

MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, August 13, 2017 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Gathering: I Sing The Mighty Power Of God

BB 421

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 19)

Lord, you have the words of

everlasting life.

Preparation Christ, Be Our Light BB 594

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: In The Breaking Of The Bread

BB 325

Taste And See BB 345

Recessional: Sing, O Sing BB 550

9:00 AM

Gathering: For You Are My God BB 428

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 85)

Show us your kindness, O God. (2x)

Preparation Save Us, O Lord BB 665

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: The Cry Of The Poor BB 615

Recessional: Though The Mountains May Fall

BB 427



St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/ or St. Luke the Evangelist Parish – Newton/Plaistow 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!

COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR
AUGUST 6, 2017
WILL APPEAR IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN

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

August 13, 2017 NH Missionaries
August 15, 2017 Assumption of Mary
Fuel
August 27, 2017 Missionary Co-op
September 3, 2017 Property Management
September 10, 2017 Catholic University

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

Suggested Weekly Contribution **Based on Income** 5% Commitment annually/ weekly 3% Commitment annually/ weekly Annual Income \$100,000 \$5,000/\$100 \$3,000/\$60 \$75,000 \$3,750/*\$75* \$3,000/*\$60* \$2,250/\$45 \$60,000 \$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	\$18.70	\$19.50	\$21.00
\$10.00	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$14.00
\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.50	\$7.00

▼ PARISH NEWS

CATECHISTS NEEDED

Our Religious Education Program is in need of catechists for Sunday mornings. Training will be provided. If you can help, please email Joyce at isszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net.

ALTAR SERVERS, LECTORS, AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

You will soon be making decisions about the Mass you wish to attend beginning in September. Jeanne Sullivan will need to know at which Mass you want to serve in order to create the new lists and the schedules.

Effective September 2-3, 2017, the new Liturgical schedule is Saturday, 4 P.M. at Plaistow; Sunday, 8 A.M., at Newton; and Sunday, 10 A.M., at Plaistow.

Remember that beginning on September 17, Religious Education for preschool through grade 8 happens as part of the 10 AM Mass. Father Albert has already indicated that Altar Servers scheduled at the 10 AM Mass will not be dismissed for their Religious Education session on that day.

Change is hard for everyone; so Jeanne will do the schedules for only one month at a time, although she asks for your availabilities for three months, just in case your first choice doesn't work out and you want to switch to a different Mass. We can do this through the end of the year, allowing you ample time to make a final (as if anything is final!) decision. We hope this makes things easier for you.

If you would let **Jeanne Sullivan** know of your Mass decision as soon as you can, then she'll be able to create the new lists.

And, if you let her know of your preferences for times off (or special time requests to serve) for the months of September through November, we won't have to pester you again for that information. Please remember it is always important to have all family members who do minister scheduled at the same Liturgy.

Please contact **Jeanne Sullivan** at <u>imsul@myfairpoint.net</u> or leave a phone message at 603-382-4760.

We are so very grateful for all that you do, and for helping us make this a smooth transition for everyone. You are indeed a blessing for St. Luke's.

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

Beginning **September 2-3, 2017**, our weekend Liturgy schedule is changing. Our new schedule will be:

4:00 PM Saturday – Plaistow 8:00 AM Sunday – Newton 10:00 AM Sunday – Plaistow

Please note that our daily Liturgy schedule will remain the same.



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week for the

Intentions of the Daniels family

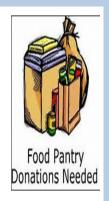
AMAZON SMILE DONATION

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 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.

₩ WEEKLY CALENDAR ₩

Monday, August 14 NO 8:00 AM Mass in Newton

6:30 PM Vigil Mass for Assumption of Mary Plaistow

Tuesday, August 15
NO 8:00 AM Mass in Plaistow

8:00AM Mass for the Assumption of Mary
6:00 PM Finance Council Meeting Plaistow

Wednesday, August 16

9:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration Begins Plaistow
6:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Ends Plaistow
7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting Plaistow

Thursday, August 17

8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration Begins Newton
8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Ends Newton

Saturday, August 19

8:00 AM Parish Yard sale Plaistow
3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation Plaistow



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

Thank you!

