

Saint George Church - Worcester and Holden

March 5, 2023 - Second Sunday of Lent

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

Parish Staff: It is our privilege to serve you.

Rev. Edward D. Niccolls, Pastor Ext. 112
Rev. Miguel A. Pagan, Assoc. Pastor Ext 117
Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext.113

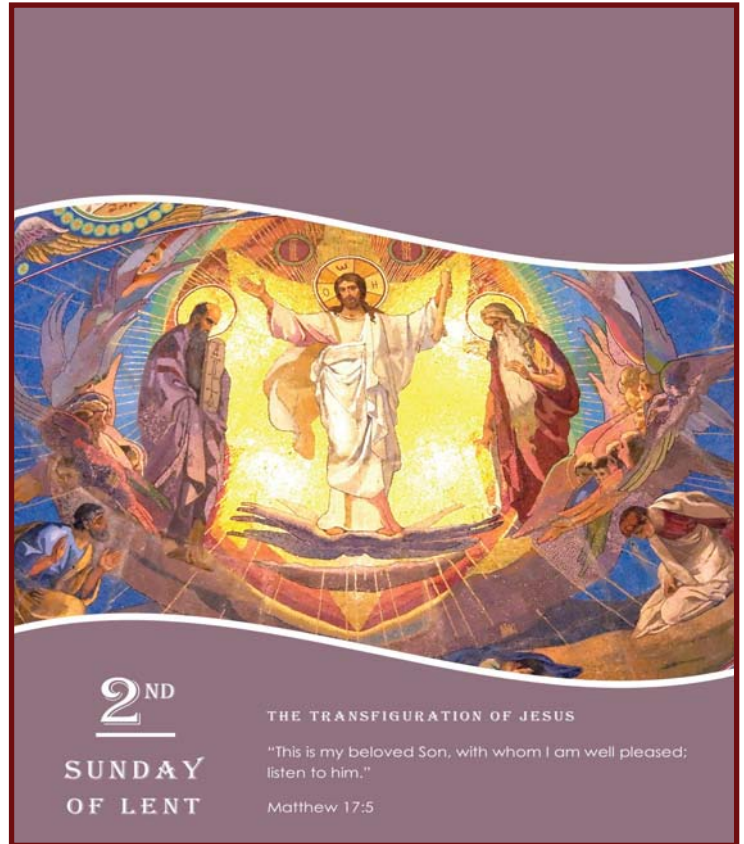
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.111

Patty LaBonte, Parish Admin Assistant
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

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 10:00 AM.

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:00 AM
Tuesday 12:10 PM, and Thursday 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, March 5, 2023



From Your Pastor

How do we define the Transfiguration? The Transfiguration is the revelation of who Jesus really was, as he is revealed to his disciples in dazzling light as the Son of God in whom his Father is well pleased. The disciples are in awe of this amazing event and Peter as their spokesperson becomes very chatty ("Lord, it is good that we are here... I will make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.") Jesus is changed, revealed in glory, and the disciples are in awe. The change from past to present is visible, and the future is glimpsed. This event is beyond the adequate description of words, and awe is the most appropriate response. Just as Jesus manifested his glory to his disciples in his Transfiguration, so too does he manifest himself to us in the Holy Eucharist. The Eucharist allows us to partake of the glory that we come to know of Jesus at the heavenly banquet. In a very real sense, all time and space disappear at Mass as we receive the Eucharist while still here on earth. We sit at the heavenly banquet with Jesus truly present in our midst. We gather at the altar of the Lamb with all the saints as a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own Chosen ones. The Mass, then is a foretaste of heaven in which we literally taste the Body and Blood of the Lord. This, too, is an experience that fills us, Jesus present-day disciples, with awe.

Vocation Discernment Retreat: Bishop McManus is extending an invitation to any young man who is in high school or older to an annual discernment retreat to be held on March 31/April 1, from 6:00 P.M. Friday to 6:00 P.M. Saturday at Immaculate Conception Retreat Center in Putnam, CT. There is no cost for this retreat, and transportation can be provided if necessary to the retreat center which is only 30 minutes away from Worcester. To register, please go to - <https://www.worcestervocations.com/retreat>. You can also speak with me for more information.

