

Saint George Church

A Community of Ministries

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 17 and 18, 2009



Behold
the Lamb of God.
John 1:36

Parish Information

40 Brattle Street, Worcester, MA 01606

phone: 508-853-0183 fax: 508-854-0864 email: office@ saintgeo.com Website: www.saintgeo.com

Eucharist Schedule: Vigil (Saturday): 4:00 PM Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM
Monday through Friday at 8:00 AM.

Baptism: Once a month at 12:30 PM. Call Ruth Viens, Baptism Coordinator at 508-852-5658 to make arrangements.

Penance: Saturday - 3:15 to 3:45 PM or by appointment.

Marriage: Saturday mornings or Sundays after 2:00 PM. Arrangements must be made one year in advance with a priest. One of the couple must have been a registered member of the Parish for at least six months.

Anointing of the Sick and Communion Calls: Members of the family should notify the Rectory whenever a parishioner becomes confined at home, in a nursing home, a hospice or in the hospital.

Registration: New parishioners are always welcome! Please call Annie Doyle at the Rectory to register.

Coffee Shop: Sunday after every Mass in the Church Hall.

Pastoral Staff: Rev. Ronald G. Falco, Pastor; Norbert H. Archibald, Deacon

Safe Environment Coordinator: Margaret Moynahan

Church Office: Joan Koppenal, Secretary

Parish Outreach: Ann R. Doyle, Coordinator

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, closed Fridays and holidays

Religious Education: 508-852-1784 - **Elementary:** Margaret Moynahan, Coordinator;

Junior High:

Senior High: Christopher O'Neill, Coordinator

Confirmation: Susan Pacek, Coordinator

CYC Youth Group:

Music Ministry: Michael Lizotte, Director 508-854-0459

Weekly Bulletin Editor: Anne Good, 508-869-9982

Newsletter Editor: Ruth Viens, 508-852-5658

Parish Mission Statement

We, the parish community of Saint George, celebrate the presence of Christ in our lives.

Central to our identity and together with the universal Catholic Church, we are nourished and sustained through the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist. We are inspired by the proclamation of the Word and guided by the Holy Spirit.

As Catholic Christians, we continually seek to grow in a deeper understanding of our faith, to respect the sanctity of human life, and to respond to what Jesus asks of us in our time by sharing our gifts and participating in parish activities.

Eucharist and Prayers for the Sick

Members of the family or friends are requested to either call the Rectory or add the name to the Prayer Basket, which is located in the Mary Chapel.

Please: Call to let us know if a family member or neighbor is hospitalized, homebound or ill. We can arrange to visit and 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 told that you are a patient. We call the area hospitals each week to see if any of our parishioners are hospitalized. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Coffee Shop Captain

January 25, 2009: Kevin Cusack - 508-829-6886

Please join us in the Hall after Mass on Sunday for coffee, donuts and fellowship!

Financial Information

December 27/28

4:00 PM: \$ 1818.25

99 envelopes

7:30 AM: \$1609.00

67 envelopes

9:00 AM: \$1655.00

63 envelopes

11:00 AM: \$1974.86

67 envelopes

Mail: \$950.00

10 envelopes

Weekly Total:

\$8007.11

306 envelopes and cash

Repair Fund

\$155.00

4 envelopes

Christmas (to date)

\$305.00

17 envelopes

Flowers (to date)

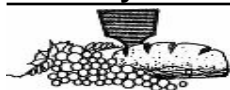
\$1110.00

90envelopes



Our Weekly Financial Goal is \$7,750

This week we achieved 103.3% of our goal .
Thank you for your continued support.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 17: *Vigil*
 4:00 PM Memorial for Monna Lobo by family

Sunday, January 18: *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*
 7:30 AM For the Community of Saint George
 9:00 AM 8th Anniversary for Mary Orciuch Laroche by husband and family
 11:00 AM 16th Anniversary for Mary T. White by George J. White

Monday, January 19:
 8:00 AM Month's Mind Mass for Dorothy Dailida by her sister Jean Dunn

Tuesday, January 20: *Fabian and Sebastian*
 8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to God for the welcoming atmosphere of Saint George's parish by a friend

Wednesday, January 21:
 8:00 AM For vocations in our Parish and Diocese

Thursday, January 22: *Day of Penance; Anniversary of Roe vs Wade*
 8:00 AM For the unborn and respect for life for all

