

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, April 9, 2017
Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord

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

Gathering: Hosanna, To The Son Of David
BB 139

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 22)

***My God, my God, why have you
abandoned me?***

Preparation What Wondrous Love Is This BB 479

Mass Parts Mass Of Christ The Savior

Communion: Bread For The World BB 349
I Am The Living Bread BB 356

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

9:00 AM

Gathering: Hosanna, To The Son Of David
BB 139

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 22)

***My God, my God, why have you
abandoned me?***

Preparation Now We Remain BB 507

Mass Parts Mass Of Christ The Savior

Communion: Behold The Lamb BB 338

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

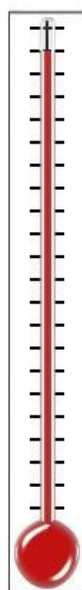
Out of respect, please
remember to silence or turn
off your cell phones during
Mass. Thank you!



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST WEBSITE:

<http://stlukenh.org>

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠



280,000.00
274,788.19

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!

April 2, 2017

Offertory \$0.00
Property Management \$0.00

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

April 9, 2017	No Second Collection
April 14, 2017	Good Friday – Holy Land
April 16, 2017	Easter
April 23, 2017	Fuel

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 ✠

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will close at **12:00 Noon** on **Wednesday, April 12** and will reopen on **Tuesday, April 18 at 8:30 AM**.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross take place on Good Friday afternoon at 3:00 PM in Newton.

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** is available immediately after Evening Prayer each Sunday of the Lenten Season.



EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION

The Parish is planning to host a reception following the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday night, **April 15th**. 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 email the Parish Office at jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net or call 603-382-8324.

EASTER CANDLES

Donations to defray the cost of the new Paschal Candles for the Easter Season are welcome. Please contact Jackie at the Parish Office for details.



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.



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of **George Moulaison** by his wife, Tess

GOOD FRIDAY PONTIFICAL COLLECTION

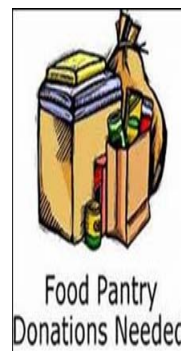
Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines.

The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please Be Generous. For more information about Christians in the Holy Land please visit www.myfranciscan.org/goodfriday.

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 SPRING...

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

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, April 9

9:45 AM	Religious Ed – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	Plaistow
6:00 PM	Vespers	Newton
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Newton

Monday, April 10

11:00 AM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Plaistow
4:00 PM	Religious Ed – Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Plaistow
5:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Newton
6:30 PM	Religious Ed – Levels 6, 7, 8	Plaistow

Wednesday, April 12
PARISH OFFICE CLOSATES AT NOON
NO ADORATION

7:30 PM	Tennebrae	Plaistow
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Thursday, April 13
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP
NO ADORATION

8:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Newton
12:00 PM	Mid-Day Prayer	Newton
6:30 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper & Adoration	Newton
10:00 PM	Night Prayer	Newton

Friday, April 14

8:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Plaistow
12:00 PM	Mid-Day Prayer	Plaistow
3:00 PM	Stations of the Cross	Newton
6:30 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	Plaistow

Saturday, April 15

8:00 AM	Morning Prayer	Plaistow
12:00 PM	Mid-Day Prayer	Plaistow
8:00 PM	Great Vigil of Easter & Reception	Plaistow

Sunday, April 16

6:00 PM	Vespers & Benediction	Newton
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✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, April 8 ~ Vigil / Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14—27:66

4:00 PM	Alfred Brooks by Verna Carbone Plaistow
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Sunday, April 9 ~ Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14—27:66

7:30 AM	Frances C. Matara by Janice Bettencourt Newton
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9:00 AM	People of the Parish Newton
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11:00 AM	Robert Cooper (Birthday Remembrance) by his parents Plaistow
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Monday, April 10 ~ Monday of Holy Week

Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

8:00 AM	For Michael and his recovery by Fr. Albert Newton
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Tuesday, April 11 ~ Tuesday of Holy week

Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

8:00 AM	People of the Parish Plaistow
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Wednesday, April 12 ~ Wednesday of Holy Week

Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25

6:30 PM	Carol Flaherty (6 th Anniversary) by her daughter
7:30 PM	Tennebrae Plaistow

Thursday, April 13 ~ Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

6:30 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper & Adoration Newton
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Friday, April 14 ~ Good Friday

