renewed sense of purpose and hope. Again, I refer to the late Fr. Henri Nouven who said that the Eucharist, along with Baptism, are the spiritual pillars of the Church. The Church is the body of Christ fashioned by baptism and the Eucharist. When people are baptized and gather around the table of Christ and receive his Body and Blood, they become the people of God, called the Church. This Church, Fr. Nouven said, is holy and sinful, spotless and tainted. The Church is the bride of Christ, holy and faultless but it is also a group of sinful, confused, anguished people constantly tempted by the powers of list and greed and always entangled in rivalry and competition. So when we say that the Church is a body, we refer to it not only as a holy and faultless body made Christ-like through Baptism and Eucharist but we also refer to it as the broken bodies of all the people who are its members. When we can keep both of these ways of referring to the Church together in our thinking and in our speaking, can we live in the Church as true followers of Jesus.

Next Sunday we will celebrate the beginning of the Season of Advent which is also the beginning of our Church's liturgical year. This year we will be in the C cycle of the liturgical year when we will hear the Gospel of Luke proclaimed through most of the year.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 20, 2021 4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Gilbert Bouchard Requested by Dennis and Sharon Bouchard

Sunday, November 21, 2021 8:00 AM For the Community of Saint George 10:00 AM First year Remembrance for Ernest Pantos Requested by Andrea Berger

Monday, November 22, 2021 8:00 AM In Memory of Bernice Ladner

Wednesday, November 24, 2021 8:00 AM In Memory of Stan and Frances Pielaszczyk

Thursday, November 25, 2021 8:00 AM Mass of Thanksgiving

Friday, November 26, 2021 8:00 AM Mass for All Souls Requested by the Bui Family

Saturday, November 27, 2021 4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Kathryn Davian Requested by Donna Connelly

Sunday, November 28, 2021 8:00 AM For the Community of Saint George 10:00 AM Memorial Mass for Father Joseph Nally Requested by Saraphina Wong





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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.

Fr. Niccolls

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Parish Calendar

Sunday, November 21, 2021

Coffee Shop Express following 8AM & 10AM Mass

Church Hall

10:00AM Toddler and Children's Liturgy of the Word Church Hall and Alcove

11:00 AM-12:15 PM Confirmation Class Parish Ctr

Monday, November 22, 2021

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

Center

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

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

Center

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

Thursday, November 25, 2021 THANKSGIVING DAY

Friday, November 26, 2021 Saturday, November 27, 2021 8:00PM AA Meeting

Church Hall

Sunday, November 28, 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 11:00AM-12:15PM Confirmation Class Parish Center



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 <u>mkhessel@aol.com</u>

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.



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 that you are a patient. Thank you for your understanding.

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, December 2
from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM
and Friday, December 3
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: November 9 - November 14

On Line Giving \$ 1,190.00
Ordinary Collection \$ 4.255.00
Total \$ 5,445.00

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



Bulletin Item Due Dates:

 Weekend of:
 Due by:

 December 5, 2021
 November 23, 2021

 December 12, 2021
 December 1, 2021

 December 19, 2021
 December 8, 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

Also, the best way to book/reserve a Mass is to call our office and speak to Kate directly.

From Deacon Paul Audette

<u>Henri Nouwen Speaks to us through his Letters</u> Henri responds to a reader who has questions about the value of the Church to those who are "spiritual" but not "religious." (taken from "Love, Henri: Letters on the Spiritual Life"):

Dear Seth,

...The Church, as you say so clearly, can be in the way of God, but it will never cease to be also the way to God. This is the hard paradox of the religious life. When we give up the Church completely, we will end up by losing God. In many ways, we are in the same situation Jesus was in during his life. He strongly criticized the religious leaders of his time, but continued to say that people should listen to their words without following their example. While Jesus was very critical of the religious institutions of his time, he never suggested that people could do without them. And this is even true today...It has always struck me that the great Saints such as St. Francis and St. Mother Teresa say that we have to remain faithful to the Church even in the midst of all conflicts. Without sound doctrine about who God is as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, without some external structure, it will be impossible to live a faithful spiritual life. Doctrine and structures are basically nothing but fences around the garden where we can meet God. They are to keep us connected with the truth so that we can enter freely in communion with the One who wants to share His love with us..."

> Sincerely yours, Henri Nouwen

Stewardship Thought for the Week

Today's second reading reminds us that the sacrifice of Christ frees us from sin and makes us a royal nation of priests *in the service* of God. How am I using my gifts to serve God and others?



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.

November 21, 2021, Thirty-fourth Sunday - Christ the King



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 began November 7th and will meet following the 10:00am Mass until 12:15 p.m. 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. Paul Cathedral.



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, Coffee Shop Ministers and others. Thank you to Scott, Charlie and Matt who served so attentively and flexibly last Sunday. The next dates of service are November 28, December 5 and 19. Next years dates are January 16, 2022, February 13 and March 13, 2022.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Takes place on Sundays, During the 10 AM Mass All Students Grade 1 to Grade 4 are invited.

Please contact Sarah Kelly if you have any questions.

Thank you to our parents who have volunteered to help proclaim the Word of God to our children.



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 2:30-6:0pm 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

Takes place on Sundays, 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. Many thanks to Ruby Moran for her kind and faithful assistance.



