



## MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, March 19, 2017  
Third Sunday of Lent

4:00 PM  
7:30 AM  
11:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 51)

***Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.***

Preparation Psalm 42 As The Deer Longs BB 490

Mass Parts Mass Of Christ The Savior

Communion: Song Of The Body Of Christ BB 332  
Eye Has Not Seen BB 460

Recessional: ***We depart in silence during Lent***

9:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 51)

***Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.***

Preparation O God, You Search Me BB 436

Mass Parts Mass Of Christ The Savior

Communion: Eye Has Not Seen BB 460

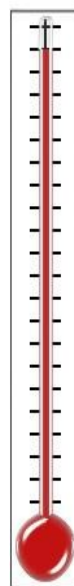
Recessional: ***We depart in silence during Lent***

Out of respect, please  
remember to silence or turn  
off your cell phones during  
Mass. Thank you!



**ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST WEBSITE:**  
<http://stlukenh.org>

## ✠ PARISH TITHING ✠



259,000.00  
254,603.76

Thank you for your generosity to our parish. Your weekly contribution helps ensure that the parish remains a vibrant community. Please remember to submit your weekly gift even if you will be away. We depend upon your support!

**March 12 2017**

Offertory **\$6,358.85**  
Easter Flowers **\$2,676.27**

**Based on a weekly budget need of \$7,000.00**, the top amount indicates where the Parish should be as of the current week. The bottom amount indicates the total offertory given so far this year.

## PARISH GIVING

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish has engaged *Parish Giving* to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make your offertory and other contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Parish Giving is a simple, secure, and convenient way to manage your stewardship without weekly envelopes and without worries. It allows you to select contribution amounts and special collections right from your own computer or smart phone. You can be a good steward for the Parish even when you are away from the area on a weekend. Parish Giving allows you to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. This program is available to parishioners at no cost. Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website at <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo, and follow the easy registration instructions.

## UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

March 19, 2017 Fuel  
March 26, 2017 Catholic Relief Services & Catholic Home Missions  
April 2, 2017 Property Management

### Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on Income

Annual Income	5% Commitment annually/weekly	3% Commitment annually/weekly
\$100,000	\$5,000/\$100	\$3,000/\$60
\$75,000	\$3,750/\$75	\$2,250/\$45
\$60,000	\$3,000/\$60	\$1,800/\$36
\$50,000	\$2,500/\$50	\$1,500/\$30
\$40,000	\$2,000/\$40	\$1,200/\$24
\$30,000	\$1,500/\$30	\$900/\$18
\$25,000	\$1,250/\$25	\$750/\$15
\$15,000	\$750/\$15	\$450/\$9

### Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on a Percentage Increase

Your Current Offertory Contribution	25% Increase	30% Increase	40% Increase
\$75.00	\$93.75	\$97.50	\$105.00
\$50.00	\$62.50	\$65.00	\$70.00
\$40.00	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$56.00
\$35.00	\$43.75	\$45.50	\$49.00
\$30.00	\$37.50	\$39.00	\$42.00
\$25.00	\$31.25	\$32.50	\$35.00
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$26.00	\$28.00
\$15.00	\$18.75	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

## ✠ PARISH NEWS ✠



The Sanctuary Candle in Holy Angels Church will burn this week in for the **Intentions of the Daniels family**

### CLEANING PERSON WANTED

An Atkinson couple is looking for a person to clean their condo. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office at 603-382-8324.

### ST. LUKE'S FOOD PANTRY – HELP!!!!

St. Luke's Food Pantry is in need of volunteers to help out in the pantry on **Friday mornings from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon**. If you can help out, please call the Food Pantry at 603-819-4949. If no one answers, please leave your name and phone number.



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening during Lent at 6:30 PM in Plaistow. A soup supper will follow Stations on Friday, March 31.

### LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

**We are looking for set-up, soup & bread cooks, and clean-up crew members** for our Lenten Soup Supper following Stations of the Cross on Friday March 31. Please call Joyce Szczapa in the Religious Education Office for more information.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION INFORMATION

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES provides funding for Catholic Relief Services, USCCB Department of Social Development & World Peace, relief work of the Holy Father, USCCB's Migration & Refugee Services, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS supports the strengthening of the Catholic Church where it is most financially challenged in the United States.

### PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. Submit your prayer request via email to Cathy Smith at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net) or call Cathy directly at 603-382-8324, ext. 314.

### ROAST PORK DINNER

The Atkinson Lions Club will host a Roast Pork Dinner at the Atkinson Community Center on **Saturday, March 25 from 4:30 PM–7:00 PM**. Tickets will be available at the door: \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$3 for children under 12. Proceeds will be given to the St. Luke and St. Anne Food Pantries. The Lions will also gratefully accept donations of non-perishable food for distribution to the food pantries.



### EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION

The Parish is planning to host a reception following the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday night, **April 15<sup>th</sup>**. We are looking for helpers to set-up, serve, and clean up, for food donations (especially pastries – Lent will be over!), beverages, and other food donations. For more information please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 or email [jtremlay@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:jtremlay@stluketheevangelist.net).

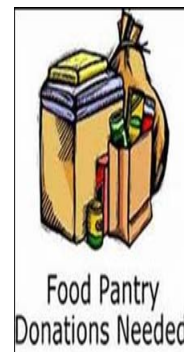
### LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

**Evening Prayer** is sung at Newton at 6:00 PM on all Sundays of Lent. Join us for a quiet time of prayer and reflection. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available immediately after Evening Prayer each Sunday of the Lenten Season.



### ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST FOOD PANTRY

Food or care items are always needed – donations can be dropped off at Church or are welcome at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Cash donations for food are always welcome – make checks payable to **St. Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry**. All donations to the Food Pantry go toward helping the needy of our communities.



### FOOD PANTRY HOURS

**Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**

**Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

**Friday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**

For more information, call the St. Luke Food Pantry at **603-819-4949**.

### WHILE AWAY THIS WINTER...

We appreciate all of you who remember to send in your Parish Offertory during the Winter even when on vacation or visiting other parishes. Thank you for remembering that our expenses also continue through the Winter months. We invite others to consider doing the same before or even after you return home.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

**Sunday, March 19**

<b>9:45 AM</b>	Religious Ed – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Vespers	<b>Newton</b>
<b>6:30 PM</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<b>Newton</b>

**Monday, March 20**

<b>4:00 PM</b>	Religious Ed – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>6:30 PM</b>	Religious Ed – 6, 7, 8	<b>Plaistow</b>

**Tuesday, March 21**

<b>9:00 AM</b>	Disciples on the Journey	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Finance Council Meeting	<b>Plaistow</b>

**Wednesday, March 22**

<b>9:30 AM</b>	Eucharistic Adoration Begins	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>6:30 PM</b>	Eucharistic Adoration Ends	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>7:00 PM</b>	Disciples on the Journey	<b>Plaistow</b>

**Thursday, March 23**

<b>8:30 AM</b>	Eucharistic Adoration Begins	<b>Newton</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Intercessory Prayer	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>1:30 PM</b>	Disciples on the Journey	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>8:30 PM</b>	Eucharistic Adoration Ends	<b>Newton</b>

**Friday, March 24**

<b>6:30 PM</b>	Stations of the Cross	<b>Plaistow</b>
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**Saturday, March 25**

<b>3:00 PM</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<b>Plaistow</b>
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**Sunday, March 26**

<b>9:45 AM</b>	Religious Ed – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	<b>Plaistow</b>
<b>4:00 PM</b>	Pastoral Council Meeting	<b>Newton</b>
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Vespers	<b>Newton</b>
<b>6:30 PM</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<b>Newton</b>

St. Vincent  
de Paul  
Society



#### Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! During the cold winter season, our resources are be put to the test as we try to assist those in need. Please know that your "dropped dollars" are being used wisely to help the poor in our area. Your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Drop-a-Dollar in the St. Vincent de Paul box  
on your way out of church.