Friday, January 23:
 8:00 AM For high school seniors completing their college applications

Saturday, January 24: *Vigil*
 4:00 PM Memorial for John Welch and Mr. & Mrs. George Silk by Barbara Welch

Sunday, January 25: *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*
 7:30 AM For the Community of Saint George
 9:00 AM 15th Anniversary for Loretta White Jensen by George J. White
 11:00 AM 3rd Anniversary for Paul A. Lalone by mother and family

Scripture for January 18 - January 25, 2009

18	Sun	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/ Jn 1:35-42
19	Mon	Heb 5:1-10/Mk 2:18-22
20	Tue	Heb 6:10-20/Mk 2:23-28 (312)
21	Wed	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Mk 3:1-6
22	Thu	Heb 7:25—8:6/Mk 3:7-12
23	Fri	Heb 8:6-13/Mk 3:13-19
24	Sat	Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Mk 3:20-21
25	Sun	Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/ Mk 1:14-20

Dominican Sisters Bake Sale



THIS weekend, the Sisters will be in the Hall or at the Church doors to sell their bread, brownies, apple pies and blueberry pies. Everything is baked according to the community recipes. The proceeds from the sale will be used to buy medical supplies for the order's mission that treats and supports people suffering from leprosy,

Parish Calendar

Dominican Sisters Bake Sale this Weekend after all Masses

Saturday, January 17:
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, January 18:
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy Conf. Room
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Hall Alcove

Monday, January 19:
 4:00 PM Outreach Ministry Conf. Room
 7:00 PM Life in the Spirit Church

Tuesday, January 20:
 2:00 PM Liturgy Committee Conf. Room
 6:30 PM Weight Loss Group Center (2nd)
 7:00 PM Choir Church
 7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Hall

Wednesday, January 21:
 7:00 PM Widow/Widowers Center

Thursday, January 22:
 6:30 PM Family Prayer Night Church
 6:45 PM Boy Scouts Center (2nd)
 7:00 PM Evening for Caretakers Hall

Friday, January 23:
 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Center (2nd)

Saturday, January 24:
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, January 25:
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy Conf. Room
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Hall Alcove
 10:15 AM Toddler Sing-Along Conf. Room
 6:00 PM Grades 9/10 Rel. Ed Center
 7:00 PM Confirmation Class Hall

Second Collection

Next Weekend, the annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal will be taken up. Please see Bishop Mc Manus' letter on page 7.

Got Spirit!

The Life in the Spirit Team will be holding an evening of charismatic prayer and praise in the Church on January 19 at 7:00 PM. All are welcome and all are welcome to bring a friend!

Saint George's is the Cat's Meow!!!

A replica of the church has been created by the Cat's Meow Company. We have sold all of the original churches and will be placing a second order. But we need to know how many to order, so if you are interested in purchasing one, please call the Rectory before February 1. We will contact those of you who have already placed an order when they arrive in mid-February. The price of the "church" is \$25.00. All proceeds benefit the parish.



Religious Education

The Pastor's Corner

Our Religious Education Program needs up-to-date sets of Bibles for each classroom; only 4 more sets are needed at \$75.00 per set. The current Bibles are out of date and have been well used for decades. Please call the Rectory if you are interested in donating a set(s).

Second Semester

Religious Education classes begin the week of January 25 for all grades. Classes will meet the same days of the week that they did first semester.

January 22 - A Day of Penance and Prayer

In November, 2001, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the following adaptation of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*:

Following confirmation by the Holy See in February, 2002, the following became particular law for the dioceses of the United States of America: "In all the dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when the 22nd falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. The Mass 'For Peace and Justice' (no. 21 from 'Masses for Various Needs') should be celebrated with violet vestments as an appropriate liturgical observance for this day."

As an "Optional Memorial," the Mass celebrated that day may be the Mass "For Peace and Justice" or follow the normal weekday Mass readings and prayers for the day found in the *Ordo*, with or without optional prayers related to St. Vincent of Saragossa whose Feast Day falls on January 22.

This particular law became mandatory in the dioceses of the U.S. for the first time on January 22, 2003.