Is 52:13—53:12; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9; Jn 18:1—19:42

6:30 PM	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion Plaistow
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Saturday, April 15 ~ Holy Saturday

*Gn 1:1—2:2; Ex 14:15—15:1; Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11;
Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Rom 6:3-11;
Mt 28:1-10*

8:00 PM	Great Vigil of Easter Plaistow
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Sunday, April 16 ~ Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of The Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9

7:30 AM	People of the Parish Newton
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9:00 AM	People of the Parish Newton
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11:00 AM	Intentions of Mary Coltin & Paul & Lucia O'Leary by Mark & Colleen Hammond Plaistow
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**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



OPEN HOUSE

Oh no! It snowed! Not to worry - we have rescheduled the **SVDP Open House** to the April meeting! Hopefully, you can join us on **Wednesday, April 19th** for light refreshments and a chance to learn more about this great organization! Plan to stay for the meeting, too! We look forward to seeing you on April 19th!

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.

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.**

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 ✠

CHRISM MASS

All are invited to the annual blessing of the oils at the Chrism Mass on **Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 6:00 PM** at St. Joseph Cathedral in Manchester. These oils will be distributed among the parishes and institutions of the Diocese of Manchester for use during the next year. General seating is available to those who would like to attend. For more information and to register, visit catholicnh.org/chrism.

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.

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.

PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Statewide, all parishes will open their doors to welcome you to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the **Monday of Holy Week, April 10, 2017**. At St. Luke's Parish, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered in **Plaistow from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM** and in **Newton from 5:00 to 7:00 PM**. Open your heart and allow the Lord to fill it with His Grace.

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.

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 11:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, May 7, 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.

✠ 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	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szczapa	jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net
Jackie Tremblay	jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net
Thomas Kondel	tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net
Val Barczak	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Robin Thompson	rthompson@stluketheevangelist.net
Julie Lamere	jlamere@stluketheevangelist.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

✠ **Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese** ✠

**Help
save
lives**

BLOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus Council 6697 are sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive on **Friday, April 14 from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM** at the Atkinson Community Center. You can schedule an appointment by calling 1-800-733-2767 or by visiting www.redcrossblood.org. Please join us and donate while providing the gift of life.



SEEKING A UNIQUE HELPER

The Parish is looking for a unique individual who is interested in becoming the Lead Coordinator for the Annual St. Luke's Christmas Craft Fair, as this will be Elaine Kindler's last year filling the role. Each year the Christmas Fair proves to be an extremely profitable fundraiser and this would be a wonderful opportunity for YOU to get involved in a meaningful way with the Parish.

The general organization of the Christmas Craft Fair requires a person with a friendly manner and the ability to attend to details. The 2017 craft fair will be held on Saturday, November 4 and planning has already begun.

Please give Elaine Kindler a call at 603-819-8691 or email her at stlukenhfair@gmail.com for more information or answers to questions regarding expectations.

Thank you!

4TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC LITERATURE CONFERENCE

"20th Century Catholic Literature"

Join in a day of engaging and enlightening discussion of literary works from a Catholic perspective on **Saturday, April 29 from 9:30 AM – 4:00PM** at St. Peter's Church, Christ the King Parish, in Concord NH. Tickets are \$25 and include lunch. Please visit <http://bit.ly/2jEEuQQ> for more details or to purchase tickets.

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. Please visit 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.**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The 2017 St. Luke's Christmas Craft Fair isn't until November 4, but...believe it or not...your help **is needed!** We're blessed to have a dedicated core group of volunteers who help plan and prepare for the Christmas Craft Fair.

But they can use a little more help

The Silent Auction, Penny Sale, and Theme Basket tables need some help with one or two people making simple phone calls following up on letters that were sent to area businesses asking for donations. This will require about an hour a week.

The Cash Raffle is one of the most profitable aspects of the Fair, but a person is needed to help with promotion and encouraging increased ticket sales. The work for this begins in August and requires less than an hour a week.

If you have any questions, please email Elaine Kindler at stlukenhfair@gmail.com or call her at 603-819-8691.

HOST FAMILIES SOUGHT

Together with Saint Thomas Aquinas High School, UTP High Schools is searching for potential host families for our incoming international students this August for the 2017-2018 school year. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Arielle at 603-609-1445 or arielle@utphighschools.com.

