

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

***March 31, 2024 - Easter Sunday***

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

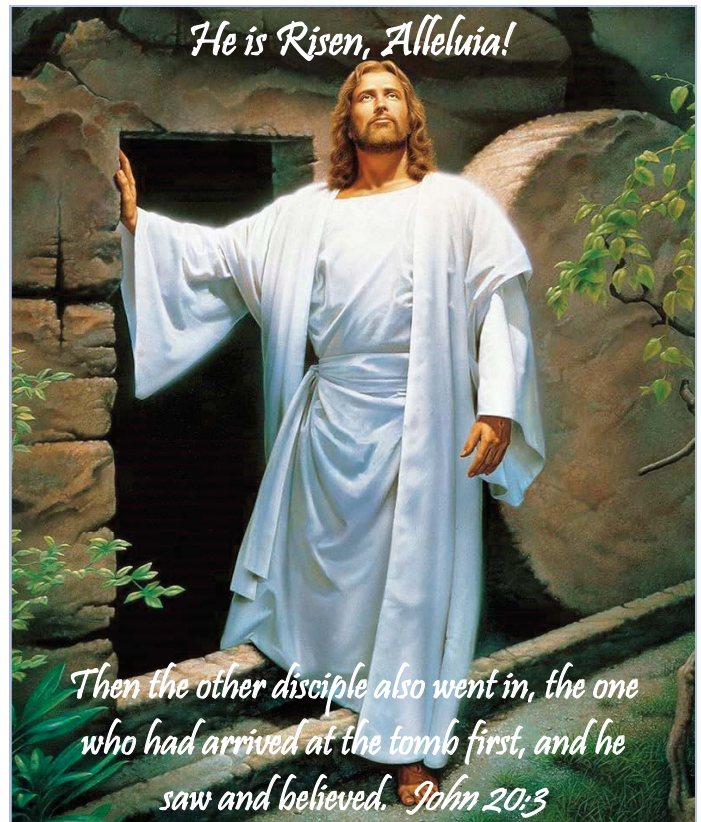
Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach  
[annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org) Ext. 111

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.



## ***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.

### **Divine Mercy Sunday:**

**April 7<sup>th</sup> Holy Hour 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

### **Weekday Masses:**

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

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Confessions are heard inside the church  
2:30 PM to 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 31, 2024***



*From Your Pastor*

*On behalf of our Parish Staff, I extend  
to all of you God's Blessings, manifested  
in our risen Lord, Jesus Christ,  
in this Easter Season!*

The Resurrection of Jesus is a mystery that we may not yet fully understand nor appreciate. The disciples of Jesus did not fully understand either but, as we see in the beloved disciple, there is the moment when one can see and believe. Our understanding of this mystery, like theirs, will grow over time. This can happen in a number of ways. First, this cannot happen in a single day. We may need to seek out the wisdom of others. This could happen by looking at our parish's resources, participating in a faith sharing group or reaching out to a clergy person, family member or friend. When concrete steps are taken to move from simply wondering to actively seeking with the assistance of others, the light of the living Christ helps our search. Second, in particularly graced moments like when the Eucharist is consecrated and shared in Communion, we can talk to Jesus because we believe him to be present and alive. We can ask him what he wants to give us in this Easter season. He can help us to understand these mysteries that challenge us. We can bring our needs, our hurts, our questions and our joys to the living Christ. His love is a mighty love that changed the evil of the cross which could bring death into a blessing through which he can unite us eternally to God. This is the promise of new life at Easter for Jesus is risen and here. Alleluia!

Divine Mercy Sunday: Next Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, is Divine Mercy Sunday. Please join us for a Holy Hour that day from 11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. in church. During this hour we will have Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament along with the recitation of the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and a time for quiet prayer. The Holy Hour will conclude with Benediction.

*Fr. Niccolls*



### Stewardship Thought of the Week

**Alleluia! Christ is risen and is victorious over sin and death! We are good stewards of our faith if, like St. Paul, we share this good news whenever and wherever we can.**

**HE IS RISEN**



### Mass Intentions



**Saturday, March 30, 2024**

**8:00 AM** Morning Prayer

**7:30 PM** For the Community of Saint George

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 Easter Sunday**

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

**10:00 AM** For the Community of Saint George

**Monday, April 1, 2024**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Robert C. Ovian, 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Requested by his Family

**Tuesday, April 2, 2024 No Mass**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2024**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Alan J. Larrivee  
Requested by the Murphy Family

**Thursday, April 4, 2024**

**5:30 PM** For the health and well being of Darren Deluca  
Requested by the Murphy Family

**Friday, April 5, 2024**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Constance Reidy

**Saturday, April 6, 2024**

**4:00 PM** In Memory of Sr. Lily Philomena,  
Wing Cho Chu, and Wong Lai Ching  
Requested by Seraphina Wong

**Sunday, April 7, 2024 ~ Divine Mercy Sunday ~**

**8:00 AM** In Memory of Ivar Lundberg  
Requested by his Family

**10:00 AM** In Memory of Paul A. Bobkowski  
Requested by his Family

We commend to your prayers

*Margaret Giaquinto Payne*

May the angels lead her into paradise.



