

## ***Saint George Church - Worcester and Holden***

***October 29, 2023 - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

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. Thomas H. Hultquist, Res. Sr. Priest Ext. 122

Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext. 113

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach

[annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 111

Patty LaBonte, Parish Admin Assistant

[office@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 110

Fax 508-854-0864

Current Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

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.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



I love you, Lord, my strength, O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer. Psalm 18:2-3

## ***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:**

Saturday 4:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

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

### **Weekday Masses:**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 AM  
and Thursday at 5:30 PM

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Confessions are heard inside the church  
2:30 PM - 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 29, 2023***



## From Your Pastor

Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, is the Solemnity of All Saints and holyday of obligation. Masses for the holyday are at 8:00 A.M., 12:10 P.M. and 6:30 P.M.

I remind you of the invitation to our annual Mass of Remembrance on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 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.

Many of us may come here today feeling burdened and overwhelmed as to how we could ever fulfill God's command to love our neighbor as completely as today's scriptures demand. Where could we ever get the personal, practical, monetary or other resources to do this? Remember, this is the second command that God gives us. We need to go back and pay attention to the first one – Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. Jesus is telling us to begin here. To love our neighbor properly, we have to begin by seeking God and God's help first. Starting there is beginning at the source of all generous love. We must be filled from the eternal font if we are to pour it out to others. We must practice loving God with all our heart, soul and mind before we can discern how we will best love and serve our neighbor. Our participation at Mass gives us what we need to answer God's call to love others. In the Eucharist we receive Christ: body, blood, soul and divinity. Through Christ's Real Presence here with us in the Eucharist, we are fed with the love God generously gives to us and are equipped to go forth and love as he loves us.

**New Nativity Set Update:** I have received more donations for the figures for our new Nativity set. The remaining pieces that are available for donations are the Magi (\$1,100), the Donkey (\$275) and the Ox (\$275). Anyone interested in donating for these remaining figures can contact me. My thanks to our donors for their generous gifts! I remind you that only the Holy Family figures will be available for this Christmas season while the other figures will not be available until after the first of next year.

*Fr. Niccolls*

## PIETA

is a support group for bereaved parents. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child is welcome to attend.



**Monday, November 13th at 7:00 PM  
in the Church Hall**

For more information call Terry Gentile 508-284-0796 or Sue Stevens at 508-852-4887. If you would like to send an email then please contact either Terry or Sue at [pieta3@gmail.com](mailto:pieta3@gmail.com)

## Stewardship Thought of the Week

**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.**



## Mass Intentions



**Saturday, October 28, 2023**

**4:00 PM** In Memory of Matthew Ryan, 7th Anniversary and Tracy Ryan, 2nd Anniversary  
Requested by their Family

**Sunday, October 29, 2023**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Denise Nicolas  
Requested by her Friend

**10:00 AM** In Memory of Joseph and Mary Collins  
Requested by Kate Wells

**Monday, October 30, 2023**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Vito Troiano

**Tuesday, October 31, 2023 No Mass**

**Wednesday, November 1, 2023 Solemnity of All Saints**

**8:00 AM** For the Community of Saint George

**12:10 PM** For the Community of Saint George

**6:30 PM** For the Community of Saint George

**Thursday, November 2, 2023**

**5:30 PM** In Memory of Edward J. Weber

**Friday, November 3, 2023**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of June M. LaMalva

**Saturday, November 4, 2023**

**9:30 AM Mass of Remembrance**

**4:00 PM** In Memory of Adelina LoStracco  
Requested by her Family

**Sunday, November 5, 2023**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of John Hanlon

Requested by Elizabeth Hanlon and his Family

**10:00 AM** In Memory of Rev. Joseph M. Nally

Requested by his sister JoAnn Nally and Family

## Deacon Paul Audette

*James Martin*

**(In this excerpt from an essay in the September 26, 1998 "America" magazine, Fr. Martin addresses his own physical infirmities and how these have given him several important spiritual insights)**