Remember ~ 100% of your donation is used to help those  
who need a hand up, not a hand out.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 PM.** We meet downstairs in the Church Hall in Plaistow. **New members are always welcome!**

If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324 x315.

**Hear, OH LORD, and answer me  
for I am poor and needy.**

### ✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

#### **Saturday, March 18 ~ Vigil / Third Sunday of Lent**

*Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42*

**4:00 PM** Frank Szczapa by Jackie Tremblay  
**Plaistow**

#### **Sunday, March 19 ~ Third Sunday of Lent**

*Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42*

**7:30 AM** Jeannette Halko by Janice Bettencourt  
**Newton**

**9:00 AM** Everett Burke by his family  
**Newton**

**11:00 AM** Eleanor Barczak by Cathy Smith  
**Plaistow**

#### **Monday, March 20 ~ Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;  
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a*

**8:00 AM** People of the Parish  
**Newton**

#### **Tuesday, March 21 ~ Lenten Weekday**

*Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35*

**8:00 AM** John Sullivan by Carolyn & Emmett Horgan  
**Plaistow**

#### **Wednesday, March 22 ~ Lenten Weekday**

*Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19*

**6:30 PM** Sean Breen (8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) by his parents  
**Plaistow**

#### **Thursday, March 23 ~ Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop**

*Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23*

**8:00 AM** Intentions of Emily Jackunchuck by Julie Lamere  
**Newton**

#### **Friday, March 24 ~ Bl. Oscar Romero, Bishop and Martyr**

*Hos 14:2-10, Mk 12:28-34*

No Mass

#### **Saturday, March 25 ~ The Annunciation of the Lord**

*Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38 (Day)*

*1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 1-41(Vigil)*

**4:00 PM** Frank Szczapa by Jeannette Wuerdemann  
**Plaistow**

#### **Sunday, March 26 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent**

*1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 1-41*

**7:30 AM** Eddie Thurnquist by the Lumnah family  
**Newton**

**9:00 AM** Charles DiPerri by Pam Mierop  
**Newton**

**11:00 AM** Eleanor Barczak by Jackie Tremblay  
**Plaistow**

### **PLEASE HELP US**

As you leave church, kindly take your Bulletin with you or return it to the basket at the entrance of the Church, and return your music book and Mass card to their proper place at the end of the pew. Thank you for your cooperation.



## ✧ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✧



### RICE BOWLS AVAILABLE

Operation Rice Bowl is the official Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. Each Lent, parishes, schools and other faith communities participate in Operation Rice Bowl to learn more about the work of CRS and put their faith into action. Operation Rice Bowl provides funding to CRS for many third world projects that promote agricultural, nutritional and educational sufficiency. Additionally, Operation Rice Bowl supports local anti-poverty programs. Rice Bowls are available at the entrances of both Churches and are due back by Holy Thursday, April 13.

### ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who has been Baptized and received Eucharist, but has not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation? The adult Confirmation process is an opportunity to complete the Sacraments of Initiation. If you would like to prepare for Confirmation, or if you have questions, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

### ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. This time of prayer and intercession is not only a source of great grace for the individual, but it is a great source of grace for us as a parish family, as well.

We have many who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord, **but** we need more people so there will be at least two people at each hour. We are also looking for people who would be able to substitute.

**Plaistow – Wednesday**

9:30 AM – 6:30 PM

**Newton – Thursday**

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM

If you can commit to one hour a week in Adoration of our Lord, or if you can be a substitute, please contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

### RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. **RCIA** is intended to serve:

- Those not Baptized who would like to learn more about the Catholic religion.
- Those Baptized in another religion who think they might like to become Catholic.
- Those Baptized Catholic but have not been raised in the Faith.

If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

### PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 11:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, April 2, 2017** in the Parish Office living room. All parents planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism are welcome. Families wishing to celebrate Baptism in the Church must be registered (according to Church Canon Law) and practicing (attending Sunday Mass) for 3 full months before a Baptism can be scheduled. The use of the envelope system is always optional; however, it does guarantee a manner of accountability. For most families, the Pastor or staff can easily verify attendance during these three months. Church Canon Law also regulates baptismal sponsors (godparents). Sponsors must be at least 16, fully initiated (having received Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation), and be practicing Catholics living Christian lives consistent with the Church's teaching. Please see Fr. Albert with questions.