Moments of truth call for a choice, a simple yes or no to the opportunity offered, the path to be taken, the person to be loved, or the value to be embraced. The most important decisions in these moments of truth are irrevocable, changing the course of our lives, the lives of those we love and even the course of history. But it is hard to predict or envision. Some important events masquerade as insignificant while others are all hype and of little value.

The Resurrection was brushed aside as a hoax, as trickery or a lie. Many people dismissed the tiny church as fanatical and delusional. Yet, here we are, 2000 years later and the power of this day continues to inspire, heal, forgive and save. It has divided history into two, caused nations to war against each other, and motivated those same nations to seek peace. The Resurrection has moved some to tears, others to service, still others to journeys of faith, seeking truth and life. It is THE event of history that has changed the world.

Easter still has the power to change us. Christ has defeated death and given us the chance of life with God. We are reborn through Baptism and given a mission to be an instrument of grace and peace. We can live the faith we have received and join ourselves to Christ. It is a moment of truth and we can choose. Choose Jesus and life will change forever!  
~James Gaffney—Pilot Bulletins





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

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Easter 2024

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ brought profound joy and hope to the early Church. That joy was particularly pronounced because it followed the shock and gloom of Good Friday when Christ's death seemed to dash all hope.

Two millennia later, a world tragically marred by war, injustice, and division desperately needs the transforming joy of Easter. Our commemoration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ again brings us the certain hope that, in the end, the righteousness, peace, and joy of God's Kingdom, will prevail. We need the hope and confidence flowing from Christ's Triumph not only at Easter but every day. And we can have it.

At every Mass we celebrate the memorial of Christ's saving Passion and wondrous Resurrection. This is more than just calling to mind the greatest events of history. It is making those events, their saving effects, and Christ Himself truly present to continue the redemption of our weary world.

In this final year of our National Eucharistic Revival, we would do well to reflect upon some of the actions and gestures at Mass that remind us of the mysteries of our faith made present in the Eucharist. Just as God's Son was truly born of the Virgin, Christ truly becomes present in the Eucharist after the priest calls down the Holy Spirit over the gifts and pronounces Christ's words, "This is my Body." "This is My Blood." Just as Christ was lifted up on the Cross and died by the shedding of His Blood to give glory to His Father, at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer, we offer all glory and honor to the Father when the priest lifts up the Body and Blood of Christ separately and apart (representing His death). Right before Communion, a small piece of the consecrated Host is placed in the Chalice, reuniting His Body and Blood (representing His Resurrection).

I pray that you and your family are renewed in your Christian joy and hope this Easter and that joy and hope are strengthened and deepened each Sunday at Mass.

With every prayerful best wish for a joyous Easter, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Robert J. McManus*

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus

**Eat Pray Share**  
**Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**10:30 AM to 1:30 PM**  
**Discussed led by Liz Woods**  
**Cost is \$15 per person**  
**Catered Lunch will be provided**

Parishioners and friends are invited to join together in a guided discussion about discovering our own gifts and recognizing the gifts in others. Registration starts:

March 3<sup>rd</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> after all Masses.

Seating is limited.

Questions or for more information or for a registration form email [emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:emmaus.stgeorge@gmail.com)

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

**March 31 - No Coffee Shop, Happy Easter**

April 7 - Robert Gray and Team

April 14 - Jim Moughan and Team

April 21 - Kathy Hessel 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@andyTfish.com](mailto:andy@andyTfish.com) or 508-901-7813



**Donated amount \$24,430.00, 26% of our goal.**  
**Thank you for your continued support!**

Our agencies and ministries are faces of hope to so many. Your pledge or one-time gift is a tangible way to "be God's 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](http://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](http://www.Partners-Charity.net) or call in a pledge at 508-929-4366. Checks can be made payable to: Partners in Charity and mail to 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

**Bulletin Item Due Dates:**

Bulletin 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) or call: 508-853-0183.

**Due to Publisher's deadline, collection total is delayed.**

## Prayer Before or After Mass

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. 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, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024** after 5:30 PM Mass to 7:00 PM and **Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024** after 8:00 AM Mass until 10:00 AM. Come and join us spending time with Jesus.



