



**MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY**

**Sunday, June 11, 2017  
Most Holy Trinity Sunday**

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

Gathering: God, We Praise You BB 202

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 34)

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord,  
O taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Preparation Ubi Caritas BB 478

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Eat This Bread BB 336  
One Love Released BB 355

Recessional: Holy, Holy, Holy BB 204

**9:00 AM**

Gathering: Holy, Holy, Holy BB 204

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 103)

*The Lord is kind and merciful;  
the Lord is kind and merciful.*

Preparation We Are Many Parts BB 580

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Behold The Lamb BB 338

Recessional: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name BB 190

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**

St. Luke the Evangelist now has its own Facebook Page. If you are on Facebook, please stop by **St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaiستow** or [www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/](http://www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/) and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners and friends to do the same.

**✠ PARISH TITHING ✠**

**Our Parish needs to take in \$7,000.00 each week in order to make ends meet. 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!

|                                |                            |                   |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
|                                | <u><b>May 21, 2017</b></u> |                   |
| <b>Offertory</b>               |                            | <b>\$6,637.24</b> |
| <b>Fuel</b>                    |                            | <b>\$2,086.92</b> |
|                                | <u><b>May 25, 2017</b></u> |                   |
| <b>Ascension</b>               |                            | <b>\$940.00</b>   |
|                                | <u><b>May 28, 2017</b></u> |                   |
| <b>Offertory</b>               |                            | <b>\$6,624.24</b> |
| <b>Catholic Communications</b> |                            | <b>\$1,328.85</b> |
|                                | <u><b>June 4, 2017</b></u> |                   |
| <b>Offertory</b>               |                            | <b>\$7,147.35</b> |
| <b>Property Management</b>     |                            | <b>\$2,068.27</b> |

**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**

|               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| June 18, 2017 | Fuel                     |
| June 25, 2017 | Works of the Holy Father |

**Suggested Weekly Contribution  
Based on Income**

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

**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.



**BLESSING OF FATHERS**

There will be a special blessing of fathers at all Masses on **Father's Day Weekend, June 17 & 18, 2015**



**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!

**BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

We will host the annual "Baby Bottle Campaign" **beginning the weekend of June 17 & 18** for the Pregnancy care Center. The Pregnancy Care Center is a Christ-centered ministry offering life-affirming services designed to empower women and men to make informed decisions about unexpected pregnancy, abstinence education, and recover from post-abortion trauma. These services are free and confidential. Please pick up a bottle and fill it with coins, bills or checks (made payable to PPC). **Return them by the weekend of July 8 & 9.**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

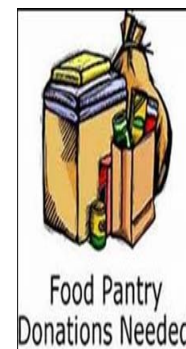
The Parish Office will be closed on **Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**. The Office will reopen at 8:30 AM on Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**AMAZON SMILE DONATION**

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish has been issued a **\$22.17 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile activity between January 1 & March 31. Thank you for your participation in the program!** 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.amazonsmile.com](http://www.amazonsmile.com). For questions, please call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. Be sure to choose: **St Luke the Evangelist Parish. Plaistow.**

**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 / SUMMER...**

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

## MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

|                             |                              |                 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Tuesday, June 13</b>     |                              |                 |
| <b>6:30 PM</b>              | VBS Planning Meeting         | <i>Plaistow</i> |
| <b>Monday, June 14</b>      |                              |                 |
| <b>PARISH OFFICE CLOSED</b> |                              |                 |
| <b>9:30 AM</b>              | Eucharistic Adoration Begins | <i>Plaistow</i> |
| <b>6:30 PM</b>              | Eucharistic Adoration Ends   | <i>Plaistow</i> |
| <b>Thursday, June 15</b>    |                              |                 |
| <b>8:30 AM</b>              | Eucharistic Adoration Begins | <i>Newton</i>   |
| <b>8:30 PM</b>              | Eucharistic Adoration Ends   | <i>Newton</i>   |
| <b>Saturday, June 17</b>    |                              |                 |
| <b>3:00 PM</b>              | Sacrament of Reconciliation  | <i>Plaistow</i> |

### PRAYER LINE

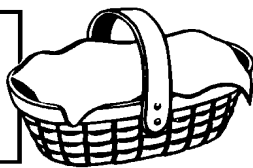
St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at [csmith@stluketheevangelist.net](mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net).



