

# *Saint George Church*

*A Community of Ministries*

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 7 and February 8, 2009*

*He cured many  
who were  
sick with  
various diseases,  
& he drove out  
many demons,  
not permitting  
them to speak  
because they  
knew him.*

*Matthew ~1:34*



*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 15, 2009: John Hughes - 508-829-4772

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

*Financial Information*

January 17/18

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 4:00 PM: \$ 2118.00    | Repair Fund            |
| 105 envelopes          | \$321.00               |
| 7:30 AM: \$537.00      | 19 envelopes           |
| 29 envelopes           | Catholic Home Missions |
| 9:00 AM: \$1200.00     | \$1078.35              |
| 37 envelopes           | 116 envelopes          |
| 11:00 AM: \$1078.31    | Catholic Free Press    |
| 57 envelopes           | (to date)              |
| Mail: \$1809.00        | 31 subscriptions       |
| 48 envelopes           | Fuel (to date)         |
| Weekly Total:          | \$210.00               |
| \$6742.31              | 8 envelopes            |
| 276 envelopes and cash |                        |

Our Weekly Financial Goal is \$7,750

This week we achieved 87.0% of our goal .  
Our shortfall for the week is \$1,007.69.



*Mass Intentions*

*Blessing of Throats this Weekend*

**Saturday, February 7: Vigil**  
 4:00 PM 28th Anniversary for John W. Callan by family

**Sunday, February 8: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 7:30 AM For the Community of Saint George  
 9:00 AM Memorial for Joseph Saldanha by family  
*Grade 2 Mass*  
 11:00 AM 28th Anniversary for James White by George J. White  
 12:30 PM *Baptisms*

**Monday, February 9:**  
 8:00 AM For the sick of our families and parish

**Tuesday, February 10: Scholastica**  
 8:00 AM For our Second Graders preparing for First Communion

**Wednesday, February 11: Our Lady of Lourdes**  
 8:00 AM Memorial for Philip Neeland by Chris Toloczko

**Thursday, February 12:**  
 8:00 AM For successful eye surgery

**Friday, February 13:**  
 8:00 AM For the children who were baptized last weekend and their families

**Saturday, February 14: Vigil**  
 4:00 PM Memorial for Francis, Bertha and William Durkee by family

**Sunday, February 15: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 7:30 AM 3rd Anniversary for William Paldino by Linda Paldino  
 9:00 AM 2nd Anniversary for Edwin "Ted" Butcher by family  
 11:00 AM Memorial for Francis X. Powers by George J. White

*Scripture for February 8 - February 15, 2009*

|    |     |   |
|----|-----|---|
| 8  | Sun | Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/<br>Mk 1:29-39 |
| 9  | Mon | Gn 1:1-19/Mk 6:53-56                              |
| 10 | Tue | Gn 1:20—2:4a/Mk 7:1-13                            |
| 11 | Wed | Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Mk 7:14-23                       |
| 12 | Thu | Gn 2:18-25/Mk 7:24-30                             |
| 13 | Fri | Gn 3:1-8/Mk 7:31-37                               |
| 14 | Sat | Gn 3:9-24/Mk 8:1-10                               |
| 15 | Sun | Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31-11:1/<br>Mk 1:40-45  |

*We Commend to your Prayers*

Harold A. Segur, Jr. and David A. Auger, Sr.  
 our former parishioners

*May the Angels lead them into Paradise*

*This Week*

Pray for doctors who struggle to do the right thing, and for their patients, that the Gospel of Life might be their guide.

*Parish Calendar*

Saturday, February 7:  
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, February 8:  
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall  
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy Conf. Room  
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Hall Alcove  
 10:00 AM Men's Club Conf. Room  
 6:00 PM Grades 9/10 Rel. Ed Center  
 7:00 PM Confirmation Hall

Monday, February 9:  
 4:00 PM Gr. 1 & 2 Religious Ed Center  
 6:30 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Religious Ed Center  
 7:00 PM Pieta Conf. Room

Tuesday, February 10:  
 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Conf. Room  
 2:00 PM Liturgy Committee Conf. Room  
 4:00 PM Gr. 3 & 4 Religious Ed Center  
 6:00 PM Hospice Training Hall  
 6:30 PM Weight Loss Group Center (2<sup>nd</sup>)  
 7:00 PM Pastoral Council Conf. Room  
 7:00 PM Choir Church

Wednesday, February 11:  
 10:00 AM Cookies for Valentines Conf. Room  
 4:00 PM Gr. 5 & 6 Religious Ed Center  
 6:30 PM Daughters of Isabella Hall  
 7:00 PM Widow/Widowers Center

Thursday, February 12:  
 6:00 PM Hospice Training Conf. Room  
 6:30 PM Family Prayer Night Church  
 6:45 PM Boy Scouts Center (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Saturday, February 14:  
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, February 15:  
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall  
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy Conf. Room  
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Hall Alcove

*The Sunday Snows...*

The recent string of weekend storms has definitely had a negative effect on our parish finances. Our collections are down and we also have increased expenses due to snow removal. Please consider "making up" your donations from those stormy weeks. We would sincerely appreciate it.