**MASS FOR THE HEALING OF
THOSE AFFECTED BY CHILD ABUSE**

In recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, Bishop Libasci and the Diocesan Safe Environment Council invite all the Catholic faithful to a special Mass on **Thursday, April 27 at 6:30 PM**. Please join them in praying for all those who were abused as children, particularly those abused by people representing the Catholic Church. The Mass will be celebrated at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Concord, NH. For more information, please contact Joseph Naff at jnaff@rcbm.org or call him at 603-669-3100, ext.110.

ST. PATRICK'S WOMEN'S GUILD PENNY SALE

St. Patrick's Parish in Pelham, NH will hold a Penny Sale on **Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM** and again on **Sunday, April 23 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM** in the Parish Center. Visit their Blarney Stone Café for mouthwatering food throughout the weekend. The drawing will occur on Sunday, April 23 at 3:30 PM. You do not need to be present to win.

Keeping the Holiest Days of the Year



Today is the sixth and the last of the Sundays of Lent. We know it also by other names. It is called **Palm Sunday** because the first thing that we do when we gather this day is to take up palms and tell the story of how Jesus once came into the holy city, Jerusalem, riding over a carpet of branches, cheered by people waving branches. Today also is known as **Passion Sunday** because the Gospel story read (today) is the account of Jesus' passion as told by Luke.

Today knows other events. This is the last Sunday when we will call forth and dismiss those Elect, who, at the start of this Lent, were chosen or "Elected" for the Easter Sacraments. Beginning with Easter Sunday, they will not be dismissed after the homily, but will stay with us and do all that Baptized people do. They will begin to keep each Sunday by joining the church to give God thanks and praise at this table, over bread and wine, which we eat and drink and so become, little by little, the living body of Christ.

Today marks the beginning of the days we call **Holy Week**. That name, Holy Week, can be misleading - or it can be a rich insight into these days. It can mislead if we think of the time from today until next Sunday, Easter Sunday, as one segment of time that day by day tries to tell the story of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. That's not really what happens here. Rather, we have a week that splits in two on Thursday night - and each one of us ought to know how and why. That will tell us what puts the "holy" in Holy Week. **Until Thursday night it is Lent.** The Forty Days right now are down to their last five days. Thursday evening Lent ends. If we have kept these days so far with various kinds of fasting, various forms of almsgiving, and times of prayer each day, then we are near the end and can perhaps put on an extra burst of energy and so finish this great Lenten contest smiling and exuberant to have done penance and turned the world a bit upside-down.

**Passion Sunday
Evening Prayer
At Newton 6:00 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation
follows Evening Prayer.**

**Reconciliation available at
Plaistow on Holy Monday 11 am-1
PM, and at Newton 5-7 PM**

And if we have not kept these days so well, or perhaps not at all, if we have forgotten to pray, neglected to fast, not gotten around to all the ways alms can be given, then the news is good: Five days, counting today, to go! It isn't too late at all. Time enough remains to discover what hunger feels like-bodily hunger and other hungers too. Time remains for that spring-cleaning of house and wallet and life that Lent makes almost appealing to us who are too heavily laden

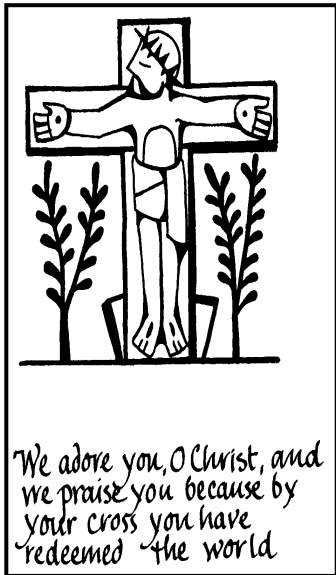
with possessions and near-addictions. Time remains also for quiet, for taking out the Bible and reading the Passion stories, reading here and there in Paul, reading psalms and prophets, and quietly reflecting on these words and stories and letting them help us to pray. Time remains. Five days of Lent to conclude your Forty Days, or Five Days to be your Forty Days.

The Paschal Triduum

But that brings us only to Thursday evening. That is the reason we say that this so-called Holy Week is really two very different pieces of time. For when Lent ends, we move without stopping for breath into the three days that are for us the heart and soul of the entire year. The church calls them a “*Triduum*,” just the Latin for “three days.” But we call them the “Easter Triduum” or the “Paschal Triduum.” What that means is that they are about the Paschal mystery, the Passover mystery, the way life and death and resurrection, our own, our church's, our human race's, get all tangled up in the life and death and resurrection of the one who is truly God and truly human, Jesus.



