

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, June 18, 2017
The Most Holy Body
And Blood Of Christ

4:00 PM
7:30 AM
9:00 AM
11:00 AM

Gathering: O God, Almighty Father BB 707

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 34)

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

Preparation Song Of The Body Of Christ BB 332

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Take And Eat BB 361
Our Blessing Cup BB 363

Recessional: Let All Things Now Living BB 586

✠ 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!

Offertory June 11, 2017 \$7,296.24

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Next week our second collection will be for the Works of the Holy Father (Peter's Pence), which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

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 Holy Father
(Peter's Pence)

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/Plaistow** or www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org and give us a Like! Please invite fellow parishioners and friends to do the same.



Find us on:
facebook.

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 ✠

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

12:00 NOON on Tuesday, June 27 is the deadline for announcements to be included in the **July 9, 2017** bulletin.



BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

The annual "Baby Bottle Campaign" for the Pregnancy care Center **begins this weekend!** 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.**



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 for more information or answers to questions regarding expectations. Thank you!



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.

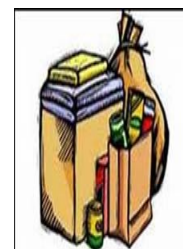
AMAZON SMILE DONATION

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. 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
Donations Needed

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 SUMMER...

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

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Tuesday, June 20
6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting *Plaistow*

Wednesday, June 21
9:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration Begins *Plaistow*
6:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Ends *Plaistow*
7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Society Mtg *Plaistow*

Thursday, June 22
8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration Begins *Newton*
8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Ends *Newton*
7:00 PM Christmas Craft Fair Meeting *Plaistow*

Saturday, June 24
3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *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.



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

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, June 17 ~ Vigil / Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

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

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

Monday, June 19 ~ Romuald, Abbott

2 Cor 6:1-10; Mt 5:38-42

8:00 AM For Michael and his recovery
Newton

Tuesday, June 20 ~ Weekday

2 Cor 8:1-9; Mt 5:43-48

8:00 AM Jesselyn Driscoll by Gayle & Ed Wencis
Plaistow

Wednesday, June 21 ~ Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious

2 Cor 9:6-11; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

6:30 PM Dena Carbone (1st Anniversary)
by Verna Carbone
Plaistow

Thursday, June 22 ~ Paulinus of Nola, Bishop and

John Fisher, Bishop and
Thomas More, Martyrs

2 Cor 11:1-11; Mt 6:7-15

8:00 AM Intentions of Alyssa Belanger
by Sr. Marylyn Pelletier
Newton

Friday, June 23 ~ The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Dt 7:6-11; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30

No Mass

Saturday, June 24 ~ The Nativity of John the Baptist

*Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80 (Day)
Jer 20:10-13; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Martin & Florence Fogel
by Elaine & Frank Kelcourse
Plaistow

Sunday, June 25~ Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

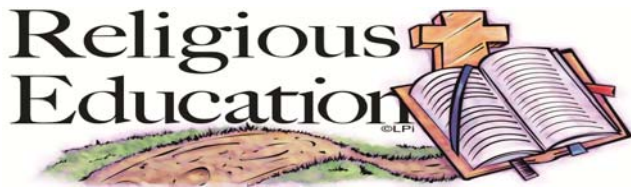
Jer 20:10-13; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

7:30 AM Rosemarie Ferrandi by Joyce & Alex Szczapa
Newton

9:00 AM Betty Nappi (Birthday Remembrance)
by the Stanley family
Newton

11:00 AM Edwin Sadowski
by the 8th Grade Religious Education Class
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.

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.

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.