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, August 16 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, August 12 ~ Vigil / 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33 4:00 PM Stanley Plonowski by Pat Zakiewicz Plaistow

Sunday, August 13 ~ 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

7:30 AM George Moulaison by his wife, Tess

Newton

9:00 AM George Moulaison (1st Anniversary)

by his Pastor

Newton

11:00 AM Brian Abraham (5th Anniversary) by his family

Plaistow

Monday, August 14 ~ Vigil / Assumption of Mary

1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16, 16:1-2; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

6:30 PM For A Good Harvest by George Pelletier

Plaistow

Tuesday, August 15 ~ The Assumption of

The Blessed Virgin Mary
Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

8:00 AM Sr. Charles Frances by Marion Howley Newton

Wednesday, August 16 ~ Stephen of Hungary

Dt 34:1-12; Mt 18:15-20

6:30 PM William Wheeler (3rd Anniversary) by his Pastor *Plaistow*

Thursday, August 17 ~ Weekday

Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Mt 18:21—19:1

8:00 AM People of the Parish

Newton

Friday, August 18 ~ Weekday

Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12 No Mass

Saturday, August 19 ~ John Eudes, Priest

Jos 24:14-29; Mt 19:13-15 (Day)

Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28 (Vigil)

4:00 PM William Wheeler by the Parish

Plaistow

Sunday, August 20 ~ 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

7:30 AM People of the Parish

Newton

9:00 AM John Gallant by Jim & Mary Anne Downs

Newton

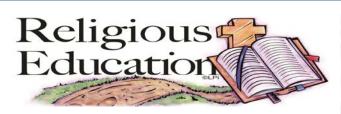
11:00 AM William Scully by his wife, Arleen

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.

▼ 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.

ASSUMPTION OF MARY



On Tuesday, August 15 we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, a holy day of obligation. Liturgies for the Assumption will be celebrated in Plaistow at 6:30 PM on Monday, August 14 and in Newton at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, August 15. Please note that there is NO 8:00 AM Liturgy in Newton on Monday and NO 8:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow on Tuesday.

RCIA

The <u>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults</u> 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, September 10, 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 Office
 382-8324

 Parish Prayer Line
 382-8324 x 314

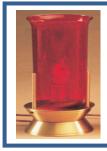
 St. Vincent de Paul Society
 382-8324 x 315

 St. Luke's Food Pantry
 819-4949

 Preschool
 382-9783

 Presentation of Mary Convent
 382-2744

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



VIGIL LIGHT

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

George Moulaison

by his wife, Tess

WOMEN OF GRACE

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Hampton, NH

The Women of Grace Foundational Study, FULL OF GRACE: WOMEN AND THE ABUNDANT LIFE, is a dynamic program for Catholic women, encouraging study participants to come to a fuller understanding of their dignity and vocation as daughters of God.

Meetings will take place on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon beginning on **September 20**.

Registration deadline is September 8, 2017. For more information, contact Kathy Allen at 603-957-0048 or kallen77@gmail.com.

21st ST. CHARLES 5k ROAD RACE

Labor Day Monday, September 4, 2017 9:00 AM – Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth, NH

Register at: www.runningnuns.com
Pre-registration 13 and over - \$20
Same day registration - \$30
12 and under always \$10

For more information, contact Jennifer Gilbert at 603-332-4768 or jgilbert@stcharleshome.net

250TH ANNIVERSARY TOWN OF ATKINSON

To celebrate this milestone, the Atkinson Congregational Church, UCC is hosting an ecumenical service on **Sunday**, **September 3**, **2017 at 9:00 AM** on the Church campus at 101 Main St., Atkinson, NH.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL REGISTRATION

St. Joseph Regional Catholic School in Salem, NH is accepting registrations for Preschool to Grade 8 students for the 2017-2018 school year. St. Joseph's provides a complete education designed to challenge and motivate students to reach their full potential in mind, spirit, heart, and body. Low student/teacher ratio provides each student a "front row seat to learning." For more information, or to schedule a tour, please contact Christine at 603-893-6811, ext. 19 or clatino@sjrcs.com. Check out Twitter to see why #welovestjoes!



St. Luke the Evangelist Parish will host this fundraising event on **Saturday**, **August 19**, **2017**, **from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon** at St. Luke's Parish Center, 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow, NH. This is a great opportunity to find bargains for students heading off to college! All are welcome. Admission is free!

Please plan to volunteer! We need lots of help on Friday, August 18 to accept donations and sort them and on Saturday, August 19 to collect money and to buy some stuff!

