



Saint George Church
A Community of Ministries
Third Sunday in Lent - March 15, 2009

*Jesus answered and said
to them, "Destroy this temple
and in three days I will raise it up."*

John 2:19 (NAB)

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 22, 2009: Bob Chakarian: 508-852-7222

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

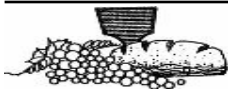
Financial Information

February 28/March 1

4:00 PM: \$2510.00	Repair Fund
133 envelopes	\$489.00
7:30 AM: \$1547.00	42 envelopes
55 envelopes	Fuel (to date)
9:00 AM: \$1611.31	\$1135.00
77 envelopes	46envelopes
11:00 AM: \$1430.75	Church of Latin America
57 envelopes	\$11327.50
Mail: \$1461.00	121 envelopes and cash
31 envelopes	Easter Flowers
Weekly Total:	\$50.00
\$8560.06	1 envelope
403 envelopes and cash	

Our Weekly Financial Goal is \$7,750

This week we achieved 110.5% of our goal .
Thank you for your support!



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 14: Vigil
 4:00 PM 20th Anniversary for Russell Coe by wife and family

Sunday, March 15: Third Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM 31st Anniversary for Agnes Nelson by Charlotte Daigle
 9:00 AM 6th Anniversary for Ann Ferdella by the Moughan family
Grade 4 Mass
 11:00 AM 1st Anniversary for Philip Neilan by family

Monday, March 16:
 8:00 AM Memorial for Anthony Laconte & family by children

Tuesday, March 17: Patrick
 8:00 AM Memorial for Philip Neilan by Mr. & Mrs. Jim Sanford

Wednesday, March 18: Cyril of Jerusalem
 8:00 AM Memorial for Mary Howard by William & Betsy Banister

Thursday, March 19: Joseph
 8:00 AM Memorial for George V. Carpenter Sr. by the Morning Mass Group

Friday, March 20:
 8:00 AM Memorial for Helen Juskavitch & family by family

Saturday, March 21: Vigil
 4:00 PM Memorial for Josephine Sisti by family

Sunday, March 22: Fourth Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM 1st Anniversary for John Donnelly by his wife
 9:00 AM 1st Anniversary for Frances White by Family
 6th Anniversary for Edward, Gregory & Doreen Needham by family
 11:00 AM 4th Anniversary for Denis Reen by his wife Theresa

Scripture for March 15- March 22, 2009

15	Sun	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
16	Mon	2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30
17	Tue	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
18	Wed	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
19	Thu	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
20	Fri	Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
21	Sat	Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
22	Sun	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

Second Collection

The annual collection for Catholic Relief Services will be taken up at all Masses next weekend. Please read Bishop McManus' on page 6.

Parish Calendar

Saturday, March 14:
 8:00 AM AA Hall

Sunday, March 15:
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy Conf. Room
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Hall Alcove
 6:00 PM Gr. 9 & 10 Religious Ed Center

Monday, March 16:
 4:00 PM Gr.1 & 2 Religious Ed Center
 6:30 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Religious Ed Center
 7:00 PM Bible Reflection Conf. Room

Tuesday, March 17: *St. Patrick's Day*
 2:00 PM Liturgy Committee Conf. Room
 4:00 PM Gr. 3 & 4 Religious Ed Center
 4:15 PM Stations of the Cross Church
 6:30 PM Weight Loss Group Center
 7:00 PM Choir Church
 7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Hall
 7:00 PM Bible Study Conf. Room

Wednesday, March 18:
 4:00 PM Gr. 5 & 6 Religious Ed Center
 7:00 PM Widow / Widowers Center

Thursday, March 19:
 6:30 PM Family Prayer Night Church
 6:45 PM Boy Scouts Center
 7:00 PM Bible Study Hall

Friday, March 20:
 11:00 AM Grandparents Group Church

Saturday, March 21:
 9:00 AM Lectio Divinia Conf. Room
 9:00 AM Faith Into Action Center
 8:00 PM AA Hall

Sunday, March 22:
 8:00 AM Coffee Shop Hall
 9:00 AM Children's Liturgy Conf. Room
 9:00 AM Toddler Liturgy Hall Alcove
 12:00 PM Confirmation Retreat Hall
 6:00 PM Gr. 9 & 10 Religious Ed Center

We Commend to your Prayers

Muriel Doyle, mother of our parishioners John and Annie Doyle and
 Leona Saunders, our parishioner
 May the Angels lead them into Paradise

Bulletin Deadlines

<u>Weekend of</u>	<u>Due to the parish office</u>
March 28/29	Wednesday, March 18
April 4/5	Wednesday, March 25
April 11/12	Wednesday, April 1

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 Koppental at the Rectory (508-853-0183).