On Thursday night we walk out of Lent into these three holiest days, and we walk into them singing: “We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.” And there it is, in one part of one sentence from Paul: Our glory is in the cross. The cross is our only and ultimate glory. Somehow that is what it comes to for us, the transforming cross that never ceases to be the cross, the death that is death itself, all the ways death reigns in this poor world, but we look at it and we say, “Glory”. **From Thursday night until Sunday afternoon, it is Triduum.** We will gather in God’s house Thursday day and Thursday night and Friday morning and afternoon and evening, and Saturday in the morning and then in the darkness of Saturday night. These are liturgies we do not celebrate three or four times each day so that it is convenient for us to come. We do it once and we hope that all of us can be together, most especially at the **Great Easter Vigil**. That gathering of



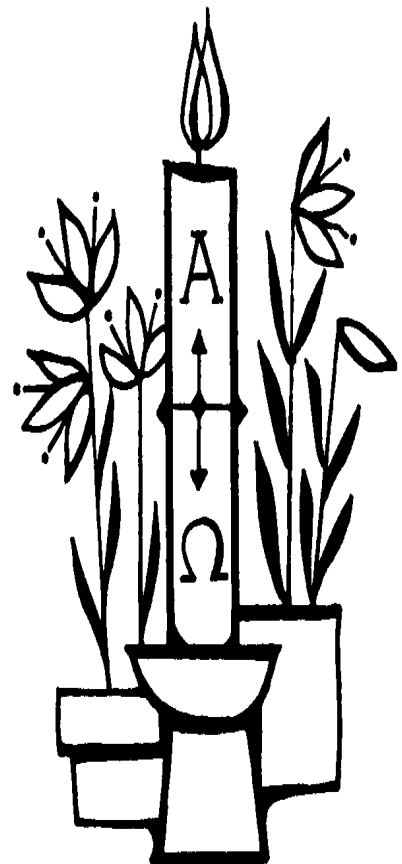
the church between Saturday evening and Sunday morning is the life that nourishes our whole year, all our days. It is when we come to spend some good time in the reading of scripture, and then go finally to the Baptismal font where our catechumens are challenged to renounce evil, to believe in Father and Son and Spirit, and so to die in the waters and live forever in Christ. We do the liturgies of these days only once because who would have the energy to do them again? We do them once because we wish that this whole Parish be, this once in the year, all together here to do scripture and Baptism and Eucharist.

And we dare to do these liturgies just once and to say that we should all be here because of something that we so easily overlook. It is: What else could we possibly find to do? That is the key to getting from the end of Lent back into life in this world. ***We have to know that life-as-usual stops from Thursday evening to Easter Sunday.*** Or perhaps it doesn’t stop, but we do. We drop out. We do not do on this Good Friday and this Holy Saturday what we do on any other Friday and Saturday of the year. So we are not ever trying to work in “going to church” among a hundred other things. No. The decks are clear. Lots of things in our lives have been closed down. We are free.

We have to know this: The way these three days are kept is not only with the liturgies here in this assembly. For these to have any sense at all to them, the three days have to be kept in our lives. A generation ago, at the second Vatican Council, the world's bishops had a great and ancient insight into this. They said these strange words: *“Let the Paschal fast be kept sacred. Let it be celebrated everywhere on Good Friday and, where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday.”* They spoke not of a Lenten fast but of a Paschal fast, an Easter fast. What's that? And they spoke not just of fasting, but of “celebrating” this particular fast. What sort of fasting is celebrated? It is the fasting of excitement and expectation, of butterflies in the stomach because of what is about to happen. It is fasting from food, yes, but fasting also from work, and from entertainment and distraction. It is getting real hungry. it is clearing the mind and the heart. It is being famished for the word of God.