## Saint George Family Prayer Night Thursdays starting after the 5:30 PM Mass

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.



## 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

**April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 8:00 AM**

Contact Jim Hachey at 508-579-9623



## Online Weekly 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.



## Mass for Life Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM Cathedral of St. Paul 38 High Street Worcester

The annual Mass for Life will be celebrated by Bishop Robert J. McManus on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. All are invited to join students from our Catholic schools who will be our special guests. The Diocese of Worcester's annual Pro-Life Awards will also be presented at this Mass. All are welcome to attend!



## Word of Life: Intercessions for Life

May the glory of the Resurrection inspire lasting hope in all who work to protect human life;  
**We pray to the Lord:**

*"With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth."  
(The Gospel of Life 95).*



**"The Lord is truly risen!"**

Are you being called to proclaim the truth of the Lord's resurrection as a priest, religious sister or brother? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 508-630-4473 or [dinfante@saintpaulknights.org](mailto:dinfante@saintpaulknights.org).







## Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

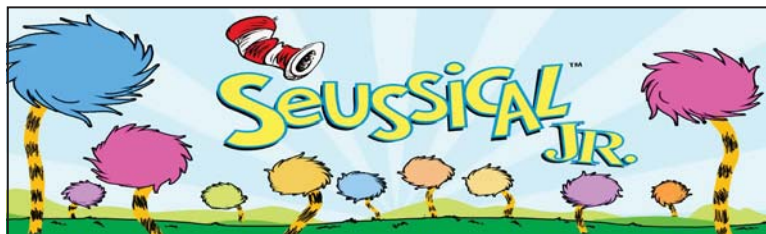
Sarah Kelly, Administrator Phone: 508-852-1784

[sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org)

**Schedule Online:** The schedule for all religious education classes, grade one through confirmation, can be found on the parish website. Please check the website for updates.

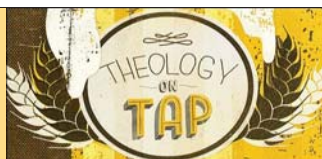
**Emails, Website & Remind App:** All important updates are typically sent out through email. We also post any changes to the schedule, or important updates on the parish website. A 3rd way, and often the quickest, of getting information out to families is through the Remind App. Simply text the code **@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 Sunday on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The last class will be on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Confirmation will be held at Cathedral of St. Paul on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. Please email Sarah if questions.



St. Paul Jr/Sr High School presents Seussical, Jr., a musical based on the works of Dr. Seuss. Performances are **April 4, 5, and 6 at 7:00 PM** in Saint Paul Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 each, or \$5 for students and senior citizens. Come see this musical and see our own Connor Gumbrell as part of the Stage Crew and performances by Maria Kelly! Join the fun in this wonderful musical and see your favorite characters from Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant and others from the world of Dr. Seuss! Call St. Paul HS at 508-852-5555 with any questions.

## Young Adult Theology on Tap



Young Adult Theology on Tap is back! Would you like to learn more about Jesus' life, listen to Fr. Donato Infante or other speakers, and connect with other young adults in your community? Come join us for fellowship, food and drinks, and talk about various Catholic topics at the next "Theology of Tap". Open to ages 18 to 39. For more information please contact Tim Messenger at [tmessenger@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:tmessenger@worcesterdiocese.org), or call him at the Diocese of Worcester: 508-929-4360. See you soon!

## Family Faith Byte Easter Fun Facts:

Easter Sunday celebrates Jesus' Resurrection.  
A white lily is also known as the Easter lily.  
Eating hot cross buns on Easter originated in Greece.  
New clothes on Easter represents good luck.



## The Family Connection Dedicated to Ruth Viens

John saw the empty tomb. Many ideas must have crossed his mind. Like the rest of us he was a busy person. The power of the Resurrection could only touch his life because he was ready to accept the Risen Lord. The Resurrection cannot make an impact on our lives if we don't leave ourselves open to it. The empty tomb which allowed John to see and believe beckons us as well. Easter challenges us to find time and space for God so that we too can see and believe. When we allow the Risen Lord into our lives He will transform us!

### 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 forever heartfelt memories.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Retreat for High School-aged Young Women Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Hall 11 Day Street, Webster, MA April 12, 13 and 14

Amata is a retreat for high school-aged young women with the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth from Pennsylvania. Retreat will start at 5:00 PM on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> with an overnight to April 13<sup>th</sup>, and returns on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be talks, music, time for prayer and time for fun!  
Cost is \$30 to include meals and snacks.

