

Saint George Church - Worcester and Holden

May 8, 2022 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. Nicolls, Pastor Ext. 112

Deacon Paul T. Audette Ext.113

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

Kate Lockney, Parish Secretary
office@saintgeorgesparish.org Ext.110
Fax 508-854-0864

Current Office Hours:

Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Thursday 9:00 AM - 12:00 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.

**4th Sunday
of Easter**

"My sheep hear my voice: I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." (Jn 10:27-28)



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 10:00AM.

Weekday Masses

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions are heard inside the church
2:30 - 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, May 8, 2022

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From Your Pastor

HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY!!!

We extend our blessings and good wishes to all mothers today. May Mary, our Blessed Mother, be an inspiration and an example to us all of joyful hope with God's guidance as we observe and celebrate this special day.

"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God." Luke 1:30

In celebrating Mother's Day today, many of us will certainly have the opportunity to remember our own mothers and even those who have been mother figures to us, but for us as Catholic Christians, it is good for us to also remember our Blessed Mother Mary. As we begin to return to life after the pandemic of the coronavirus, it is a good opportunity for us to turn to Mary as a model of living without fear. In her culture and knowing what could happen to a young woman who was pregnant and not yet married, she certainly had to be worried about having a baby. Panic probably raced through her mind, but the angel who brought her this news calmed her and eliminated any doubt about her pregnancy, allowing her to overcome her fears. She did not let fear rule her life but found ways to live through life's experiences. If we hold our mothers and mother figures as models by which to live, then Mary gives us a great example in facing our fears and not letting them overwhelm us. She changed her thinking from "What if..." into "I can handle this with God's guidance!" Can we do the same as she did. Even though she may not have understood everything that was happening and would happen in her life, Mary trusted in God and took positive steps to face her fears. She was realistic and believed that, with God's help, she would have the strength to deal with anything that she experienced in her life as well as her Son's life, from his birth to his suffering, death and resurrection. When we reflect upon her life and the example she has given to us, the challenge of facing our fears and working to forget about them is what we are called by God to do. God has given us a great lesson in the life of Mary, our Mother. Let it be the lesson that motivates us to imitate her as we move forward in our own lives.

This weekend we extend a word of welcome to the first of our seminarians, Rafael Longhini, who has also been assigned here to St. George's for his summer assignment. Rafael, who comes from Brazil, will be here with us until mid-August.

(continued in next column)

(He will be going home to Brazil halfway into his assignment and then will return here to complete his summer assignment.) He has just completed his first year of theology at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland. We welcome Rafael to our parish, and I know that you will extend to him the same hospitality that you have offered to our other seminarians.

Fr. Niccolls

Mass Intentions



Saturday, May 7, 2022

4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Joseph Wong and Anna Wong requested by Saraphina Wong

Sunday, May 8, 2022 Memorial Mass for Ann Panzarino requested by her niece LynnMarie

10:00AM Memorial Mass for Virginia Bercume Requested by KC Murphy

Monday, May 9, 2022

8:00 AM In Memory of Anne Keenan

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

8:00 AM Special Intention

Friday, May 13, 2022

8:00 AM In Memory of Gertrude Sand

Saturday, May 14, 2022

4:00 PM Memorial Mass for Maureen O'Connor Requested by her family

Sunday, May 15, 2022 Memorial Mass for Anna Olay Panzarino requested by her niece LynnMarie

10:00AM Memorial Mass for Sarah Johns Requested by Andy Johns

Parish Staff Announcement:

On August 4, 2022 our parish administrative assistant (secretary), Kathleen Lockney will retire. With this announcement of Kate's retirement and coupled with the fact that I need to delegate more of my administrative responsibilities to another person who would be considered as part of our pastoral staff, I will be recruiting for 2 positions - an administrative assistant and a parish pastoral associate. Job descriptions have been composed and/or revised to advertise for both positions for anyone who might be qualified to fill them through the submission of a resume. These job descriptions will be available either in hard copy or online. We are hoping to have these positions filled by mid-July to allow for a smooth transition by August.

Fr. Niccolls

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Weekly Collection:

April 25, 2022—May 1, 2022



Ordinary Collection \$ 4,548.20
Total \$ 4,548.20

Thank you for your generosity.
We are so grateful.