So the invitation to us Christians is to leave all we can of the normal on Thursday night. Off and on through those next three days, we'll meet here. You have your schedules of liturgies and other times of prayer. But it is the times between the liturgies that make the liturgies possible. Let all of us together find again and anew what is this glory that is ours in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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The Triduum

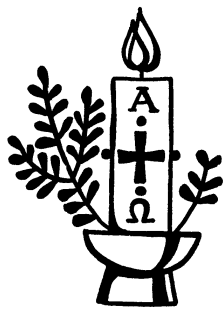
The Church's holiest days begin with the **Liturgy of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 13 at 6:30 PM in Newton.** At Mass that evening, the holy oils blessed earlier that week by Bishop Peter will be presented to the Parish, Jesus' call to service and humility is remembered through washing of feet, and the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus at the Last supper is celebrated. Adoration and prayer with the Eucharist will go on that night in church until Night Prayer at 10:00 PM.



Throughout the Triduum, the Church is in almost constant prayer. The **Liturgy of the Hours** will be celebrated beginning on Holy Thursday at 8 am and Noon at Newton. Night prayer will be at 10 PM. The same schedule for Morning and Mid-Day prayer will be kept on Good Friday and Holy Saturday at Plaistow.

The Passion and death of Jesus on the cross is celebrated on **Good Friday, April 14.** Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 3:00 PM in Newton, and **the principal celebration of the day, the Reading of John's Passion, the Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion will be celebrated at 6:30 PM at Plaistow.**

On Holy Saturday, the Church waits in prayer at the Lord's tomb. No Masses are allowed, no sacraments other than communion for the dying are celebrated. We wait for announcement of Easter victory. Morning prayer will be celebrated at Plaistow at 8 am, and Mid-Day prayer at Noon.



The ***Great Vigil of Easter*** will begin at 8 PM on Saturday, April 15 with the blessing of new fire and the lighting of the Paschal Candle, the principle symbol of the Easter Season. We will then listen to our story of salvation, proclaimed through readings and song. We will proclaim the Easter Gospel, and renew our Baptismal Promises. We will then celebrate the solemn Eucharist of Easter, followed by a festive reception in the Hall.

The ***Great Vigil of Easter*** will also begin from the Parish Hall, where we'll process to the blessing of the new fire, burning just outside the doors of the Church. ***If you plan on attending the Great Vigil on April 15, plan on gathering in the Hall for 7:50 PM on Holy Saturday evening.***

Easter Sunday

Easter Liturgies will be celebrated at 7:30 am and 9:00 am in Newton and at 11:00 am in Plaistow on April 16, with renewal of Baptismal Promises and blessing with Easter Water.

Easter Evening Prayer with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will conclude our Easter Sunday at 6:00 PM at Newton.

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

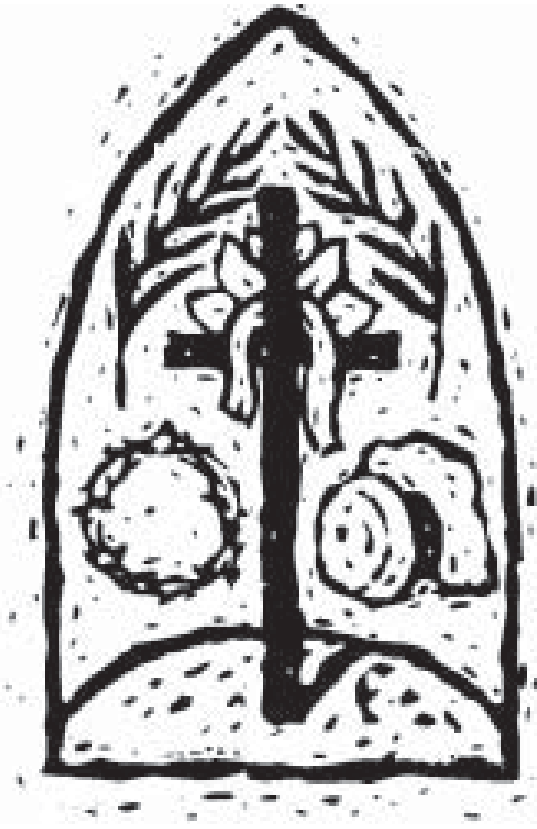
Abstinence is the observance for all those 14 years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

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.





ST. VINCENT dePAUL

EASTER LILY FUND RAISER

\$15. PER PLANT

(PROVIDED BY NEWTON GREENHOUSE)

EASTER SUNDAY

After the 7:30 & 9:00 A.M.

