#### Saint George Church - Worcester and Holden

#### April 30, 2023 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

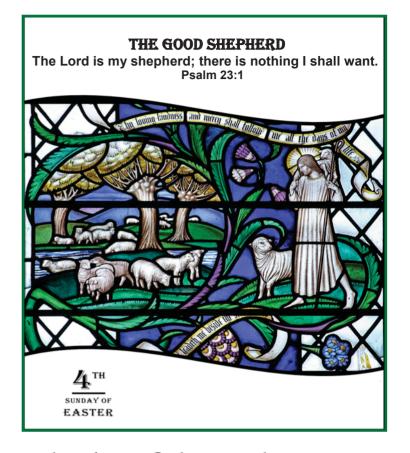
Patty LaBonte, Parish Admin Assistant office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.110 Fax 508-854-0864

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 Missian 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, April 30, 2023

#### From Your Pastor

<u>Seminarian Summer Assignment</u>: I am pleased to announce that Daniel Morrissey who is finishing his first year of Pre-Theology at John's Seminary in

Brighton will be assigned here for this summer. Dan is a native of North Oxford and will begin his assignment here later this month. I look forward to Dan's arrival here for his summer assignment, and I am sure that you will welcome him with the same hospitality that you have shown to our other seminarians in the past.

<u>Upcoming Ordinations</u>: On Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 A.M. Luke Johnson (our seminarian from the summer of 2021) will be ordained to the Diaconate at St. Paul's Cathedral. On Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:00 A.M. Deacon Peter Bui (our seminarian from the summer of 2019) will be one of two young men who will be ordained to the Priesthood at St. Paul's Cathedral. Please make a note of these dates and if your schedules allow, plan on attending these ordinations.

Today's reading from John's Gospel deals with metaphor of Jesus as the Good Shepherd who feeds his sheep and lays down his life for them in their redemption by his Precious Blood. He is pleased to settle them in eternal pastures where he sets a table before them in the sight of their foes (as referred to in today's Psalm 23). This is the banquet to which Jesus calls us and sets before us each week at Mass. One day we will hopefully experience Jesus' call to us to join him in the eternal banquet of heaven.

## Return to the Distribution of Communion Under Both Species:

Bishop McManus has lifted the last of the COVID-19 restrictions from three years ago and will allow the distribution of the Precious Blood along with the distribution of the Body of Christ during Mass once again. The bishop has given this permission to pastors whenever they deem it appropriate for Communion under both species to occur in their parishes. In light of the fact that the number of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion greatly diminished during this three-year period, the return to the distribution of the Precious Blood will begin in a limited manner here at St. George's (with two cups at the center communion station of the church) beginning on the weekend of May 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>. This period of time (March-April) will allow us to have a sufficient number of ministers well trained for its distribution.

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> The practice of dipping the consecrated host into the cup containing the Precious Blood, called intinction, is <u>not</u> allowed. To receive the Precious Blood, the only practice that is allowed is to take the cup from the minister after responding "Amen.", consume a little of the Precious Blood, and give the cup back to the minister. Thank you for your cooperation.

Fr. Niccolls

#### Stewardship Thought of the Week

Jesus says, "I came that they may have life, and have it to the full." Good stewards are grateful for the gift of life and joyfully share their abundance with others.

See John 10:10

### Mass Intentions



Saturday, April 29, 2023

**4:00 PM** In Memory of Dr. Policiano and Clare Menezes Requested by the Ajbani Family

Sunday, April 30, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of John McInnis, 1st Anniversary Requested by his Family

**10:00 AM** In Memory of Lina Minardi Requested by her Family

Monday, May 1, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Eduvigis Concepcion Requested by Fr. Miguel A. Pagan

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

12:10 PM In Memory of Mary E. Dupre

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

8:00 AM In Memory of Thelma M. Lockney

Thursday, May 4, 2023

**5:30 PM** In Memory of Flavia Velez Requested by Fr. Miguel A. Pagan

Friday, May 5, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of C. Louise Hadley Requested by Craig and Ann Hadley

Saturday, May 6, 2023

**4:00 PM** In Memory of Harry H. Dapper, Jr., 5th Anniversary Requested by his Family

Sunday, May 7, 2023

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Laurel McInnis, 2nd Anniversary Requested by her Family

**10:00 AM** In Memory of Marie Claire Grisson Requested by Alice Lavoie

#### Annual Mass to Honor and Remember our Children

You are invited to attend the Pieta Annual Mass to honor and remember all of our children on:

## Monday, May 1 at 7:00 PM St. George Church



This is a special time to come together with family and friends in remembrance of our children. Refreshments will be served following the Mass. Please invite any families who have lost a child. Sponsored by the Pieta Support Group for Bereaved Parents.