"I awoke later only dimly aware of the outside world but acutely aware of my own body...At the time, though dooped from the anesthesia (and soon to be drugged with morphine), I felt an IV tube snaking out of my arm and a long drainage tube coming out of the back of my neck. Whichever way I moved, something pulled painfully at my body. I felt like nothing so much as an insect trapped in a spider web. Added to this was the throbbing pain in my jaw and a constricting tangle of bandages swaddling my neck. I felt, in a word, helpless, caught in a web of discomfort and fatigue...An hour later a Jesuit friend came to visit. As I lay there unable to move, he spooned ice and Jell-O into my mouth – all I could eat at the time, but good and cool nonetheless. Later in the week, after five days without bathing, I asked if he could help me shower...Eating and bathing: both simple things I had taken for granted that I could do for myself and by myself. True, it was an experience of humility to feel oneself so totally powerless and dependent on others, but it was also a signal grace to feel myself cared for by friends and, in my case, by brother Jesuits...The experience of unexpected graces like this came rushing in frequently throughout my little ordeal, and frequently enough I again realized the link between suffering and grace...But is this the reason for suffering and pain? Does God make us suffer to show us his grace? Is this the *why* of suffering? I don't think so. But it certainly is the *that* of suffering, if we are open to it."



## Weekly Collection

October 16 - October 22, 2023

On-line Giving: \$ 1,041.60

Ordinary Collection: \$ pending - next week

Thank you for your generosity!  
We are truly grateful.

## Join us for Coffee Shop Club After 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Masses



\$1.00 each

Oct. 29 - Kathy Hessel and Team  
Nov. 5 - Andy Fish and Team  
Nov. 12 - Kelly Family and Team  
Nov. 19 - Dave Calson and Team

Coffee, donuts, bulkies, and fellowship! We NEED TEAM MEMBERS! Each team serves once every 10 weeks. All teams need help. Sign up at the Coffee Shop, come to find out more about how you can help, and help a team!

Contact Andy Fish: [andy@andyfish.com](mailto:andy@andyfish.com) or 508-901-7813

## Parish Calendar

**Saturday, October 28, 2023**

8:00 PM AA Meeting

Church Hall

**Sunday, October 29, 2023**

After 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Coffee Shop

Church Hall

10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy

Church Hall

**Monday, October 30, 2023**

**Tuesday, October 31, 2023**

**Wednesday, November 1, 2023**

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Gentle Yoga

Church Hall

**Thursday, November 2, 2023**

11:00 AM Faith Sharing Room 108

Parish Center

6:00 PM Family Prayer Night

Church

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration

Church

**Friday, November 3, 2023**

After 8:00 AM Mass - 10:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration

Church

**Saturday, November 4, 2023**

8:00 AM Rosary Group

Church

9:30 AM Mass of Remembrance and Reception

Church/Hall

8:00 PM AA Meeting

Church Hall

**Sunday, November 5, 2023**

After 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Coffee Shop

Church Hall

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Rel. Ed grades 1-8

Parish Center

10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy

Church Hall



**St. George Church**  
**Friday, November 10, 2023**  
**6:00 PM - 9:30 PM**  
**Church Hall**

Professional

**KARAOKE**  
**PASTA & MEATBALL**  
Catered by Dino's Restaurant  
**FUNDRAISING DINNER**

**Tickets on Sale Now**

**After Mass on Sunday 10/29, or by mail**  
**with registration form in the Church Hall.**

**\$20 Adults, \$10 for 12 yrs and under,**  
**Free for 3 yrs and under, or**  
**\$65 for the Family (live in the same household)**

**Have questions or need a Ticket Order Form?**  
**Call the Parish Office at 508-853-0183**  
**or send email to: [emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com)**



**Readings  
To-Go!**

*30th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 29, 2023*

*Scan QR code to see  
this week's readings!*



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 happy to assist you, email with questions at [mkhessel@aol.com](mailto:mkhessel@aol.com). Many thanks to our online givers who help to provide faithful & consistent financial support to our parish during this time.



**Bunco for a Cause!**  
**Friday, November 3, 2023**  
**Knights of Columbus**  
**44 Circuit Avenue, Worcester**  
**Doors open at 5:00 PM**  
**Benefits In Hour of Need (IHN)**

Join us for a fun casual night as we play Bunco for a cause! What is Bunco, you ask? Bunco is a dice game of luck, not skill. It takes 5 minutes to learn and creates about 2 hours of laughter. Invite a friend. All are welcome. Both men and women play. Doors open at 5:00 PM, Learn to play at 6:45 PM. Game begins at 7:00 PM. Register by November 1. Cost is \$25 and includes an Italian Grinder! All proceeds go support In Hour of Need House and Programs.