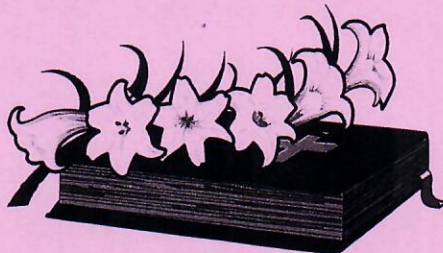
masses in Newton

and after the 11:00 A.M.

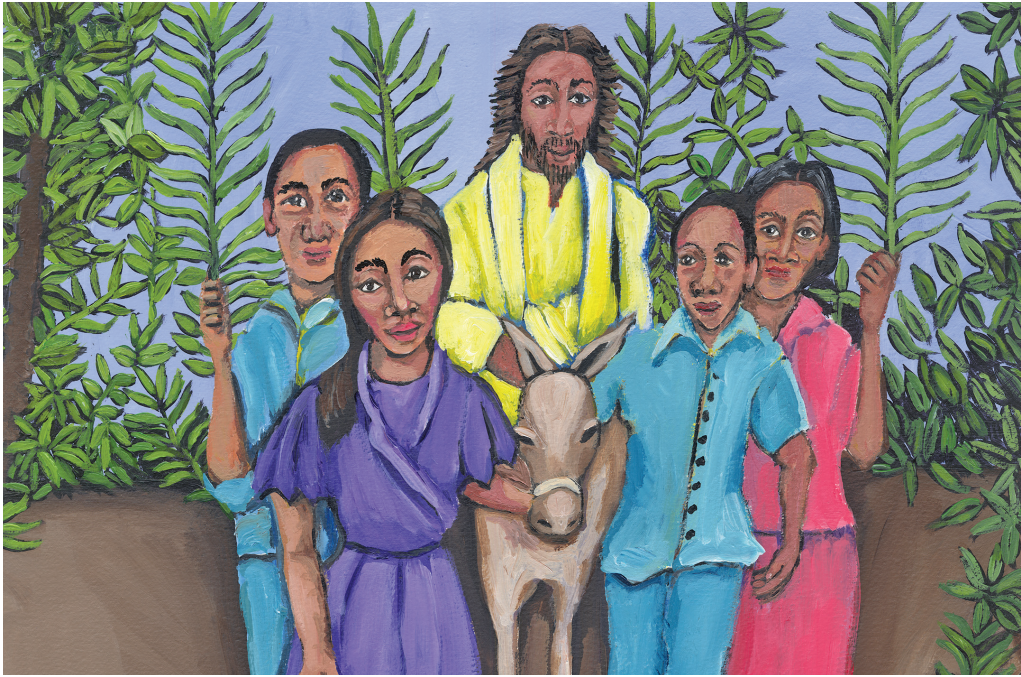
mass in Plaistow

***PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THOSE IN NEED.
THANK YOU, IN ADVANCE, FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!***

(ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL SUSAN MOKRAY AT (603) 887-5055)



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



Singing Hosanna

Lord our God,
King of the Universe,
bless our branches and make them holy.
You who have blessed our lives
by your goodness in the world,
so bless us today as we proclaim
Christ our King.
May we proclaim your majesty anew

and welcome you into our cities and homes
as ruler, as prophet, and as our Messiah.
Strengthen our hearts to be with you
in the coming days;
May we not abandon you, but continue to
praise you
with our Hosannas.
Through Christ our Savior and Lord,
for ever and ever. Amen.

April 9, 2017

Humbled and Exalted



Today's Readings: Matthew 21:1–11; Isaiah 50:4–7; Psalm 22:8–9, 17–18, 19–20, 23–24; Philippians 2:6–11; Matthew 26:14–27:66. In the beautiful canticle from Philippians that comprises today's Second Reading, the dichotomy of humility and exaltation is highlighted. This is the tension of Palm Sunday: we welcome Christ as a king entering the grand city of Jerusalem, and then we proclaim the Passion account where our voices say, *Crucify him*. Christ Jesus, God and man, is exalted as both a human king and the Messiah, Savior of us all. We clutch our palms tightly and remind ourselves that he is indeed our king.

Hosanna is not just a welcome to the city. *Hosanna* is our Eucharistic proclamation in which we verbally wave our

palms. Palm Sunday is the opportunity to raise our palm branches as we process into church, as we stand in awe and horror through the Passion account, and as we sing once again "Hosanna in the highest."