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

**ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE! <http://stlukeh.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, June 10 ~ Vigil / The Most Holy Trinity Sunday** *Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Jn 3:16-18*

**4:00 PM** Mark A. Giarrusso by Chief Philip V. Consentino  
*Plaistow*

#### **Sunday, June 11~ The Most Holy Trinity Sunday** *Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Jn 3:16-18*

**7:30 AM** Intentions of Barbara & Bill Lawrence  
(50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)  
by Frances & Don Harper  
*Newton*

**9:00 AM** Lisa Mary Sliviak by Peter Sullivan  
*Newton*

**11:00 AM** Sarah Delle Chiaie by her family  
*Plaistow*

#### **Monday, June 12 ~ Weekday**

*2 Cor 1:1-7; Mt 5:1-12*

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

#### **Tuesday, June 13 ~ Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

*2 Cor 1:18-22; Mt 5:13-16*

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

#### **Wednesday, June 14 ~ Weekday**

*2 Cor 3:4-11; Mt 5:17-19*

**6:30 PM** Michael Serratore by his family  
*Plaistow*

#### **Thursday, June 15 ~ Weekday**

*2 Cor 3:15—4:1, 3-6; Mt 5:20-26*

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

#### **Friday, June 16 ~ Weekday**

*2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 5:27-32*

*No Mass*

#### **Saturday, June 17 ~ Weekday**

*2 Cor 5:14-21; Mt 5:33-37 (Day)*

*Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; 1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58 (Vigil)*

**4:00 PM** Raymond F. Lovely Jr.  
by Chief Philip V. Consentino  
*Plaistow*

#### **Sunday, June 18~ Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

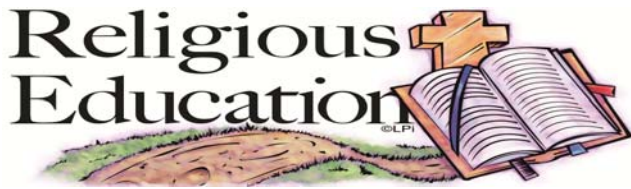
*Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; 1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58*

**7:30 AM** Paul Comeau by Henry & Raylene Comeau  
*Newton*

**9:00 AM** Kevin Thompson by his family  
*Newton*

**11:00 AM** Intentions of Mary Coltin and  
Paul & Lucia O'Leary  
by Mark & Colleen Hammond  
*Plaistow*

✧ 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, July 9, 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>         |
| Parish Council      | <a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a> |

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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Did you know that dates for Mass Intentions are available for 2017? If you would like to request a Mass for a deceased loved one or friend, or in thanksgiving for a significant life event, please contact the Parish Office. The suggested donation is \$10.00.

**MUSICAL TOUR OF AUSTRIA and CZECH REPUBLIC**

St. Anne's Music Ministry in Hampstead, NH is forming a mixed chorus – all voice parts are welcome and auditions are not necessary. This chorus will be travelling next April 2018 to Vienna, Salzburg, & Prague. They will perform in each of the three cities as well as explore the culture and musical heritage of those countries. 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, three (3) dinners, local transportation, sightseeing, and more. Contact Michelle at [mmpdom@gmail.com](mailto:mmpdom@gmail.com) for more information.

**CREMATION & THE CHURCH**

On October 25, 2016, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith published a new instruction on the burial of the dead and on the conservation of the ashes in cases of cremation. The instruction reiterated the long held view that the Church is not opposed to the practice of cremation, though it continues to recommend that the bodies of the deceased be buried in cemeteries or other sacred places. **However the new document insists that ashes should not be kept in private homes, and that the scattering of ashes in the air, on land or at sea is not permitted.** The instruction also insisted that remains may not be divided among various family members, nor may they be preserved in mementos, pieces of jewelry or other objects. Please contact Father Albert in the Parish Office with any questions. Brochures about the Rite of Christian Funerals are available at the Church entrances.

**SANCTUARY CANDLES**

The Sanctuary Candles in both Newton and Plaistow may be offered in memory or honor of a loved one.

**VIGIL LIGHT**

The Vigil Light in front of the Blessed Mother Icon in Newton may be also be offered in memory or honor of a loved one. The suggested offering for each is \$10.00. Please call the Parish Office at 382-8324.



**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES**

**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).

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

Catholic Charities New Hampshire and St. Anne's Parish, Hampstead offer a bereavement program for those who have lost a loved one. The group meets at St. Anne's Church in Hampstead, NH on **Thursdays from 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM on the following dates: June 15, June 29.** Registration is necessary. Contact Judy Nelson, Catholic Charities at 603-893-1971 or text at 978-427-3147 for more information.

**THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS**

The Compassionate Friends of Greater Newburyport provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling – and age, any cause. Our monthly support meetings are held on **the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month from 7:30 PM –9:00 PM** in the Immaculate Conception Parish Conference Room 209, Newburyport, MA. **The next meeting is June 26.** Contact Barbara Hopkinson, founder & chapter leader at 617-410-6309 or [info@abutterflysjourney.org](mailto:info@abutterflysjourney.org).

**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!*



# Bringing Home the Word

The Most Holy Trinity | June 11, 2017

## God Simply Is

By Mary Katharine Deeley

When I was a child, the mystery of a God who is three in one was explained by that commonly used (if somewhat inaccurate) symbol, a three-leaf clover. Since then, many people have attempted to put the reality of Trinity into words that try to explain: Lover, Beloved, Love Outpoured or Source, Wellspring, and Fountain, as well as the more common expression of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## Sunday Readings

### Exodus 34:4b–6, 8–9

“The LORD, the LORD, a God gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in love and fidelity, continuing his love for a thousand generations....”