Fr. Niccolis

PIETA

is an ongoing support group for bereaved parents. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child is welcome to attend. Next meeting on:



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

For more information, call Terry Gentile [508-284-0796](tel:508-284-0796) or Sue Stevens at [508-852-4887](tel:508-852-4887), email pieta3@gmail.com.

We commend to your prayers

Elizabeth A. Lohnes
George F. McKenzie

May the angels lead them into paradise.



Mass Intentions



Saturday, March 4, 2023

4:00 PM In Memory of C. Louise Hadley
Requested by Craig and Ann Hadley

Sunday, March 5, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Hoyt Woods
Requested by his Family

10:00 AM For the Community of Saint George

Monday, March 6, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Fr. Henry Donoghue

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

12:10 PM In Memory of Most Rev. George Reuger

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of George Paulin

Thursday, March 9, 2023

5:30 PM In Memory of Eleanor Lemire

Friday, March 10, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Joan Sullivan

Saturday, March 11, 2023

4:00 PM In Memory of Marianne Noonan
Requested by her sister, Lorraine Murley

Sunday, March 12, 2023

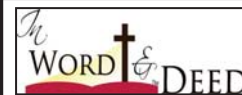
8:00 AM In Memory of Raymond and Lena Barton
Requested by Ed and Donna Saucier

10:00 AM In Memory of Daniel Toomey, 4th Anniversary
Requested by his Family

Memorial Mass for:

Kathleen Coggins

will be on **Friday, March 17th, 2023 at 10:00 AM**
here at St. George Church.
All who knew her are invited to attend.



Late in spring, my young nieces would stay with me for a few hours while their parents worked. I had them plant an assortment of small flowering plants. During the summer, they often would help me water the garden and marvel at the size and beauty of the flowers that grew so quickly. By summer's end, the mature plants added beauty and grace to an otherwise barren spot.

When Jesus is transformed before the Apostles, he is not just a bright light in a dark moment. He reveals something new and as yet unseen: the glory of the Father, proclaimed in the Law and the Prophets, and now fully seen in the person of Jesus. This is God's love and mercy, promising new hope and new life to the whole world. Encouraged by their vision, the Apostles would be the first to witness to Jesus and to the Gospel.

Every so often, we may get a small insight into faith. An understanding of the Gospel, or a new appreciation for the sacraments or a sense of awe during a special holy day can reinvigorate our faith. It gives us an added incentive to seek the truth or to delve more deeply into our beliefs. It may also be the little spark that renews a faltering faith. Look for those little moments when we are transformed. When we seek the Lord, He is always to be found.

~James Gaffney-Pilot Bulletins

Weekly Collection

February 20, 2023 - February 26, 2023

On Line Giving:	\$ 1,357.00
Ordinary Collection:	\$ 4,284.00
Total:	\$ 5,641.00

Parish Calendar

Saturday, March 4, 2023

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

Sunday, March 5, 2023

After 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Coffee Shop	Church Hall
10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy	Church Hall
11:00 - 12:15 PM Confirmation Classes	Parish Center

Monday, March 6, 2023

4:30 - 5:30 PM Religious Ed classes gr. 1-5	Parish Center
7:00 PM Faith Sharing Group Rm 107	Parish Center

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

4:30 - 5:30 PM Religious Ed classes gr. 1-5	Parish Center
6:30 - 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop Meeting	Church Hall

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Virtual Yoga email Sue Steven MonarchYoga@gmail.com

2:00 - 3:15 PM Faith Sharing Group Rm 107	Parish Center
7:00 - 8:00 PM Music Rehearsal	Church

Thursday, March 9, 2023

11:00 AM Faith Sharing	Church Hall
6:00 PM Family Prayer Night	Church

Friday, March 10, 2023

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross	Church
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Saturday, March 11, 2023

8:00 PM AA Meeting	Church Hall
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Sunday, March 12, 2023

After 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Coffee Shop	Church Hall
9:15 AM Coffee Shop Meeting	Conference Room
10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy	Church Hall
6:00 - 7:30 PM Religious Ed classes gr. 6-9	Parish Center

Music and Prayer Night

Please join us for prayer & music on:

**Thursday, March 16th at 6:30 pm
in the Church**

There will be three short vignettes of prayer and reflection arranged with our spiritual growth ministry followed by music related to the scripture passage from our contemporary music group. The reading, reflection and music will be followed by a social gathering and snacks hosted by Emmaus Ministry.

