

Saint George Church - Worcester & Holden
February 11, 2018: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary

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

Office Hours:
Monday & Wednesday 9:00AM to 5:00PM
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00AM to 4:00PM

Parish Staff:

It is our privilege to serve you.

Rev. Edward D. Niccolls Pastor Ext. 12
Rev. Charles P.O. Omolo, Associate Pastor
Ext.24

Annie Doyle, Pastoral Outreach
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext. 11

Joan Koppenal, Parish Secretary
stgeooffice@gmail.com Ext.10
Fax 508-854-0864



Under the protection of Saint George in Christ Jesus

St. George Catholic Church

For information regarding Pastoral Care of the Sick, Marriage Preparation, Confirmation, and Ministry Involvement, we invite you to call the Parish Office.

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

Eucharist Celebrated:
First Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM - Chapel
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM
Monday through Friday at 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday 3:00 to 3:30 PM and
by appointment

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, February 11, 2018

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 10: Vigil
 4:00 PM Memorial for Barbara Tarkiainen by Jack & Mary Lou McLaughlin

Sunday, February 11: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Anniversary for Raymond Barton by family
 9:00 AM Memorial for Helena Kelliher by the Krug family
Rosary after 9:00 AM Mass
 11:00 AM In memory of Mary Howard

Monday, February 12:
 8:00 AM For those struggling with addiction

Tuesday, February 13:
 8:00 AM Memorial for Karyn MacGillivray by her husband Robert Fillette

Wednesday, February 14: Ash Wednesday
 8:00 AM For the elderly of the parish
 12:10 PM For those considering a return to the Catholic Faith
 6:30 PM For the Community of St. George

Thursday, February 15:
 8:00 AM In memory of Nellie Jordan

Friday, February 16:
 8:00 AM In memory of Clara & Gunner Burglund by a friend
 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 17: Vigil
 4:00 PM Memorial for Julia Morris by Bob & Marie Morris

Sunday, February 11: 1st Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM Memorial for Susan Charbonneau Beane by family
 9:00 AM Memorial for Jeffrey Tagman by Carol Grigas
 11:00 AM Memorial for Therese Gaudette by Pauline Gallagher

Bulletin Deadlines

<u>Weekend of</u>	<u>Due to parish</u>
February 25	Wednesday, Feb. 14
March 4	Wednesday, Feb. 21
March 11	Wednesday, Feb. 28

Items must be submitted by 5:00 PM on the due date. Email items to stgeoffice@gmail.com, or fax to the Rectory.

Altar Ministries

We are thankful to the Altar Servers and Ministers of Holy Communion from TEAM A who will serve at our Masses next weekend.

Attention Parents of Young Children

The Church building is open to all. We ask that parents of young children to please accompany them at all times. Thank you.

Parish Calendar

Valentine Food Drive

Saturday, February 10:
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, February 11:
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Rm
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Confr Rm
 9:00 AM Confirmation Mass & Meeting Church/Center
 6:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr.6 - 9 HallCenter

Monday February 12:
 5:45 PM Yoga Hall
 4:15 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 1-6 Center
 7:00 PM Pieta Confr Rm

Tuesday, February 13:
 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Hall
 4:15 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 1-6 Center
 6:00 PM Girl Scouts Confr Rm

Wednesday, February 14:
 7:00 PM Faith Sharing Group Confr Rm

Thursday, February 15:
 6:30 PM Family Prayer Church

Friday, February 16:
 10:00 AM Faith Sharing Group Center
 11:00 AM Grandparent Prayer Group Confr Rm

Saturday, February 17:
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, February 18:
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy St. George Rm
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Confr Rm
 9:00 AM Confirmation Mass & Meeting Church/Center

Scripture for the week of February 11, 2018

11 SUN	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31-11:1/Mk 1:40-45	
12 Mon	Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13	
13 Tue	Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21	
14 Wed	Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/ Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	
15 Thu	Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25	
16 Fri	Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15	
17 Sat	Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32	
18 SUN	Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15	

Second Collection

Next weekend, a collection will be taken up at all Masses for the Church in Latin America. Please see Bishop McManus' letter on page 5 for information about this important collection.

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Bereavement Support Group Our Lady of Good Counsel

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish will hold a six-session bereavement support group beginning, Monday, February 19th, from 1:00 - 2:30 PM in the parish hall, 111 Worcester Street, West Boylston. The faith based program offers insights about grieving in a healthy way to work toward healing.

For more information or to register (required prior to the start of the meetings) please call Renate Isbell (508) 835-3286.

This Week...