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	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
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

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

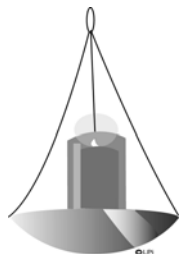


The Altar Flowers at Holy Angels Church
last weekend were donated
in loving memory of
John Meli
by his wife and family



VIGIL LIGHT

The Vigil Light in front of the
Blessed Mother Icon
at Mary Mother of the Church
will burn in loving memory of
Kevin Thompson
by his family



The Sanctuary Candle in
Holy Angels Church
will burn this week
in loving memory of
Dena Carbone
by Verna Carbone



Christmas Craft Fair
Your Input
Is Welcome!

The next Christmas Craft Fair planning meeting is on
Thursday, June 22 at 7:00 PM in St. Luke's Parish
Hall in Plaistow. All aspects of the Fair will be
discussed. Please join the discussion! Your ideas
and input are welcome to help us have the best
Christmas Craft Fair yet for the parish. Questions?
Contact Elaine Kindler at stlukenhfair@gmail.com.
We look forward to seeing you.

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 cremains 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.

SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

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 **Thursday, June 29 from 1:30 PM – 3:00.** 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 4th 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.

OUR COMMUNION: OUR PEACE AND OUR PROMISE



In our life together as Catholic Christians, we rejoice in the great gift of the Holy Eucharist. We believe as a Church that Jesus is always present in our world, but Christ is especially present when we gather for worship. The primary day for gathering is Sunday, when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. When we come together for Sunday Liturgy, we believe as Catholics that Jesus is “truly present” in the Word, in the Sacrament, in the gathered Assembly and in the person of the priest.

Jesus tells us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. We must avoid an overly literalistic understanding of these words. We do not literally eat flesh or drink blood. Jesus’ command to eat his body and drink his blood can only make sense if we understand the words body and blood as designating the whole person, the real glorified Christ as he exists today in our midst.

How do we approach this great moment? It should be with reverence and with the knowledge that the Lord calls each of us - and all of us as a community - to enter into the mystery of the Lord’s dying and rising. A few things are important about our reception of communion:

The Church calls us to fast from all food and drink at least one hour before receiving. This is more of a spiritual exercise than an ascetical practice. When fasting, our minds, bodies and spirits are better prepared to receive the gifts God gives us.

We all “receive” communion from the hands of another.

“Taking” communion is not part of the Catholic perspective on the sacrament of the Eucharist. Jesus feeds us... we are needy and unworthy. That feeding comes through the ministry of another of our brothers or sisters. The Bishops of the United States have authorized two methods of receiving communion under the form of the host: on the tongue, or in the hand. One should determine one’s preference, and after a bow of the head in reverence to the sacred Host, respond “*Amen*,” open the mouth or have a “throne” made with one’s two hands open to receive the Body of the Lord. *The host is then immediately consumed.*

We believe as a Church that Jesus is always present in our world, but he is especially present when we gather for worship.

How do we approach this great moment?

In the Diocese of Manchester, our Bishop has made it clear that a sign of adoration before receiving the Eucharist is a wonderful way of showing reverence and awe before the Holy Gifts God gives to us. ***A simple bow of the head is indicated in the 2001 General Instruction of the Roman Missal.*** One then receives the Eucharist standing, joined in procession with the whole Assembly gathered - in communion with the Church. Any gestures or actions which detract from this communion are distracting and a serious sign of dis-union with the Assembly gathered and praying together.

Continued on next page...

The assembly is encouraged by the Church to receive from the cup, after having the cup withdrawn for centuries. This in no way detracts from the belief that the “whole Christ, body, blood, soul and divinity” is present in either element of the Eucharist. The Church’s return to a common cup follows the very words of Jesus, “take and eat... take and drink...” and the instructions and admonitions of the great Christian teachers such as Paul of Tarsus and Augustine of Hippo. ***Receiving from the cup means first bowing one’s head in a gesture of adoration, responding “Amen” to the minister, and then drinking from the cup.***

There is no scientific evidence at all of any person “catching something” from this act. In fact, you are more likely to catch cold from sitting next to a family member at home than from sharing in the cup at communion time. ***Receiving under both forms is a fuller and better sign of our participation in the Eucharistic action. Eating and drinking fulfills in the best way possible the commands of the Lord Jesus.***



