

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

***March 19, 2023 - Fourth Sunday of Lent***

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. Miguel A. Pagan, Assoc. Pastor Ext 117  
Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext.113

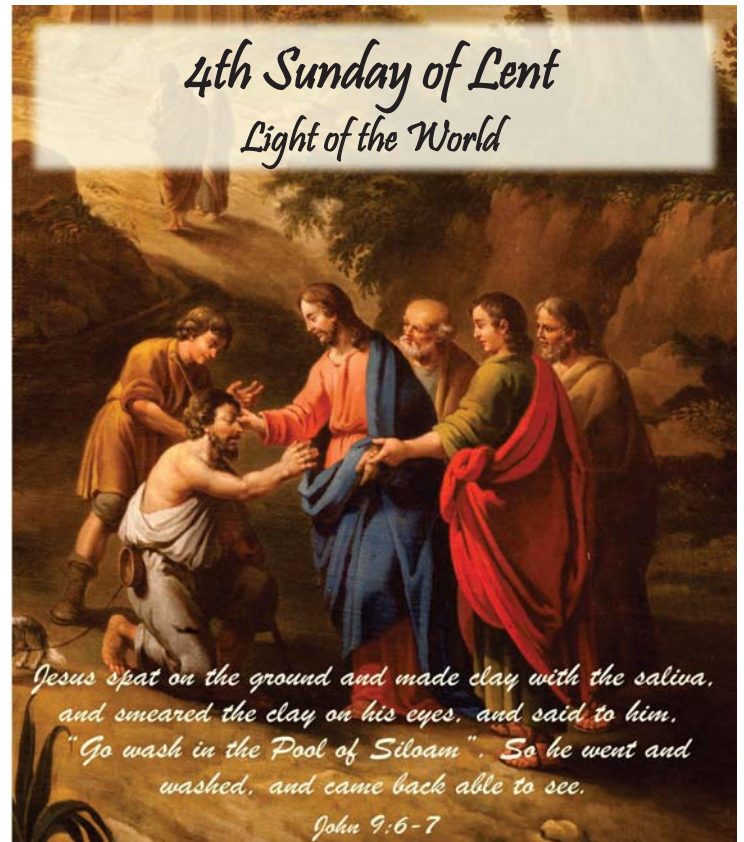
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach  
[annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext.111

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.



## ***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, 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 19, 2023***



## From Your Pastor

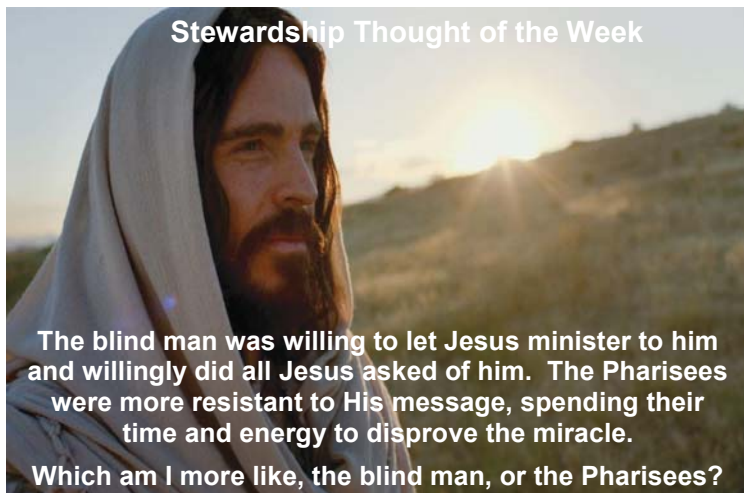
Today's Gospel reading presents the baptismal theme of light and features a character who resembles the elect who are preparing to be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. The blind man, like the elect, grows in faith. However, he does not ask to be healed. Jesus covers the man's eyes with dirt and spit and then sends him to the pool of Siloam, and the man goes even though he has not yet been healed. John tells us that the name Siloam means "sent" – a name which John emphasizes in terms of Jesus as the one sent by God. However, "sent" can also refer to Jesus' sending us. It means listening to what God is telling us to do and then doing it, even when we might still be blind. That is the meaning of being sent. "Sent" is a good word to ponder during Lent, especially when we focus on our desert journey – our growth in faith. Dirt and spit are not what we would want nor expect on such a journey of faith, but elegance is not what is needed when we are embarking on a journey into unfathomable mystery. It is important to remember, though, that we humans are made from the dirt, and spit plus Jesus' touch are a type of baptism. He takes our humanity, mixes it with his own, and smears it right across our eyes so that we can take it to healing. We take this to healing because we are sent.