For more information, call Terry Gentile <u>508-284-0796</u> or Sue Stevens at <u>508-852-4887</u>, email <u>pieta3@gmail.com</u>.



#### **Weekly Collection**

April 17, 2023 - April 23, 2023

On Line Giving: \$ 2,037.60
Ordinary Collection: \$ 2,830.00

Total: \$4,867.60



Thank you for your generosity! We are truly grateful.

#### Parish Calendar

Saturday, April 29, 2023

8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

Sunday, April 30, 2023

After 8:00 & 10:00 AM Mass Coffee Shop
10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy
1:00 PM 1st Communion Mass
Church

Monday, May 1, 2023

7:00 - 8:30 PM Pieta Mass & Reception Church/Church Hall

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

6:30 - 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 64885 Church Hall

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

1:30 - 2:30 PM Gentle Yoga RETURNS Church Hall

Thursday, May 4, 2023

11:00 AM Faith Sharing Church Hall

6:00 - 7:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration Church 6:00 PM Family Prayer Night Church

Friday, May 5, 2023

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

Saturday, May 6, 2023

8:00 AM Rosary Group Church

8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

**Sunday, May 7, 2023** 

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

10:00 AM Toddler & Children's Liturgy

Church Hall

3:00 PM Confirmation St. Paul's Cathedral

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

April 30 - Mark Cormier and Team

May 7 - Robert Gray and Team

May 14 - Jim Moughan and Team

May 21 - Kathy Hessel and Team



\$1.00 each

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@andyTfish.com or 508-901-7813

#### Gentle Yoga for "Every Body" Returning in-person



Wednesday, May 3rd at 1:30 PM in the Church Hall

Gentle yoga helps with flexibility, strength and well-being while relaxing your mind, increasing your energy, and reducing stress. Contact Sue Stevens, email: MonarchYoga@gmail.com

#### **Bulletin Item Due Dates:**

 Weekend of:
 Due by:

 May 7, 2023
 April 27, 2023

 May 14, 2023
 May 4, 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.



Partner's in Charity St. George Church donated \$52,335.00, our goal is \$95,000.00

Please consider donating. Thank you for helping! Our agencies and ministries are faces of hope to so many. Your pledge or one-time gift is a tangible way to be a 'face of Christ and his helping hands' to the world through your support of the agencies and ministries which rely on this appeal for the funding each year. And you, in turn, share in the joy of bringing hope into the lives of those we serve. Please visit Partners-Charity.net to view the online video showing some of the many charities, ministries and educational programs that rely on your generosity. To donate you can place your donation in the collection basket at Mass, by using the Partners in Charity envelopes in the pews, or text the word "donate" to 84576 to access the online giving page. donate online at www.Partners-Charity.net or call in a pledge at 508-929-4366. Checks payable to: Partners in Charity send to 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.



#### Online Donors Update

An email was sent from Kathy Hessel, Patty LaBonte and Our Sunday Visitor about online giving. Our Online Giving vendor is changing and you should have received instructions on how to enroll with Our Sunday Visitor.

Anytime from **April 5th through May 31st** you may start your online giving with Our Sunday Visitor and then stop all recurring donations from ParishSoft. Because of the security of your banking or credit card information we cannot do this for you. However, we are here to assist. Once you have reviewed the material and begun the change-over process, let us know if you need further assistance.

Visit St. George Website: <a href="https://saintgeorgesparish.org/">https://saintgeorgesparish.org/</a>
If you have any questions please contact:

Kathy Hessel at <a href="mailto:mkhessel@aol.com">mkhessel@aol.com</a> or

Patty LaBonte at <a href="mailto:office@saintgeorgesparish.org">office@saintgeorgesparish.org</a>
or call the Parish Office at 508-853-0183



St. Peter Parish Northbridge

Trivia Night, Friday, May 5 at Knights of Columbus 77 Prescott Road in Whitinsville.

Doors open at 6:00 PM and Trivia Game starts at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased in advance or at the door. Get your tickets early, seating is limited! There will be a cash bar, food for purchase and a 50/50 raffle. Cash prize for the winning team. Come with your family & friends for a night of fun and see who will be Saint Peter's Trivia Champions!

To purchase your tickets please call the parish office at: 508-234-2156 or email: parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org

#### **Prayer Before Mass**

Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. 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, at (508) 929-4363.

#### **Vianney Dinner**

The Final Vianney Dinner before Summer break is Thursday May 4th at The Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies located on 51 Illinois Street, Worcester.

Mass at 6:05 PM. Dinner at 6:30 PM and Social at 7:00 PM These are nights for men, high school age and up, interested in learning more about priestly vocation. An RSVP is not needed but helpful: email director@worcestervocations.com

#### 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 May 6th, 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.