Take a break and come try this unique way to spend some time in prayer and song this lent.

We hope you can join us!

Bulletin Item Due Dates:

<u>Weekend of:</u>	<u>Due by:</u>
March 19, 2023	March 9, 2023
March 26, 2023	March 16, 2023

Please submit items by 10:00 AM on or before the due date.

E-mail our Parish Admin Assistant Patty LaBonte at office@saintgeorgesparish.org The best way to book or reserve a Mass is to call our office: 508-853-0183.

LENT

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent

February 24th - March 31st

6:30 PM in the Church here at
St. George Church

All are welcome!

22nd Annual Catholic Men's Conference

Come join us on **Saturday, March 25 Reg. at 7:30 AM Assumption University, 500 Salisbury St., Worcester.** Please join a thousand men and enjoy: inspiring talks from outstanding dynamic and Catholic leaders, about 50 relevant exhibitors with free material, important sponsors, beautiful music, old friends, lunch, optional Rosary, Confession, Adoration & Mass: **Bishop McManus 4 PM.** For more information: email cathmenworc@gmail.com or visit the new website www.catholicmenworc.com

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



\$1.00 each

March 5 - Andy Fish and Team
March 12 - Kevin Browne and Team
March 19 - George Gumbrell and Team
March 26 - Mike Doherty/John Beahn and Team
Coffee, donuts, bulkies, and fellowship! Please join a team! Each team serves once every 10 weeks all teams need help! Sign up at the Coffee Shop or come to find out more. Coffee Club meetings are 2nd Sunday every other month.

Next meeting: March 12th at 9:15 AM, conference room.
Contact Andy Fish: andy@andyfish.com or 508-901-7813



Lent Fish Fridays February 24 - March 31

Every week a list of places where you & your family can buy Friday Fish Dinners during Lent will be posted here! Call if you have information to share.

Dudley: St. Andrew Bobola 3p-6p, 54 W. Main St. \$15
Milford: St. Mary of Assumption, 17 Winter St., \$15
(Milford order online: <https://stmarymilford.org/fish-fry>)
Whitinsville: St. Patrick's Church, 1 Cross St., \$14
Worcester: St. Joan of Arc Church, 570 Lincoln St. \$13
Worcester: Knights of Columbus 44 N. Circuit Ave \$15

More to come in Worcester and surrounding area!
For more information call Parish Office at 508-853-0183

100th Annual Novena of Grace

Saint John Church

44 Temple Street, Worcester

Saturday, March 4th to Sunday, March 12th
Mass & Novena Prayers:

Weekdays at 9:15 AM, 12:15 PM and 6:15 PM

Saturdays at 4:15 PM, and 7:15 PM

Sundays at 8:00 AM, 10:15 AM, 12:15 PM, and 7:15 PM

On Saturdays, March 4th and March 11th there will also be Benediction and Novena Prayers at 2:15 PM.

For a schedule of speakers
visit: www.stjohnsworcester.org and click on devotions.

Prayer Before Mass

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever 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, at (508) 929-4363.

40 Days of Life Rosary Invitation

Bishop McManus will lead the Rosary And Divine Mercy Chaplet on:

Friday, March 17 at 11:00 AM
Sidewalk across Planned Parenthood in Worcester

as part of the 40 Days of Life Campaign. The Brothers, Sisters and upper grade students from Immaculate Heart of Mary School in Still River will be joining us. The Brothers will be leading us in an additional Rosary in Latin. All are welcome!



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 March 4th, 2023

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



Family Prayer Night Thursdays 6:00 PM in the Church

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 and Friday of each month.



SCAN ME



Readings To-Go!

2nd Sunday of Lent
March 5, 2023

Scan QR code to see this week's readings!