Spring Cleaning? Start saving your stuff for the Yard Sale – almost anything will be welcome (BUT PLEASE – NO clothes, electronics, books, broken or dirty items!) Items can be **dropped off on Friday, August 18 from 12:00 NOON to 7:00 PM.**

Questions? Call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324 for details.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples who are celebrating their 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th or beyond Wedding Anniversary anytime during the year 2017 to attend a Special Anniversary Mass. This celebration will be held on **October 15, 2017 at 2:00 PM** at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester. If you are celebrating your 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th or beyond anniversary, please contact the Parish Office **by September 22, 2017**. We will need your last names, first names, and mailing address. Please also indicate your special anniversary. By providing your name to the Parish Office, you will be registered and will receive an invitation. There is no need for the couple to RSVP.

WEEKEND RETREAT

Our Lady of Hope House of Prayer New Ipswich, NH

Light In Darkness: God's Presence in Hope and Love

September 15-17, 2017

Registration Deadline: September 1, 2017

Please contact Sisters Rita Pay or Suzanne Rivard, p.m. at olhope1@yahoo.com or go to

http://www.ourladyhope.org

Saint Luke the Evangelist

Discipleship is a lifelong journey.

Lifelong faith formation provides opportunities and experiences throughout the entire life span to strengthen our relationship with and knowledge of God. A commitment to lifelong faith formation serves to enhance our understanding of Scripture and of our Tradition. It sustains us in living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

With our Parish focus on lifelong faith formation still in mind, today we consider preparation programs for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION – As we consider the Sacraments of Initiation and Reconciliation, it is important to reflect on the Church's understanding of the these Sacraments, on the worship life of the community and on the individual's (or family) faith response.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Baptism is the external sign (Sacrament) celebrating the entrance of a person into the Christian community. Baptism celebrates God's forgiveness and adoption, and initiates a person into a life-style of lifelong worship, religious instruction, and service with the whole Catholic community.

In order for a child's Baptism to be fruitful, parents must give, under Church Canon Law, an assurance that upon the child's Baptism, the child will be given every benefit of Christian and Catholic upbringing.

This responsibility of raising a child in the ways of faith begins immediately after Baptism and extends all the way into adulthood. If parents are not able to give this assurance or make this solemn commitment to the Church, they should consider delaying Baptism until they are prepared to make a serious commitment to undertake these responsibilities.

Under Canon Law, the Parish is permitted to Baptize the children of parent(s) who are registered members of Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish. The Rite of Baptism is always celebrated in a Catholic Church except in an extraordinary circumstance. Parents are expected to be participating in the life of the Parish community; newly registered families are typically asked to participate in Parish life for at least three full months before any date for Baptism can be scheduled. Participation in this case is defined as regularly attending



Sunday Eucharist. If parents have recently moved into the Parish and not registered, they must obtain a letter from their former Parish Pastor indicating that they are practicing Catholics.

Parents must receive the benefit of adult catechesis (religious instruction) concerning the responsibilities of Catholic parenting from the Church. Our Parish offers this instruction once a month, and welcomes parents, siblings and Sponsors. Parents will also have a chance to meet with the Pastor before the Baptism of their child. The Parish also has excellent resources to assist couples in their new role as parents.

RECONCILIATION

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION: First Reconciliation preparation typically takes place in Grade 2.

Weekly attendance at the Sunday

Liturgy, together with the completion of the home-based program engages children's hearts and minds through multiple prayer opportunities and unique interactive elements. Emphasis is on the beauty of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and engages both children and families in this important time of preparation. A Sunday retreat experience for the entire family culminates with the celebration of the Sacrament.



EUCHARIST

FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION: First Eucharist preparation this year takes place in grade 2 (the Canon Law of the Church states that the minimum age for reception of the Eucharist

is 7), with the reception of Eucharist for the first time celebrated in late spring. Eucharist will move with the celebration of Confirmation beginning next year (see below). By 2021, in the Diocese of Manchester, Eucharist will typically be received for the first time when a child is 8 years old or in the third grade at school. Weekly attendance and completion of the sacramental curriculum, and attending a Sunday retreat with at least one parent is required. First Eucharist readies children to come to the Lord's Table with joy and reverence. The home-based curriculum explores the sacraments of initiation, liturgical seasons, and Eucharist-related Biblical stories.

CONFIRMATION What is Confirmation?