*Cat's Meow Update!!!*

An order for 24 St. George Cat's Meow has been placed. We will contact those of you who have already placed an order when they arrive (mid - late February). There will still be a few available for purchase. The price of the "church" is \$25.00. All proceeds benefit the parish.

*Blessing of Throats*

The feast of Saint Blaise was February 3. He is the Patron Saint against diseases of the throat. Throats will be blessed at all Masses this weekend.



*Religious Education*

*The Pastor's Corner*

Our Religious Education Program needs up- to-date sets of Bibles for each classroom; *ONLY 1* more set is 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 the final set.

**Grade 2 Mass**

This Sunday at 9:00 AM we welcome our second graders and their families.

*E-mail changes*

All parish e-mails are now up and running, but due to a "spam attack" we have changed two of the e-mail addresses.

Peg Moynahan/Religious Education's e-mail is now reled@saintgeo.com and Michael Lizotte/Music is now mlizotte@saintgeo.com. Please feel free to use e-mail to contact Peg or Michael.

*Upcoming Bulletin Deadlines*

|                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>Weekend of</u>   | <u>Due to the parish office</u> |
| February 21/22      | Wednesday, February 11          |
| February 28/March 1 | Wednesday, February 18          |
| March 7/8           | Wednesday, February 25          |

Materials for the bulletin **must be** submitted before 5:00 PM on the due date. There can be NO EXCEPTIONS!!! Items can be mailed or faxed to the Rectory or e-mailed to office@saintgeo.com. If you have any questions please call Joan Koppenal at the Rectory (508-853-0183).

*Children's Liturgy*

Children are invited to hear God's Word on Sundays at the 9:00 AM Mass. Pre-school and school age children are encouraged to join us . Call Alicia Barry 508-829-3361 for more information.

*Marriage Encounter*

MARRIED COUPLES – Scripture says about married people that "Two shall live as one". How often do you find yourselves living as two? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend can help you get back to basics in this complicated day and age. Register for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – it's the best gift you'll ever give to each other and your marriage! The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in New England are February 13-15, March 6-8, March 20-22, and April 17-19. For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwmeMA.org

My Friends in the Lord Jesus,  
Of many things...

As we reflect this Sunday on the gospel of Mark and the account of Jesus healing St. Peter's mother-in-law we are reminded that Jesus is present in the midst of family life. Today's gospel passage helps us to recall that St. Peter had family responsibilities. Peter and his brother Andrew owned a fishing company together and were business partners with their friends James and John. Peter's mother-in-law lived with him and Peter and his wife took care of her. Peter's family lived their commitment to Jesus as a family, with family concerns. But Jesus was there with them, and Jesus is present to us, with his same out stretched hand, to "lift us up" and to give us what we need.

February 25 is Ash Wednesday! It is only two and a half weeks away! What might you do this Lent that would enhance your relationship with the Lord Jesus? What might you do this Lent that will best prepare you for the celebration of the Lord's resurrection on Easter Sunday?

Our parish bulletin will have a new look soon. It will be reduced in pages and concise in information as a reference for parish events. Our bulletin editor and typist will be our parish secretary, Joan Koppenal. Please be reminded that all bulletin information is to be submitted two weeks in advance of the announcement. Bulletin information can be dropped off at the rectory or emailed to office@saintgeo.com or faxed to 508-854-0864. All bulletin requests will be edited to fit our new format of 3-4 sentences of essential and concise information only. Longer articles are welcome for our parish monthly email newsletter and can be sent to ruthviens@charter.net. I am thankful to Anne Good for her many years of work with the parish bulletin. Anne Good will continue to be active at the parish office and in her many other ministries in our parish.

I am encouraged, supported and strengthened by the faith of the people of our parish. God has blessed our parish with good people striving for holiness. I am thankful to you for your witness to Jesus Christ and the influence your faith witness has on our parish, making it the vibrant community that it is.

Fr. Ron

Coming this fall!

The First

**St. George Gala:  
"Celebrating Our Community"**

*Watch for further announcements....*



*Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration*

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

1. For the ability to bear the crosses of life.
2. For keeping the children safe all these years.

**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 Food Pantry**

St. John's Food pantry has relocated to the Unitarian Church. Non-perishable food items and laundry detergent are needed.

