



*C*ome after me,  
and I will make you  
fishers of men.” -Mark 1:17

*Saint George Church*  
*A Community of Ministries*

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 24 and 25 2009*

*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*

February 1, 2009: Joe Toomey - 508-791-2843

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

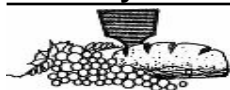
*Financial Information*

**Christmas Day and January 3/4**

4:00 PM: \$ 2383.00	Repair Fund
131 envelopes	\$144.00
7:30 AM: \$1377.00	13 envelopes
60 envelopes	Christmas (to date)
9:00 AM: \$2201.00	\$14,442.21
72 envelopes	410 envelopes
11:00 AM: \$1659.50	Flowers (to date)
87 envelopes	\$13,110.00
Christmas Day/Mail:	97 envelopes
\$3646.50	Mary, Mother of God
147 envelopes	\$1249.00
Weekly Total:	111 envelopes
\$11,267.00	

Our Weekly Financial Goal is \$7,750

This week we achieved 145.4% of our goal .  
Thank you for your continued support.



*Mass Intentions*

**Saturday, January 24: Vigil**  
 4:00 PM Memorial for John Welch and Mr. & Mrs. George Silk by Barbara Welch  
 For the improved health of Michael Barber by family

**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  
 1:00 PM Memorial Service for John "Jack" Coleman

**Monday, January 26: Timothy and Titus**  
 8:00 AM Memorial for Albert Zibinskis by Edward and Rita McCarthy

**Tuesday, January 27: Angela Merici**  
 8:00 AM Memorial for Cecelia and Anthony Laconte by the children

**Wednesday, January 28: Thomas Aquinas**  
 8:00 AM Memorial for Arthur and Brenda Sullivan by family

**Thursday, January 29:**  
 8:00 AM Memorial Mass Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lohnes by the Lohnes family

**Friday, January 30:**  
 8:00 AM For all the Souls in Purgatory

**Saturday, January 31: Vigil**  
 4:00 PM Memorial for Benjamin and Rita Lobo by family

**Sunday, February 1: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 7:30 AM For the Community of Saint George  
 9:00 AM Memorial for Daniel and Shirley Clifford by family  
 11:00 AM Memorial for Manuel M. Silvia by wife and family

*Scripture for January 25 - February 1, 2009*

25	Sun	Jon 3:1-5, 10/1 Cor 7:29-31/ Mk 1:14-20
26	Mon	2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 /Mk 3:22-30
27	Tue	Heb 10:1-10/Mk 3:31-35
28	Wed	Heb 10:11-18/Mk 4:1-20
29	Thu	Heb 10:19-25/Mk 4:21-25
30	Fri	Heb 10:32-39/Mk 4:26-34
31	Sat	Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Mk 4:35-41
1	Sun	Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/ Mk 1:21-28

*We Commend to your Prayers*

John "Jack" Coleman, our former parishioner, husband of our former parishioner Winnie and father of our parishioners Neil and Anne-Marie Coleman

*May the Angels lead him into Paradise*

*Parish Calendar*

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

Monday, January 26:  
 4:00 PM Outreach Ministry Conf. Room  
 4:00 PM Gr. 1 & 2 Religious Ed Center  
 6:30 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Religious Ed Center

Tuesday, January 27:  
 10:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry Conf. Room  
 4:00 PM Gr. 3 & 4 Religious Ed Center  
 5:30 PM Crime Watch Hall  
 6:30 PM Weight Loss Group Center (2<sup>nd</sup>)  
 7:00 PM Choir Church

Wednesday, January 28:  
 4:00 PM Gr. 5 & 6 Religious Ed Center  
 7:00 PM Widow/Widowers Center

Thursday, January 29:  
 6:30 PM Family Prayer Night Church  
 6:45 PM Boy Scouts Center (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Friday, January 30:  
 Saturday, January 31:  
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, February 1:  
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall  
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy Conf. Room  
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Hall Alcove  
 6:00 PM Grades 9/10 Rel. Ed Center

*Second Collection*

This weekend, the annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal will be taken up. Support the missions in our country by making a generous gift.

*Toddler Sing Along!*



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

*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 THIS week for all grades. Grades 9 and 10 meet tonight. Classes will meet the same days of the week that they did first semester.

*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.

*Year of Saint Paul Diocesan Event*

Bishop George E. Rueger The Good Life Series  
 Tuesday, January 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.

*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.

*A wedding is a day . . . A Marriage is a Lifetime.*

*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 witnessed an historic event this week! Let us continue to pray for our recently inaugurated President, and all of the new members of the federal government, and all in public service. May Wisdom be granted them and the light of the Gospel guide them and Justice pervade their hearts and minds in all decisions which will be made for the common good.