Throughout the world, whatever branches are in season are gathered and waved today: olive branches, palm branches, pussy willows, flowering bushes. Palm Sunday begins our last few days of Lent. As we approach the Sacred Paschal Triduum, today is our prelude to the glory that is Death-Resurrection. Palm and Passion weave a tension that highlights Christ Jesus, who humbled himself in obedience to the Father, to death on the Cross, and who, because of his Death is greatly exalted.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 10

The Meal at Bethany

As you reflect on today's readings, you might want to take time to visualize the meal at the home of Lazarus in Bethany. Martha is serving; Lazarus is at the table; Mary is anointing Jesus' feet with perfume; Judas is protesting Mary's action; and Jesus is quieting Judas. The scene occurs just before Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and his Passion and Death. How are you preparing to spend time with Jesus as Holy Week begins? Will the week center on prayer? *Today's Readings: Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; John 12:1-11.*

Tuesday, April 11

Betrayal and Denial

The setting for today's Gospel takes us to another meal, a meal very unlike the one in Bethany. At this meal, Judas leaves early to betray Jesus and Peter is told that he will deny the Lord. As we move closer to Good Friday, we need to consider our faithfulness. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 14, 17; John 13:21-33, 36-38.*

Wednesday, April 12

Servanthood

"It is the Lord God who helps me." Throughout today's First Reading, Isaiah attributes what he has and does to God. Because of what God has done, Isaiah can sustain the weary with his words and listen "as those who are taught." These are the thoughts of a servant who humbly acknowledges his place before God. Do you recognize what God is doing in your life? *Today's Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 69:8-10; 21-22, 32, 33-34; Matthew 26:14-25.*

Thursday, April 13

Holy Thursday

The Sacred Paschal Triduum begins this evening. As we observe the washing of feet tonight, we consider how our reception of the Eucharist calls us to service. May we not only serve but allow others to serve us. *Today's Readings: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15.*

Friday, April 14

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Our focus is on the Cross. We spend time in silence from noon until 3 PM, to unite ourselves to Christ's suffering. At the service in the parish, we hear the Passion of the Lord proclaimed and we adore the cross. Today is not business as usual, for we commemorate Christ's Death. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42.*

Saturday, April 15

Easter Vigil

At the Easter Vigil, we hear the story of salvation history, the account of how God has remained faithful to us. To prepare for the night, spend time in prayerful reflection with at least one of the readings. Consider how the reading tells of how God keeps the covenant with his people. Sit quietly as you prayerfully respond. *Today's Readings: Genesis 1:1-2:2; Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24-35; Genesis 22:1-18; Psalm 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11; Exodus 14:15-15:1; Psalm: Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Isaiah 54:5-14; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Isaiah 55:1-11; Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Psalm 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4; Romans 6:3-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Matthew 28:1-10.*





Bringing Home the Word

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion | April 9, 2017

Come to Save Us

By Mary Katharine Deeley

From the joyful procession into Jerusalem, through the passion and death of Jesus, to the sealing of the tomb by the guards, Passion Sunday—as it is sometimes called—prepares us for the coming Holy Week.

The story draws us in. We are the ones who hail Jesus as the one who is to come. We pray the familiar words of Psalm 118 that call on God to save us. (The familiar word *Hosanna* is actually a plea for salvation from God.) When we hear the passion narrative, we become

the disciples at the Last Supper and are unable to stay awake in Gethsemane. We are the crowd who cries out for Barabbas (a play on words: the name means “Son of the Father”) and calls for Jesus’ crucifixion.

This is the most important thing that has ever happened to us. This is the story of the fulfillment of God’s promise to save us. We will meditate and pray on this mystery all week: God so loved the world, he sent us his only Son.

Paul reminds us that not only did Jesus not deem equality with God something to be grasped, he did not deem human beings creatures to be despised. He became one of us to lead us back into right relationship with God. On Good Friday, we will hear John’s version of the passion and remind ourselves again of the wonder that someone might give up his life for us. There was nothing we could do to earn God’s love, nor could we make God do this. †

Sunday Readings

Matthew 21:1–11 (Procession)
Isaiah 50:4–7 (first reading)

“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.”

Philippians 2:6–11

“He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

Matthew 26:14–27:66

“We remember that this impostor while still alive said, ‘After three days I will be raised up.’”

This is the most important thing that has ever happened to us. This is the story of the fulfillment of God’s promise to save us.