Religious Education

Grade 4 Mass

There is a Grade 4 class Mass this Sunday, March 15 at 9:00 AM.

CCD classes will continue to be held as previously scheduled for the remainder of the 2008-2009 year. CCD teachers will be in their classes at the regularly scheduled times. We understand that some students may be late arriving at class and want you to know that they are welcome at any time. Teachers have said that late arrivals are acceptable given the circumstances.

First Reconciliation

Our Second Graders will celebrate Reconciliation for the first time on Monday, March 24 at 7:00 PM at the Parish Reconciliation Service. Please plan on joining us.

High School Retreat

A retreat for Grades 9 and 10 will take place on Sunday, March 29 from 1:00 to 6:30 PM. Please keep our teens in your prayers.

Confirmation Retreat



This year's retreat will be held on March 22. Students and sponsors from our parish will attend the 11:00 AM Mass. Students from Blessed Sacrament and St. Columba's will also be there. Lunch for the students and their sponsors

will follow immediately in the Hall. Therefore there will be *no Coffee Shop after the 11:00 AM Mass* on Sunday, March 22. Coffee Shop will be held as usual after the 7:00 and 9:00 AM Masses. Please remember to send in your letters. Thanks.

Catholic Free Press

Our parish is assessed 319 copies of the Catholic Free Press; a total of \$7,337.00. To date, we have only 57 paid subscriptions. This means that \$6.026 of general parish funds will need to be used to meet our obligation.

Please consider renewing or subscribing to the Free Press. Each subscription is only \$23.00 and the paper will be delivered weekly to your home.

As always, thank you for your support of our parish. It is greatly appreciated.

Pastoral Reflections

My Friends in the Lord Jesus,

We are blessed to have His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Arinze (Arin zae), as the celebrant and homilist for our Holy Thursday celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper. Cardinal Arinze was born in Nigeria, Africa, of Ibo ancestry. His Eminence became a Christian at the age of nine years old. He was ordained a priest in 1958 and soon became the world's youngest bishop in 1965 at the age of 32 years old. Cardinal Arinze was called to the Vatican in 1984 and was elevated to Cardinal in 1985. From 1984-2002 he headed the Vatican's Secretariat for Non-Christians. In 2002 Cardinal Arinze became the Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. Cardinal Arinze is now the Cardinal Prefect Emeritus of the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments.

In what is an interview questions and answers style of writing, Cardinal Arinze was asked by the author in the book *God's Invisible Hand*, "So, when you pray, what do you pray for? Do you pray to be open to God's plan? Cardinal Arinze responded: "To thank God for his care for me, of others; to beg God for light to know what he wants of me; for strength to do it; for perseverance, not to get tired doing it, all the time aware that he knows what he wants of me. He is not guessing. He also knows what I can do so he won't want of me what I am not able to do."

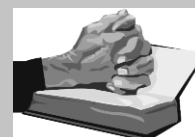
May our Lent lead us to a more profound gratitude of God and an openness to God's will for our lives.

Fr. Ron

Lenten Reflection Question
30 days with Jesus, a Bible reading plan

Take time this week to reflect on the following question. Write your reflections on paper and place the paper in the basket at the foot of the cross in the sanctuary near the altar.

As we begin the third week of Lent and continue our reflection on the life of Jesus using our bible reading plan, what image of Jesus is emerging for you? Is it that of Jesus the teacher? Is it Jesus the healer? Is it Jesus the companion on the journey? Is it Jesus, Lord of your life? Who is Jesus for you as we "settle" into the season of Lent?





Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

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

1. For physical, emotional and spiritual growth.
2. For family and friends.

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

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. Cold cereal and laundry detergent are this month's special needs.

Lenten Outreach

Please check out the Lenten Outreach and Service opportunities in this week's bulletin insert.

Presentation by Paul Rogers

Thursday, March 26, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm
Co-sponsored by the Men's Club and Women's Guild. The first day of Spring this year is Friday, March 20 Bring your Spring gardening questions. Paul is a renowned Horticulturist in Worcester County and beyond, is a noted columnist for the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, a radio talk show host on WTAG, a horticultural consultant and teacher at the Landscape Institution at Harvard University. Please join us and BRING A FRIEND. There will be time for questions. The program is free - a good will offering will be appreciated. Refreshments will be served. *All are Welcome.*

Parish Leaders

Please help us keep the Parish Calendar correct. If you add, change or delete a meeting or event please e-mail Joan or send a fax to the rectory. Thank you for your cooperation. Also, if you do not submit a written item about your event for the bulletin - it will not be published.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

October 5 - 15, 2009

Visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Galilee and Paris. \$3,990/person; all included. Contact Anthony Nacheff, Ph.D. 508-340-9370 or e-mail at an@catholic teachings.com. For more details visit www.catholic teachings.org.

Family Ministry

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

Family Connection

God may call you and me to do our greatest work in our 50's, 60's and 70's or even 80's and beyond. What a wonderful thing to look forward to!



Flower Sponsors for the Homeless Needed

The St. George Parish Flower Sale to aid homeless families will be held the weekend of *Palm Sunday, April 4 - 5*. We are seeking ten families to each purchase one box of flowers for resale at this event. Each box of flowers cost fifty dollars. In these difficult economic times we recognize that fewer individuals and families than in past years may be in a position to be sponsors. However, if you are so blessed, your help will be greatly appreciated. For additional information please call Matt Ryan @ 508-853-5528. On behalf of homeless families, thank you for your consideration.

This Weekend's Stewardship Thought

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth." (Exodus 20:4)
Have you created idols for yourself in different shapes? An idol can be in the shape of money, sports, fashion, travel, or anything else that we value more than God and His Word to us.

This Week

Pray for those who are old and sick and in pain, that they might seek solace in the cross of Christ, and trust every day in our love and respect for the great gift which they are to us.

A Letters from Bishop McManus

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I call upon the people of our diocese to continue their tradition of aiding the needy and of giving the remarkable gift of hope to others through the 2009 Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection will be taken at the Lord's Day Masses in all the parishes throughout our diocese next weekend, on March 21 and 22.

When we act with compassion, generosity, and commitment to justice for the "least among us," we act as the Lord's true disciples. This appeal, with its theme 'Give Hope to Jesus in Disguise,' enables the bishops of the United States to assist people in need throughout the world. I assure you that your personal generosity to the collection is vital to our labors to extend the Church's ministry of charity to the poor and dispossessed.

We offer hope to the poor through our generous love. Pope Benedict XVI, in his encyclical letter, *On Christian Hope*, spoke eloquently of this when he wrote, "It is important to know that I can always continue to hope, even if...there seems to be nothing left to hope for. Only the great certitude of hope that my own life and history in general, despite all failures, are held firm by the indestructible power of Love...only this kind of hope can then give the courage to act and to persevere." (*Spe Salvi*, no. 35)

Each dollar you give supports development projects in more than 80 nations through *Catholic Relief Services*. Your assistance supports the pastoral care and other help given to refugees in our own country through *Migration and Refugee Services*. You will help to provide aid after disasters through *The Holy Father's Relief Fund*. Through this appeal you will support efforts for justice through the American Bishops' *Department of Social Development and World Peace* as well.

When you give to the Catholic Relief Services Collection you are assisting millions of the poor throughout the world. I am very grateful for your generosity.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

Altar Server Class Forming

Boys and Girls in Grades 4 and 5 are invited to become Altar Servers. Classes will be held every Tuesday in March (March 10, 17, 24 and 31) from 5:00 to 5:45 PM in the Church. Please see Michael Lizotte if you have any questions or need additional information.

