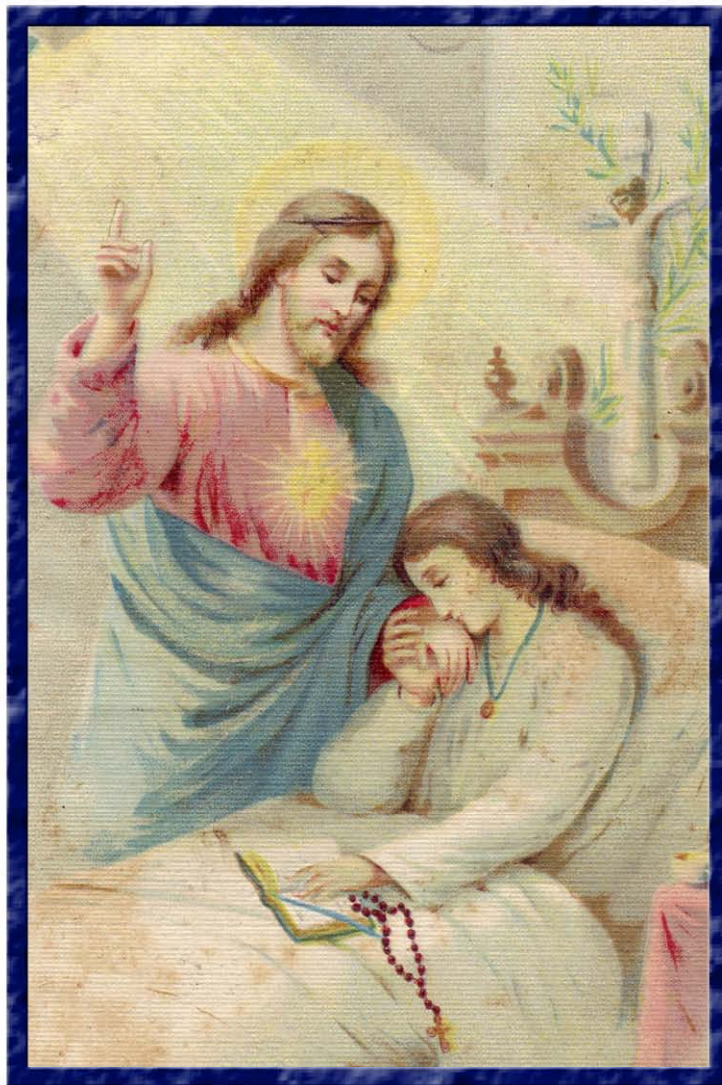


Saint George Church

A Community of Ministries

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 21 and 22, 2009



Child,

your sins are forgiven

Mark 2:5

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

March 1, 2009: Robert Gray: 508-755-1268

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

Lenten Regulations

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows.

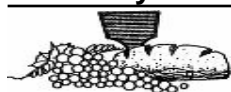
Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's need, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

Second Collection

There will be a second collection for Latin America next weekend. Please read Bishop McManus' letter on page 6.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 21: Vigil
 Memorial for Ralph Dunn by wife & family
 Memorial for Keith Lapierre by family

Sunday, February 22: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Birthday Memorial for Alvin Hinckley by the Girard family
 9:00 AM Month's Mind for Eleanor Porzio
 11:00 AM 1st Anniversary for Francis Gardner by family

Monday, February 23: Polycarp
 8:00 AM For the leaders of our country

Tuesday, February 24:
 8:00 AM Memorial for Henrietta Good by family

Wednesday, February 25: Ash Wednesday
 8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to God for the welcoming atmosphere of St. George Parish
 Memorial for Clara Berglund
 12:10 PM For the Community of Saint George
 4:15 PM Liturgy of the Word with ashes
 7:00 PM For the Community of Saint George

Thursday, February 26:
 8:00 AM For vocations in our parish and diocese

Friday, February 27:
 8:00 AM Birthday Memorial for Clara Berglund by the Morning Mass Group

Saturday, February 28: Vigil
 Memorial for John Dickman by family
 9th Anniversary for Arthur Marin by family

Sunday, March 1: First Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM Memorial for Mary D. Booden by the Boylan family
 9:00 AM Memorial for Patricia A. Spellane by family
 11:00 AM 10th Anniversary for Joseph Courtney by family

Parish Calendar

Saturday, February 21:
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, February 22:
 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 Gr. 9 & 10 Religious Ed Center
 7:00 PM Confirmation Class Hall

Monday, February 23:
 4:00 PM Gr.1 & 2 Religious Ed Center
 6:30 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Religious Ed Center

Tuesday, February 24:
 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Knitting Conf. Room
 4:00 PM Gr. 3 & 4 Religious Ed Center
 5:30 PM Neighborhood Watch Hall
 6:00 PM Hospice Training Conf. Room
 6:30 PM Weight Loss Group Center
 7:00 PM Choir Church