Receiving from the cup means just that. Self-intinction (dipping the host into the cup yourself) is not part of our observance and breaks the communal sharing of the Eucharist in a serious way. While intinction is used in some places, it is not a preferred way of receiving communion according to our U.S. Bishops, and **NEVER** in the Catholic Church is a communicant allowed to complete this action on his or her own. ***We receive communion as a holy gift from God.*** Our conduct in receiving should show how important we believe that gift to be.

Children who are not of the age to receive (7 by law in the Church) should not receive communion. This means that parents have to keep an eye on little ones - while still respecting their desire to “join the procession.” **DO bring up children in the communion procession**, and have them cross their arms over their chest, and the priest or minister of communion will simply bless them. ***Parents should never “share” communion they have received with their young children.*** While on the surface a pious act, it breaks up the unity supposed by the sharing of the Eucharist. When they have reached the proper age and are prepared, children are admitted to communion for the first time. That day is a highlight in the lives of many a Catholic boy and girl, as well it should be.

To eat Jesus’ body and drink His blood is to enter into a true encounter with the person of Jesus. This is the full meaning of the Eucharist. It is a dynamic meeting with the Risen One. But it is not a solitary experience. We do not come to the Eucharist simply as isolated individuals, but rather as persons who are members of a community, as persons who are the Body of Christ. The Eucharist is not just Jesus with me, but Jesus with us, and all of us with one another. And we are not together hiding from the world: We are Christ’s body in the world God created, every day, every hour of our lives.

In a word, Jesus’ presence is not static: He is not satisfied just to be there. He is there to act dynamically in order to change our lives. In the Eucharist we meet Christ, and are challenged by his presence in the assembly of his people. He is present to make us whole people. He is there to bring harmony and peace into our lives, our families, our country, and our world. He comes to make us experience ourselves as his body in the world.

We receive communion as a holy gift from God....

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

“Philippians: Life in Christ”

Based on the DVD Series created by *The Augustine Institute*

Join us for six weeks as we journey with Dr. Tim Gray in the **Lectio** series on “*Philippians: Life in Christ.*”

The Augustine Institute states: “In this session, Dr. Tim Gray combines insight and practical guidance using the *lectio divina* disciplines to make the scriptures come alive in “*Philippians: Life in Christ.*”

If you are interested in joining a group either on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning July 5, or Thursday afternoons at 1:30 p.m., beginning July 6, in the Church Hall, please cut the form off at the bottom and complete. Completed forms should be returned either in the collection basket or at the parish office no later than Monday, July 3. Any questions, contact Cathy Smith at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net or at 382-8324.

Both groups will meet in the Church Hall

A reminder will be in the bulletin the weekend before we begin.

“PHILIPPIANS: Life in Christ”

Name _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Cell Phone _____

Wed., July 5 – August 9, at 7 p.m. ____

Thurs., July 6 – August 10, at 1:30 p.m. ____

✠ AROUND THE DIOCESE ✠



MARRIAGE IN THE CHURCH Did you know that **ALL Catholics** are required to be married in the Church as a condition of the validity of their marriage?

Any Catholic married in a civil ceremony (JP) or in any religious ceremony other than a Catholic one (unless specifically excepted by the Bishop) is not living out the Sacrament of Marriage in its fullness according to the teaching of the Church. Contact Father Albert at the parish office for more information.