Pray for all those who care for the sick and the suffering that they may have hearts like Jesus who willingly made himself the servant of all.

A Christian Steward receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with all, and returns them with increase to the Lord.

Free Donut Tickets for Children's Liturgy

The Men's Club will be offering "Free Donut Tickets" to all participants to the "Children's Liturgy" during the 9:00 AM Mass *this* Sunday. The children will be given the tickets while at the Liturgy to be redeemed after Mass. Best Wishes to our young Catholics.



Coffee Shop Captain

February 18, 2018
Dave Walsh: 508-854-1332

All men and women are invited to join the St. George Coffee Shop Teams to serve once every 9 weeks. Please contact Jim Sanford at 508-852-0293 for more information.

Note: Team Listings and Schedule of Teams can be found on our parish website.



We Commend to your Prayers

Nancy Svagdys
Maria Henkins

May the Angels lead them into Paradise



From Your Pastor

By now our annual Lenten brochure should have arrived at your home. If you did not receive one, there are extra copies of it available at the doorways of the church. Lent will begin this Wednesday, February 14th, (Ash Wednesday) with the blessing and distribution of ashes at the 8:00 A.M., 12:10 and 6:30 P.M. Masses.

As we begin our Lenten season, let us keep in mind that this season of penance is one that should make a difference in our lives. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a good way for us to be able to focus our attention as to how our lives can have a positive difference in the world around us by taking some time to look at our own spiritual lives.

Once again, we are strongly encouraging every Catholic in our parish family to take the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation even if a person has not received this sacrament (or gone to confession) for a long time. In addition to most Saturday afternoons during Lent when confessions will be heard from 3:00-3:30 P.M., the opportunity to receive this sacrament will also be offered on Saturday evenings from 5:00-5:30 P.M. and on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:00 P.M.

Catholic Free Press: February is Catholic Free Press month. We hope that many of you will either begin or renew a subscription to our diocesan newspaper. Won't you help us by subscribing today? You can use the envelope in your church envelope packet or pick up an envelope at the front hallway of the church and place the remittance into the collection basket.

Fr. Niccolls

Men's Club Meeting

The monthly Men's Club meeting will be held *this* Sunday, February 11, in the Conference Room after the 9:00 AM Mass. Men's Club members and parish staff are welcome to attend. The coffee is on us!!!

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator - 508-852-1784
Email : sarah.Kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org
Kevin.brown@saintgeorgesparish.org

Religious Education

Important Dates for Grade Two

This is a very exciting year for our religious education students in grade two. First Communion will take place in April. There will be a retreat for the students and their parents to help prepare for each of these sacraments.

1st Communion

First Communion Retreat and Potluck dinner- Saturday, April 7, 2018 2:30-6:00pm

First Communion #1 Sunday, April 22, 2018 1:00pm

First Communion #2 Saturday, April 28, 2018 10:00am

Lent Begins this Week

Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday. Lent is the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. The ashes are made by burning the blessed palms that were distributed the previous year on Palm Sunday. The distribution of ashes reminds us of our own mortality and calls us to repentance. The ashes remind us of our own sinfulness, they are a sign of our humility. As Lent begins, you might consider setting off in a new direction to enrich your spiritual life by going to daily Mass when we can and praying more often.

Enrich Your Lent By Volunteering

Would you consider spending some very special time with hospice patients? Can you spare one or two hours a week volunteering with patients at the end of life? Notre Dame Hospice is looking for kind, compassionate people. Contact, Debbie Karalus, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator at ND Hospice 508-852-5505 or email at dkaralus@notredamehealthcare.org.

St. George Book Discussion Group

The next meeting of the St. George Book Discussion Group will be held on Monday, February 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. We will discuss the book, "Following the Path" by Joan Chittister. If you would like to join the group or for more information, please contact Joyce Purcell at 508-852-

Weekend of February 4, 2018

Total Weekly Ordinary: \$8,696.75

Monthly Totals for January

Repairs: \$1086.00

Air Conditioning Fund: \$150.00

Fuel: \$1458.00

Thank you for your support!

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

In today's second reading, St. Paul urges the Corinthians to "do all for the glory of God." If we follow that advice in everything we do, we cannot help but be good stewards!

Eucharistic Adoration

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death. May our worship of this sacrament of your Body and Blood help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the kingdom where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Chapel Hours



Open 4:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Closed - Sunday from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Closed - Monday & Tuesday from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM

Pietà

Is an ongoing support group for bereaved parents. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child is welcome to attend. The this meeting will be on February 12 at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room.

