



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, May 28, 2017  
Seventh Sunday Of Easter

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

Gathering: At The Lamb's High Feast BB 163  
Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145)

*Sing a joyful song to the Lord! Alleluia!  
Let the heavens and earth rejoice!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Sprinkling Rite: *God, you have moved upon the waters,  
you have sung in the rush of wind and  
flame; and in your love, you have called  
us sons and daughters, make us people  
of the water and your name*

Preparation Christ, Be Our Light BB 594

Mass Parts Storrington Mass

Communion: One Love Released BB 355  
I Am The Living Bread BB 356

Recessional: The King Of Kings, Christ Jesus Reigns  
BB 723

9:00 AM

Gathering: Send Us Your Spirit BB 452  
Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145)

*Sing a joyful song to the Lord! Alleluia!  
Let the heavens and earth rejoice!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Sprinkling Rite: *If we have died to ourselves in Jesus,  
then we shall arise to new life in Him,  
Alleluia, alleluia!*

Preparation We Remember BB 494

Mass Parts Mass of God's Promise

Communion: I Know That My Redeemer Lives  
BB 675

Recessional: Sing Of The Lord's Goodness BB 560

✠ PARISH TITHING ✠

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!

OFFERTORY AMOUNTS FOR  
MAY 21, MAY 28, AND JUNE 4, 2017  
WILL APPEAR IN THE  
JUNE 11, 2017 BULLETIN

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

May 28, 2017	Catholic Communications
June 4, 2017	Property Management
June 11, 2017	No Second Collection
June 18, 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 ✂



**DON'T MISS THE FUN!**

It's time to register for Vacation Bible School which will take place at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish on **June 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30, 2017**. Come and explore the mighty love of God!!! Call Joyce at the parish office (382-8324, ext. 303) for more information.

**CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN**

Next week, our second collection is for the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio, and print media. Fifty percent of funds collected remains in our Diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message!



**PENTECOST IS UPON US!  
SHOW YOUR TEAM SPIRIT!**

**WEAR RED TO CHURCH  
ON THE WEEKEND OF  
JUNE 3 & 4**

**Pentecost Evening Prayer and  
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament  
Holy Angels Church  
Sunday, June 4 at 6:00 PM  
Pentecost Dessert Reception follows  
at 6:30 PM in the parish hall**

**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 register today to start shopping and donating at [www.amazon smile.com](http://www.amazon Smile.com). For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324.

Be sure to choose:  
**St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, the Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**. The Office will reopen at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, May 30.

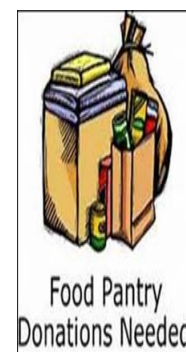


**SEEKING A UNIQUE HELPER**

Do you have \$13K-\$17K to give to St. Luke's? We didn't think so, but you COULD help St. Luke's make \$17,000 or more by volunteering to be a Lead Coordinator for the annual Christmas Craft Fair starting in early 2018! Each year the Christmas Fair proves to be an extremely profitable fund-raiser and friend-raiser for our parish. 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, or persons, 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](mailto:stlukenhfair@gmail.com) for more information or answers to questions regarding expectations. Thank you!

**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 need 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.

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

**Monday, May 29**  
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

**Tuesday, May 30**

6:30 PM VBS Planning Meeting *Plaistow*

**Wednesday, May 31**

9:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration Begins *Plaistow*

6:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Ends *Plaistow*

7:15 PM Reader Scripture Share *Plaistow*

**Thursday, June 1**

8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration Begins *Newton*

10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting *Plaistow*

8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Ends *Newton*

**Saturday, June 3**

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

**Sunday, June 4**

12:00 PM Baptism Catechesis *Plaistow*

6:00 PM Vespers *Plaistow*

6:30 PM Pentecost Reception *Plaistow*

### 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](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).

ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE! <http://stlukenh.org>

## St. Vincent de Paul Society



### Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! 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, June 21 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, May 27 ~ Vigil / Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*Acts 1:12-14; 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11a*