A Word From Pope Francis

Jesus has awakened great hopes, especially in the hearts of the simple, the humble, the poor, the forgotten, those who do not matter in the eyes of the world. He understands human sufferings, he has shown the face of God’s mercy, and he has bent down to heal body and soul. This is Jesus. This is his heart which looks to all of us, to our sicknesses, to our sins. The love of Jesus is great.

Homily,
Palm Sunday,
St. Peter’s Square,
March 24, 2013



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

- What will you do during this Holy Week to express your thankfulness for God’s love?
- How do you hail Jesus as the “one who is to come”?



Our Ignorance of God's Love

By Ron Rolheiser, OMI

“Forgive them
Father for they
know not what they
do!” Jesus said this

of his executioners. But is it true? A lot indicates that they were far from innocent. How could Jesus' executioners not know what they were doing?

The people who crucified Jesus didn't know what they were doing because they didn't know how much they were loved. That is the blindness and the real ignorance of the executioners. Far too often we crucify others and ourselves because of ignorance because we feel unloved. For this reason we are harsh in our judgments of others and unaware of

why we ourselves are prone to weakness and to compromise our dignity. We are judgmental and weak because we don't know any better.

The type of ignorance that allowed sincere people to crucify Jesus can also explain why so many good, sincere people today are massively blind, communally and individually, to the economic and social demands made by our faith. The real reason we can live so comfortably as the gap between the rich and the poor widens is because we don't know how much we are loved by God, not because we are bad and without conscience. We feel unloved and so we feel we have to take life for ourselves.

Small wonder we settle for second-best or for almost anything else that promises to fill an aching void inside us. Jesus, no doubt, is looking at us and saying: “Forgive them Father for they know not what they do!” Too few of us, at any personal level, have ever heard God say to us: “I love you!” Too few of us have ever felt what Jesus must have felt when, at his baptism, he heard his Father say: “You are my beloved child, in you I take delight!” Indeed, most of us have never heard another human being saying this to us, let alone God.

There is a place inside us, a place we are rarely aware of, where each of us is being touched and held unconditionally in love by God. Jesus' executioners acted in a darkness that came from never having had that experience. †

Source: *Daybreaks*, © 2004, Liguori Publications

Radical, Imperfect Disciples Are We

By Julie Donovan Massey
and Bridget Burke Ravizza

Jesus' preaching teaches us two important lessons about discipleship we should recall during Lent. First, the call to follow Jesus is radical and risky. Second, Jesus calls imperfect people to be disciples.

In all four Gospels, we see that the call to follow Jesus is demanding, uncomfortable, and risky. Why? Because when Jesus calls disciples, he asks for total commitment. He invites them to

wholeheartedly let go of whatever is holding them back from following God.

What might be holding you back from authentic radical discipleship? Perhaps it is an inordinate concern for success at work. Perhaps it is too much time spent thinking about possessions. Or are you clinging to a grudge, refusing to let go of anger and offer forgiveness and seek reconciliation? Do you make judgments about others to make yourself feel safe and superior? Could you let go of self-righteousness to actively build a community in which everyone feels accepted?

Recognizing God's unconditional love shown in Jesus frees us to strive to do our best, knowing we need not prove our perfection to earn God's love.

We are challenged because we can no longer use our weaknesses as an excuse to do nothing or to give up. If each of us is called to be a disciple, we must seek holiness, knowing we are, already, radically loved by God. †

Source: *Liguorian*, © March 2011, Liguori Publications



Lord, you are the model of
nonviolence and unconditional love.
May your example inspire me
to be a more loving and forgiving
person in life.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 10–15

Monday

Holy Week:
Is 42:1–7 / Jn 12:1–11

Tuesday

Holy Week:
Is 49:1–6 / Jn 13:21–33, 36–38


Wednesday

Holy Week:
Is 50:4–9a / Mt 26:14–25

Holy Thursday Ex 12:1–8, 11–14 /
1 Cor 11:23–26 / Jn 13:1–15

Good Friday Is 52:13–53:12 / Heb 4:14–16;
5:7–9 / Jn 18:1–19:42

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1–2:2 /
Gn 22:1–18 / Ex 14:15–15:1 / Is 54:5–14 /
Is 55:1–11 / Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4 / Ez 36:16–17a,
18–28 / Rom 6:3–11 / Mt 28:1–10

Bringing Home
the Word 
April 9, 2017

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