Wednesday, February 25:
 4:00 PM Gr. 5 & 6 Religious Ed Center
 7:00 PM Widow / Widowers Center

Thursday, February 26:
 6:00 PM Hospice Training Conf. Room
 6:30 PM Family Prayer Night Church
 6:45 PM Boy Scouts Center
 7:00 PM Bible Study Hall

Friday, February 27:
 6:00 PM Blue & Gold Setup Hall

Saturday, February 28:
 9:00 AM Lectio Divinia Conf. Room
 4:00 AM Blue & Gold Dinner Hall

Sunday, March 1: *First Sunday of Lent*
 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

Scripture for February 22 - March 1, 2009

22	Sun	Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/ 2 Cor 1:18-22/Mk 2:1-12
23	Mon	Sir 1:1-10/Mk 9:14-29
24	Tue	Sir 2:1-11/Mk 9:30-37
25	Wed	Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/ Mt 6:1-6,16-18
26	Thu	Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
27	Fri	Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
28	Sat	Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
1	Sun	Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

**Ash Wednesday
 February 25**

Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 AM, 12:10 and 7:00 PM.

There will be a Liturgy of the Word with Ashes at 4:15 PM.



Pieta

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 March 9 at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room. Please join us.

Palms Wanted

We need palms from last year to burn to make ashes for this year. There will be a basket in the stairwell in the parking lot entrance. Please drop off your palms by noontime this Monday. Thank you.





Religious Education

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.

Classes resume as scheduled this week.

St. George's - a Community of Prayer

How wonderfully comforting it is to know that a community is praying for our needs! In our Mary's Chapel, a basket sits on the altar filled with the prayer requests of our parish family and friends. Each weekday morning at 7:30 AM our community prays the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy lifting the intentions placed in this basket to God for His healing touch. During the celebration of the Weekday Mass (8:00 AM) and at all weekend Masses, these prayer requests are again presented to God during the Prayers of the Faithful.

We invite all parishioners to pray with us each Morning at church or from your home. Everyone is encouraged to add your special intention to this prayer basket. If you are confined to home or unable to bring your intention to the church, please email adoyle@saintgeo.com who will add it to the basket. Prayer is one of the most wonderful gifts we can give each other. Let us pray together.

Women's Day of Spirituality

After a few weather cancellations we're trying again! The Spiritual Life Committee and the Women's Guild invite you to join us for a Lenten Day of Spirituality on Saturday, March 14, 2009. Susan Landry, Director of Religious Education for Saint Mary's Parish in Shrewsbury will be presenting the topic "*The Word of God that Comes to Us in the Advent Season - Confronts Us, Converts Us and Consoles Us*".

Sign-in begins at 9:15 AM with coffee and pastry being offered. The day will conclude by 1:00 PM. Luncheon is included with the \$10 offering. For registration, please contact Joan Talbot at 508-853-0654 between the dates of March 3 and March 9. Again, thank you.

Toddler Sing Along!

For toddlers and preschoolers will meet this **Sunday, February 22** from 10:15-10:45 AM in the Conference Room. For more information call Sharon Krug 508-853-1660.



Bishop McManus' Lenten Letter

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Christians throughout the world will celebrate Ash Wednesday in a few days. With our parish celebrations, a new Lent begins. This holy season should be a time for all of us to turn away from sin and to live as truly committed disciples of Jesus Christ.

There is no better time than Lent to rethink old attitudes and practices. It is a time to walk conscientiously with Christ, and to enter more intensely into the saving mystery of His life, death, and resurrection. If we do so, Lent will be a time of considerable personal conversion and renewal.

For Catholics, spiritual renewal is found in many ways. During the forty days of Lent, I encourage all to attend Mass and receive the Sacrament of Penance more frequently, to read the Scriptures, to pray the Stations of the Cross, and to commit oneself to performing the Corporal Works of Mercy. Particular attention should also be given to our traditional practices of fasting and abstinence.

For the past several months, in my meetings with the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, I have asked that our pastors expand those times when confessions are available in our parishes. I have suggested, for example, that they might add times for confession one evening a week in addition to the regular schedule and to encourage parishioners to come and experience the spiritual healing and encouragement that is so available in this overlooked sacrament.

Living like an authentic Christian is not easy, and it runs counter to many practices in our self-indulgent society. It takes courage and conviction to "*repent and believe the Good News*." (Mark 1:14-20). It may be too early to be able to interpret with confidence all that God is teaching us through the current challenges to the global economy. However, it already seems clear that we are being asked to reconsider our lifestyles, not just in terms of how we live as individuals, but also in terms of the impact our patterns of spending and consuming have on people in other parts of the world.