**Refugee Needs**

Diapers - Size 4 for boys and girls

*Upcoming Parish Spiritual Programs*

*Bible Study with Father Ron* will be held the Thursday Nights of Lent 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM in the Hall

The *Women's Day of Spirituality* will be held on March 14 at 9:00 AM. Sue Landry is the presenter.

*Bible Reflection* will be held Monday, March 16, at 7:00 PM in the conference room. Take this time to reflect with others on a favorite scripture story.

*Lectio Divina* will take place in the Conference Room Saturday mornings in Lent from 9 - 10:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to attend one or all sessions.

Lectio Divina is a method of approaching scripture in order to listen to the depths, seeking to encounter Christ, the Word, through the power of the holy Spirit, hidden in the words of the text.

Ultimately it can be said that the goal of Lectio is an ever expanding capacity to listen with the heart to the word of God in all of life's situations, leading to a more constant awareness of God's presence. It is listening as a communion not so much for a particular message but for the nearness of the living God. It is therefore a listening that leads to a new way of seeing. In this sense the faithful practice of Lectio undergirds our entire life of prayer, work, and communion with others.

*We hope you are able to join us for one or more of these programs!*

*Family Ministry*

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

**Family Connection**

*Healthy and Holy:* What are the signs of your family's desire for physical health around your house? Look for that vitamin bottle, exercise videos, water purifiers, exercise equipment. Now take a tour of your home to see how Catholic it is. Are there signs of your faith surrounding you? Are there crucifixes, pictures of favorite saints, Bibles, rosaries or other signs of spiritual health in your environment? Do you surround your family with reminders of your faith? If there are no carriers of faith, choose some as a family. Be a healthy, holy family.

*Parish Email List:* As of last Sunday we have reached 100 email addresses on the parish email list!! This includes a number of husband/wife/family email addresses. Do we have yours? If you're not on the list and want to receive the monthly parish E-Newsletter and other important parish-related information send an email to ruthviens@charter.net.



*Shopping for a Home*

Calling all Stop & Shop, Shaw's, Hannaford and Big Y Supermarket grocery shoppers and ... occasional shoppers. If you have been waiting to start using Hope for Housing "homeless prevention card," now is the time to start. Weekly, the number of homeless children in and around Worcester grows. You can be making a difference in their lives without any cost to you. So please join our fight against family homelessness. As Christians we know that what we do for those in need, we do for Him. Thank you.

*Daughters of Isabella*

The monthly meeting will be Wednesday, February 11, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Plans for the remainder of the year will be discussed.

### *9th Annual Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference*

All parish men, as well as their sons, brothers, fathers and friends are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled at Worcester's DCU Center on Saturday, March 28th. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Bill Wegner ('Dare to be Holy'), Brian Brown ('Same-Sex Marriage vs. Religious Liberty: What Redefining Marriage means for the Church'), Monsignor Frank Lane ('Forgiveness of Sin: the Divine Mandate and the Human Experience'), Joe Klecko ('Manhood and Faith'), Guy Doud. ('Why Be Catholic') Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. Diocesan priests and bishops will hear confessions. For a Conference brochure, further information or registration, call 508-929-4345. Visit our website—[www.WorcesterCatholicMen.org](http://www.WorcesterCatholicMen.org) or contact Deacon Archie (508-847-3710) for information and ticket purchases.

### *Men's Club Meeting*

The monthly Men's Club meeting will be held next Sunday, February 8 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!!!

### *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.

### *This Weekend's Stewardship Thought*

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." (Mark 1:35, 38). In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to doing all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. Yet Jesus also makes time to be alone in prayer. It is only through prayer, through spending time with God, that any of us can find the strength to do all that God wishes us to do. Be sure to find time this week to be with God.

### *Pietà*

Is an ongoing support group for bereaved parents. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child is welcome to attend. Meetings are held the second Monday of the month here at Saint George's. The next meeting will be on February 9 at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room. Please join us.

### *Cursillo - An Encounter with Christ.*

Do you want to deepen your relationship with Christ? Have you wanted to explore the many ways God is working in your life? Then try Cursillo!

The dates for the 2009 Cursillos are:

Women: February 19-22

Men: April 22-26

Women: June 18-21

Men: September 17-20

Women: November 19-22

Please contact Joyce Purcell, (508-852-3304) or visit [www.fourthday.org](http://www.fourthday.org) for additional information or registration materials.

This weekend is unlike any other retreat experience you will ever experience. Come, share the joy. **Light the fire of your faith!**

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.

### *Lectors Needed*

Like to read to your children or grandchildren? Are you a natural story-teller?

Lectors proclaim the Word at our weekend liturgies. We need men and women to join this ministry for the 4:00 PM, 7:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses. Lectors are assigned no more than once a month at the time they request.