It is to Wisdom and Justice and Gospel light that we have been called in Christ Jesus. In today's gospel passage Jesus calls the first of his disciples to come to be in his company. They have been called by Jesus to proclaim the gospel truth of God's wisdom. Guided by the light of the gospel, to love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and to love your neighbor as yourself, the faith of those first disciples brought to the world Justice. The way was not easy. They had to expand their thinking, their own mind set to be inclusive of all others. They came to realize that God shows no partiality in salvation through Christ. They came to the truth that all people are created equal and that all people are due the dignity of sons and daughters of God. In following Jesus they came into the light of truth that injustice and inequality and indignity perpetrated against human life from conception to natural death are to be eradicated. They understood that the mission of Christ is the invitation to the world to reform, believe, and to follow the gospel for the Kingdom of God is at hand.

It is the same Wisdom, Gospel light and Virtue of Justice that Christ calls us to in our day. Challenges are before us as they were in the lives of those who were first called by Christ. The issues to give others what is due them simply because they are a human being, created by God, presses upon us too. Food, housing, clothing, education, jobs, economic security, an end to war, are but a few of today's concerns which impact Justice. As always, we are to act locally, doing what we can in tangible ways, but also to think of the global picture as well. But, if we have as Jesus said even faith the size of a mustard seed no mountain is insurmountable, a tree so great that it cannot be uprooted and tossed into the sea. Let us not underestimate or underutilize the power of our faith. We have been called, not just by anyone, but by the Savior of the world. When Jesus calls he empowers each one with what is necessary for them to accomplish his mission in the world. In every generation Jesus uses the same words of invitation to be with him, to be about the things he is about, "Come, follow me." And to those who respond to the call, it has made a world of difference.

Fr. Ron



*Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration*

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

1. For son's engagement.
2. For pregnancy after long waiting and miscarriages.

**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 in-door 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*

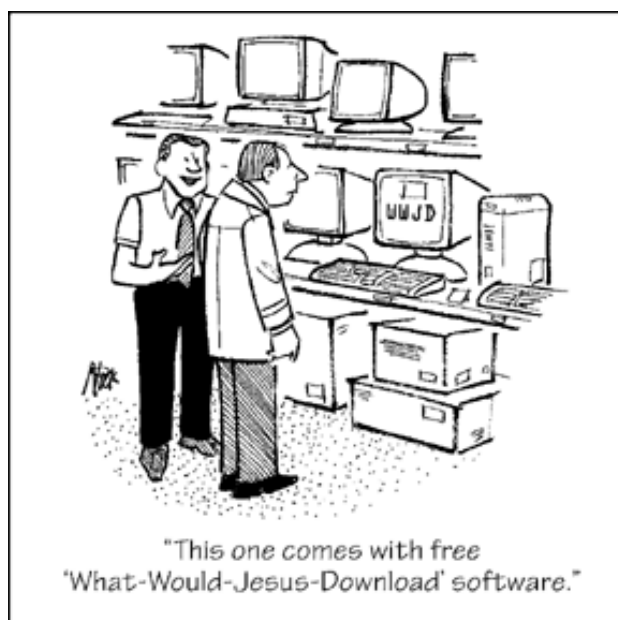
**Group Chairs/Leaders:** Please remember that ALL dates/times for any meeting or event using the Parish facilities must be *scheduled and/or cancelled* through Joan, our Parish Secretary. You can contact her by phone or e-mail at the Rectory. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

*Family Ministry*

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

**Family Connection**

*Prayer for Easing of Financial Difficulties* - Dear Lord, I have been taught that money is not what is most important, yet money is often a problem in my life. These latest financial difficulties are particularly hard. Help me to use money wisely - to resist buying what I do not need and to stop comparing my possessions with those of others. Grant me what I need in this life, so that I may care for myself and those dear to me, with enough to share with those less fortunate. Amen.



*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.

*Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines*

<u>Weekend of</u>	<u>Due to the parish office</u>
February 7/8	Wednesday, January 28
February 14/15	Wednesday, February 4

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

*A Letters from Bishop McManus*

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of January 24-25, 2009, I am asking that a postcard campaign be launched in all the parishes of the Diocese of Worcester to make our congressional representatives aware of our moral opposition to the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) that may be reintroduced in Congress within the next weeks or months.

During our annual bishops' conference held in Baltimore this past November, the bishops of the United States voted unanimously to mobilize our Catholic faithful to state publicly their ethical objections to FOCA or to any other legislative or executive order that would further erode the legal protection that the unborn child in the womb should have.

Why are we bishops so concerned about FOCA? The answer is that FOCA is the most radical and morally insidious piece of legislation that has ever been placed before Congress. Its intention is to create by federal statute a fundamental right to abortion. If passed and signed by the president, as Mr. Obama promised to do during the recent presidential campaign, this law would sweep away over 300 federal, state and local laws and regulations that have been passed to protect the life of unborn children. Indeed the legislative intention of FOCA is far more radical than the Roe v. Wade decision of 1973.