### **From the Pastor's Desk**



### HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

**Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is closed until Spring 2017** due to the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions. Fr. Albert

## ✧ PARISH DIRECTORY ✧

Parish Office	382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	819-4949
Preschool	382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Joyce Szczapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Thomas Kondel	<a href="mailto:tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net">tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net">mvmbarczak@comcast.net</a>
Robin Thompson	<a href="mailto:rthompson@stluketheevangelist.net">rthompson@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Julie Lamere	<a href="mailto:jlamere@stluketheevangelist.net">jlamere@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>

✱ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✱



**BAKE SALE!**

Please visit the St. Luke Youth Ministry's Bake Sale following all Liturgies on the weekend of **March 25-26**. With your help, our youth can raise enough money to defray the cost of their trip to the Steubenville East Conference on July 14-16, 2017. Thank you for your support!

**DIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

The Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Manchester are currently registering students for the 2017-2018 academic year. Parishioners who plan to register at Catholic Schools should contact the school directly for information. A subsidized rate is available for qualified parishioners for elementary and middle schools. In order to be eligible for the subsidy, a family must be (a) registered in a Parish for at least a year prior to the school year; (b) be contributing members of the Parish; and (c) be involved in the Parish Community. You can contact the Parish Office or visit [www.catholicnh.org](http://www.catholicnh.org) for more information.

**FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT**

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2016, please call Jackie at the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.

**WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS**

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the long-standing inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten: **If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.**

**Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled**, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.



**AmazonSmile.com** is the same market platform as Amazon.com, but with the added benefit of allowing customers to donate 0.5% of the price of items purchased to a charitable organization. Go to [www.AmazonSmile.com](http://www.AmazonSmile.com) today and register to start shopping and donating! For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose: **St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.**

**LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE HELPER**

The general organization of the Fair requires great attention to detail and someone with a friendly manner of reminding people of what they said they would do. Elaine Kindler has been doing this for the past five years and will continue for the 2017 Fair – BUT – this will be her last year as lead coordinator. The Parish is looking for a unique individual who is interested in learning what goes on behind the scenes as soon as possible. The schedule varies, but expectations will be explained before you start. The 2017 St. Luke's Christmas Craft Fair isn't until November 4, however organizing and planning has already begun. Please contact Elaine Kindler at [stlukenhfair@gmail.com](mailto:stlukenhfair@gmail.com) or at 603-819-8691 for more information.



**BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM**

Catholic Charities New Hampshire and St. Ann Church are offering a bereavement program for those who have lost a loved one. The meetings are at St. Ann Church, 26 Emerson Road, Hampstead, NH. **The group will meet every other Thursday from 1:30 to 3:00 PM.** Registration is necessary. Contact Judy Nelson at 603-893-1971 or [jnelson@nh-cc.org](mailto:jnelson@nh-cc.org) for more information.

**THEOLOGY ON TAP**

The Young Adult Ministry of St. Lucy & St. Monica Parishes invite you to their first Theology On Tap session on **Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 PM** at The Claddagh Pub in Lawrence, MA. The topic of discussion will be "Living Lent with St. Patrick". For more information please call Isabela Peixoto at 978-686-3311 ext. 29 or [methuencatholicnews@gmail.com](mailto:methuencatholicnews@gmail.com).



**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND OF DISCOVERY**

Couples who have a good marriage but want to make it better are invited to come to a Marriage Encounter Weekend on **April 22-23, 2017** at Our Lady of The Cape Parish in Brewster, MA. Contact Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 1-800-710-9963 or [www.wmwma.org](http://www.wmwma.org) for questions or to register.

**STRUGGLING IN YOUR MARRIAGE?**  
**YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**

Is your marriage tearing the two of you apart? Is there little or no meaningful communication? Are you considering separation or divorce? Retrouvaille can help. Rediscover a loving marriage at the next Retrouvaille marriage renewal the weekend of **March 31–April 2** in Tewksbury. To register or for more information, please call 1-800-470-2230.