**Deadline to register is April 5.**

To register or for more information contact Maureen Benoit at [SHPDRE@gmail.com](mailto:SHPDRE@gmail.com) or call 774-289-0849

### 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 send email to [st.geobaptism@gmail.com](mailto:st.geobaptism@gmail.com)



### Youth Ministry Contact Jay Guillette for next gathering 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)



# A Community of Ministries



## St. George Parish Outreach

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

Spring 2024

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Spring has arrived! Although there might always be some lingering snow and cold weather here in New England, the promise of warmer days and new life is here! I love to see the daffodils appearing and the finches turning bright yellow! Signs of hope also surround us here in our parish thanks to the vibrancy of our youngest parishioners who join us in ministry!

- \* Thanks to Caitlin, a sixth grader at Mountview Middle School, supplies for the homeless are being collected. In collaboration with our Religious Education Ministry, Caitlin invited families to donate essential items. (Collection ends March 24)
- \* Thanks to Will, a freshman at St. John's, who collected items to help protect vulnerable folks from the dangers of hypothermia. The collection bin was filled to overflowing due to the generosity of our parish community!
- \* Thanks to Ruby and Anna who faithfully serve as leaders of Toddler Liturgy of the Word every Sunday! They are recently upgrading teaching supplies to enliven their ministry!

These young parishioners and many more like them are serving on the altar, helping out at Coffee Shop, video recording our liturgy, and adding their voices to our prayers and songs of worship at Mass. They give us hope and the assurance that the uplifting joy of Easter will be with us for many years to come.

Peace to you All, *Annie Doyle*

## 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

Please call to let us know if you, a family member or neighbor is hospitalized, home bound or ill. Call or text Annie Doyle at 508-450-4134. We want to be with you in prayer and support. If you like, we can arrange a visit and bring Eucharist. Due to HIPAA regulations, we are not informed that you are a patient.

## Current Parish Outreach Needs

**Mustard Seed Catholic Worker:** Men's lighter spring jackets and T-Shirts are needed. Jeans and sweatpants are especially welcome.

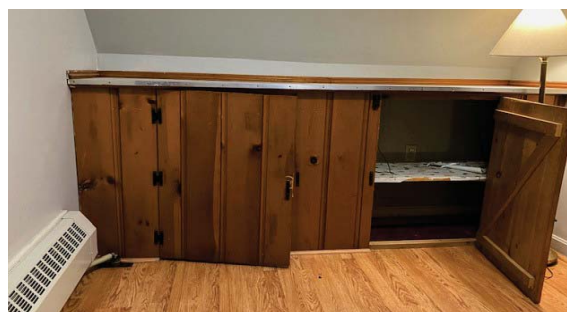
**IHN Family Shelter:** There is a need for Juice Boxes and healthy snacks. In an effort to reduce the use of paper towels, small hand towels are needed.

**Our Afghanistan Families:** This is the month of Ramadan. The adults and older children fast from sun up to sunset. Our prayers join with theirs during this time of renewal.

**Food Pantries:** Special Needs continue for Cereal, Jelly and healthy portable snacks. These items are not available at the Worcester County Food Bank. All types of non-perishable food items, hygiene products and toilet paper are always welcome. These can be left in the Outreach Collection area at the food of the steps as you enter the side parking lot door.

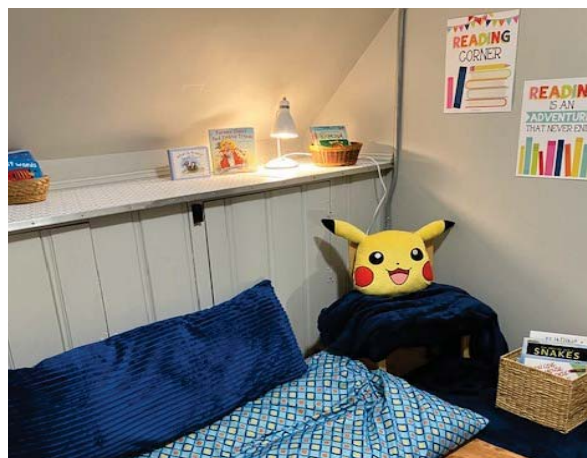
## St. George Parish adds a New Reading Area to IHN Family Shelter !

**BEFORE**



An old unused storage space has been transformed into a relaxing place for the children to read and study. Thank you to all who donate to Parish Outreach!

**AFTER**



**Thank You So Much!**

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

### *Easter Blessings*

May the promise of the Easter season bring you great joy and abundant peace in the love and promise of Our Lord.

**REJOICE! HE IS RISEN!**



THANK YOU to all who continue to enrich the Emmaus Ministry. Your encouragement, support and participation, have helped the Emmaus Ministry to flourish!