Stewardship Thought for the Week

Paul and Barnabas encountered both violent rejection and joyful acceptance of the message that they preached. We, too, may meet with mixed reactions when we use our gifts in the service of God. But, the Gospel assures us, the reward for those who follow faithfully is external life.



Miles Funeral Homes

Offering a seminar in their bereavement series,
Sharing Hope:

Embracing Loss Finding Your Way and Healing Your Spirit

Saturday, May 14, 2022, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
Holden Senior Center, 1130 Main Street, Holden
508-829-4434

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 that you are a patient. Thank you for your understanding.

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. The victim assistance coordinator for the Diocese of Worcester is Judith Audette at (508) 929-4363.



Coffee Shop Express Ministry of Hospitality

We Hope You'll Join Us
for Coffee and Donuts
following the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
Masses on Sunday Mornings.



Thank You To Our Ministers of Coffee Shop Hospitality:

- May 1 - First Sunday of the **ODD** months
Steve Toole, Tim Bouchard & John Pacek
May 8 - Second Sunday of the Month
Jim Moughan and Team
May 15- Third Sunday of the Month
Kathy Hessel, Jim Dupre, and Stephen Willand
May 22 - Fourth Sunday of the month
Mark Cormier & Tom Pirani
May 29 - Fifth Sunday of the month
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND - NO COFFEE SHOP
July 31 - Fifth Sunday of the month
Dave Walsh and Team

Can you help on a Sunday morning?

Parish Calendar

Saturday, April 7, 2022

8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

Sunday, May 8, 2022

10:00 AM Coffee Shop Express

Toddler & Children's Liturgy of the Word Hall

6:00 PM Religious Ed. Grades 6-9 Parish Center

Monday May 9, 2022

4:30-5:30PM Religious Ed Grades 1-5 Center

7:00-8:30 PM Faith Sharing Group Parish Center

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

7:00-8:15 PM Faith Sharing Group Parish Center

Thursday, May 12, 2022

11:00 AM Faith Sharing Group Church Hall

6:00-9:00 PM Diocesan Your Ministry Church Hall

Friday, May 13, 2022

Saturday, May 14, 2022

8:00 PM AA Meeting Church Hall

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May 8, 2022 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Help Prevent Family Homelessness

Buy "Hope for Housing Cards"
after the 4 PM Mass Saturday,
and after the 8AM or 10 AM Mass Sunday.
See Dave and Sue Genereux who are in the Church
Hall after EVERY Mass. If needed contact
them at 978-833-0306.

Eucharistic Adoration

The Thursday evening Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration for will be held on Thursday, **June 2**, from 6:00 until 7:00 PM and Friday, **June 3**, from the end of the 8:00 AM Mass until 10:00 AM.

If you are unable to join us in person, we invite you to visit our parish website to view the "Eucharistic Adoration" video on the homepage.



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

Family Prayer Night at St. George Church



Every Thursday at 6:00 P
In the Upper Church
There is a gathering of people
who pray for all families.

Everyone is invited to join us!

The Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed during this time. 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 Thursday before the first Friday of each month.

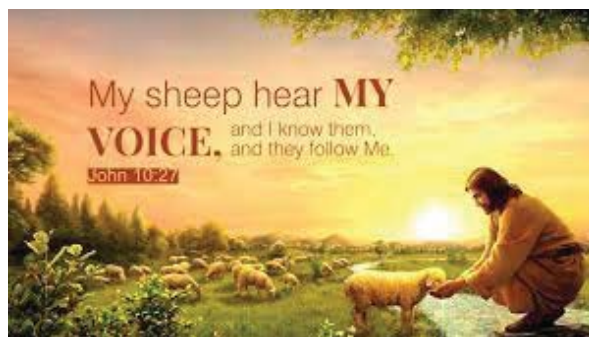
Saint George Saturday Rosary Group

You're invited to attend our once a month Saturday morning Rosary Group.

First Saturday of every month.

Currently we are meeting at 7:30 a.m.

If interested you may contact
Jim Hachey at 508-579-9623.