STAY INFORMED WITH FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP NEWS

The Diocese of Manchester wants to inform Catholics about important public policy matters facing our elected officials. Faithful Citizenship News provides briefs on legislation as well as information about Catholic social teaching on some of today's pressing issues. To read the current issue of Faithful Citizenship News and to subscribe, visit www.catholicnh.org/fcnews.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELING

New Hampshire Catholic Charities provides individual, marital, family, and couples' counseling, helping people with a variety of personal difficulties, including: Depression, Stress, Family Conflicts, Relationship Problems, Anxiety, Substance Abuse, Life Adjustment Issues, Grief and Loss. Counseling also helps individuals and families strengthen communication skills in order to build and sustain healthy relationships and live more satisfying lives. A sliding scale fee is offered. Contact Arlene Dody, LCMHC in Salem at 603-893-1971 for more information.

HOW TO MAKE A REPORT OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Child sexual abuse is a crime in the State of New Hampshire and the Church. New Hampshire law requires that anyone who has reason to suspect that a child is being or has been abused or neglected must make a report to the Division for Children, Youth & Families ("DCYF") of the State of New Hampshire, 1-800-894-5533. Any person who suspects or alleges child abuse on the part of a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of a parish, school, or institution of the diocese of Manchester is also encouraged to make a report to the Office for Ministerial Conduct, 603-669-3100. Church personnel – clergy, paid employees, and volunteers – have additional reporting requirements if they believe that Church personnel have sexually abused a child. You can learn more about these reporting requirements on the diocesan website at www.catholicnh.org or by speaking with our Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, Cathy Smith at 382-8324.

The Pregnancy Care Center

The Pregnancy Care Center is a non-profit organization that offers its confidential services at no cost to its clients. We are committed to promoting the culture of life by assisting expectant parents in the birth and subsequent development of their child during his or her first year of life. We are also committed to helping young people embrace the virtues of chastity and continence as a sign of their Christian dignity.

Main Center

496 Main St., Haverhill, MA (978-373-5700)

www.pccnortheast.org

Helpline: 866-254-4440



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? Get away from all those worldly anxieties and take time to just focus on each other by making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance, and renew your sacrament by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend in New England. For more information, call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-9963 or visit www.wwme.org.

NH COUPLE ENRICHMENT CIRCLE

Have you attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend? If your answer is yes, you are invited to participate in the NH Couple Enrichment Circle to continue to strengthen your marriage relationship. For more information, contact David and Karen Demers at 617-480-9989 or ddemers@aviconpartners.com.

RETRouvaille...A Lifeline

Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille weekend. If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, we believe Retrouvaille can help you. For more information, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.



SUPPORT FOR DIVORCED AND SEPARATED

Divorce and separation can be painful experiences. Support groups are available to those who are seeking healing, comfort, and empowerment. Visit www.catholicnh.org/support for a listing of groups.





Bringing Home the Word

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
June 18, 2017

The Life-Giving Power of Blood

Diane M. Houdek

From humanity's earliest days, people have been awed by the connection between blood and life. A serious injury to a blood vessel would have made it clear that when the blood drained from the body, life was extinguished. We know so much more about blood now. We have lost some of the sense of the mystery involved. But no matter how much our knowledge increases, blood still plays as central a role in the life of the body.

For the ancient Jews, blood was considered the source of life and an essential part of temple sacrifices. Even today,

part of the Jewish community's kosher butchering process involves careful and ritual draining of an animal's blood.

But we don't often think of the blood of Christ as being as central to the Eucharist as the body of Christ. For centuries, today's feast was known as *Corpus Christi*, Latin for "body of Christ." However, today we refer to the feast as the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. And all three *Lectionary* readings emphasize the spiritual and religious symbolism of blood.

Still, until relatively recently, the Precious Blood was not routinely offered to the people at Communion. And even now that it is part of nearly every liturgy, many people forego the chalice. While our doctrines teach us that Christ is fully present in the bread and the wine, the intention from the Last Supper is clearly that Jesus has given his body and his blood for us and to us. We might think about it this way: Bread nourishes us, but a blood transfusion can save our life.