**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST  
LENT- EASTER LITURGICAL SCHEDULE 2017**

**THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST MARCH 1**

**ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY 8 am Newton &  
6:30 pm Plaistow**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Plaistow: Saturdays 3:00 pm  
(except Holy Saturday); Newton: Sundays of Lent 6:30 pm

Monday of Holy Week (April 10 - Plaistow 11:00am - 1:00  
PM, Newton 5:00-7:00 PM

**LENTEN EVENING PRAYER:** Sunday evenings of Lent at Newton, 6 pm

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Fridays of Lent - 6:30 pm - at Plaistow Lenten Soup Supper Friday March  
31 following Stations

**HOLY WEEK**

Monday of Holy Week April 10- Liturgy at 8 am - Newton

Tuesday of Holy Week April 11- Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow

Wednesday of Holy Week April 12 - Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow  
Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

**PASCHAL TRIDUUM**

**HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 13** Morning prayer 8 am - Newton

Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Newton

**LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 6:30 PM - Newton**

*-Eucharistic Adoration follows-*

Night Prayer 10:00 pm - Newton

**GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 14 -** Morning prayer 8 am - Plaistow

Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

Stations of the Cross 3 pm - Newton

**SERVICE OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

**& HOLY COMMUNION 6:30 PM - Plaistow**

**HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 15-** Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow

Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

**EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow**

(Reception in Hall to follow)

**APRIL 16 EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES**

**7:30 AM & 9 AM - Newton**

**11:00 AM - Plaistow**

Easter Solemn Vespers with Benediction at 6 pm - Newton

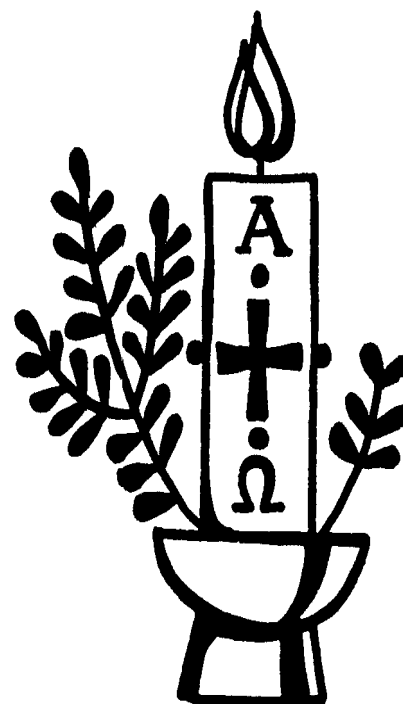
**LENTEN SEASON  
DAILY LITURGIES:**

M 8 am Newton

T 8 am Plaistow

W 6:30 pm Plaistow

Th 8 am Newton



**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH**

Newton: 12 Amesbury Road, Newton, NH  
03858

Plaistow: 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow,  
NH 03865

www. <http://stlukenh.org>  
(603 382-8324)

# LENTEN REGULATIONS

## FASTING

Fasting for anyone between 21 and 59 years of age means having only one full meal to maintain one's strength. Two smaller meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one's needs, but should not equal the one full meal. One may, however, enter more into the spiritual element of fasting and not partake of any of the above-mentioned meals. Eating between meals is not permitted; but liquids, including milk and juices are allowed. Days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Wednesdays and Fridays are also traditional fast days; however, one may fast on any day of the week.