From Deacon Paul Audette

Henri Nouwen Speaks to us through his Letters

Henri writes to a Dutch friend about prayer and the spiritual life. This is Part IV (and the conclusion) of his response. (taken from "Love, Henri: Letters on the Spiritual Life"):

Dear Dineke,

...Finally I want to say that as you connect your suffering with the suffering of Jesus, you also connect your suffering with the suffering of the whole world. Because Jesus carries the pain of all the humanity in his heart. Thus our life becomes more and more a life for others, not only for your husband and daughter but for all people. Thus you participate in the saving work of God..."

Yours,

Henri J.M. Nouwen



Saint John's High School

is hosting a Spring Preview Event for prospective middle and high school students

on Tuesday, May 24, at 6:00 pm.

Please visit www.stjohnshigh.org/

admissions/visit-us for more information.



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

New members are invited to join this important ministry of outreach to the sick, suffering and lonely. Please join us in prayer, knitting and crocheting from home. Hats and warm scarves for the homeless are also greatly appreciated. If you are interested is the possibility of gathering together as a group again, please contact -

Annie Doyle for more info: 508-450-4134

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Religious Education

"Growing Together in Faith"

Sarah Kelly, Administrator -

508-852-1784

sarah.kelly@saintgeorgesparish.org

Kevin.brown@saintgeorgesparish.org

Religious Education 2021-2022

Thank you to our teachers, volunteers and parents who all worked together to pass our Catholic faith on to our youngest parishioners!

End of Religious Education Year

Students in grades 1-5 had their last classes this week. It has been so nice to be together in person this year. We hope all students enjoy their time off with their families and we look forward to classes beginning again in September. Stay tuned for Fall registration information in early summer.

First Communion

Congratulations to our Second Grade Students who received Jesus in Holy Communion last weekend!

Confirmation

Candidates met with their sponsors recently during class time. Confirmation will take place at the cathedral on May 15 at 3pm.

Children's and Toddler's Liturgy of the Word

takes place on Sundays,
During the 10AM Mass

Toddlers with a parent are invited to attend. Grade school age children are encouraged to attend the group for older children. This is a wonderful way to continue learning about God's love for us all summer long!



In prayer and joyful hope, we look forward to the beginning of our new Youth Ministry at St. George Parish led by Kevin Brown!



Saint George Parish Scholarships

Congratulations to our graduating Seniors! Our prayers and best wishes are with you!

Parish Scholarships are now available. Applications may be found at the back entrance of the Church Hall and on our parish website. Completed applications are due at the Parish Office no later than 1:00 PM June 1, 2022.

Baccalaureate Mass June 12, 2022 at 10:00 AM

The award ceremony will take place during the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, June 12, 2022.

THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Dear Mom - thank you for saying yes to my life and for offering me the chance to live and grow. I believe in you Mom. You are very important to me not because of the things you do for me but rather for the person you are. I honor you and love you. Lord bless my mother this day with all good things. Keep her in your care and protect her from all which is harmful. And grant her peace and justice all her days. Amen.



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A Community of Ministries



**St. George
Parish Outreach**

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

Afghan Refugee Family News:

Last week our families joyfully celebrated the end of Ramadan month long fast. This Muslim feast was a day of prayer, dancing, song, the generous sharing of the family meal and gift giving. Through your generosity to Parish Outreach we were able to give a small gift to each of the 12 children. They especially enjoyed blowing bubbles for the first time! Happy parents looked on as they filled their back yard with floating bubbles!



Mustard Seed News:

- Warm men's jackets are needed
- Our Next Mustard Seed Meal is May 20, 2022. Volunteers needed. Please call Annie to join in the work



IHN (In the Hour of Need) Family Shelter News:

- Thank you to everyone who donated of Dish Soap, baby wipes, women's deodorant, and toilet paper!
- Join in "Tidy Up Tuesdays" on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 10AM - 2PM. Volunteers are needed to lend a hand with household upkeep chores. Contact Sheri at slinn@IHNworchester.org
- Our annual week of service will be June 19-25, 2022. Volunteers will be needed for evening and overnight staff coverage, gardening and more!