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

November 21, 2021 Thirty-fourth Sunday - Christ the King

A Community of Ministries





St. George Parish Outreach

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

Holiday Outreach

Thank you for your Thanksgiving Outreach to folks in need! Through your generosity we were able to donate 40 turkeys and a car full of groceries to Our Lady Of Providence Parish Food Pantry.



November 13 until December 4 - The Giving Tree Tags are available on the "Giving Tree" our church.

November 19 - The Mustard Seed Meal for 100 guests was greatly appreciated! Thank you to the volunteers who prepared and served this delicious meal.

November 27 & 28 - Christmas Food Drive All non-perishable food items are wholeheartedly welcome. Tucking a small Christmas treat in the bag is always appreciated.

December 4 & 5 - Giving Tree Gift Returns due before the 10:00AM Mass.

If you are interested in helping with gift deliveries please contact: Andy Labreque at 508-873-2728

The Giving Tree is set up at the side of the Sanctuary decorated with tags that are labeled with the Christmas hopes of a needy person or family. There are many specific and special requests. It is especially important that you fill this need so that the wish is granted and the person or child in need is not left without a gift on Christmas morning.

This year the Giving Tree gifts will be donated to Winter Hill Rest Home, Blaire House, St. Mary's Health Care, St Francis Nursing Home, Diocesan Seminarians, the children at Our Lady of Providence Parish and the Mustard Seed Catholic Worker. The elderly in nursing homes are truly the forgotten folks in our community. Your gifts help to make their Christmas joyful.

Please - As we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace - No toy guns or violent toys. Also, no battery operated items - these are too expensive for the poor to replace.

Please, no cash and no food.

Please wrap your Giving Tree Gift loosely in a GIFT BAG or RECYCLABLE BAG and reattach the tag. Kindly return it to the church no later than December 5th at the 10:00 AM Mass.

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

Thanksgiving will soon be here. Why not make some homemade Thanksgiving cards for family, friends and people who are homebound or living in nursing homes. How about a card for the neighbors too! Shop for a nice basket to start preparing a Blessing Basket for your Thanksgiving table. At the conclusion of your Thanksgiving dinner, set this basket in the middle of the table. From then until Christmas, each day add to the basket supplies needed by local community service agencies. It might include warm socks for children, bars of soap for the homeless shelters. Call the agencies in your community to plan how to fill your family's Blessing Basket.



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 <u>ruthviens@charter.net</u>, 508-852-5658 for more information.

Grandparents make memories that the heart holds forever.

November 21, 2021, Thirty-fourth Sunday - Christ the King

Our Parish Vision: To **welcome** all, build **connect**ions to Christ and one another, and **live our faith** as true disciples of Jesus.

The Refugee Story Continues

This past week the children continued to adjust to school and learned to rake leaves. Their mom baked amazing bread, and two of the youngest little ones enjoyed playing in the back yard. The dad, who speaks the most English, asked for a sewing supplies and umbrellas for the children to use during rainy walks to school. Thanks to the generous donations of our parishioners to St. George Parish Outreach we were able to supply these simple but essential needs.

Current Outreach Needs:

- Gently used clean recycle bags with handles, Shaw's heavy plastic ones can also be reused at the food pantry
- Women's socks
- Small portable blankets
- · Men's gently used warm jackets
- Men's and Women's gloves

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, December 4, 2021
Currently we are meeting at 7:30 a.m.
If interested you may contact
Jim Hachey at 508-579-9623

Join Our Prayer Shawl Ministry Knit or Crochet At Home

New members are invited to join this important ministry of outreach to the sick, and lonely. We have now given out all the

suffering and lonely. We have now given out all the shawls that we have.

Please join us in prayer, knitting and crocheting from home.

Call Annie Doyle today: 508-450-4134



Spiritual Growth Ministry Corner

Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com

Spiritual Growth Committee met on Mon., Oct. 25:

The "Eat, Pray, Share" Faith Sharing program planned for November will be postponed until a later date. A meeting will be held with parishioners who participate in faith sharing groups to talk about the timing and format of the "Eat, Pray, Share" event.

Joan Talbot reported that 24 people will be remembered at the 2021 Day of Remembrance Mass to be held on Sat., Nov. 6 at 9:30 am.

A "Spiritual Growth Corner" will be added to every bulletin beginning with the bulletin of November 7.

Public rosary recitation continues on every Thursday evenings at 6 pm as part of Family Prayer Night and on the 1st Saturday of every month at 7:30 am.

The 2021 Advent Evening of Reflection will be held on Mon., Dec. 20 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Luke Johnson will be assigning dates and deadlines to the parishioners who have volunteered to write reflections for the Lenten Reflection Booklet.

Fr. Niccolls talked about the 2023 Synod and described how St. George Parish will participate. Listening sessions are being organized to elicit the dreams, ideas and concerns that people have about the future of the Church. That feedback will be forwarded to the Diocese where it will be included in a summary report including feedback from other parishes and then forwarded to Rome.

Helen Hurley was welcomed as a new member of the Spiritual Growth Committee.

Spiritual Growth Committee members are: Bonnie Moran – Chair; Andrea Svagdys-Gumbrell; Joan Talbot; Patty Walsh; Kyle Lewandowski and Helen Hurley. Fr. Niccolls and Deacon Paul serve as *ex officio* members.





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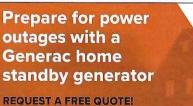
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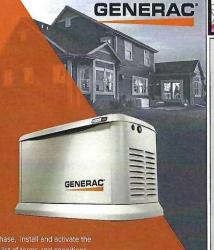


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