### MARY, **OUR MOTHER**

The month of May is dedicated to our mother, Mary.

Spend time with her in prayer.

#### **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

National Helpline: 1-800-662-4357

#### Deacon Paul Audette

James Martin Speaks to us through his "Essential Writings"

In this essay from the June 6, 2012 issue of America magazine, James Martin SJ expresses his frustrations with the church, including sharp divisions between Catholics and denunciations of leading progressive Catholics as heretics. However, it also indicates where Martin believes healing is possible and movement beyond impasse most likely: in a focus on Christ, on the saints, on the long arc of history. (Part III): "Dear God, help me to believe that your Spirit can do anything: raise up saints when we need them most, soften hearts when they seem hardened, open minds when they seem closed, inspire confidence when all seems lost, help us do whet seemed impossible until it was done. This is the same Spirit than converted Paul, inspired Augustine, called Francis of Assisi, emboldened Catherine of Siena, consoled Ignatius of Loyola, comforted Therese of Lisieux, enlivened John XXIII, accompanied Teresa of Calcutta, strengthened Dorothy Day and encouraged John Paul II. It is the same Spirit that is with us today, and your Spirit has lost none of its power. Give me faith."

#### **Eucharistic Adoration**

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

Thursday, May 4th, 2023 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM Friday, May 5th, 2023 after 8:00 AM Mass-10:00 PM We hope you can come join us in prayer and to spend time in the presence of Jesus Christ.



The life of a shepherd is difficult, filled WORD DEED with naid work, long notice.

Word been safe, a less nights. To keep the sheep safe, a

shepherd must watch them closely, herding them together and chasing after the one that strays. In all kinds of weather, the shepherd remains and quards his sheep. A good shepherd sacrifices a lot for the sake of his flock.

Jesus describes Himself as the Good Shepherd. He sacrifices Himself for the sake of His people and remains ever present and vigilant as he guides us on our journey of faith. He calls us by name and knows us better than we know ourselves. He gives us all that we need to follow Him and receive the life He promises. He describes Himself as the sheep gate, keeping us safe and guarding against the enemy. He leads us into the green pastures of life so no one can take us out.

We do not have to be afraid. Jesus has already destroyed sin and death. We trust in Him, accepting His love and mercy as we battle our own sins and failures. Through His compassion and forgiveness, we are re-made in His image, and led to the Father. He is indeed the Good Shepherd and we should follow Him wherever He may lead. J.Gaffney-Pilot Bulletins



## Readings

4th Sunday of Easter April 30, 2023

Scan QR code to see this week's readings!

### Religious Education

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

Sarah Kelly's email: <a href="mailto:sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org">sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org</a> Kevin Browne's email: <a href="mailto:kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org">kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org</a>

## Please keep our 17 first Communion students, and our 29 Confirmation candidates in your prayers.

**1st Communion Ceremony:** Sunday, April 30th, 2023 at 1:00 PM in Church. Contact Sarah Kelly with any questions.

**Confirmation Ceremony:** at Cathedral of St. Paul, May 7th, 2023 at 3:00 PM. Contact Sarah Kelly with any questions.

Last Classes for Grades 1-9 were held the week of April 23rd, 2023. We look forward to next year's classes in September. Have a safe Summer!

#### **Fall Registration:**

Registration information will be emailed to families for grades 1 to Confirmation in May 2023. Please contact Sarah Kelly if you have any questions or have not received an email in May to register for Fall 2023 Religious Education classes.

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

#### **Grades 1 to Confirmation questions:**

Please email Sarah at sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

#### **Youth Ministry questions:**

Please email Kevin at kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org

#### **Family Dinner in Leicester**

Knights of Columbus will have a Family Dinner on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM at Knights of Columbus Hall on 90 Mandeville St., Leicester.

Menus choice is Pasta and Meatballs or Baked Fish. Cost is \$15.00 and includes salad, dessert and coffee. Call Don at 508-615-8434 for reservations by May 4th.

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

Our next meeting will be on: Tuesday May 2nd, at 6:30-7:30 PM in the Church Hall



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



#### THE FAMILY CONNECTION

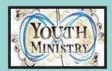
In the baking and breaking of the bread, today most people buy most of their bread. Make bread an import part of your meal today....frozen bread dough? homemade pizza? Before you eat it, bless it and break it. Recall how the disciples recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread.



#### **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 508-852-5658 or email: <a href="mailto:ruthviens@charter.net">ruthviens@charter.net</a>

Grandparents make memories that the heart holds forever.



Youth Ministry Gathering
Please contact Kevin Browne
For next gathering.