As Catholics, we believe that all human beings are created in the image and likeness of God and we are bound to pray and work for the common good of all. As you consider your own responsibilities this Lent, I urge you not to forget the needs of people you know as well as those living in less developed parts of the world where daily, the poor do without much of what we take for granted.

With the help of God's grace, let us try to follow Jesus more closely during this penitential season of Lent by praying more fervently, doing penance more sincerely, and caring for others more generously. Having done so, we will experience abundantly the joy and peace that only the Risen Lord can give.

With every prayerful best wish for a holy Lent, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus

Bishop of Worcester



Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

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

1. For the fruitful weekend retreat.
2. For successful business and wonderful vacation.

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

Refugee Needs

Please help 11 new families by signing up to bring items posted on the bulletin board at the parking lot entrance of the church.

Food Pantry

Non-perishable food items are needed for the St. John's Food Pantry which is now located at the Unitarian Church on Shore Drive. Dried beans, whole grain rice and bars of soap are a special need.

Stewardship during Lent

Please consider choosing a "Mini Ministry" by selecting an item from jars located at each church exit (beside the bulletins). Most take only minutes. Religious Ed teachers might want to involve their class in one of the projects.

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.

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

Bulletin Deadlines

<u>Weekend of</u>	Due to the parish office
March 7/8	Wednesday, February 25
March 14/15	Wednesday, March 4

Please submit bulletin items by 5:00 PM on the due date. 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).

Family Ministry

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

Family Connection

This week is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Mardi Gras means "fat Tuesday" and is celebrated on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. In the early church this was the time to finish the meat, butter and eggs before the time of Lenten fasting began. Turn supper this Tuesday night into a family Mardi Gras. A special dessert, party hats, an "Alleluia" sign and noisemakers can make an ordinary dinner into a party. Prepare a box covered with purple paper. Cut out the shape of a cross from brown paper and glue on top of the box. Eat your meal, sing a party song and welcome in Lent with noisemakers. At the end of the meal, "bury" the noisemakers and the Alleluia sign in the box. Keep the box in a place of honor throughout Lent to remind us that we have set partying aside for this special time. On the night of the Easter Vigil, open the box with a party and an Alleluia song!

Congratulations to the following children recently baptized into our Community of faith: Jack Daniel Pepper, Joseph Stephen Celona and Delaney Marie Haskins. Let us offer our joy-filled prayers and congratulations as a sign of our support and welcome!

March Parish E-Newsletter Deadline: Information for the March parish E-Newsletter is due no later than Thursday, February 26. Contact Ruth Viens, 508-852-5658, ruthviens@charter.net.



Cat's Meow Update!!!

An order for 24 St. George Cat's Meow has been placed. They should be in the beginning of March.

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 28. 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 or contact Deacon Archie (508-847-3710) for information and ticket purchases.

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

Forgiveness, too, is a gift from God. Freed from the paralysis of sin, the man in today's Gospel was able to stand and give witness to the power of God. How do I let sin cripple me? Am I a good steward of the gift of God's forgiveness.

St. George's Book Discussion Group

The St. George's Book Discussion Group will meet on Monday, February 23, 2009 in the Conference Room. The book to be discussed is *Meeting St. Paul Today: Understanding the Man, His Mission, and His Message* by Daniel J. Harrington, S.J. We will begin with a pot luck supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by discussion. A sign up sheet for the supper is posted on the bulletin board near the parking lot entrance. All are welcome. For more information please contact Eileen Charbonneau at 508-853-1739.

Women's Guild Update

In an effort to enable more members to attend the monthly meetings we are planning to hold *afternoon* meetings on Thursday March 5, 2009 at 1:00 PM and Thursday April 2, 2009 also at 1:00 PM. Please plan to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Neighborhood Crime Watch Meeting

Please join Worcester Police Officer Gerry O'Conner in helping to raise awareness of what we can do to keep our neighborhood safe. These meetings will be a great forum to voice community concerns as well as learn more about what the WPD can do to support us. Meetings are scheduled for February 24 and March 24 from 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the church hall. Please contact Kara Stein at 508-853-9466 or kbstein@charter.net if you have any questions.

This Week

Pray for all of us that we are able to forgive and to let ourselves be forgiven..

A Letters from Bishop McManus

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I encourage you to be generous in the special **Collection for the Church in Latin America**, which is scheduled to be taken at the Lord's Day Masses in all the parishes throughout our Diocese, next weekend, February 28th and March 1st.

The Church in Latin America is vibrant, diverse in culture, and grounded in deep faith. The faith of Catholics in the region summons all believers to be active disciples of the Lord. Though the Church there is dynamic it certainly needs our assistance.

The proceeds of the annual **Collection for the Church in Latin America** are distributed to dioceses, parishes, religious congregations, seminaries, and other Catholic institutions throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. These essential funds assist in the formation of priests, religious, lay ministers, missionaries, pastoral agents, catechists, and youth ministers.