*Here are some questions to reflect upon with this Gospel:*

- 1) *Take a few minutes to see where you need healing or growth in faith. Where is your "Siloam", that place where Jesus is sending you? What might be the dirt and spit in that scenario?*
- 2) *Lent is a sober season where we sent to suffering and joy. What sufferings do you bring to Siloam? What joys do you bring?*
- 3) *When was the last time that you asked Jesus to help you see in a new way?*

**LENTEN QUIET EVENING:** On Tuesday evening, March 28th, from 6:30-8:00 P.M. we will have a Lenten evening of prayer & reflection in church. This will be an opportunity to go to confession and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We encourage you to take this opportunity to do so.

*Fr. Nicolls*



## Stewardship Thought of the Week

**The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle.**

**Which am I more like, the blind man, or the Pharisees?**

## Mass Intentions



### Saturday, March 18, 2023

**4:00 PM** In Memory of Jeanne Gemme

Requested by Bill and Carolyn Gemme

### Sunday, March 19, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Jerry Duclos, 3rd Anniversary

Requested by the Family

**10:00 AM** In Memory of Helen Hensley, 21st Anniversary

Requested by the Gentile Family

### Monday, March 20, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Josephine D. Ziegler

### Tuesday, March 21, 2023

**12:10 PM** In Memory of James M. Stolberg, Sr.

### Wednesday, March 22, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Elinor C. Lamberton

### Thursday, March 23, 2023

**5:30 PM** In Memory of Victor E. Carlo

### Friday, March 24, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Shirley M. Muzzey

### Saturday, March 25, 2023

**4:00 PM** In Memory of Dorothy Perkins

Requested by Seraphina Wong

### Sunday, March 26, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Roger Hessel

Requested by the Family

**10:00 AM** In Memory of Nelson Boucher

Requested by his wife Lu Boucher

We commend to your prayers

*Mary R. Neilan  
and John M. Ligor*

May the angels lead them into paradise.



Color televisions amazed people. Black and white images were replaced by all the colors of the rainbow and both people and cartoons seemed to have more life. Now, high-definition televisions show amazing detail. Colors are more vivid and the picture has a depth and clarity that older televisions lack. The viewer can see every line, wrinkle, and subtlety that was once left to the imagination. The viewer can really see bigger and better! When Jesus restores the man's vision, he also gives him the gift of faith. Just as no one can explain why he was blind from birth, the man cannot explain how Jesus restored his sight. He just knows he can see. It is that experience of seeing that allows him to see Jesus—in high definition—as the Son of Man. He can freely acknowledge Jesus, even before the Pharisees, because what he lacks in knowledge, he knows through experience and faith. His vision is not limited to what he knows. He can see with his whole being—mind, heart and soul!

Lent brings our vision into sharper focus. Through self-examination, penance and the intention to amend our life, we can see more clearly the work and the will of God. Every detail and subtlety of grace is vivid and ready for us to say, "I see and I believe".

~James Gaffney-Pilot Bulletins





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

March 16, 2023

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In these days of continuing turmoil in the Ukraine, natural disasters in Turkey and Syria, and conflicts and starvation in parts of Africa, to name a few, we are being challenged to be "Jesus in disguise" by supporting the national **Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Collection on the weekend of March 26**. Through your generosity, you can help ease the burdens of our brothers and sisters in some of the most marginalized communities in the world.

Persecution of Christians and other religious minorities by extremist groups such as ISIS in the Middle East has forced families to flee their homes with few possessions or resources. Through generous contributions to CRS, as well as the efforts of bishops to engage policy makers to protect vulnerable families, we are providing badly-needed material and spiritual supports to refugees here and abroad. For example, a family from Iraq fled this persecution, and after living in a refugee camp in Indonesia they eventually were resettled in Massachusetts. Through support of the collection, volunteers welcomed the family, donated household items and furniture, and arranged reduced-rent housing during their transition. With ongoing support, refugees like this family find employment, learn English, and build new homes, far from the religious and political violence they faced overseas.

Through the various Catholic agencies assisted by CRS, you are promoting the dignity of the human person in so many ways.

- Food assistance is provided in emergency field kitchens that provide hot meals and snacks.
- Reception services are offered at Caritas offices, train stations and other locations for displaced people with clothing, information, referrals, food, water, hygiene items, and counseling.
- Transportation is arranged for displaced families to friends, families, and local social services.

For more than 75 years, CRS has been providing expertise and compassion to the very poorest of our brothers and sisters in more than 100 countries. But we can't do this lifesaving work without your help.

I ask that you prayerfully consider how you can support the Catholic Relief Services Collection this year. If you want to learn more about the collection and the people who are assisted, please visit [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
+ Robert J. McManus

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester

**Pancake  
BREAKFAST**

**SCOUTS  
BSA**

Please join us on Palm Sunday, April 2nd, for our Annual Boy Scout Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast in place of our regular coffee shop! All proceeds benefit Holden Troop #165 give the Scouts a chance to serve! Come enjoy companionship & support a great cause!