Supernatural realities are often hard to pin down and define exactly. The Sacrament of Confirmation has often been poorly understood as a Sacrament of maturity or young adulthood that occurs sometime after Baptism and sometime before high school graduation. It has been described as enabling a person to become a "defender of their faith," or as a way for a young person to "choose" or "Own" their Catholic faith. These understanding are unfortunate; for there is a profound richness to this sacrament that deserves better understanding and explains its special celebration within the Church. The Catechism is quite clear about the meaning of Confirmation: Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission, and help us bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds. (CCC 1316)

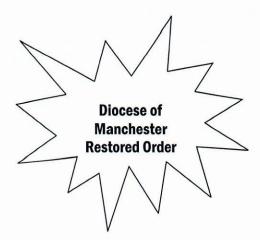
Confirmation is organically linked to the Sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist. Together, all three constitute the Sacraments of Initiation. In the words of the Catechism, these sacraments "lay the foundations of every Christian life." (CCC 1212) They initiate because they provide an entrance into the fullness of life in Christ that is not unlike the entrance into life that accompanies every human

person. By birth, we enter into life as a baby, and then through a process of development and nourishment, we grow into the fullness of life as an adult. The Sacraments of Initiation follow a similar progression. In the words of the Catechism: The faithful are born anew by Baptism, strengthened by the Sacrament of Confirmation, and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life. By means of these Sacraments of Christian Initiation, they thus receive in increasing measure the treasures of divine life and advance toward the perfection of charity. (CCC 1212)



It is for this reason that these three sacraments should be thought of as being unified together and organically linked to each other.

The relationship between Baptism and Confirmation is especially close. The Sacrament of Confirmation actually completes and deepens the grace of Baptism. Like Baptism, Confirmation is received only once, for it leaves an indelible mark on the soul. Like Baptism, Confirmation is a free gift of grace that comes from the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.



CONFIRMATION & RESTORED ORDER: Our Diocese is restoring the order in which the Sacraments of Initiation are celebrated. Restored Order means returning the three sacraments of Christian initiation to the logical order in which they were designed to be celebrated: first Baptism, then Confirmation, then Eucharist. By placing Confirmation prior to the reception of First Eucharist it makes it easier to view the Eucharist as the summit of Christian initiation.

As of 2021, the standard age of Confirmation will be students in the third grade, and Confirmation will be celebrated at the same liturgy as First Eucharist. As a result, the preparation and reception of the sacraments of initiation will occur with Baptism in infancy, Confirmation and Eucharist in third grade. Although not a sacrament of initiation, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be received in the second grade.

Visit
www.catholicnh.org/parishes/formation/lifelong for
more information on the Restored Order of
Confirmation & Eucharist

The Sacrament schedule for our Parish for the year 2017/2018 will be as follows:

- Grade 2 will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in January, 2018 and First Eucharist in May, 2018 (dates TBA). Preparation programs for these Sacraments are home based and will culminate with a family retreat and in the celebration of the Sacraments.
- Grades 8, 9, and 10 will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in April, 2018. There will be Confirmation preparation sessions after the 10 a.m. Mass with a retreat (dates TBA). Grade 8 students will continue their Religious Education program with Sunday dismissal from the 10 am Liturgy. Students from grades 9 & 10 are required to participate in Sunday Liturgy and are encouraged to participate in the Youth Ministry activities as scheduled.



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 <u>lots</u> of help both days!

SPRING CLEANING?

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

BRING YOUR STUFF & HELP US SORT IT: Friday, August 18th – 12 Noon – 7:00 pm

HELP US COLLECT MONEY & BUY SOME STUFF Saturday, August 19th – 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 10th 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 with "Fair Help" in the subject line.

Thank you.



Bringing Home the Word

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | August 13, 2017

God Calls to Our Hearts

By Mary Katharine Deeley

We've been fortunate to make several trips to Hawaii. On one trip, we saw lava flowing from a vent on a volcano. I'll never forget it or the offerings of pineapples, leis, and other things native Hawaiians make to Pele, the volcano goddess. The volcano erupts when Pele is angry. When it is quiet, Pele has gone underground.

Great displays of power and destruction are often connected with divine activity, so it seems strange that the Lord doesn't appear to Elijah in

Sunday Readings

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD; the LORD will pass by.

Romans 9:1-5

I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie; my conscience joins with the holy Spirit in bearing me witness.

Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" manifestations of wind, earthquake, or fire. Rather, God speaks out of silence, and his first words to Elijah are, "Why are you here?"

That's a wonderful question for us today. Why are we here celebrating the Eucharist? Is it obligation only, or is there something more?

I'd like to think we come to Mass to hear God calling to our hearts. Here we can meet God face to face in the word, in the priest, in each other and, most intimately, in the bread and wine that is his Body and Blood. We take him into ourselves so we won't be like Peter, who walked into the middle of a storm and began thinking the storm would destroy him like an angry god.