## ABSTINENCE

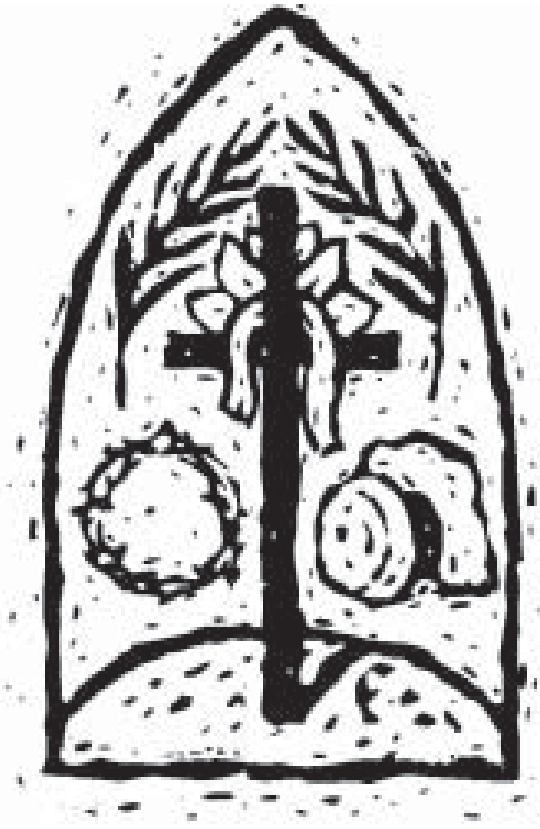
Abstinence is the observance for all those 14 years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

## EASTER PRECEPT

The Easter Precept – or Easter Duty is the decree for all the faithful to receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2042). The faithful must celebrate the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year in preparation for the reception of Holy Eucharist. Traditionally, the Church has marked the time in which one may fulfill the Easter Duty between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday. A monthly celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is encouraged for all.

## PRAYER AND ALMSGIVING

All of the faithful are encouraged to spend additional time in prayer during the Lenten season, and to participate in the devotional practices of the Parish. It is also praise worthy for the faithful to give generously to charities and to their Church during this Season of Sacrifice.





# THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



## Our Hearts Are Ready

God our Father and Creator,  
of Abraham and Jacob,  
and all of our ancestors of faith;  
bless us in our daily lives of work  
and prayer,  
as we find you in Word and bread and water;  
Harden not our hearts when we are  
confronted with Truth,  
nor when we are lost in confusion  
or despair;  
For we know you are with us,  
as you were with Moses and the people  
of Israel,  
and as you were with the  
Samaritan woman.  
May our hearts be open to accept your Word,  
and our spirits be ready to proclaim  
your Truth.  
May our work reflect your grace  
and the fruits of our work be shared  
with all.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

March 19, 2017

Living Water



*Today's Readings: Exodus 17:3–7; Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7, 8–9; Romans 5:1–2, 5–8; John 4:5–42.* The Samaritan woman is approached by Jesus, and responds as expected. What would you do in her situation? She has timed her trip to the well—Jacob's well—and fill her jug. This stranger makes it all so confusing! The exchange between Jesus and the Samaritan woman is not only about Jesus being the Living Water, it is also about accepting the teachings of Jesus as truth, and finding our spiritual thirst quenched by him. The exchange between the woman and Jesus is not only about finding the Messiah—the promised one—in our midst, it is also about being willing to accept the truth of Jesus' messiahship and the life of the Resurrected One in our midst today.

Where is your thirst quenched? Does your search for the promised one continue, or are you able to accept Christ in your midst at home, at work, in the marketplace, and at rest, as well as in church? How much confrontation is required before we recognize the Living Water in our lives? Perhaps we will find the Living Water in those still, small moments when we are hoping to slip by the crowds. Perhaps we will find it in a moment of unexpected confrontation, when we truly hear the Word of God slip through the conversation. In this Gospel passage, Jesus reminds us that we are never isolated from the truth, nor are we alone in receiving the fruits of an individual's labor. In today's Gospel what begins as two people meeting at a well becomes a profession of faith, by disciples and townspeople, that this is truly the Savior of the world.