***Praise God!***

The Emmaus Ministry Committee and  
Co-Chairs: Andrea and JoAnn



### **Spiritual Growth Ministry Corner**

Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran

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

### **Happy Easter! This a joyous day and holy season!**

Pope John Paul II is often quoted as saying "We are an Easter people and Alleluia (or Hallelujah in Hebrew) is our song". While he may have been paraphrasing St. Augustine, the message is an important one for all of us.

Alleluia means "Praise the Lord". During the forty days of Lent, this word is not used in our Church worship; not in the liturgy and not in the songs. This is due to the somber, penitential and reflective nature of the season of Lent. (Some Catholic Churches have even ceremoniously buried the word Alleluia in a box at the beginning of Lent which is not opened until Easter Sunday.)

Proclaiming "Alleluia" on Easter Sunday is a joyous, emotional response to the news of the risen Lord. It is an expression of our hope for our future. Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead to save all of us! While we know that we will face many struggles throughout our lives here on earth, we also know that we can strive to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.

So, now, go ahead. Say "Alleluia", sing "Alleluia", "Praise the Lord"! It's time to celebrate! Enjoy a very blessed Easter! And the celebration continues as the Easter season lasts until Pentecost (May 19<sup>th</sup> this year).

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.



### **ST. PAUL CENTER FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

*By Dr. Scott Hahn  
New Morning*

Easter Sunday : Acts 10:34, 37-43, Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-9

The tomb was empty. In the early morning darkness of that first Easter, there was only confusion for Mary Magdalene and the other disciples. But as the daylight spread, they saw the dawning of a new creation.

At first they didn't understand the Scripture, today's Gospel tells us. We don't know which precise Scripture texts they were supposed to understand. Perhaps it was the sign of Jonah, who rose from the belly of the great fish after three days (see Jonah 1:17). Or maybe Hosea's prophecy of Israel's restoration from exile (see Hosea 6:2). Perhaps it was the psalmist who rejoiced that God had not abandoned him to the nether world (see Psalm 16:9-10).

Whichever Scripture it was, as the disciples bent down into the tomb, they saw and they believed. What did they see? Burial shrouds in an empty tomb. The stone removed from the tomb. Seven times in nine verses we hear that word - "tomb."

What did they believe? That God had done what Jesus said He would do - raised Him up on the third day (see Mark 9:31; 10:34).

What they saw and believed, they bore witness to, as today's First Reading tells us. Peter's speech is a summary of the gospels - from Jesus' baptism in the Jordan to His hanging on a tree (see Deuteronomy 21:22-23), to His rising from the dead.

We are children of the apostles, born into the new world of their witness. Our lives are now "hidden with Christ in God," as today's Epistle says. Like them, we gather in the morning on the first day of the week - to celebrate the Eucharist, the feast of the empty tomb.

We rejoice that the stones have been rolled away from our tombs, too. Each of us can shout, as we do in today's Psalm: "I shall not die, but live." They saw and believed. And we await the day they promised would come - when we, too, "will appear with Him in glory."

A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology  
[www.SalvationHistory.com](http://www.SalvationHistory.com)

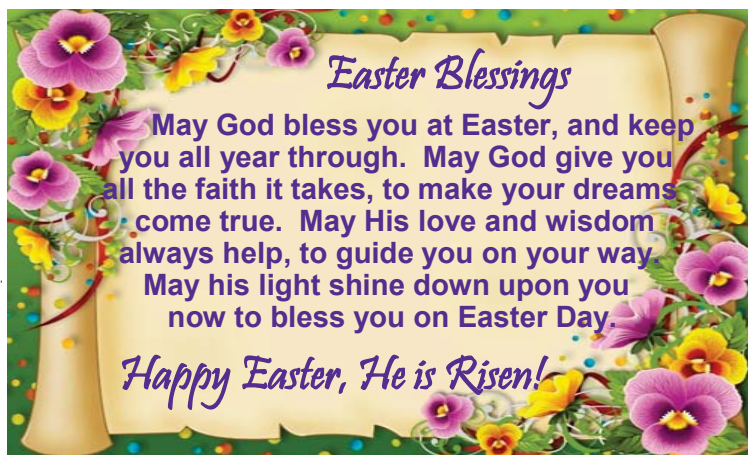


### **Faith Sharing Groups Meet in the Parish Center Room 108**

**If you are interested in joining  
a Faith Sharing Group  
Please contact JoAnn Nally.**

*Back Entrance of Parish Center is Handicapped accessible.*

**If interested in joining a group, please contact  
JoAnn Nally at 508-527-6973.**





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"God is Love" 1 John 4:8

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