An Invitation to Audition from Parishioner Deb Cormier

A Goodlie Companye is a small, madrigal, a capella singing group that performs at retirement homes, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other similar venues, at no cost to either the venue or the audience. We practice weekly, on Thursdays from 7 - 9 p.m., at some of the members' homes - from Arlington to Concord to Worcester. If you think you would like to audition to be a part of this group, whose repertoire consists of motets (religious songs) and madrigals (secular songs) from the Renaissance period, please contact us at info@goodlies.org or email Deborah Cormier at deb-corms35@gmail.com. For more information, pictures, or videos, please visit www.goodlies.org.

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A Letter from Bishop McManus

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For over 50 years, the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** has been a sign of the solidarity of the Church in the United States with the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean. The distance in rural areas and deteriorated roads make it difficult for some communities to have Mass regularly. Language barriers and lack of resources make catechetical materials difficult to produce. We are called to share our faith with all, and this collection is a prophetic and bold way to do so.

In Cuba, in the Archdiocese of San Cristobal de la Habana, the Church is not present in many of the smaller or rural communities. For many years, there were no ministers and there was no mission house—not to mention a church building—to which the people could turn. The message of the Gospel could not spread, because there were very few messengers to share it and few places where people could go to hear it. But with your support, pastoral agents have received training to bring the Gospel to these areas and neighborhoods. Your support has helped bring people to the Church, through religious education and retreats, and the Church to the people, through evangelization efforts and the repair of church buildings. This has given them the hope and the joy of the Gospel.

The Collection for the Church in Latin America, through projects like these, empowers the faithful of Latin America and the Caribbean to deepen their faith and share it with each other and the world. A significant portion of this collection is also used to assist in the ongoing efforts of our own **Diocesan Hispanic Ministry**, which serves the large number of Hispanic and Latino Catholics who are now in the Diocese of Worcester. It is gratifying to see the life of faith flourishing in these parish communities as their faith life enriches us all.

I encourage you to respond to the theme to “Share your Faith” by supporting the special Collection for the Church in Latin America in our parishes on the weekend of February 18. Please be assured of my appreciation for your generous response to this collection.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain,
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

18th Annual Diocesan Catholic Men’s Conference at Assumption College

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled for Assumption College on **Saturday, March 17**. Visit the conference website at www.firstmensconf.org for information and to purchase tickets online and elsewhere. Come and hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Marcellino D’Ambrosio, Father David Cavanagh, Robert Rogers, Ryan Tremblay, and Elvis Grbac. Bishops and priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. For a Conference brochure, further information or registration, call Sara Smillie at 508-929-4345. Adult tickets are \$45 until February 28, afterwards \$60. Student tickets are always \$30.



Make a Prayer Cloth In the Church Hall

Everyone is invited downstairs to the hall to make a simple Prayer Cloth to take home. It’s very easy to decorate. It can be done by anyone of any age. (We hope adults will help children younger than 5 years of age.) You might want to use the Prayer Cloth in your home or give it to someone as a gift. There are several other ideas available which explain ways that you might want to use the Prayer Cloth. There are also several other items you might want to take to add with the cloth to form a “Prayer Place” at home.

You are Invited to Hear “One Thing” at Mass



Our lives can be filled with so much! Yet God is present and speaks to us always, especially at Mass. We hear it sometimes, but the clutter of life can cause us to miss it or forget. As a parish community we are invited to try something new at Mass.

Listen to the music, readings, preaching, prayers and to the silence in your own heart.

Ask God to help you hear just one word or idea, one challenge or invitation, that will help you to grow spiritually during the coming week.

Use the little booklet, which you will find at all church entrances, as a place to jot down and remember the **one thing** to hold in your heart and mind all week. If you forget the booklet at home please feel free to take another one. Use the one word or thought during the week as the Holy Spirit moves you.

A Community of Ministries



Love. Grow. Serve.

PARISH OUTREACH

Annie Doyle - 508-853-0183
Ext. 11

Office hours Mon-Tue-Wed 9-5
annie@saintgeorgesparish.org

THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Valentine's Day Food Drive this weekend

Saturday and Sunday, February 10 & 11, 2018

Catholic Charities and the Mustard Seed are in need of all types of non-perishable food items. Your grocery items can be left on the outer step of the railing surrounding the sanctuary or at any entrance to the church building. If you have forgotten, donations are happily accepted until Ash Wednesday.