4:00 PM Shirley Sawtell by Verna Carbone  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, May 28 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*Acts 1:12-14; 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11a*

7:30 AM Jason Suleski by Susan and Mick Swanwick  
*Newton*

9:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Newton*

11:00 AM Veronica Webster (9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
by her daughters  
*Plaistow*

**Monday, May 29 ~ Easter Weekday**

*Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33*

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Newton*

**Tuesday, May 30 ~ Easter Weekday**

*Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a*

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
*Plaistow*

**Wednesday, May 31 ~ The Visitation of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary**

*Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; Lk 1:39-56*

6:30 PM Karl Matey by Phil Consentino  
*Plaistow*

**Thursday, June 1 ~ Justin, Martyr**

*Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26*

8:00 AM Michael & his recovery  
*Newton*

**Friday, June 2 ~ Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs**

*Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19*

*No Mass*

**Saturday, June 3 ~ Charles Lwanga and  
Companions, Martyrs**

*Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25 (Day)*

*Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Josie Chudzicki by Pat Zakiewicz  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, June 4 ~ Pentecost Sunday**

*Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23*

7:30 AM Kathryn Sorriento by Frances & Don Harper  
*Newton*

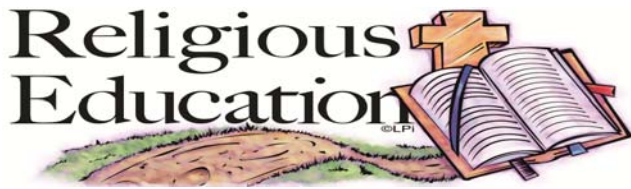
9:00 AM Lillian Murphy (17<sup>th</sup> Annivesery)  
by her daughter, Carole Lueders  
*Newton*

11:00 AM Vincent J. Dowd by his family  
*Plaistow*



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

✧ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✧



**ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST**  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education Registration for the 2017-2018 Academic Year for Grades 1 to 10 has begun. If your child is currently enrolled, a registration form has been sent home. If your child is new to the Program, please call Joyce Szczapa in the Religious Education Office at 603-382-8324 for more information.

**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).

**GLUTEN INTOLERANT?**

The Parish now provides an option for receiving Holy Communion for anyone suffering from gluten intolerance or celiac disease. We have obtained special altar breads that are fully certified for use at Mass by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and laboratory tested to contain only .001% gluten. Please see the Pastor or the Sacristan before Mass about receiving Communion using one of these special hosts.

**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, June 4, 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	<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 ✠



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week for the **Intentions of the Zamierowski – Estabrook Family**

**INTERESTED IN VISITING IRELAND?**

Fr. Paul Montminy and Fr. Ray Labrie are leading a tour to Ireland. Information sessions will take place at Immaculate Conception in Nashua on on **Sunday, May 28 at 2:00 PM.** Please call 603-622-4966 for a brochure or for more information.

**ONE-DAY SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR GRIEVING PARENTS**

Losing a child under any circumstance is horrific. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. **This is a spiritual retreat for parents who have experienced the death of a child of any age, by any cause, and all are welcome.** Join Emmaus Parent Companions and a Franciscan Retreat Team in a warm and loving place: to think, to talk, to feel, and to pray. Find compassion, rest, and peace... at least for a time.

Come to this retreat and give yourself the gift of time to focus on your own individual spiritual journey, to focus on questions, such as... *Where is God in my pain... Where is my child now... How can faith help me through this horrible, new reality of life without my child?* Just as He comforted his grieving disciples on the road to Emmaus, Jesus comforts us and we comfort each other in this very special ministry.

**You are invited Saturday, June 17, 2017 from 9:30 AM-7:30 PM at St. Matthew Parish, Windham, NH.** Space is limited. Pre-registration is required. There is a suggested donation of \$25/Individual or \$40/Couple which includes three meals and all retreat materials, but scholarships are available. For more information, call Peg Donahue-Turner at 603-898-4818 or Genevieve Baudin at 603-490-8049 or visit [www.emfgp.org](http://www.emfgp.org).