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

March 19 - George Gumbrell and Team  
March 26 - Mike Doherty/John Beahn and Team  
April 2 - PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
April 9 - NO COFFEE SHOP, EASTER

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.

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



\$1.00 each

### St. George Book Club: March 21st

Parish Center Conference Rm 107 1:00 - 2:00 PM  
Holy Moments by Matthew Kelly, and  
God's Great Story and You William Barry SJ  
Contact Nancy Forhan 508-963-9909



### 2022 Parish Contribution Statements

Contribution Statements will be available for parishioners who wish to have a record of their 2022 contributions by contacting our Admin. Assistant at the Parish Office at 508-853-0183, extension 110 to request one.

### 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.



### Parish Calendar

#### Saturday, March 18, 2023

8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

#### Sunday, March 19, 2023

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

10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy Church Hall

#### Monday, March 20, 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 21, 2023

1:00 - 2:00 PM Book Club Rm 107 Parish Center

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 22, 2023

Virtual Yoga email Sue Steven [MonarchYoga@gmail.com](mailto:MonarchYoga@gmail.com)

2:00 - 3:15 PM Faith Sharing Group Rm 107 Parish Center

#### Thursday, March 23, 2023

11:00 AM Faith Sharing Church Hall

6:00 PM Family Prayer Night Church

#### Friday, March 24, 2023

5:00 PM Lenten Soup Church Hall

6:30 PM Stations of the Cross Church

#### Saturday, March 25, 2023

2:30 - 4:00 PM 1st Communion Retreat Church Hall/Church

5:00 - 7:00 PM Arts Night Church Hall

8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

#### Sunday, March 26, 2023

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

10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy Church Hall

6:00-7:30 PM Religious Ed classes gr. 6-9 Parish Center

### 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 IX): "But what happens when you work in an environment where the value of, say, compassion is held in low regard or, worse, is ignored? One response might be to strive to change the work environment by your own actions, serving as a sort of leaven at work. Another path might be to maintain a degree of what spiritual writers call 'detachment' from the prevailing ethos of the corporation. If you work for a corporation that stresses aggressive or downright mean behavior, you need not always be mean or aggressive yourself. Sometimes superior job performance can overcome the perceived need to participate in activities that go against your moral grain. That is, talent trumps aggression and meanness."

### Eucharistic Adoration



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

#### On Divine Mercy Sunday:

**Sunday, April 16th, 2023** after 10:00 AM Mass-12:00 PM  
We hope you can come join us in prayer and to spend time in the presence of Jesus Christ.

### 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](mailto:cathmenworc@gmail.com)  
or visit the new website [www.catholicmenworc.com](http://www.catholicmenworc.com)

### 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.

### Back to Basics Narcotics Anonymous

Support group for those attempting to recover from drugs.

**Our Lady of Lourdes, in Parish Hall**

**1290 Grafton Street, Worcester**

**Meetings are every Friday from 7:00 - 8:00 PM**

### Bulletin Item Due Dates:

Weekend of:

March 26, 2023

April 2, 2023

Due by:

March 16, 2023

March 23, 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](mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org) The best way to book or  
reserve a Mass is to call our office: 508-853-0183.

### 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.

### Do you like to draw or enjoy making art?

Come join open studio event once a month!

**Saturday, March 25th, 2023**

**5:00 - 7:00 PM in the Church Hall**

Bring your own materials and drop in to doodle, finish a project or work in your sketchbook.

For teens to adults (ages 13+).

For more information contact: Veronica Fish at:

[veronica@undercoverfish.com](mailto:veronica@undercoverfish.com)





## Religious Education

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

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

Kevin Browne's email: [kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org)

Just a few reminders for schedules and times:

### Confirmation Classes:

Students registered for confirmation classes will meet Sunday, April 16th - 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 20th, 21st, and March 26th, 27th from 4:30 to 5:30 PM in the Parish Center.

### Grades 6-9 Classes:

Classes will take place on March 26th, and April 2nd, 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](mailto:sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org)

### Grades 6-9, and Youth Ministry questions:

Please email Kevin Browne.

[kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org)



GIRL SCOUTS

### Girl Scout Troop 64885 Meet the first and third Tuesdays

Our next meeting will be on:  
**Tuesday March 21st, at 6:30-7:30 PM**  
in the Church Hall

Contact Michelle Vigneux email: [Mrs.vigneux@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.neworchester.org/diocesan-youth-retreat)

## THE FAMILY CONNECTION

God there was a time when I imagined designing my own cross. I would lift it to my shoulder and carry it about for all to see. I eventually realized God that you are very much present in the simple and the ordinary. It became easier for me to see I only have to recognize my crosses as they come barging in uninvited into my world each day and Jesus walks and suffers with me every step of the way.