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. In addition to the "giving up" that we traditionally do during Lent, how about "taking on" some things for Lent this year such as extra prayer, namely family prayer. If your family has not already established some form of family prayer, Lent is a good time to begin. Plan together what form this will take - an Our Father in the morning before everyone rushes out the door? The Prayer of St. Francis at the end of dinner? Or a short scripture reading before saying goodnight?

Charitable Donations for Lent

- Donate new **Underwear** for homeless men and women - all sizes and types. These are items that are so necessary but rarely, if ever given. Please bag them individually in zip lock bags marked with type and size.
- Dollar Store men's brown fleece "**Work Gloves**" are inexpensive and really needed lately in this freezing cold weather.
- **Men's Warm Jackets (used)** are in very short supply at the Mustard seed lately. Donations welcome!
- Individual packets of **Peanut Butter** can be found at the Dollar Store-three for one dollar. This is a portable and relatively healthy snack when combined with the day-old bread this is always available at the Mustard Seed. Spencer Abbey often donates jelly too!

All donations can be left in the Outreach Donation Area at the bottom of the steps as you enter the church from the parking lot.

You are invited to join the new St. George Parish "Food Donation Team"

For more information and/or to join the team, just email Dave at DavewithFDT@gmail.com

Special needs for February 2018 are for
Toilet paper, soup and peanut butter.



Grandparent Prayer Group

Friday, February 16 at 11:00 to 11:45 AM, Conference Room in the Church Hall. Join us as we pray for the safety and well-being of all grandchildren. Includes prayers to St. Ann and St. Joachim, grandparents of Jesus and the Rosary. Not required to attend each month. Grandfathers also welcome.



By obedience knowledge is increased.

... St. Thomas Aquinas

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

Visitation House Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Faith In Action & Respect Life Committees:

Visitation House, on Vernon Hill in Worcester, is a Catholic home for homeless women with crisis pregnancies. These women are supported in a safe environment. During this time and after the birth of their child, trained staff work with the mothers teaching life skills and how to take better care of themselves and their baby. Mothers are assisted in finding housing, exploring education and pursuing job opportunities. Please support Visitation House by taking a baby bottle, keeping it for four weeks and filling it with your spare change. Baby bottles will be distributed at the end of each Mass on the weekend of **January 27-28th**. Baby bottles will be collected the weekend of **February 24-25th**. Wicker baskets, with the baby bottles, will be found near each entrance of the church. May God bless you for your generosity in supporting this life giving ministry. Thank you.



Spiritual Growth Ministry
Faith Sharing Groups

Lenten Faith Sharing Groups begin the week of February 12th. Groups meet for 75 minutes each week to read, discuss and pray with the upcoming Sunday Gospel. Participants, if they wish, have the opportunity to share their own faith experience. Faith Sharing Groups foster spiritual growth, give you the gift of learning more about Jesus and His life and provide members with the opportunity to be with other Parishioners. St. George's Faith Sharing Groups are part of the Parish Initiative of building up our Faith Community. Pray about being a participant...

This is a wonderful Lenten opportunity!

Groups Meet:

Wednesday: 7:15-8:30 PM or Friday :10:00-11:15 AM

Register this Sunday in the Church Hall



Women's Day of Spirituality
Celebrating Our Giftedness

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Speaker: Judith A. Talvacchia M.Div., BCC

** What are the personal gifts that are an important part of my life?*

**How did I express my gifts earlier in my life?*

**How am I being called to share my gifts with others today?*

**What do the women of the Gospel teach us about being open to God who calls forth our gifts at times and in ways that we never expected?*

St. George Church's Hall
9am - Registration & Coffee
10am - Program Begins
1pm - Day Concludes
Lunch Included

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at the conclusion of the day
\$15 per person

Registration will take place after all masses in January

Last Day To Register February 15th

For more information or questions please call/text, Andrea Svagdys -Gumbrell at 508-330-0267

Lenten Opportunities To Grow Closer To God

Confessions: Saturday, 3:00-3:30 PM or
5:00-5:30 PM
Tuesday, 6:30-7:00 PM

Stations Of The Cross: Friday @ 6:30 PM

Mass: 8:00 AM – Monday, Friday And
Wednesday 6:30 PM

Lenten Evening of Prayer/ Reflection: March 20
***opportunity to receive the
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Faith Sharing Groups: Wednesday, 7:15 PM or
Friday, 10:00 AM



Baptism Preparation

This Sacrament welcomes everyone. For registration and information about selection of Godparents, please contact Susan Pacek at 508-856-9960 or Email: st.geobaptism@gmail.com.

Baptisms are usually held monthly following the preparation sessions and completion of paperwork. Dates for upcoming classes are March 4, and May 20, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Conference Room.