Deacon Paul Audette

James Martin Speaks to us through his "Essential Writings"

James Martin SJ attended the Wharton School of Business and worked for 6 years in corporate finance. Here he uses his experiences in corporate life to inform a sketch of the challenges and possibilities for living a spiritual life in the business world. (Part VII): "...The corporate environment can present formidable challenges for the believer. What do you do, for example, when you discover that you work in a corporation where religious values are not paramount? During my time working in human resources, I had to confront a manager who was planning to fire one of his employees. The employee had just received an incentive reward for outstanding performance on the job. Finding it bizarre that we would suddenly fire one of our top employees, I told the manager it was a bad idea. 'I don't care,' he said. 'I don't like him.' Then I reminded him that this middle-aged employee had been with the company for 20 years, had consistently done an excellent job and that not liking someone was not a valid reason for dismissal. None of that mattered, he snapped. Finally I said, 'Have some compassion. The guy's got a family.' His answer was short and memorable: 'To hell with compassion!' he shouted. (Only he used a one-word substitute for 'to hell with.') For me the episode neatly encapsulated the ethos of the company and ultimately led to a decision to leave."



Eucharistic Adoration

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

Thursday, April 6th, 2023 6:00-7:00 PM

Friday, April 7th, 2023 after 8:00 Mass-10:00 AM

We hope you can come join us in prayer and to spend time in the presence of Jesus Christ.

American Guild of Organists Recital in Worcester

Three members of the American Guild of Organists (AGO)

Chapter will perform on the beautifully restored Skinner Organ at **Blessed Sacrament Church**, 555 Pleasant Street in Worcester on:

Sunday, March 12th, at 3:00 PM in the Church

This is a 1 hour FREE event open to the public.

A Reception will follow.

All are welcome!

Online Study Series

"Into Life: Love Changes Everything"

Study series produced by the Sisters of Life that will be offered by the Diocesan Respect Life Office. Series reflects on a vision for pro-life ministry. Zoom sessions include video content, prayer, reflection, and discussion, starting:

Wednesdays from March 15 through April 19 at 12:30 PM.

There is no cost to attend and you can even bring your lunch!

Pre-registration by March 13 is required to receive content and links. To register email aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org with "Into Life Registration" in the subject line and include your name, email address and parish.

Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith" Sarah Kelly, Administrator
Phone: 508-852-1784

Sarah Kelly's email: sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Kevin Browne's email: kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org

Just a few reminders for schedules and times:

Confirmation Classes:

Students registered for confirmation classes will meet Sunday, March 5th, and April 16th in the Parish Center from 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM. Candidates are expected to attend the 10:00 AM Mass.

Confirmation Students & Community Service:

Join in our ongoing Parish Outreach Experiences. To help in the community, simply text Annie Doyle's cell phone for details at 508-450-4134.

Grades 1-5 Classes:

Classes will take place on March 6th and 7th, March 13th and 14th from 4:30 to 5:30 PM in the Parish Center.

Grades 6-9 Classes:

Classes will take place on March 12th and 26th 2023 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM in the Parish Center.

If interested in helping or any questions, then please reach out to Sarah or Kevin via email.

Grades 1-5 or for Confirmation questions:

Please email Sarah Kelly.

sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Grades 6-9, and Youth Ministry questions:

Please email Kevin Browne.

kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org



GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scout Troop 64885

Meet the first and third Tuesdays

Our next meeting will be on:

Tuesday March 7th, at 6:30-7:30 PM
in the Church Hall

Contact Michelle Vigneux email: Mrs.vigneux@gmail.com



Youth Ministry Gathering
Please contact Kevin Browne
For next gathering.

Open to grades 7-12 Please contact:

Email: kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org

Diocesan Youth Retreat

All high school youth and current 8th graders are invited to:
Diocesan Youth Retreat on May 19-21, 2023

at Anna Maria College!

Retreat theme is Mysterium Fidei (Mystery of Faith). Come for a relaxing and recharging weekend that will include fun and games, prizes, music, guest speakers, breakout sessions, and an experience into the ultimate mystery of Christ in the Sacraments through Eucharistic Adoration, confession and Mass! The retreat will start Friday evening and will conclude Sunday around noon. Cost is \$125/person.