**MUSICAL TOUR OF AUSTRIA and CZECH REPUBLIC**

St. Anne's Music Ministry in Hampstead, NH invites you to perform & travel with them next April 2018 as they spend a week visiting Vienna, Salzburg, & Prague. They'll perform in each of the three cities as well as explore the culture and musical heritage of those countries. **They are forming a mixed chorus, so all voice parts are welcome and auditions are not necessary.** Rehearsals will begin this summer. They have a few spots available for non-singers who wish to travel with the group as well. The cost of the trip is \$3,539 per person which includes roundtrip airfare, hotel accommodations, daily breakfasts, 3 dinners, local transportation, sightseeing, and more. For more information contact Michelle at [mmpdom@gmail.com](mailto:mmpdom@gmail.com).

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PLAISTOW COUNCIL  
22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL ST JUDE OPEN- June 3<sup>rd</sup>**



The Knights of Columbus are running their 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual St Jude Open on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 AM at Apple Hill Golf Course in East Kingston. This event raises net proceeds in the range of **\$15,000** every year which is donated to 1-3 families in our parish that are experiencing financial and/or health issues. **WE NEED YOU!**

For \$100/player you get:

- 18 holes golf with cart
- Steak tip lunch
- Gifts/raffles/contests
- Sponsor a hole or have your employer sponsor a hole for \$100
- Come volunteer the day of the tournament

Please be part of a wonderful local community event with the goal of helping others in need. Contact Dan Sullivan at 603-770-4803 or [dans49@comcast.net](mailto:dans49@comcast.net) to register and/or get a brochure to be a sponsor.

**OPEN INVITATION TO JOIN THE  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The St Jude Council invites the men of the parish to join the Knights of Columbus. We are united in our service to our local communities and our Parish of St Luke's. Our activities are varied and we have a great group of Knights and their families who enjoy being part of our Knights' family. We only ask our Brother Knights to do what they can within the comfort of their own schedule. Our activities include support of St. Luke's Food Pantry, St Jude Golf Open to help families in need, Tootsie Roll Drive to help the mentally and physically challenged, Pro-Life events, Financial Support of three Seminarians, Boy Scouting, Blood Drives, Fundraising Meals, Golf League, Family BBQ, Christmas Party, and many more activities. If you would like more information on the Knights, please contact any of the Knights listed below:

- Jeff Lozeau 661-8285
- Dan Sullivan 378-0458
- Peter Richards 382-4315
- Gene Gaudreau 382-4342
- Mike Rosa 458-5520
- Gordie Lewis 382-8424
- Jack Ronan 580-2444
- Don Richardson 362-4520
- Bernie Gosselin 642-401
- Greg Taillon 382-7239
- Ed Wencis 362-5783
- Joe Klimaszewski 362-9962
- Roland Richardson 443-848-3328
- Bob Nadeau 617-335-1257

**END OF BULLETIN**  
**ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE**  
**WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN**

CHURCH NAME: **St. Luke The Evangelist**

CHURCH CITY: **Holy is His Name**

ROUTING CODE: **W**

RUN NUMBER: **15**

FILENAME: **04-0461.01b**

PHONE NUMBER: **603-382-8324**

FAX NUMBER: **603-382-1113**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Jackie Tremblay**

**CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWTD – TEXAS DOUBLE**



*In Loving Memory*

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

**Ann Sullivan**



**VIGIL LIGHT**

The Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother Icon at Mary Mother of the Church will burn in loving memory of

**Joseph D. Gibbs**

by his wife Hellen Gibbs

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Bernie Gosselin 642-401

Greg Taillon 382-7239

Ed Wencis 362-5783

Joe Klimaszewski 362-9962

Roland Richardson 443-848-3328

Bob Nadeau 617-335-1257

**Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish  
Newton-Plaistow, NH  
Annual Parish Yard Sale Fundraiser**

**SAVE  
YOUR  
STUFF!**

**SAVE  
THE  
DATES!**



**Friday, August 18, 2017 – 12 Noon – 7:00 pm**

**Saturday, August 19, 2017 – 8:00 am - Noon**

**St. Luke Parish Center**

**8 Atkinson Depot Rd, Plaistow, NH**

***Please plan to volunteer!  
We need lots of help both days!***

**SPRING CLEANING?**

**Start saving your stuff for the Yard Sale:  
almost anything will be welcome (please, no clothes,  
electronics, books, broken or dirty items)**