We gather at Mass so we can fix our minds and hearts on Christ, whose power is so great that it needn't manifest itself in destruction but who, with a word, can calm every storm and take us safely into his care. †

Why do we celebrate the Eucharist?
Is it obligation only, or is there something more?

A Word From Pope Francis

We all know that when water stands still it stagnates. There's a saying in Spanish that says: "Standing water is the first to go bad." Do not stand still. We all have to walk, to take a step every day, with the Lord's help. God is Father, he is mercy, he always loves us....He welcomes us and forgives us....He never tires of forgiving....He makes us rise and fully restores our dignity. God has a memory, He is not forgetful. God does not forget us, He always remembers.

-Address to detainees in a penitentiary in Isernia, Italy, July 5, 2014



REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GRESTIONS

- When have you felt Jesus' presence most strongly in your life? Did it coincide with a difficult task or time of trouble?
- Which winds distract you from Jesus?



Our God Speaks to Us

By Fr. Thomas Richstatter, OFM

We Catholics
believe in a
God who speaks. Our
God is not a silent,

distant God but a God who wants us to know who he is and who we are and what life is all about. We believe in a God who freely chooses to reveal his mysterious plan to create us, love us, and take us to himself. We believe in the God who spoke to Abraham, who spoke to the patriarchs and prophets, and who spoke his definitive word in Jesus Christ.

And just what did God say? God didn't waste a lot of time talking about incidentals: "The earth is round." Or, "Today is Wednesday." God got right to the point and said, "I love you!" And we hear God's most emphatic "I love you" in the birth, life, preaching, healing, passion, death, and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ.

This kind of revelation demands more than a yes of agreement to a proposed fact: "Yes, the earth *is* round." "Yes, today *is* Wednesday." The word of love that God speaks in the Bible demands more of us than "yes, that's true."

It calls for a total yes—a yes of commitment—the kind of yes that couples exchange in their wedding vows. "Margaret, do you take Joseph to be your husband?" "Yes, I do." Saying "yes, I do" to the proposal of love that God offers us in Jesus Christ is what being Catholic is all about.

That is why the Bible is essential to

Catholicism. How can we say yes to Jesus, how can we be a disciple of Jesus unless we know Jesus? And to know Jesus we must know the Scriptures, for as St. Jerome said, "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." The Scriptures are not a list of propositions to be believed. They are an encounter with a person to be loved.

From Generation to Generation

God has not appeared to me as he did to Elijah. I was not there by the Sea of Galilee with Peter and Andrew, James and John, when Jesus walked by and said, "Follow me." I wasn't knocked to the ground in a blaze of light like St. Paul. I received the faith quietly, gradually. My parents (and teachers, neighbors, and friends) handed on the tradition they had received from their parents, spouses, teachers, and friends. And the members of that former generation handed on what they had received from the generation before them, all the way back to the apostles. Even St. Paul says that he handed on what he had received.

Those who knew Jesus and witnessed his death and resurrection were commissioned to preach and make disciples. Some disciples handed on the message orally and some, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote down their faith experience. Catholics treasure God's self revelation in both its written and oral forms. Catholics cherish Scripture and Tradition. Both reveal the same divine

mystery. Both bring us into contact with the living God. And the word of the living God is a living word. When the Scriptures are proclaimed at Mass, we believe that Christ is present. It is Christ himself who speaks to us.

Ongoing Conversation

I keep a file of my Sunday homilies in the hope that, three years from now when the same readings are used, I will be able to use the same homily over again. But it never works out that way. Each time the passages are proclaimed, God says something new. When I hear Jesus tell Peter and Andrew, "Come after me," the words imply something different—something more—for me now than they did when I was fifteen, or when I was twenty-five, or even when I was fifty.

God speaks to the Scriptures and in the Tradition handed down to us from the apostles. And if we respond to God's word with lives filled with God's Spirit and lived in imitation of Jesus, the definitive Word of the Father, we can be confident that the message will continue to be passed on—generation after generation—until all the ends of the earth hear God's great "I love you." †



Lord, you taught your disciples how to pray. Help me to cultivate the practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Amen.

> From Faithful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 14-19

Mon. St. Maximilian Kolbe: Dt 10:12–22 / Mt 17:22–27

Tue. Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab / 1 Cor 15:20–27 / Lk 1:39–56

Wed. Weekday:

Dt 34:1-12 / Mt 18:15-20

Thu. Weekday: Jos 3:7–10a, 11, 13–17 / Mt 18:21—19:1

Fri. Weekday: Jos 24:1–13 / Mt 19:3–12

Sat. Weekday:

Jos 24:14-29 / Mt 19:13-15



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