If you have any questions, call Ann French 508-868-0614, or you can also register online: <https://www.ihnworchester.org/>

## Church Donation Envelopes

If you would like to receive or stop receiving Church Envelopes please call the Parish Office and let us know. Using Church Envelopes helps keep track of your donations for tax purposes. Envelopes help track your donations. Thank you.

**Call the Parish Office with questions: 508-853-0183.**

## Bulletin Item Due Dates:

Postings are due **10 days before the Sunday Bulletin**. Please submit items at least 10 days before the Bulletin date. E-mail our Parish Administrative Assistant, Patty LaBonte, at [office@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org). The best way to book or reserve a Mass is to call our office: 508-853-0183.

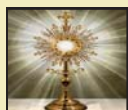
### Prayer Before or After Mass

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen



### 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. Contact Judith Audette, Diocese of Worcester: Victim Assistance Coordinator, call her at (508) 929-4363.



### St. George Church Eucharistic Adoration

The Thursday evening and Friday morning Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration will be on:

**Thursday, November 2, 2023** 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM and  
**Friday, November 3, 2023** after 8:00 AM Mass - 10:00 AM.  
Come spend time being with Jesus and pray with us.

### Holy Hour to Pray for Priests Immaculate Conception Church 353 Grove Street Worcester

**Friday, November 10, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

The holy hour of prayer for priests consists of time for silent adoration, a short reflection, the rosary and benediction.

**Repeats every second Friday of each month.**

### Saint George Saturday Rosary Group

You are invited to attend our once a month Saturday morning Rosary Group.

**First Saturday of every month.**

Currently, we are meeting in the  
**Church at 8:00 AM November 4, 2023**

If interested, please contact Jim Hachey at 508-579-9623



### ZOOM Rosary

**Urban Missionaries from Our Lady of Hope**

If you would like to join via Zoom for a weekly Rosary:

**Every Sunday, 6:00 PM via ZOOM**

Send an email to [mailbox@urbanmissionaries.com](mailto:mailbox@urbanmissionaries.com)  
put "Rosary" = subject line. ZOOM link sent to your email.

### St. George Family Prayer Night Thursdays 6:00 PM

*In the Church, there is a gathering of people who pray for all families. The Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary are prayed. 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 first Thursday & Friday of each month.*



### Mass and Healing Service St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish 151 Mendon Street, Upton Thursday, Nov. 9 at 6:00 PM

Mass and Healing service with  
Fr. Larry Brault, Deacon Stephen  
Mullaney and Maureen Capistran.

Call 508-603-1430 or send email:  
[crooney@stgabrielma.org](mailto:crooney@stgabrielma.org) with any  
questions or for more information.



### Winter Grief: Embracing Loss During the Holidays Saturday, November 18 1:00 - 2:30 PM Holden Senior Center 1130 Main Street, Holden

Grieving can become more intense during the holidays. This seminar is designed to help individuals find strength, hope and meaning this holiday season. We will talk about the experience of loss, the journey of grief, and the meaning and the importance of traditions and rituals. There will be a reflection on self-care strategies for the holidays. There is no charge for this seminar and everyone is welcome. Following the seminar there will be light refreshments. Each participant will receive a free book. **Pre-registration is requested.**

If you have any questions and to *Pre-register*  
please call us at 508-829-4434

## VESPERS



**Sunday, November 26th at 5:00 PM  
St. Paul's Cathedral  
19 Chatham Street, Worcester**

In recognition of the recent appointment of Msgr. Richard Reidy as a Chaplain to His Holiness, Bishop McManus welcomes you to join the diocesan family in blessing this papal honor at Evening Vespers on the Solemnity of Christ the King. Followed by a reception with light refreshments. All are welcome!



### March for Life Registration now open!

Plan now to attend the 51st annual March for Life in Washington, DC on: **January 19, 2024.** Buses will leave from St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, January 18, 2024 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 pm, and will travel to the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Friday morning Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Busses will return to Worcester immediately following the march, arriving back at St. Paul's at approximately 1:00 AM on Saturday, January 20, 2024. Cost is \$125 per seat.