**May is the Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Come to Visit Our Parish
Mary Garden**

We welcome everyone to visit and pray at our Mary Garden, especially during this month of May. Come to walk or sit peacefully on the bench donated by our parish Pieta Ministry. Perhaps you are able to drive by on a sunny afternoon to visit for a moment and pray from your car?

Pope Francis and the Bishops of the world have recently consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. As part of the universal Catholic Church we are asked to seek Our Blessed Mother's intercession in prayer that a peaceful resolution may be found to end this horrendous war.

May a simple "Hail Mary" or these few words from the Act of Consecration bring peace to our hearts and to the whole world:

Food Donation Team

To receive a free weekly food bargain grid, join St. George's "Food Donation Team" just email Dave at DavewithFDT@gmail.com

**Special needs for May are:
Peanut Butter, Jelly, and Cans of Soup**

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring food donations to keep our 3 food pantries going!

Mary, Mother of God and our Mother,
to your Immaculate Heart
we solemnly entrust and consecrate
ourselves, the Church and all
humanity, especially Russia and
Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry
out with confidence and love. Grant
that war may end and peace spread
throughout the world.
Amen

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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.*



Thank you to everyone who planned, organized and served at our

DAY OF SPIRITUALITY

With Fr. John Predmore.
It was a wonderful and enriching experience for so many!



Spiritual Growth Ministry Corner

Ministry Leader: Bonnie Moran
Saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com



Just as nature bursts from its winter and early spring “tomb” during the month of May, so does the life of the Church. Dominating the month of May is our awareness of the presence of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We experience it on the feast of Our Lady of Fatima on May 13 and the feast of the Visitation of Our Blessed Mother on May 31. We experience it in our childhood memories of May Day processions to crown Our Blessed Mother. We experience it in a particularly poignant way this year as we continue to recite the Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a prayer especially written to seek Our Blessed Mother’s intercession in the war in Ukraine. We also experience echoes of this theme in our celebration of Mother’s Day on May 8 and in our annual Mass of Remembrance for bereaved mothers (and fathers) on May 2. May our recitation of the rosary accompany us throughout the month of May as we look to Mary for peace and consolation.

The Synod Gathering and Feedback Sessions

These have now been completed for the adults of our parish. These sessions proved to be lively and informative. Providing an opportunity for input on how baptized Catholics feel about the Church – both now and for the future. I look forward to a new journey as we begin to implement your suggestions and ideas from these Synod gatherings, at the parish level. My sincere Thanks to those who accepted the invitation to be involved. Your time and talent are appreciated and are pivotal to our parish.

If you were unable to take part in the Synod Gatherings or know of someone who would like to share, please reach out to Bonnie Moran. The project moves on to the next phase of compiling the information for the Diocesan level. However, I would be interested in speaking to anyone who still wishes to offer suggestions and ideas. Growing in Spirit is what gives our committee purpose.

Wishing you and yours a Spirited Easter Season,
Bonnie Moran

Our sacramental life bursts into activity during the month of May as well. As of the date this article was written, there are two baptisms scheduled for St. George’s during May. Our 10th graders will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation on May 15. And seminarian Peter Bui will be ordained as a deacon on May 28. What a wonderful month for Catholics. May we savor all of this springtime spiritual activity.

Spiritual Growth Committee members are: Bonnie Moran – Chair; Andrea Svagdys-Gumbrell; Joan Talbot; Patty Walsh; Kyle Lewandowski and Helen Hurley. Fr. Niccolls and Deacon Paul serve as *ex officio* members.

The Spiritual growth committee continually works to offer events, services, and ideas to parishioners for the purpose of nurturing and growing the spirit within. Your comments, thoughts and ideas are always welcome, reach us by the email listed above.

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Immediate opening for a part-time maintenance tech at JAMES J. MILLET VILLAGE in Worcester.

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15-20/hr a week position with a flexible schedule and is perfect for someone semi-retired with 'handyman' experience.

508-852-5550 • Thinske@RHMRealEstateGroup.com
jamesmillet@rhmarealestategroup.com

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 My Ombudsman.



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 Mon-Fri from 9am to 4pm

Videophone: 339.224.6831
 (for Deaf and Hard of Hearing)

Email: info@myombudsman.org
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