Recently, Catholics in the United States were able to fund a record number of 562 projects in Latin America. They included 75 parish-based projects and 105 formation projects for priests, religious, and laity, and took place in more than 224 dioceses in 23 countries.

I am very gratified by the efforts of our own Diocesan Hispanic Ministry, which serves the large number of Hispanics living in the Diocese. The life of faith in these new communities, so obvious in my pastoral visits throughout the diocese, animates our local parishes. I am confident that they will continue to grow in the years ahead.

I want you to know that a significant portion of this collection remains in our Diocese and assists those who are served by the Diocesan Hispanic Ministry. Your support is essential. Please be assured of my appreciation for your support.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus

Bishop of Worcester

February 20, 2009

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

Financial Information

January 31/February 1

4:00 PM: \$1730.85
103 envelopes
7:30 AM: \$1556.00
76 envelopes
9:00 AM: \$1688.77
78 envelopes
11:00 AM: \$1681.00
68 envelopes
Mail: \$625.00
36 envelopes
Weekly Total:
\$7281.62
361 envelopes and cash
Repair Fund
\$617.00
53 envelopes
Catholic Free Press
(to date)
54 subscriptions
Fuel (to date)
\$1937.00
54 envelopes

We achieved 94.0% of our goal of \$7750.00 this week.

February 7/8

4:00 PM: \$1963.25
103 envelopes
7:30 AM: \$1175.00
62 envelopes
9:00 AM: \$2103.68
86 envelopes
11:00 AM: \$1709.00
71 envelopes
Mail: \$1104.00
57 envelopes
Weekly Total:
\$8456.93
379 envelopes and cash
Repair Fund
\$493.00
42 envelopes
Catholic Free Press
(to date)
61 subscriptions
Fuel (to date)
\$1281.00
46 envelopes

We achieved 109.1% of our goal of \$7750.00 this week.

Christmas Flower Memorials (completion)

In Memory of:

Stephany & My Family
Emily Dubois
Vincent & Daniel Zinkus
Michael & Catherine Misilo
Margaret Hildemann & Rita Coffey
Janet Tetrault
Williams & Haggerty Family
Ralph H. Dunn
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Klink
Albert Zibinskas
McLaughlin & Thomas Families
Joseph Carlo & Joel Beriau
Our Deceased Members of our Family
Robert & Mary Cahill
Helen Dapper
The Shamlan Triplets
Deceased Members of the Pedone & Brosnihan Families
Victor & Georgette Menard & Albert & Helen Fornari
Helen Dapper
Sister Mary Elizabeth Leahy SP.
O'Brien & Payne Family
Our Parents
Mr. & Mrs. Ulysses Couillard
Paul Kiritsy
Lori, Erin, & Katie Maloney
Ron Wentzel
Richard Cossaboom
Albert Marzilli
Lori, Erin & Katelyn Maloney
Bernard Cournoyer
Dorothy Mae Carlson
Deceased Members of the Meehan & Szczepaniak Families
Jim & Louise Altomare & Anne & Bernard Hazelwood
Robert Fournier
William Fox
Beatrice Wing

Given by:

Mr. Mario Scardamaglia
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Dubois
Miss Judith Zinkus
Mrs. Jane Zinkus
Mrs. Irene Jones
Mr. Paul Tetrault
Jacqueline Beardsley
Jean Dunn
Miss Dolores Klink
Mr. & Mrs. Antoni Jakubosky
Mr. & Mrs. John McLaughlin
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Beriau
Mrs. Mary Legacy
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Sulham
Diane & Frank Mangiacotti Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. James Pickett

Mr. & Mrs. James Pedone

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Fornari
Mr. Harry Dapper
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent DiBenedetto
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Payne
Mr. & Mrs. William Welsh
Miss Blanche Couillard
Mr. & Mrs. Robert DelMastro
Mr. & Mrs. James Pepper
Mr. & Mrs. James Purcell
Mrs. Richard Cossaboom
Miss Karen Marzilli
Mr. & Mrs. George Paulin
Mrs. Bernard Cournoyer
Mr. & Mrs. David Carlson

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Meehan

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Hazelwood
Mrs. Elinor Lamberton
Mrs. William Fox
Mr. & Mrs. Chaz Harris

You're Invited to join our Community of Ministers...
Our community needs more Cantors, Lectors and Ministers of Holy Communion to minister at Weekend Masses. If you would like to cantor, please call Michael Lizotte at 978-563-1758 or see him in the choir loft after any weekend Mass. It would be helpful if you have a basic knowledge of reading music.
If you are interested in becoming a Lector please call Anne Good at 508-869-9982. If you want to be a Minister of Holy Communion please call Eileen Charbonneau (508-853-1739) or Claudette Morley (508-853-5256). We will be making a list of anyone who is interested and then setting up classes according to your availability.