**Registration deadline is December 15, 2023**, on a first come first serve basis. For more details and to download a registration form visit: [www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life) or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311 or send email to Allison LeDoux: [aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org).





## Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith" Sarah Kelly, Administrator  
Phone: 508-852-1784  
[sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org)

### Welcome to St. George Religious Education Classes 2023 - 2024

#### Schedule Online:

The schedule for all religious education classes, grade one through confirmation, can be found on the parish website. Be sure to check the website frequently for any updates.

#### Emails, Website & Remind App:

All important updates are typically sent out through email. We also post any changes to the schedule, or important updates on the parish website. A 3rd way, and often the quickest, of getting information out to families is through the Remind App. Simply text the code **@397b76 to 81010**. You can also follow the link on the parish website to sign up for the Remind App.

#### Confirmation:

The next class for Confirmation I & II will be held on Sunday, November 19th 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM in the Parish Center.

#### Volunteers Needed:

We are still in need of volunteers, especially those willing to be called as substitutes. Please prayerfully consider donating your time and talent to the young people of our parish. All curriculum and lesson plan materials are provided, as well as teaching support. Please email Sarah Kelly at the email below.

Sarah Kelly's email: [sarah.kelly@saintgeorgeparish.org](mailto:sarah.kelly@saintgeorgeparish.org)



### Family Dinner in Leicester Knights of Columbus 90 Mandeville Street, Leicester Thursday, November 9th at 6:00 PM

Come join us for a Family dinner at Leicester Knights of Columbus for either a Turkey Dinner or Baked Fish Dinner. Includes a Salad, Entrée, and Dessert. Cost is \$15.00 per meal. Reservations are needed so we can plan meals.

Call Don at 508-615-8434 for **Reservations** by  
**Thursday, November 2nd.**



Saint Mary School



### Saint Mary School 16 Summer St., Shrewsbury Fall Open House PreK to grade 8 Wednesday, Nov. 8 8:30 - 10:30 AM

Fall Open House: come meet the teachers and students. Learn about what makes our school so special. You do not have to register for this event. If you have any questions send an email to: [admissions@stmarysparish.org](mailto:admissions@stmarysparish.org).



### Saint John's Fall Open House Saturday, November 18, 9:00 AM To learn more and to register, visit: <https://www.beapioneer.org/experience>

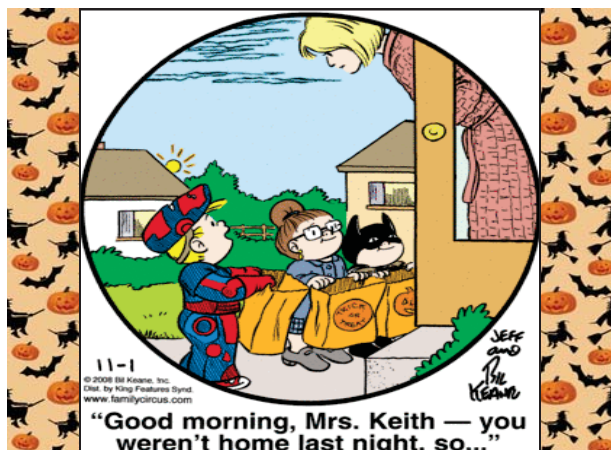


During this event, prospective families and students will have an opportunity to hear from Saint John's faculty, staff and students regarding the limitless opportunities available to our students! Hope to see you at this event.

Call St. John's with any questions: 508-842-8934

## The Family Connection

Halloween...Welcome the children! It's All Saints Eve. Our faith invites us to welcome the stranger and giving treats or treaters is literally a form of open door hospitality. Welcome them. They are saints in the making.