**BRING YOUR STUFF & HELP US SORT IT:**

**Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> – 12 Noon – 7:00 pm**

**HELP US COLLECT MONEY & BUY SOME STUFF**

**Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 am - 12 Noon**

**Questions? Call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324**

# **Coming to a Parish Center near you ...**

**St. Luke the Evangelist Parish  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Craft Fair  
Saturday, November 4, 2017**

**Set-up Thursday November 2nd  
& Friday November 3rd**

**Save the dates & start saving your donations.**

As you spring & summer clean, please save:

New or antique items & collectibles for the  
Silent Auction...

New/as-new items for the Penny Sale...

Please start making Home-made jams, jellies,  
pickles, as well as knitted & crocheted items, for the  
Country Store...

We'll start collecting things at the church in October.

**Please lend a hand to plan & run the Fair...  
contact Craft Fair at [stlukenhfair@gmail.com](mailto:stlukenhfair@gmail.com)  
with "Fair Help" in the subject line.**

*Thank you!*



# SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



## Prayer of Confidence

Ever-living and ever-loving God,  
you sent your Son to be with us forever.  
In our lives we look for your guidance  
and your protection,  
and we gather in prayer asking for your  
blessings to continue.  
May we find you in one another  
as we pray together in your name.  
May we be filled with your Spirit

as we open our hearts to be filled with  
your grace;  
and may we accept your loving kindness  
in the assembly of the faithful,  
even as we are uncertain of where  
you lead us.  
We ask this, in confidence, through your Son,  
our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

May 28, 2017  
Christian Living



*Today's Readings: Acts 1:12–14; Psalm 27:1, 4, 7–8; 1 Peter 4:13–16; John 17:1–11a.* Peter tells us in the Second Reading that we must not be ashamed if we suffer in the name of Christ. At Baptism we become Christians, and then carry Christ's name as our identity. In the Gospel, Jesus includes us as among those to whom he revealed God's name and are his own. Together, we share an identity, a calling, a sacramental nature. We Christians must not be ashamed of that identity. In our world today, however, we are often challenged because we are Christian. When that happens, then we turn (return) to Christ's words, teachings, and example to know what we are to do. Jesus' prayer in today's Gospel repeatedly turns all back to the Father in glory. He glorified the Father as he taught us. His care for us was to return us to

the Father as faithful people of God.

Even as we live as Christians, we need to examine what it means to live fully our baptismal identity. When we do so, we become more confident in our being identified with Christ. As we near the end of the Easter season, take another look at the profession of faith we proclaim together every Sunday. Discuss the Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed in your homes or small discussion groups. How does each section of the Creed profess who you are and what you believe? To go more deeply into this identity, ask how that section of the Creed is practiced in your life, or how you witness its being practiced in the world. As Christians, we together respond: I do believe.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

**Monday, May 29**

### The Holy Spirit

In the First Reading, Paul is confronted with the statement that some disciples have never even heard of the Holy Spirit. As odd as that may sound, we often do not understand or teach about the Holy Spirit, whose power and presence were promised to us by Jesus. The unifying power of the Holy Spirit is singular. The next time you participate in the Eucharist, notice the references to the Holy Spirit, who makes all one. *Today's Readings: Acts 19:1–8; Psalm 68:2–3ab, 4–5acd, 6–7ab; John 16:29–33.*

**Tuesday, May 30**

### The Hour Has Come

Both Paul, in the First Reading, and Jesus, in the Gospel, are beginning to say goodbye. How do we prepare to say goodbye to family and friends? The struggle is one of loss and deep love. Knowing that someone will be enjoying the Kingdom of God is at odds with knowing that we can no longer share with them the Kingdom insights here. *Today's Readings: Acts 20:17–27; Psalm 68:10–11, 20–21; John 17:1–11a.*