9th Annual Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference

All parish men are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled at Worcester's DCU Center on Saturday, March 28. 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?"). Diocesan priests and bishops will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. *Ticket prices increase on Saturday, March 14, so get them now. Visit our website - www.WorcesterCatholicMen.org or contact Deacon Archie (508-847-3710) for brochures, further information or registration.*

Year of St. Paul Events

YOU ARE INVITED TO ST. SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL FOR VESPERS
On Sunday, March 15 at 7:00 PM at Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral, His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios has extended an invitation to Bishop Robert McManus to preach, and also invites all Catholics of the Diocese to Worcester to come to Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox parish to participate in Great Vespers, during the holy season of Lent, The Cathedral Dean, Father Dean Paleologos extends his warm welcome to all the Catholic faithful to come to the church which faces Elm Park, located at 102 Russell Street in Worcester, to pray together for a holy Lent and for an increase in fraternal charity between the Greek Orthodox faithful and Catholics throughout the county. A reception will immediately follow Great Vespers in the Cotsidas Auditorium.

OVERNIGHT VIGIL FOR YOUTH

Our diocesan family is invited to participate in the Mass prior to the All Night Youth Vigil at the Cathedral of St. Paul. This is a wonderful way to pray with our younger members in support of their local, overnight "pilgrimage." Mass will be on Friday, March 21 at 7:00 PM in the Cathedral of St. Paul, corner of Chatham and High Streets, Worcester. For more information contact the Office of Youth Ministry at 508-234-0346 or visit www.ymworcester.org.

Holy Week Parish Mission

Our Lady of Good Counsel in West Boylston
Sunday April 5 thru Wednesday April 8
at 7:00 PM

"The emphasis of this mission is to invite Catholics into a deeper understanding of the Mass and to discover or strengthen a personal, living faith."

For information call Terri King (508)835-3606.



“The Word by Name is Jesus Christ”

Encountering Jesus, the Living Word of God, through Sacred Scripture

Lent 2009

Theme

“The Word by Name is Jesus Christ” is our parish theme for this season of Lent. As mentioned in the bulletin a few weeks ago, the Word of God and the Bible, the Church’s sacred text, were the focus of the recent Synod in Rome. It is also the Year of St. Paul and therefore, reflection on “The Word” seems timely. Let us remember, however, that the Word of God is not merely a book, as in an object, but a person, Jesus Christ. John’s gospel tells us, “the Word became flesh”. Jesus is the Word of God, from all eternity, and He speaks the words of God in Scripture. As we encounter Jesus, the living Word of God, within the Bible, He touches our hearts by His presence and “The Word” abides in us.

An invitation

This Lent we invite you to spend time reading the Bible. Particularly, we invite you to walk with Jesus, the Word of God, by following the thirty day Scripture reading plan to be read at your own pace within the forty days of Lent. The reading plan was sent to you in the mail and is also on the bookmarks in the baskets by the church doors. Consider taking some quiet time to pray, read, reflect and allow Jesus to speak to you. Each Sunday there will be a reflection question in the bulletin and posted on the website. You might want to keep a spiritual journal at home as God speaks to you and your family while you meditate upon the readings and the weekly reflection question.

Educating and Strengthening One Another

At the foot of our Lenten cross this year, you will see a place to leave a piece of paper with a thought or an insight gained from your readings or the question posed in the bulletin. Younger members of our community might want to draw a picture. These reflections and pictures will be posted on the Lenten bulletin board downstairs in the hall so that “the Word abiding in you” might help to educate and strengthen others in our faith community.

And may God’s grace draw each of us to a closer relationship with the Word, by name, Jesus Christ.

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 Fridays of Lent.



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.

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!

Parish Lenten Penance Service

Tuesday, March 24 at 7:00 PM

This celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is an opportunity for us to prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

Our second graders will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time at this service.

Stations of the Cross

Stations are held each Tuesday during Lent at 4:15 PM in the Church. On Wednesday, April 1 at 6:00 PM there will be an additional Stations with Benediction. We invite our Parishioners, their families and friends to join us.

Why not dedicate the first hour of your families' work week to God?