Deadline to register is April 25, 2023.

To sign up or to get more information visit:

www.neworchester.org/diocesan-youth-retreat

THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Family Lenten ideas: give up certain food or drink one day a week (fasting), participate as a family to service involvement, find time to read the Bible together for 15 minutes daily, set aside one evening each week with no tv or computer...just family activities.



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 back table in the church hall under the bulletin board.

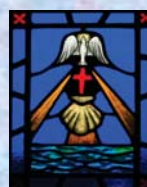
Contact Ruth at: ruthviens@charter.net
or 508-852-5658 for more information.

Grandparents make memories
that the heart holds forever.



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



A Community of Ministries



St. George Parish Outreach

Ann Doyle 508-450-4134

annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

Your Help is Needed to Feed the Hungry this Lent

- 55 families who come to the Mustard Seed Food Pantry every week.
- Approximately 60 families come to our local "Loaves and Fishes" food pantry every month.
- Every day many families in need come to the "Little Store" at Urban Missionaries on Cambridge Street in Worcester in need of emergency food.
- Children and parents at IHN Family Shelter look for food in their Food Pantry.
- Seventeen members of our Afghanistan families need your help to feed their young children.

Special Needs for March are: Cans of Tuna and Peanut butter



All types of food donations are welcome and can be left in the "Outreach Collection Area" just outside the entrance to the Church Hall on the basement level.



Current Parish Outreach Needs and Opportunities

Mustard Seed Catholic Work: Bars of soap and gently used wash clothes are needed.

IHN Family Shelter: Let us pray in thanksgiving for Michael Ohl who continues to work on household repairs at IHN.

Our Afghanistan Families: If anyone hears of a three bedroom affordable apartment, available in the Tatnuck or Newton Square area of Worcester, please call Annie Doyle as soon as possible. This is an urgent need.

Our next Mustard Seed Meal is March 17. Please let Annie Doyle know if you can help with prep or serving. Thank you to Nicole who has donated 20 meals.

Our Lenten Food Drive will be March 25 & 26. The most urgent need is for tuna and peanut butter for the Mustard seed. All types of non-perishable food items are greatly appreciated.

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 for your understanding.

Why the Ancient Traditions of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving during Lent?

In preparation for the great celebration of Easter, we are called to pray, fast and give alms as some of the ways to help us draw closer to God during Lent.

Prayer is one of the ways to connect with God, in silence, in words, and in worship. Jesus prayed constantly and taught us to pray to Our Father in heaven. Jesus emphasized that our prayer need not be long, complicated or showy, but rather, short, to the point, and heartfelt.

Fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, (taking only one full meal) reminds us of our dependence on God. We "do not live on bread alone." On the Fridays of Lent we remember the sacrifice of Christ on Good Friday and unite ourselves with that sacrifice through abstinence from meat. These are acts of self-discipline and self-control which can help to keep us mindful of God's loving presence.

Almsgiving: Lent invites us to see the face of Christ in the hungry and homeless, sick and suffering. Jesus depends on us to listen with compassion to the joys and sorrows of our friends and family members and to reach out in kindness and compassion to all. See our parish website and the outreach section of this bulletin for ideas about giving Alms.

Hope for Housing Cards Help Prevent Family Homelessness



Here is how it works:

Hope for Housing is a non-profit Program developed by our parishioner Matt Ryan with the Interfaith Coalition to Prevent Family Homelessness and the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance. Sadly, Matt is now deceased, but his work goes on, raising awareness about homelessness in our community and utilizing the collective buying power of 30 congregations to raise money for the prevention of family homelessness.

The fastest growing homeless population is children. It has been demonstrated that children who are homeless experience deflated self worth, diminished school achievement and related health and emotional issues.

These Gift Cards from local retailers, including Big Y, CVS, Dunkin' Donuts, Hannaford, Panera, Shaws, Stop & Shop, Target, Starbucks, and TJ Maxx 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 to assist families at risk of homelessness. By purchasing gift cards for your use at local retailers, you can help to stabilize families by providing counseling and support to keep them in their homes.