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, March 20

#### Solemnity of St. Joseph

A wonderful tradition celebrated today is the St. Joseph's Table, begun in Sicily, Italy, to mark that the town's crops were saved from a drought. At these festive gatherings, participants bring what they can, the food is blessed, prayers are said for continued blessings, and the abundance is shared. *Today's Readings: 2 Samuel 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27, 29; Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a.*

### Tuesday, March 21

#### Mercy and Forgiveness

The readings today ground us solidly in the Lenten practices of mercy and forgiveness. While we plead for repeated mercy from God, we must practice the same toward one another. We are called to examine our response when others, who have wronged us, ask for forgiveness. But we are to work toward reconciliation even when others do not ask. The opportunity to forgive is endless—seven times seven multiplied repeatedly. *Today's Readings: Daniel 3:25, 34–43; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6, 7bc, 8–9; Matthew 18:21–35.*

### Wednesday, March 22

#### Fulfilling the Law

The challenge of today's readings comes from both Moses and Jesus: remain faithful to the Commandments and the Kingdom of Heaven will be your reward. However, the power in Jesus' words is that he did not come to "abolish but to fulfill" both the Law and the prophets. Christians should be sure to read both the New and Old Testaments. For the next week, take some time to read an Old Testament passage each day for reflection. *Today's Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Psalm 147:12–13, 15–16, 19–20; Matthew 5:17–19.*

### Thursday, March 23

#### Harden Not Your Hearts

Echoing what is described in the readings, today's psalm refrain calls us to remain faithful. Our fidelity needs to be not only in what we do, but at the core of our being, in our hearts. All of the readings today serve as a kind of examination of conscience. Mid-Lent is the perfect time for a personal assessment of our Lenten practices and to ask whether we are truly on the path of conversion of heart. Are we with Jesus or against him? *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 7:23–28; Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7, 8–9; Luke 11:14–23.*

### Friday, March 24

#### Stations of the Cross

Each Friday is a reminder of Good Friday, and the Lenten practice of walking the Stations of the Cross can be part of that. Whether we join in a parish, communal celebration of Stations, or mark them with prayer and reflection on our own, we enter into a somber reminder of Christ's Death on the Cross on a Friday afternoon. We walk with him, carrying his Cross, mourn with the women of Jerusalem, and witness his salvific Death. *Today's Readings: Hosea 14:2–10; Psalm 81:6c–8a, 8bc–9, 19–11ab, 14, 17; Mark 12:28–34.*

### Saturday, March 25

#### Annunciation of the Lord

The joy of Mary's acceptance when Gabriel announced to her that she would have a child who would be the Savior of the world is our joy as well. Today's solemnity is a reminder of the joy we should have in Lent, even as we struggle with sorrows and sinfulness and the hard work of conversion. Our call is the same as Mary's—to work with God so that all that we do may be according to his Word. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14, 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.*





# Bringing Home the Word

Third Sunday of Lent | March 19, 2017

## Source of Life

By Mary Katharine Deeley

**T**he conventional wisdom of fitness experts and health professionals is that we should drink eight glasses of water a day. This suggestion is the product of a country with the luxury of clean, abundant, easily accessible water. Some of us are so used to processed water that we balk when we have to drink well water.

Some people think bottled water is a necessity because, in their minds, it tastes better. It rarely hits home that in much of the world safe drinking water is scarce,

if it's available at all. People who live in those areas have to make do with the little good water they have for drinking, cooking, and washing.

In the desert regions of the Middle East, wells were a source of life and a social meeting place. Asking for water took a little courage in a place where water was rare. Offering someone water was a great gesture of hospitality.

Jesus' request invited the woman's hospitality and led to so much more. She opened her life to Jesus; in turn, Jesus revealed who he was and the gift of life he brings.

Living water must have sounded like a dream to a woman with a stagnant well, and maybe it does to us, too, but we do know this: Those who drink eight glasses of water a day will eventually die as surely as those who fight for even one.

On the other hand, Jesus promises that if we drink the water he gives, we will have eternal life—for he *is* Living Water. Have you had your glass today? †

*All of us need  
the living water  
of Christ, our Lord.*

## A Word From Pope Francis

**[Repentance] is the call** to change one's life. Conversion is not the question of a moment or a time of the year, it is an undertaking that lasts one's entire lifetime. Who among us can presume not to be a sinner? No one. We are all sinners. The Apostle John writes: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins..." (1 John 1:8–9). And that is what is happening during this celebration and throughout this day of penance.