All the faithful are encouraged to make special efforts to offer their prayers and sacrifices, whether personal and/or communal, for these intentions in regard to this observance of the January 22nd Day of Penance and Prayer.

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.

My Friends in the Lord Jesus,

We have been called by Christ to be with him and to be about the things that he is about. The Gospel of John today and the gospel reading for next weekend are readings which depict the call of the first apostles of Jesus Christ. Although each of these particular gospels have different emphases on how the first of the apostles came to be followers of Jesus, the message is the same, to be an apostle or a disciple the invitation is given to come and to be with Jesus. It is from being with Jesus, in his company, learning his gospel truths, that one is formed as an apostle, a disciple, that is, one becomes a friend of Jesus, and as a friend, knows his heart and its ways. St. Paul describes those who are "with" Christ Jesus as "ambassadors of Christ."

In this Sunday's gospel reading it is Andrew and a "beloved" unnamed disciple that are the first to follow Christ. It is Andrew who will introduce his brother Peter to Jesus. How significant this action is as a model for future disciples today. By following Andrew the Apostle's action, we too, by our Christian action, social justice, forgiveness, that is, living our faith that we bring others to an encounter with Christ. And as seen in all four gospels and in every life, that makes all the difference in the world.

St. Andrew and the "beloved" unnamed disciple in the gospel of John literally followed Jesus, and the Lord noticing them turned to them and asked them "what are you looking for?" This is a profound question addressed to every person in the world. "What are you looking for?" We answer it in many ways; we are looking for better health, a job or job security, a stable economy, family well being, world peace, forgiveness and understanding, love. The apostle Andrew and the other disciple asked Jesus in return "where do you stay? A more accurate translation may be "Lord, where do you abide?" We discover in our lives that the Lord abides in us and with us, no matter what we are experiencing. We ask much in our prayer, trusting that all of our prayers are heard and answered by God. The way of discipleship is trust in the reality of being with Jesus, and Jesus being with us. "Lord, where do you abide?" was asked of Jesus, "come and see" was his invitation.

Fr. Ron

Toddler Sing Along!

For toddlers and preschoolers will meet next **Sunday, January 25** from 10:15-10:45 AM in the Conference Room. For more information call Sharon Krug 508-853-1660.





Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

The Adorers of the Perpetual Adoration Chapel wish to thank Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for these favors:

1. For the successful removal of tumors.
2. For helping me through successful examinations.

The Chapel of the Perpetual Eucharist Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament needs additional adorers. Call Deacon Archie at 508-847-3710 or 508-853-8169. to sign up or if you have any questions.



Parish Outreach

Annie Doyle - 508-853-0183 x12
Office hours Mon-Tue-Wed 9-5

St. John's Episcopal Food Pantry

As you might have read in the newspaper recently, the parish of St. John's is sadly closing and parishioners will be relocating for worship elsewhere in the area. While details are being determined, the Food Pantry will continue there for January and February. The need for non-perishable food items is desperate. Our collection is very low. Canned beans and whole grain rice are a special need. Laundry detergent is a constant need. Let us continue to support the hungry as well as our friends at St. John's with our prayers and food donations.

Refugee Needs

- Diapers - Size 4 and 5 for boys and girls
- Socks - All sizes
- Hats and Mittens - all sizes
- Teen age girl shoes size 9
- Toilet Paper, tissues, and body soap
- A printer in good repair with cable and ink if possible
- If anyone has a used washer and/or dryer in good repair there are 2 families in need who have the hookups available. They currently scrub their laundry by hand at the sink or tub and hang it to dry on indoor clothes lines. One is a family of six the other a family of nine.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This new year, please consider joining us in this ministry of knitting and prayer. Knit at home and /or join us on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month 10: 30 am in the Church hall. Members are always happy to teach knitting. Crocheters also welcome.

Parish Calendar

Group Chairs/Leaders: Please remember that ALL dates/times for any meeting or event using the Parish facilities must be *scheduled and/or cancelled* through Joan, our Parish Secretary. You can contact her by phone or e-mail at the Rectory. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Family Ministry

Ruth Viens, Coordinator - 508-852-5658
Email : ruthviens@charter.net

Family Connection

Those of us who are Christians in this society have a special mission to stand up for the sacredness of life. The world in which our children are growing up is one which shows a contempt for life in many ways. The gross evils of abortion and euthanasia involve the actual killing of those who are deemed inconvenient. But other evils such as racism or contempt for the handicapped, the elderly or the foreigner also imply a depersonalization that violates human dignity. We need to discuss these issues with our children and steer them away from anti-life attitudes they may pick up. Above all, let's keep these concerns present in our family prayer. Children who learn to pray for others, even those who might be thought of as enemies, are not likely to learn to hate. And children who learn to love instead of hate will grow up with a strong sense of respect for life.