Please buy "**Hope for Housing Cards**" after the 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday, and after the 8:00 AM or 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday. See Dave and Sue Genereux in the Church Hall after EVERY Mass. Contact Dave & Sue at: 978-833-0306 with any questions.

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



Emmanuel Ministry

SOUP & STATIONS OF THE CROSS



FRIDAY, MARCH 24 2023

5:15 PM- Poor Person's Supper (Church Hall)
6:30 PM- Stations of the Cross (in the Church)

Jesus' life was one of humility, service and living in right relationship with others. The words of the Old Testament Prophet Micah speak to the way Jesus lived: "...Do just, love mercy, walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8)

This evening will give us the opportunity to practice the words of Micah and the example of Jesus.

A FREE WILL OFFER IS SUGGESTED.

Please SIGN UP IN ADVANCE
at the table just inside the Church Hall
or by calling JoAnn Nally @ 508-527-6973.



Spiritual Growth Ministry Corner

Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran

Saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com

In Mid-February, 98-year-old former President Jimmy Carter began hospice care in his home as he awaits his well-deserved "passing over" into the new life of Christ. In the publicity surrounding his decision to enter hospice care, his niece, Kim Fuller, shared one of his quotes: "I have one life and one chance to make it count for something. I'm free to choose that something...My faith demands that I do whatever I can, whenever I can, for as long as I can." Then Kim added: "Maybe it's time to pass the baton. Who picks it up, I have no clue. I don't know. Because this baton's going to be a really big one." "My faith demands that I do whatever I can, whenever I can, for as long as I can." What a wonderful creed by which to live our lives! We thank Jimmy Carter for showing us how that creed can be genuinely lived as we pray for Jimmy's new life in Christ. He has done it for "as long as I can." "It is now up to us to keep his baton alive."

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

Faith Sharing Groups

**Registration: Lenten Faith Sharing Group
After 8:00 and 10:00 AM Sunday Masses.**

Monday Faith Sharing Group will meet:
March 6th, and 13th at 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
in the Parish Center, Room 107



Lenten Faith Sharing Group will meet:
Wednesday, March 8th, and 15th at 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM
in the Parish Center, Room 107

**If interested in joining a group, please contact Joann.
Handicapped Accessible.**

Call JoAnn Nally 508-527-6973 with any questions.



*Diocese of Worcester, Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609*

DISPENSATION

The Liturgical Commemoration of St. Patrick, the patron Saint of Ireland, March 17, is observed this year, 2023 on a Friday of Lent that the Church prescribes as a Day of Abstinence from meat. In light of the importance of this feast day for many in the Diocese of Worcester, I am granting a dispensation from the rule of abstinence on Friday, March 17, 2023.

I ask that those who take advantage of this dispensation perform another act of penance in its place on that day.

+ *Robert J. McManus*

Most Reverence Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester, February 27th, 2023.

Lenten Regulations

- **Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years and older on **Ash Wednesday**, **Good Friday**, and all ***Fridays** of Lent. Dispensation on March 17th, 2023.
- **Fasting** is to be observed on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** by all Catholics over the age of 18 but not yet 59. Those bound by this may only take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal practices.

Those who are ill, pregnant, on medication or special diets for health concerns, or those who work at extremely physical jobs may be exempt from these regulations.

*In the United States, the bishops have asked Catholics over the age of 14 to abstain from meat on all Fridays of Lent.

Stewardship Thought of the Week

"Bear your share of the hardship for the Gospel!" St. Paul tells Timothy in Today's second reading. What sacrifice is asked of me for the sake of the Gospel? How willing am I to bear my share?



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"Feed My Sheep" John 21:17

WRONG

For Catholics there is right way and wrong way to handle cremated remains.

Please call us today and arrange for the permanent placement of your loved one in a place of peace and reverence.

RIGHT



St. John Cemetery System
Diocese of Worcester

www.worcesterdiocese.org/st-john-cemetery

Administrative Offices:
 260 Cambridge Street
 Worcester, MA 01603
Telephone: 508-757-7415