**Grandparents:** All interested grandparents are asked to pray for the safety and well-being of their grandchildren. Copies of grandparent prayers are available on the table in the Church Hall. Contact the Parish Office if you have any questions: [office@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org)

**Grandparents make memories  
that the heart holds forever.**



## Trick or Treat Family Faith Byte

**Have fun this Halloween!  
Think about ways to share  
your treats with others.**



### Youth Ministry

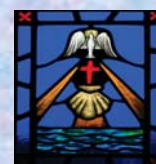
**Friday, Nov. 17 at 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM  
Meet in the Church Hall**



Youth Ministry is open to grades 7-12. Come find out more about Youth Ministry and what we will be doing this year! Contact Jay with any questions at [jguillette@charter.net](mailto:jguillette@charter.net)

### Baptisms in the Church Family

If you, a family member, or friend is interested in receiving the Sacrament of Baptism, we invite you to contact us today. Please contact: **Susan Pacek** by either phone **508-856-9960** or email [st.geobaptism@gmail.com](mailto:st.geobaptism@gmail.com)



# A Community of Ministries



## St. George Parish Outreach

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

### Please Save these Dates for Holiday Outreach 2023

#### November 4 & 5 - Thanksgiving Food Drive

Non-perishable food items needed. Sturdy recyclable bags with handles are very helpful. Items can be left in the Outreach Collection area anytime.



#### Donations for Turkeys are Needed

Throughout the month of November we hope to collect \$400 to provide turkeys for families at Our Lady of Providence Catholic Parish on Lincoln Street. Please label your donation envelope "For Turkeys" - Mail checks to: Parish Office or add the envelope to the Collection Basket at Mass.



**November 11 & 12** - This weekend the **Giving Tree Tags** will be available on the "Giving Tree" in our church.



**November 17 - Mustard Seed Meal** for 120 elderly and homeless guests. Please call Annie to help prepare the meal. Donations to "Parish Outreach" towards the cost of the meal are needed. The cost for each meal is \$6.

#### December 2 & 3 - Giving Tree Gift Returns due.

Volunteers to help sort and deliver will be needed.

#### Hope for Housing Cards Help Prevent Family Homelessness

Hope for Housing is a non-profit program developed by our parishioner Matt Ryan.

Matt has left us with this legacy which utilizes the collective buying power of 30 congregations to raise money for the prevention of family homelessness.

These Gift Cards for local retailers, including Big Y, CVS, Dunkin' Donuts, Hannaford, Panera, Shaws, Stop & Shop Target, Starbucks, and TJ Max are purchased in bulk, which in turn are sold to members of participating congregations who receive the full value of the card. The retailers donate 2-10% of all sales to the Hope for Housing program. By purchasing gift cards for **your use** at local retailers, you can help to stabilize families by providing counseling and support.



Please buy "**Hope for Housing Cards**" available after all Masses. See Dave and Sue Genereux in the Church Hall after Mass. Any questions call them at: 978-833-0306

### *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, homebound or ill. Call 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 informed that you are a patient. Thank you.



### Your Help is Needed to Feed the Hungry



#### Special Needs for November: Ham, and Cereal



These are items that are not available at the Worcester County Food Bank (WCFB). Due to the currently desperate food needs we now make weekly trips WCFB to increase the food which we are able to share with families in need.



#### Want to begin planning and shopping early for folks who would otherwise do without holiday food and gifts?

**Food Drive Items:** typically items needed around the holidays are turkey stuffing mix, cans of gravy, corn bread mix and small canned hams.

**Giving Tree Items:** requested items are typically men's zip up hooded sweatshirts, men's sweat pants, children's gifts and small blankets.

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

### Please Help!

Donate new or gently used socks for guests at the Mustard Seed. Our supply closet is empty! Homeless folks walk about 10 miles a day in search of food, clothing and shelter. Rain, snow and worn out shoes add to their struggle. A special bin is in the Outreach Collection Area on the church lower level for your donation. Thank you!



### Community Service Opportunities For Confirmation Candidates

We invite you to join in our ongoing Parish Outreach Experiences!

**Simply Text Annie Doyle's Cell  
for details: 508-450-4134.**



**Please see this page of the weekly bulletin or  
visit our parish Website to see opportunities.**

<https://saintgeorgesparish.org/>



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



## Emmaus Ministry

**Interested in being involved in Emmaus Ministry?**

**Your ideas, talents and time are most welcomed?**

Contact Andrea or JoAnn for more information at **508-853-0183** or [emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com)



### Spiritual Growth Ministry Corner

Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran

[Saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com](mailto:Saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com)

In Christianity, November 1st and November 2nd have long been known as days to remember the dead. The dates may have originated in Celtic lands where this time of year marked the beginning of death in nature or from Pope Gregory III, who, on November 1, 735, dedicated an oratory in St. Peter's Basilica to hold the relics of the apostles, martyrs, saints and confessors. The Catholic Church, as well as some other Christian churches, observe All Saints' Day on November 1st and All Souls' Day on November 2nd.