**Wednesday, May 31**

### Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The beautiful feast of two pregnant cousins visiting one another is a celebration of family support through prayer and particular insight. Elizabeth, much older, and Mary, much younger, find in one another a way to express the holiness of each other's pregnancy, and to accept whatever God has in mind for them and their offspring. We might want to think of how we can be supportive to soon-to-be mothers. *Today's Readings: Zephaniah 3:14–18a; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6; Luke 1:39–56.*

**Thursday, June 1**

### Truth and Belief

How do we know what the truth is? Today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles begins with a dispute over St. Paul and the truth that he presented. How do we determine the truth—or truths—of our faith? The first response should be one of prayer, with Jesus' actions as a model for a prayerful life. Not only does Jesus give us an example of always relying on prayer to mark his life, his final prayers are an appeal to unity among believers. To determine the truth, we must be united in our belief and trust in God. *Today's Readings: Acts 22:30; 23:6–11; Psalm 16:1–2a, 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; John 17:20–26.*

**Friday, June 2**

### Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

Marcellinus and Peter, two martyrs of the persecutions of the early fourth century, were so respected that they continue to be mentioned in the Eucharistic Prayer I. Marcellinus was a priest, and Peter an exorcist. Their martyrdom in the year 304 under the Emperor Diocletian prompted a profound reaction, and their burial sites were eventually the foundation for basilicas built in their names, a testament to so many other martyrs of the early Church. *Today's Readings: Acts 25:13b–21; Psalm 103:1–2, 11–12, 19–20ab; John 17:21:15–19.*

**Saturday, June 3**

### St. Charles Lwanga and Companions

Charles Lwanga and twenty-one other Ugandan Christians were martyred between 1885 and 1887 by the brutal dictator Mwanga. Some of the martyrs had been baptized, but many were still catechumens. All were marched to their death, tortured along the way, and forced to witness each other's brutal deaths. Their witness is a reminder that, in every age, people struggle to keep the faith alive. *Today's Readings: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20–25.*





# Bringing Home the Word

Seventh Sunday of Easter / Ascension of the Lord  
May 28, 2017

## Empty, Holy Shoes

By Mary Katharine Deeley

**M**y favorite banner for the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord shows a pair of running shoes, laces askew, empty of the feet that had worn them, as though their owner had suddenly realized he had somewhere else to be.

I don't think Jesus' ascension happened exactly that way, but there was something poignant about the empty shoes. They reminded me of makeshift memorials for those who die suddenly or tragically in public areas. Think of the gathering of

items that adorned the rubble of the twin towers after 9/11 or the flowers, medals, and other items that are left in front of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The disciples might have been tempted to leave such items in the place where Jesus left them. They stared into the sky until someone told them Jesus would come back. Then they returned to Jerusalem.

We leave memorials because we don't know what else to do. It's a way of doing *something* in the face of tragic and senseless death. By contrast, the disciples and all who follow Christ were given very clear instructions: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit."

The memorial to the death and resurrection of Christ is not a pair of shoes—it is our action. It is the preaching of the good news by word and deed. It is witnessing to faith in someone who lives, not in someone who has died.

The tennis shoes on that banner were not mourning one who left. They were waiting for someone to put them on and keep going. †

*Now, make disciples.*

## A Word From Pope Francis

The creed...contains a christological confession: it takes us through all the mysteries of Christ's life up to his death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven before his final return in glory. It tells us that this God of communion...is capable of embracing all of human history and drawing it into the dynamic unity of the Godhead...The believer who professes his or her faith is taken up...into the truth being professed. He or she cannot truthfully recite the words of the creed without being changed...making it part of a great fellowship...the Church.

—Lumen Fidei  
(The Light of Faith),  
June 29, 2013



## Sunday Readings

### Acts 1:1–11

"It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority."

### Ephesians 1:17–23

"May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call."

### Matthew 28:16–20

"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Where in life do you need to put on Christ and keep going?
- When you think of Christ's ascension, what images come to mind?