For additional information or to arrange for training (at a mutually agreeable time) please call Anne Good at 508-869-9982.

### *Catholic Engaged Encounter*

Are you getting married soon? Consider joining us on March 13-15 at the Marist House, Framingham. Catholic Engaged Encounter is a special weekend designed to give couples planning marriage an opportunity to dialogue honestly about their prospective lives together. Through a series of talks you discuss your desires, ambitions, goals, and attitudes about money, children, family, as well as your role in the Church and society. Moreover, 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 [engaged\\_encounter@yahoo.com](mailto:engaged_encounter@yahoo.com) with any questions, or you may register directly at the following website: <http://worcestercee.org>

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

### *Become a Part of Our Community of Ministries*

*For more information on ministry involvement, please call or e-mail the Parish Office today.*

*We welcome your participation*

*Bereavement Support Group in Worcester*

"The Lord is close to the broken-hearted." There is no right way or time-line for healing. We are each uniquely created by God, and we each cope with our loss and find healing in our own unique ways and times. Please join us to offer information, to listen, to share feelings and to support one another.

PLACE: Worcester Pastoral Counseling Center, 128 Providence St., Worcester (in the Worcester Senior Center across from the old St. Vincent Hospital) We meet on Mondays from 1-2:30 pm. To register, please call Jean at the Worcester Pastoral Counseling Center-508-757-0376.

FACILITATORS: Doreen Hardy MSW, LICSW, RN, BSN and Marion Howard RN, MSN, Med.

*Holy Cross Lecture by Commonweal Editor*

Paul Baumann, editor of *Commonweal* magazine, will give a lecture titled "Catholicism and Liberalism: Why they need each other" on February. 5 at 7:00 PM. in Rehm Library at the College of the Holy Cross. The lecture is free and open to the public.

*Online Information on Healthcare for Elders*

Whether you are a senior looking for answers about Medicare or a caregiver needing answers and advice, you can find a wealth of resources online at [www.seniorconnection.org](http://www.seniorconnection.org) then click on "Information and Referral" for links to the SHINE program. They also offer weekly online seminars on various related topics. Sponsored by Central Mass Agency on Aging, 360 West Boylston St., West Boylston, MA.

*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.*

*Chamber Music Concert at Assumption College*

On Saturday, February 14 at 8:00 PM, Assumption College HUMANARTS Series presents The Worcester Chamber Music Society in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. WCMS is an ensemble of 11 of outstanding and accomplished musicians performing masterpieces of chamber music literature and an unusual repertoire in an intimate setting for an unforgettable concert experience. For more information, visit [www.worcesterchambermusic.org](http://www.worcesterchambermusic.org).

*Volunteer Cantors Needed*

We are looking for a few individuals with pleasant singing voices to cantor at the 4:00 PM Mass on Saturdays. Our Music Director, Michael, will be happy to work with people of all abilities, but it would be helpful if you have a basic knowledge of reading music. Please call Michael at 978-563-1758 or see him in the choir loft after any weekend Mass.

*Saint for This Week*

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Memorial February 11

On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in the apostolic constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*. A little more than three years later, on February 11, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 25, the lady identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Bernadette was a sickly child of poor parents. Their practice of the Catholic faith was scarcely more than lukewarm. Bernadette could pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Creed. She also knew the prayer of the Miraculous Medal:

"O Mary conceived without sin."

During interrogations Bernadette gave an account of what she saw. It was "something white in the shape of a girl." She used the word *aquero*, a dialect term meaning "this thing." It was "a pretty young girl with a rosary over her arm." Her white robe was encircled by a blue girdle. She wore a white veil. There was a yellow rose on each foot. A rosary was in her hand. Bernadette was also impressed by the fact that the lady did not use the informal form of address (*tu*), but the polite form (*vous*). The humble virgin appeared to a humble girl and treated her with dignity.

Through that humble girl, Mary revitalized and continues to revitalize the faith of millions of people. People began to flock to Lourdes from other parts of France and from all over the world. In 1862 Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions and authorized the cult of Our Lady of Lourdes for the diocese. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became worldwide in 1907.

"Lo! Mary is exempt from stain of sin,  
Proclaims the Pontiff high; And earth applauding  
celebrates with joy Her triumph, far and high.  
Unto a lowly timid maid she shows Her form in  
beauty fair, And the Immaculate Conception  
truth Her sacred lips declare."

*(Unattributed hymn from the Roman Breviary)*

*86<sup>th</sup> Novena of Grace in Honor of St. Francis Xavier*

"Companions on the Journey"

St. John's Church, 44 Temple Street  
March 4 - March 12, 2009

Please consider attending and bringing your child, grandchild, niece or nephew to these days of grace which have been celebrated in Worcester for so many years.