All Saints' Day is a holy day of obligation. It celebrates the holy men and women who have gained the reward of heaven. The Catholic Church recognizes more than 10,000 saints from a wide variety of background and circumstances. They can inspire us and be great role models for our faith. We can ask any or all of the saints to pray for us, to intercede with God. Pope Francis said "To be saints is not a privilege for the few, but a vocation for everyone".

All Souls' Day also known as The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, is celebrated on November 2nd. This is a day to remember and pray for all who have died. It is tied directly to our belief in purgatory. While prayers for the dead should continue all year round, there is a special connectedness of this day and for the rest of the month of November. "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

Especially as we begin this month of November, may we continue to pray for all who need our prayers and may all the saints of God, pray for us. Have a blessed week!

Spiritual Growth Committee members: Bonnie Moran – Chair; Deacon Paul Audette, Joan Talbot; Patti Walsh; Helen Hurley, and Kyle Lewandowski. Fr. Nicolls as ex officio member.

### Faith Sharing Groups

If you are interested in learning more about Faith Sharing groups, please contact JoAnn Nally at phone number 508-527-6973.



**Monday, November 27th from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

**Wednesday, November 29th from 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM**

**Room 108 in the Parish Center is Handicapped Accessible.**



In line at the grocery store, a very animated four-year-old asked her mother how much she loved her. The mother spread her arms wide and said, "This much!" The youngster contemplated this for a moment and then replied, "That's all I get?" Everyone cracked up. Certainly that story was told more than a few times that evening. But it does raise an interesting question: how do we measure love?

When the Pharisees question Jesus, they hope to trick Him into an endless debate about which commandment is most important. But the answer Jesus gives focuses on the reasons behind them: it is love of God and love of neighbor. To love God means that we give ourselves completely to God and His way. To love our neighbor means that we recognize in everyone the stamp of Divine approval, and the imprint of God's love.

How much love do we have for God and for others? We measure it in actions. Caring for others, living the Beatitudes, practicing the Works of Mercy and offering our prayers and sacraments express what we believe and help us strengthen our commitment to practice what we preach. God has already showed how much He loves us. It's our turn to show Him.

~James Gaffney © 2008 Pilot Bulletins

### Back to Basics Narcotics Anonymous

Support group for those attempting to recover from drugs.

**Our Lady of Lourdes, Parish Hall 1290 Grafton St, Worc.  
Meetings are every Friday from 7:00 - 8:00 PM**

Help lines National: 1-800-662-4357, Mass: 1-855-523-1426




**Mercadante**  
FUNERAL HOME  
& CHAPEL  
Est. 1961  
"Committed everyday to caring"  
370 Plantation Street • Worcester 508.754.0486 • Toll Free: 800.854.0486



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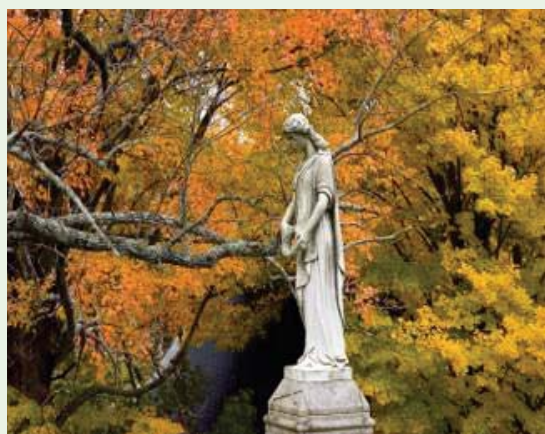
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## All Souls Day Mass

Please join us as Bishop Robert J. McManus  
officiates Mass on All Souls Day,  
Thursday, November 2nd at 11AM  
Notre Dame Cemetery  
Main Mausoleum Chapel  
162 Webster Street, Worcester

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