Open to grades 7-12 Please contact:

Email: kevin.browne@saintgeorgesparish.org



#### **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



#### Position Available Director of Sacred Music

The position of Director of Sacred Music at St. Mark's Parish in Sutton is open for applications. This position is part-time. For a job description and more information please contact Fr. Michael DiGeronimo at <a href="mailto:frmichael@saintmarksparish.org">frmichael@saintmarksparish.org</a>

#### **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!

To sign up or to get more information visit: www.neworcester.org/diocesan-youth-retreat

## A Community of Ministries





#### St. George Parish Outreach

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

#### **Current Parish Outreach Needs and Opportunities**

Mustard Seed Catholic Worker: We are in need of boxed or canned soup for 55 households per week. Reusable grocery bags for the Food Pantry are needed. Our next meal is Friday, May 19. Volunteers and donations would be greatly appreciated.

**IHN Family Shelter: Our annual week of service is June 18-24.** Please save these dates. Volunteers will be needed to help donate evening and overnight hours which help staff the shelter. There will also be a need to help with cleaning, gardening, painting and other activities. Donations of "Hope for Housing Cards" will help provide supplemental food items for meals. Call Annie today if you are interested in leaning more.

Our Afghanistan Families: The Ramadon Fast has ended! The family celebrated with delicious food and gifts for the children. During this past year the school age children are now able to speak and read in English! They are so excited about playing soccer on a local team! As you know, the cost of living has gone up for everyone so now both dads are working overtime to help meet their basic needs cost of living. Thank you for your donation of Big Y Hope for Housing Cards!

### Your Help is Needed to Feed the Hungry



Crunchy

UATS & HONEY

OMENOTE BANK

SOR

Healthy snacks: fruit cups, granola bars, and individual packages of nuts.

The homeless carry small amounts of food with them. Winter shelters are closed now. The one remaining shelter only holds 50 people. The homeless are living outside - wherever they can find a safe area.

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

#### **THANK YOU!**

To each and every one of you who continue to donate so generously! Cases of soup, wonderful peanut snacks, face cloths, toilet paper, and so much more!



#### 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.

#### All Are Welcome!

Visitor or parishioner, sure or struggling, young or old, no matter what your day has been like so faryou belong here. We all belong to Christ.

Rejoicing or grieving, faith filled or doubting, poor or wealthy, no matter what your race, orientation or marriage situation—you belong here. We all belong to Christ.

With children or childless, weary or wondering, sick or anxious, Interfaith family or Interdenominational, no mater how long you may have been away from church or where you have been - you belong here.

We are all God's people.

We invite you to join us in worship, prayer, ministry and service. Want to know more?

Call or text Annie Doyle: 508-450-4134

## **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. Questions? 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, home- bound 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.

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

## Emmaus Ministry



"On the Road to Emmaus" from St. Luke's Gospel

All who attended had a wonderful time with good discussion and sharing.

A special shout out to Liz Woods for her creative and informative presentation.

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this evening very enjoyable!

The Emmaus Ministry



#### Faith Sharing Groups

Monday Faith Sharing Group will meet:
May 22nd at 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
in the Parish Center, Room 107
Wednesday Faith Sharing Group will meet:



May 24th 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

#### **NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME!**

We are honored and delighted to welcome you.
Contact Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134 for an
Introduction to our ministries, our needs, and
your interests. We would enjoy talking with you.
Call the Parish Office with questions at 508-853-0183.



#### **Spiritual Growth Ministry Corner**

Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran
Saintgeorgespiritual growth@gmail.com

While it seems hard to believe, we are almost halfway through this beautiful Easter season! The grass is turning green, the flowers are starting to bloom. We are celebrating spring and everything the season brings forth. Congratulations to our Communion students who will be receiving Holy Eucharist for the very first time today and to all our young men and women who will be confirmed next week at St. Paul Cathedral.

During this season, we also remember the patron saint of our parish. The feast day of St. George was one week ago today on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our church website has a very nice writeup on St. George which we would encourage you to read. It can be found in the section called "Our Parish Story". Here is a very brief overview about St. George.

St. George is often depicted as a knight slaying a fierce and terrible dragon. It is more likely that he was an officer in the Roman Army in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D. and may have slayed a giant crocodile that was threatening the townspeople along the banks of the river. A dragon was considered as a symbol of the devil or sin so this was an example of good conquering evil.St. George had a reputation for virtue and holiness. He displayed courage, perseverance, and compassion in battle and in dealing with those less fortunate. His fearlessfaith in Christ eventually led to martyrdom for refusing to make sacrifices to pagan gods. St. George was canonized a saint 494 A.D. by Pope Gelasius.

Here is one simple prayer in honor of St. George:

Lord, help us to rejoice in the glorious victory of St. George and give us courage to follow the example of our patron saint. Amen.

Have a wonderful faith-filled week!

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



#### **Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and

all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin

Toum the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. ~ John 10:14





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