Congratulations to those recently baptized into our Catholic community of faith: Rebecca Elizabeth Stearns, daughter of Robert and Kerri Stearns, Madison Witt Kamataris, daughter of Thomas and Lauria Kamataris, and Megan Lynn Darmanin, daughter of Jeffrey and Maureen Darmanin. Also baptized at St. George's, Avery Rae Fuller, daughter of Michael and Amanda Fuller and great granddaughter of our parishioner Sheila Dickman. Let us offer our joy-filled prayers and congratulations as a sign of our support and welcome!



Is your family giving the first hour of the work week to God? If so, we are very grateful. If not, please prayerfully consider supporting our parish this way.

You Should Have Been In Pictures

Come and enjoy and be part of the TV Rosary. The Women's Guild is sponsoring a TV Rosary in coordination with the Men's Club and the Daughters of Isabella on February 4, 2009. The filming will begin at 6:30 PM and should be completed by 7:15 PM. No one is too young or old. Please bring yourself and a friend and help us celebrate the prayer of Our Blessed Mother:

Remember: February 4, 2009 from
6:15 PM To 7:15 PM.

Any questions please call Brenda Trayah 508-853-4547. We need 5 Readers, please let Brenda know if you are interested.

Ecumenical Prayer Service at Assumption College

Join Bishop Robert McManus of the Diocese of Worcester and Bishop Gordon Scruton of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Mass in an Ecumenical Prayer Service at Assumption College Chapel of the Holy Spirit on Friday, January 23 at 7:00 PM. Music will be provided by the Assumption College Chapel Choir directed by Jane Shivick. A reception will follow in the Atrium of the Testa Science Building near the chapel.

Not Yet Confirmed?

Are you a baptized, catechized Roman Catholic adult (18 or older) who has not been confirmed? The Diocese of Worcester will celebrate a diocesan-wide adult Confirmation on Sunday, February 8, 2009 at the Cathedral of St. Paul in Worcester. The Office of Religious Education is offering a one-day retreat on January 25 at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Northborough for adults preparing for Confirmation. If interested, contact the pastor for more information.

March for Life 2009

Plan now to attend the annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Jan. 22, 2009! Busses will leave from St. Paul's Cathedral on Wed., Jan. 21 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m., and will travel to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in time for Thurs. a.m. Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Busses will return to Worcester immediately following the March, arriving back at St. Paul's at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 23. Cost of the bus trip is \$70 per person. Registration forms, including student permission and chaperone forms can be downloaded at www.worcesterdiocese.org (click on Respect Life under the Departments tab); or contact us for further information at (508) 929-4311; e-mail: aledoux@worcesterdioocese.org.

Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines

Weekend of
January 31/February 1
February 7/8

Due to the parish office
Wednesday, January 21
Wednesday, January 28

Materials for the bulletin **must be** submitted before 5:00 PM on the due date. . There can be NO EXCEPTIONS!!! Items can be faxed to the Rectory or e-mailed to agood@saintgeo.com. If you have any questions about the schedule, please give Anne Good a call: 508-869-9982

An Evening for Caretakers

Sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee

Caring for the Spirit of the Caretaker
Thursday, January 22, 2009

Snow date Thursday, January 29, 2009
At 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall

If you find yourself caring for an ill or aging parent, spouse, sibling or child this is an evening to take some time to learn better self care. Katie Kelly from the Grace Institute will be our speaking, providing tips and tools to take better care of your spirit. The evening is free please join us if you can.

Prayer for the Year of St. Paul in our Diocese

God our Father,
you taught the Gospel to all the world
through the preaching of Paul your apostle.
May your Holy Spirit which helped him
to proclaim your power and glory
in the humility of the cross,
assist us as we proclaim Jesus Christ,
with the humble witness of our lives.