# Matthew's New Moses

By Virginia Smith

**A** likely locale for Matthew's Gospel is Antioch, Syria, around AD 80.

Using the audience's Hebrew background, Matthew explains Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah.

Jesus emerges as the new Moses. With Jesus' birth, Matthew draws parallels between the Messiah and Moses. Only Matthew tells how Herod's jealousy forced Joseph and his family into Egyptian exile. Just as Pharaoh feared the Hebrews in Moses' time, so Herod feared Jesus and his family. Herod's phobia led to the slaughter of innocent young boys

(Matthew 2:16–18), just as male Hebrew infants were doomed under Pharaoh (Exodus 1:15–22).

Matthew's comparisons to Moses continue in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, his most famous discourse. Placing the stamp of divinity on Jesus, Matthew situates him above Moses, having Jesus quote from the Law Moses brought from the mountain and expand on its meaning by his own authority from a mountain site of his own.

Matthew's is a thoughtful Gospel, spotlighting a reflective Jesus. Organized into components, Matthew's Gospel is referred to as a catechism. The Church has frequently used it in its teaching ministry.

Here we meet Jesus the teacher, the rabbi.

In five principal areas, Matthew assembles much of what Jesus said on given topics and makes single discourses of each one. Each is preceded by a narrative section that focuses on the same theme and is concluded by some variation on the phrase, "When Jesus finished these words" (Matthew 7:28, 11:1, 13:53, 19:1). The fifth and final discourse ends slightly differently: "When Jesus finished all these words" (Matthew 26:1).

In this Gospel, Jesus is frequently addressed as "Teacher," even by his opponents. Jesus instructs the entire community as Moses did before him, but he doesn't go to the mountain to receive authority; he preaches from the mountain by his own authority. †

Source: *Catholic Update*, © May 2013, Liguori Publications

## Jesus Will Come "When the Time Is Fulfilled"

By Leonard Foley, OFM

**O**ur salvation story is not completed at the ascension or on Pentecost. "When the time is fulfilled," Jesus will come again. The Bible often portrays the Day of the Lord as a day of wrath, when God will finally vindicate his people and when those who have dominated and killed and stolen and hated will suffer the eternal permanence of their choice. When Jesus comes again, this work will finally be finished.


It is human to ask, "Well, what will happen to *me*?" The best answer is simply to say that I will be eternally amazed at

the wonder of God's plan: how, in order to have creatures united to him in real friendship he let human freedom make its own choices, for good or ill; how, without forcing anyone, he gave everyone enough reason to trust him, often in the dark; how Jesus was the amazing presence of God, sharing every human thing except sin; how, through seeming weakness, God "lost" on the cross; how, by lifting up the human Jesus who had made the perfect human act of love in giving his own blood—life—God lifted up all who would choose to be joined to Jesus.

This is perhaps not very satisfying to a me-oriented culture such as we live in. Heaven will not be boring, as a sensation-stimulated society imagines it. But the focus will not be on me. And the more I can enter into a God-oriented, Jesus-

oriented frame of mind right now, the better I will be able to prepare—or rather, be prepared by God—for a God-centered eternity. †

Source: *Catholic Update*, © September 1985, Liguori Publications



○ God, whose Son ascended today to heaven, as the apostles looked on, grant that we may work to make his kingdom come on earth, so that we can enjoy his kingdom in heaven for all eternity. Amen.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

## WEEKDAY READINGS

May 29—June 3

Mon. Easter Weekday:  
Acts 19:1–8 / Jn 16:29–33

Tue. Easter Weekday:  
Acts 20:17–27 / Jn 17:1–11a

Wed. Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Zep 3:13–18a or Rom 12:9–16 / Lk 1:39–56

Thu. St. Justin:  
Acts 22:30; 23:6–11 / Jn 17:20–26

Fri. Easter Weekday:  
Acts 25:13b–21 / Jn 21:15–19

Sat. St. Charles Lwanga and Companions:  
Acts 28:16–20, 30–31 / Jn 21:20–25