At times we take the gift of the Eucharist for granted, much as we take for granted the blood that continually flows through our veins, pumping life to every part of our bodies. Today's feast asks us to take time to reflect on and give thanks for the life-giving power of blood—Christ's and our own—and to share that gift with the community. †

A Word From Pope Francis

Let us ask ourselves...in adoring Christ who is really present in the Eucharist: do I let myself be transformed by him? Do I let the Lord who gives himself to me guide me to going out ever more from my little enclosure in order to give, to share, to love him and others? Brothers and sisters, following, communion, sharing. Let us pray that participation in the Eucharist may always be an incentive: to follow the Lord every day, to be instruments of communion, and to share what we are with him and with our neighbor."

— Homily, the
Solemnity of
Corpus Christi,
May 30, 2013



Sunday Readings

Deuteronomy 8:2–3, 14b–16a

"[The LORD, your God,] brought forth water for you from the flinty rock and fed you in the wilderness with manna...."

1 Corinthians 10:16–17

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?"

John 6:51–58

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day."

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Where do I go to eat? Who or what nourishes me?
- Am I tempted, enslaved, or weakened by less-filling foods?



A Father's Virtues

By Robert P. Lockwood

My Old Man would never think of wasting time on anything as unproductive as sleep on a Sunday morning. When I was a little guy, he would haul me out of bed for the 8 AM Mass. We would get there early, and he would plop me down in one of the back pews while he went to the vestibule to serve as an usher.

After Mass, I watched as he and another man bagged up the money from the collection. I asked him why two guys did it, and he said, "Just in case somebody wants to try something." This made me think that, in addition to everything else, the Old Man was a cop for the Church.

One Sunday when I was about seven, I was in my usual spot as the collection began. I reached into my pocket and realized that I had lost the kids' collection envelope. I had a quarter in my pocket that the Old Man had let me keep from his change for coffee. I had no choice. I put the quarter in the basket, saying goodbye to a comic book I had planned to buy with it.

As we were heading home after Mass, I told the Old Man what happened. He said, "You did a good thing," then

reached into his pocket and handed me a quarter. I truly believed then, and believed for years, that the Old Man had spotted my quarter among the hundreds of quarters in the collection, plucked it out and substituted another. It seemed natural that he could perform a little miracle like that. After all, this was my Old Man.

Teaching by Doing

"The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,' and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, [namely] 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:9-10).

What St. Paul is talking about here is virtue, the habit of performing actions for good. Virtue defines how we are meant to live our lives. Virtue is what we admire in others and hope to see in ourselves.

It was only after I became a father myself that I realized that 99 percent of what my father did, 99 percent of what he tried to teach me, was the virtues lived. The Old Man was never much about the

theory behind the practice, the thesis behind the moral choices. He was all about living the faith on the street corner. He was about what you did and what you didn't do and the difference it made in the neighborhood that day. Classically defined, the virtues we acquire through the repetition of good acts are prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude. Every day, the Old Man was working on those with me. †

Source: *Everyday Catholic*,
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REFLECTION QUESTIONS QUESTIONS REFLECTION

- What important life lessons have you learned through the example of your father or a father figure?
- Why are fathers so important? How do their failures and successes affect their children?

PRAYER

Lord, through your Body and Blood you offer me the gift of eternal life. Help me to make sacrifices and share what I have with the poor.

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


Dad was all about living the faith on the street corner.

WEEKDAY READINGS

June 19-24

Mon. Weekday:
2 Cor 6:1-10 / Mt 5:38-42
Tue. Weekday:
2 Cor 8:1-9 / Mt 5:43-48
Wed. St. Aloysius Gonzaga:
2 Cor 9:6-11 / Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thu. Weekday:
2 Cor 11:1-11 / Mt 6:7-15
Fri. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:
Dt 7:6-11 / 1 Jn 4:7-16 / Mt 11:25-30
Sat. Nativity of St. John the Baptist:
Is 49:1-6 / Acts 13:22-26
Lk 1:57-66, 80

Bringing Home
the Word 
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