### RANDPARENTS:

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](mailto:ruthviens@charter.net)  
or 508-852-5658 for more information.

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



## Family Faith Byte

How to help others:

**Make this a no complaints day.**

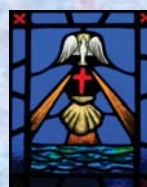
**For one day, focus on listening  
rather than talking.**



### 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](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)

### What is the Mustard Seed Catholic Worker ?

The Mustard Seed of Worcester began in 1972 when two Holy Cross College students wanted to make a difference in the lives of the poor. Since then it has continued its main mission of providing a safe place to eat, with kindness and respect, for all who come to the door. The work is inspired by the example of Dorothy Day who began the first "Catholic Worker House of Hospitality" decades ago. The Mustard Seed is not funded by any one religion or group. There is no paid staff.

Since 2014 St. George parish has joined the Mustard Seed Community to serve meals and to provide basic necessities to our neighbors in need. Together as a community of faith we strive to practice the "Works of Mercy", to care for creation and our neighborhood.

Currently, with the help of our community, the Mustard Seed offers a free Medical Clinic, a weekly Food Pantry, basic clothing and hygiene supplies as well as a Christmas Giving Tree gift for guests and families with young children.

### Current Parish Outreach Needs and Opportunities

**Mustard Seed Catholic Work:** Bars of soap and gently used wash clothes as well as reusable grocery bags for the Food Pantry 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 Mustard Seed Meal was served this past Friday.**

Thank You to all who helped to make it possible through your donations and service to prepare and serve it.

**Our Lenten Food Drive will be March 25 & 26.** All types of non-perishable food items would be 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.

### Hope For Housing Cards Help Prevent Family Homelessness

Here 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 who experience deflated self worth, diminished school achievement and related health and emotional issues.

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 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" available after all Masses. See Dave and Sue Genereux in the Church Hall after Mass. Questions? 978- 833-0306



Thank You to several parishioners who recently donated Hope for Housing Cards directly to Parish Outreach. They were used to purchase emergency groceries and cleaning supplies for our Refugee families.

### Your Help is Needed to Feed the Hungry this Lent

**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.



### Men's Prayer Shawls Needed

Thank you to all who knit and crochet. We are in need of Men's **Large and Extra Large** dark colors prayer shawls. Please call Annie or bring them to the Parish Center.

Call Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134 for details.



*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 Micha 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](mailto:Saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com)

In late February 2022 the Russian invasion of Ukraine began. People from all over the world witnessed the suffering of innocent Ukrainian people. Ukraine's people have long seen persecution and war, including the 9% of its Catholic population. A population who have also long sought protection and healing in the small village of Zarvanytsia (Zar-van-eet-see-uh) outside of Lviv.

Prior to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, this scenic village with low hills and crisp streams was a place of pilgrimage, prayer and healing dating back to the year 1200. That year the Mongols invaded Kieve, including its churches and monasteries. A monk fleeing the invasion, stopped along the river in the hills of Zarvanytsia. Tired and wounded he fervently prayed and asked for intercession from the Mother of God. He fell asleep and in a dream the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him and blessed him. When the Monk awoke a bright light led him to an icon, the Mother of God holding the Holy Child. A chapel was built and later a monastery. Throughout Zarvanytsia's history thousands of healings and miracles have been confirmed at the site of the Miraculous Mother of God icon.

The Ukrainian people have suffered much through invasions persecutions, wars, and fires. Including oppression and persecution of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church by the Soviet Regime. The Mother of God of Zarvanytsia icon has been moved, and even hidden many times for her safety and protection. The icon has been crowned by Pope Pious IX and more recently by Pope Francis. As the war in Ukraine continues into a second year, may the precious, Miraculous,

**Mother of God of Zarvanytsia, comfort and heal the people of Ukraine. In this Season of Lent, consider praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary for the people of Ukraine and for the end of this war.**

Spiritual Growth Committee members: Bonnie Moran – Chair; Deacon Paul Audette, Joan Talbot; Patti Walsh; Helen Hurley, and Kyle Lewandowski. Fr. Niccolls, Fr. Pagan 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 20th, and 27th at 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
in the Parish Center, Room 107



**Lenten Faith Sharing Group will meet:**  
Wednesday, March 22nd, and 29th 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.

### 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.



**Readings  
To-Go!**

4th Sunday of Lent  
March 19, 2023

Scan QR code to see  
this week's readings!



### Please Pray For Peace In Our World

As followers of Jesus, who taught us the power of nonviolence, let us continue to join together in fervent prayers for peace in Ukraine and in all war torn areas throughout the world.

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