### 2 Corinthians 13:11–13

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the holy Spirit be with all of you.”

### John 3:16–18

“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.”

Still another approach is to stand in front of a mirror and see yourself as someone’s child, someone’s parent, and someone’s spouse all at the same time—and yet see one person standing there.

These examples begin to tell us something of the Trinitarian mystery, but they cannot contain the whole of it. God simply is, and the closest we can come to God’s essence is to talk about God’s relationship in and of God’s self.

But words have their limits. Is there something in our own experience where God reveals a little of this mystery? Why is it that we reach out for others, yearn for love, or seek God in prayer?

Genesis tells us we’re created in God’s image. If God is relational; then we must be as well. We are created to be in relationship, to know ourselves as connected. The New Testament is filled with that language: Jesus is our brother; we are adopted children of God. We are to love one another as God loves us. We are to become one in God.

In the experience of love and connectedness and in the experience of being part of God’s family, we will come to know the mystery of God a little more clearly.

***“Finally, brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.”***

***2 Corinthians 13:11***

## A Word From Pope Francis

The Father creates...the world; Jesus saves us; and the Holy Spirit? He loves us! And this is Christian life: talking to the Father, talking to the Son, and talking to the Holy Spirit....Let us...ask Our Lady...to teach us to understand properly what God is like: what the Father is like, what the Son is like, and was the Holy Spirit is like.

—Homily, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity  
May 26, 2013



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Which person of the Trinity do I most easily relate to—the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit?
- Which person do I want to have a better relationship with?





# Called to the Banquet

By Richard Rohr, OFM

**G**od does not love us because we deserve it. God loves us because we need it.

Does that sound startling? It shouldn't. If there is one prime idea in the Bible, it is God's undeserved lot for what God has created.

There is no accounting for God's love. God's love is not earned. There is nothing we can do to attain it or even to lose it. All we can do is surrender to it, trust it and let it flow through us.

The significant difference in this world

is not between those who are worthy of God's love and those who are unworthy. (In truth, we are all various degrees of unworthy.) The significant difference is between those who know and enjoy God's love and those who do not know and do not enjoy it. God does not love us because we are good. We are good because God loves us. That is a major transformation of consciousness! It moves us from life as an obstacle course to be endured to life as a banquet to be eaten and shared.

Throughout the Gospels we see

Jesus constantly invoking this banquet symbolism. He eats with sinners, invites the outcasts to share a meal with him, does not wash his hands or his food, allows a woman at a male symposium meal, apparently gives "communion" to Judas on the night of his betrayal. He is always expanding the meaning of the table, even breaking clear social conventions, to communicate the hospitality and inclusivity of God.

If we are grateful for and deeply confident in God's grace, we will spend our lives trying to give back to others what has been so graciously given to us.

Source: *Everyday Catholic*, © July 2001, Liguori Publications

# St. Anthony, Wonder Worker

By Judy Ball

**W**ho of us hasn't turned to St. Anthony of Padua (1195–1231) in a moment of panic when we've been desperate to find a job, have misplaced a precious memento or feared our credit card has been stolen?

We could just as well turn to this beloved saint for any number of reasons. Anthony is also revered as a devoted friend of the poor. He is known as the Wonder Worker because of the many miracles that have occurred at his tomb. He is the patron of travelers, of lovers, and of marriage. He is called upon as a helper at the time of birth and in instances of infertility.

Born into a prominent family in Lisbon, Anthony heard the call to religious life early. He spent some years with the Augustinians, but over time he developed a desire to become a missionary and preach the gospel in Morocco.

He received permission to join the Franciscans and, soon after, set sail. Ill health forced him to turn back, but the ship was blown off course. It landed in Sicily, where the friars nursed him back to health and he immersed himself in Franciscan life. Saint Francis of Assisi entrusted Anthony, a Scripture scholar, with the task of teaching theology to young friars.

He gained fame as a preacher in Padua and far beyond. Thousands would gather to hear him speak in public plazas and open fields. Anthony was especially drawn to preaching the gospel among

heretics. His eloquence turned heads; his authenticity touched hearts.

Whenever possible, Anthony found refuge in prayer and solitude. Toward the end of his life, a tree hut was fashioned for him near Padua. He died at 36, exhausted from his laborious preaching. His feast day is June 13.

Source: *Everyday Catholic*, © June 2003, Liguori Publications



Lord, you live in communion with God and the Holy Spirit. Help me to live in communion and peace with all people.

From *Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter Through Pentecost*  
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

June 12–17

Mon. Weekday:  
2 Cor 1:1–7 / Mt 5:1–12  
Tue. St. Anthony of Padua:  
2 Cor 1:18–22 / Mt 5:13–16  
Wed. Weekday:  
2 Cor 3:4–11 / Mt 5:17–19

Thu. Weekday:  
2 Cor 3:15–4:1, 3–6 / Mt 5:20–26  
Fri. Weekday:  
2 Cor 4:7–15 / Mt 5:27–32  
Sat. Weekday:  
2 Cor 5:14–21 / Mt 5:33–37