The responsibility of government is to protect the lives of all, especially the weakest and most vulnerable. The innocent unborn child deserves that his or her God-given right to life be safeguarded. Some disturbing implications of FOCA, or any other law or executive order like it, are that taxpayers would have to pay through their tax dollars for abortions that they find morally wrong. FOCA would also require all states to permit "partial birth" and other late term abortions. Moreover, such legislation would invalidate any laws protecting the conscientious objection to abortion of physicians, hospitals and other medical personnel. FOCA would also deny parents the chance to be involved in their minor daughter's abortion decisions.

Our postcard campaign during the weekend of January 24-25 will provide the Catholic community in the United States an opportunity to manifest to our congressional delegates our unified moral opposition to laws that would support a multi-faceted attack on the right to life of pre-born babies. As your bishop, I would ask you to consider prayerfully your participation in this pro-life effort and to see your signature on your postcard as your moral response to the words of Jesus that we will all hear on the day of our personal judgment, "I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers and sisters, you did it for me." (Mt. 25:40)

Asking the powerful intercession of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of the Church, for the success of our efforts on behalf of the sanctity of all human life, born and unborn, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.

Bishop of Worcester

*Women's Guild Basket Raffle Winners*

The winners of our Basket Raffle were drawn on Sunday December 21, 2008 after the 11:00 AM Mass. The lucky winners are:

- #1 Theresa Reen
- #2 Gloria Luthman
- #3 Mary Ellen Giasi
- #4 Lenny Waice
- #5 Liz Woods
- #6 Carol Grigas
- #7 G. Sawyer
- #8 Theresa Reen
- #9 Joe Cote
- #10 Pat Diquette
- #11 Deb Jerszyk
- #12 Diane Waice
- #13 Kathleen Coggins

Thanks to everyone who supported the Guild and our Parish by purchasing tickets!

*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*

"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Mark 1:17) Jesus' call to "Come after me" is a call to all Christians. Jesus asks us all to help Him in His work. By being good stewards, we, too, can help bring others closer to God.

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 the date is Sunday, 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.

*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](http://www.wwmeMA.org)

***PARKING!!!!***

Piles of snow have definitely "shrunk" the parking lot. Please keep the following in mind when parking..

It is **critical** that we keep access to emergency vehicles open at all times - both in our parking lot and on the street. Please observe the following :

- **No parking in the fire lane: the ENTIRE side of the driveway around the rectory is a fire lane so do not park there**
- If you are parking in the front row of cars - please do not block any part of the driveway on the church side - your entire car should be against the snow bank. Leave adequate space between the cars parked on the ends and the driveways,
- If you are parking on Rochelle Street please stay well away from the corner and park on the side of the road - leave enough room for an ambulance or fire engine to make the corner.
- In the parking lot, please leave enough room between cars and on the ends of the rows for vehicles to safely pass through.
- You do need a handicapped placard to park in a handicapped spot.

*This Week*

Pray for medical researchers, that their work might be inspired by a love for the truth and a respect for each human person.

*Saint for This Week?*

ANGELA MERICI

*Also known as:* Angela of Merici, Angela de Marici

*Memorial:* 27 January

*Born:* 21 March 1474 at Desenzano, Lake Garda, Italy

*Died:* 24 January 1540 at Brescia, Italy. Her relics are in the church of Saint Afra, Brescia, Italy.

Franciscan tertiary at age 15. She received a vision telling her she would inspire devout women in their vocation. In Crete, during a pilgrimage to Holy Land, she was struck blind. Her friends wanted to return home, but she insisted on going on, visiting the shrines with as much devotion and enthusiasm as if she had her sight. On the way home, while praying before a crucifix, her sight was restored at the same place where it had been lost. In 1535 she gathered a group of girl students and began what would become the *Institute of Saint Ursula* (the Ursuline Sisters), founded to teach children, beginning with religion and later expanding into secular topics; her first schools were in Desenzano and Brescia.

*Beatified* : 1768 by Pope Clement XIII

*Canonized:* 1807 by Pope Pius VII

*Patronage:* against bodily ills, against illness, against sickness, disabled people, handicapped people, loss of parents, physically challenged people, sick people

*Representation:* cloak, ladder

As our Savior says: "A good tree is not able to produce bad fruit."

He says: A good tree, that is, a good heart as well as a soul on fire with charity, can do nothing but good and holy works. For this reason Saint Augustine said: "Love, and do what you will," namely, possess love and charity and then do what you will. It is as if he had said: Charity is not able to sin.

Mothers of children, even if they have a thousand, carry each and every one fixed in their hearts, and because of the strength of their love they do not forget any of them. In fact, it seems that the more children they have the more their love and care for each one is increased.

Be sincerely kind to every one according to the words of our Lord: "Learn of me, for I am meek and humble of heart." Thus you are imitating God, of whom it is said: "He has disposed all things pleasantly." And again Jesus said: "My yoke is easy and my burden light."

from *Spiritual Testament* by Saint Angela Merici