—Homily,  
Celebration of Penance  
March 28, 2014



## Sunday Readings

### Exodus 17:3–7

"Is the LORD in our midst or not?"

### Romans 5:1–2, 5–8

"And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts."

### John 4:5–42

"Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified."

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### ONE QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

- What about your faith have you taken for granted because it's as abundant as water?
- How can you offer the precious gift of faith to someone this Lent?



# Coming to Faith and Living Water

By Raymond E. Brown, SS

**T**he story of the woman at the well illustrates how difficult it is to come to Jesus in faith because of obstacles. Many people have a chip on their shoulder toward God because they feel beaten down by the inequalities in life. The woman smarts from the Jewish dislike for Samaritans, especially for Samaritan women. And that is her first obstacle to dealing with Jesus.

Jesus does not answer her objection; he is not going to change instantly a

whole world of injustice. Yet he can offer something that will enable the woman to put injustice in perspective, namely, living water. He means water that gives life; she misunderstands it as flowing water, asking him if he thinks he is greater than Jacob, provider of a well.

Ironically, as John expects the reader to recognize, Jesus is greater than Jacob; but Jesus refuses to be sidetracked from his main goal. He explains that he is speaking of the water that springs up to eternal life,

water that will permanently end thirst. With a masterful touch, John shows her attracted on a level of the convenience of not having to come to the well every day for water.

To move the woman to a higher level, Jesus shifts the focus to her husband. Her reply is a half truth, but Jesus shows that he is aware of the real story. Confronted with Jesus' surprising knowledge of her situation, the woman is still not fully convinced. She poses to the villagers the question, "Could this be the Messiah?" The villagers come and encounter Jesus for themselves. We are left to surmise that, by being instrumental in bringing others to believe, the woman's own faith came to completion. And at last she drank of the water of life.†

Source: *Catholic Update*,  
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## Season of Lent Is Very Baptismal

By Rev. Lawrence E. Mick

**T**he key to understanding the meaning of Lent is simple: Baptism. Preparation for baptism and for renewing baptismal commitment lies at the heart of the season. Our challenge today is to renew our understanding of this important season of the Church year to see how we can integrate our personal practices into this renewed perspective.

Why is baptism so important in our Lenten understanding? Lent as a forty-day season developed in the fourth century from three merging sources.

The first was the ancient paschal fast that began as a two-day observance before Easter but was gradually lengthened to forty days. The second was the catechumenate as a process of preparation for baptism, including an intense period of preparation for the sacraments of initiation to be celebrated at Easter. The third was the order of penitents, which was modeled on the catechumenate and sought a second conversion for those who had fallen back into serious sin after baptism. As the candidates for baptism (catechumens) entered their final period of preparation for baptism, the penitents and the rest of the community accompanied them on their journey and prepared to renew their baptismal vows at Easter.

Lent, then, is radically baptismal, and whether we are lifelong Catholics or new

to the faith, we are all called to reapproach our faith this season with the spirit of a new convert and a penitent. †

Source: *Catholic Update*,  
© March 2012, Liguori Publications

## PRAYER

Lord, you created me to be a member of the human family. Empower me to show respect and love to all people, regardless of their racial, cultural, religious, and social background.

— From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*  
Rev. Warren J. Savage and  
Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

March 20–25

Mon. St. Joseph: 2 Sm 7:4–5a,  
12–14a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22 /  
Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a  
Tue. Lenten Weekday:  
Dn 3:25, 34–43 / Mt 18:21–25  
Wed. Lenten Weekday:  
Dt 4:1, 5–9 / Mt 5:17–19

Thu. Lenten Weekday:  
Jer 7:23–28 / Lk 11:14–23  
Fri. Lenten Weekday:  
Hos 14:2–10 / Mk 12:28–34  
Sat. Annunciation of the Lord:  
Is 7:10–14; 8:10 / Heb 10:4–10 /  
Lk 1:26–38

Bringing Home  
the Word   
March 19, 2017

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