May we who claim St. Paul as our patron,
imitate his love for all the Churches
as we reach beyond the familiar boundaries
of our lives to embrace and welcome those
whose faith may have grown weak
or whose lives may be obstacles
to the full knowledge of God.

Renew our diocese with the zeal that filled
St. Paul's life and lead us to the joys of heaven
which your Son won through His cross
and St. Paul gained by the sword.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

In today's first reading we hear Samuel respond eagerly, "Here I am!" each time the Lord calls him. May we, too, be listening for the call of God in our lives and be ready to say like the psalmist, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

Catholic Men's Conference

Annual Mass & Planning Breakfast

All men who have been serving as parish representatives (and/or those who would like to do this year) for the 9th Annual Catholic Men's Conference (Saturday, March 28 at the DCU Center) are invited to our annual Mass & Breakfast Planning Meeting, on *Saturday, January 24*, at Christ the King Parish in Worcester. Mass is at 8 a.m. and breakfast follows. To 'pre-register' for this planning breakfast, which is necessary, please contact Bob Haran in any of the following ways:

Email: bobharan@earthlink.net; Fax: 508-852-6156; Write: 41 Davidson Road, Worcester, 01605; or Phone: 508-852-0551.

Year of Saint Paul Diocesan Event

Bishop George E. Rueger The Good Life Series
Tuesday, November 27 at 7:00 PM

In the Cenacle at the Cathedral of Saint Paul

Reverend Thomas Stegman will be the speaker. He is Associate Professor of New Testament at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry and has been a popular, international lecturer during this Year of Paul. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased by calling 508-929-4303.

Marriage Encounter

Married Couples - It has been said that the greatest gift you can give your children is two parents very much in love with each other. Your children need to see you reaching for it. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in New England are February 13-15, and March 6-8.

For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwmeMA.org

Catholic Engaged Encounter

Are you getting married soon? Consider joining us for a Catholic Engaged Encounter. This is a special weekend designed to give couples planning marriage an opportunity to dialogue honestly about their prospective lives together.. An Engaged Encounter weekend fulfills the instructional requirements of the Diocese for marriage preparation. Please contact Joe or Barbara O'Connor at 978-422-6612 or by e-mail at engaged_encounter@yahoo.com with any questions.

This Week

Pray for our new President and all Members of Congress that a respect for the life of every human being might be foremost in all their decisions.

A Letters from Bishop McManus

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The *Catholic Home Missions Appeal*, which helps the most financially-strapped dioceses in the United States carry out their work of preaching the Gospel, awarded nearly \$12 million in grants last year. This appeal has been successful because of the faithfulness and sustained generosity of Catholics throughout the United States. At the same time, the national economic slowdown has eroded the financial position of many mission dioceses, which have never enjoyed a sound financial foundation at all.

Here in the United States, 88 dioceses (including a few Eastern Catholic eparchies) are simply unable to provide the most basic pastoral ministries of word, worship and service for their people without funding from stronger dioceses. Many Catholics may not know that so many dioceses in rural America, from Appalachia to the Mountain West, rely on this appeal for parish support, religious education, youth ministry, and work with growing populations of Hispanic Americans, African Americans, Asians and Native Americans. The *Catholic Home Missions Appeal* offers essential help.

Diocesan clergy are scarcest in the Mountain West. If you start at the Mexican border and move from diocese to diocese up the Rockies all the way to Canada, you would discover there are only 170 active diocesan priests and 140 religious priests to serve 526 parishes and missions. Most of us are used to parishes in cities and suburbs which are well-established. We need to protect and preserve the entire Catholic community in our homeland by supporting this vital annual appeal.

I encourage you to be generous to the *2009 Catholic Home Missions Appeal*, a special collection to be taken at the Lord's Day Masses in all the parishes throughout our diocese next weekend, January 24-25. Through our personal generosity in this important appeal we will all share in the work of evangelization.

With every prayerful best wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

Hospice Volunteer Training Program

Hospice Services of Western Mass will be sponsoring a Hospice Volunteer Training Program. Classes will take place in the lower level of Saint George's Church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings - February 3, 5, 10, 12, 24, and 26 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. For more information and to pre-register please contact Debbie Goodsell, Volunteer Coordinator at 508-753-3595.