



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, November 12, 2017
 Thirty-Second Sunday in
 Ordinary Time

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: Gather Us In BB 302

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 34)

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (2x)

Preparation Parable BB 683

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Take And Eat BB 361
 In The Breaking Of The Bread
 BB 325

Recessional: Let All Things Now Living BB 586

10:00 AM

Gathering: All Are Welcome BB 413

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 63)

O God, I seek you. My soul thirsts for you. Your love is finer than life.

Preparation Where Love Is Found BB 666
 We Remember BB 494

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Christ, Be Our Light BB 594
 Jesus, Come To Us BB 392

Recessional: Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory
 BB 575



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!

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| | <u>October 29, 2017</u> | |
| Offertory | | \$7,112.92 |
| | <u>November 1, 2017</u> | |
| All Saints | | \$ 911.00 |
| | <u>November 5, 2017</u> | |
| Offertory | | \$7,336.80 |
| Property Management | | \$2,084.02 |

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

November 12, 2017 Catholic Campaign for Human Development



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

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

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the **November 26 bulletin** must be submitted early.

The deadline for announcements to be placed into the **November 26 bulletin** is **12:00 Noon on Monday, November 13.**

Thank you for your cooperation!

HELP WANTED – ADVENT PREPARATIONS

Volunteers are invited to help do some rearranging and decorating on **Sunday, November 26 following the 8:00 AM Liturgy in Newton and the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow.** Our tasks include Advent decorating, pew missalette change-overs and some light clean up of the churches in preparation for the Advent season. All are welcome to lend a hand – our work usually lasts just over an hour if we have all the help we can muster! Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

Throughout November, a special *Book of the Names of the Dead* will be opened near the Baptismal Font & Paschal Candle for parishioners to record the names of the faithful departed. It is a visible sign that the faithful departed remain with us as part of the Church. You are welcome to record names of loved ones and the dates of their death.



From the Pastor's Desk



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

With the end of the Fall season and the coming of the Winter months, **Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow will be closed from December 1, 2017 until Spring 2018.**

This decision comes as result of the real dangers of snow and ice in the Cemetery and the costs to Parishioners to inter during the winter months. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.



THE ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH

Our Parish community continues with our Capital Campaign to replace roofs on the Plaistow campus, and to raise funds to complete other projects in Newton and in Plaistow. Our three-year goal is to raise \$250,000.00. Besides the Plaistow roofs, we would like to accomplish the following projects: Plaistow church access ramp, Plaistow office building & convent window replacement, Newton rectory interior flooring, Newton church lighting and painting, Newton rectory painting as funds become available.

How can you help?

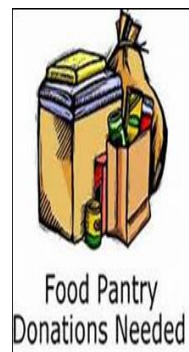
Any contribution is welcome.

Make checks payable to

Saint Luke the Evangelist – Capital Campaign.

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 FALL...

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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ **WEEKLY CALENDAR** ✠

Sunday, November 12

10:00 AM Religious Education – Pre-K to 8 *Plaistow*
11:00 AM First Reconciliation Meeting for Parents and Students (Grade 2) *Plaistow*
4:00 PM Christmas Craft Fair Wrap-Up Mtg *Plaistow*

Wednesday, November 15

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

Thursday, November 16

8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration Begins *Newton*
9:00 AM Intercessory Prayer *Plaistow*
8:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration Ends *Newton*

Saturday, November 18

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

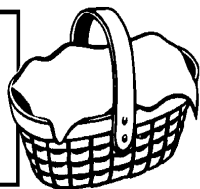
Sunday, November 19
Food Pantry Distribution

10:00 AM Religious Education – Pre-K to 8 *Plaistow*



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week for
The Intentions Of The Daniels Family

St. Vincent de Paul Society



The generosity of your contributions have allowed us to help out those in need with rent, medical, and heating oil assistance. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is so grateful and blessed.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, November 15 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, November 11 ~ Vigil / 32nd Sunday Ord. Time

Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

4:00 PM Geraldine Miele by her sister, Rachel *Plaistow*

Sunday, November 12 ~ 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

8:00 AM Norman Cote by Marge Anderson *Newton*

10:00 AM Martin & Florence Fogel and Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse *Plaistow*

Monday, November 13 ~ Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

Wis 1:1-7; Lk 17:1-6

8:00 AM Paul Girard (Month's Mind) *Newton*

Tuesday, November 14 ~ Weekday

Wis 2:23—3:9; Lk 17:7-10

8:00 AM For Michael and his recovery *Plaistow*

Wednesday, November 15 ~ Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Wis 6:1-11; Lk 17:11-19

6:30 PM Lucilia DeMelo by Lucia Guilmette *Plaistow*

Thursday, November 16 ~ Margaret of Scotland; Gertrude, Virgin

Wis 7:22b—8:1; Lk 17:20-25

8:00 AM Carmen Jaffarian (Month's Mind) *Newton*

Friday, November 17 ~ Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

Wis 13:1-9; Lk 17:26-37

No Mass

Saturday, November 18 ~ Dedication of Basilicas of Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles; Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin

Wis 18:14-16, 19:6-9; Lk 18:1-8 (Day)

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Intentions of Mary Coltin and Paul & Lucia O'Leary by Mark and Colleen Hammond *Plaistow*

Sunday, November 19 ~ 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30

8:00 AM Susan Sible Peck by Kathleen White & family *Newton*

10:00 AM Deceased Members of the Charles & Mary Jesionowski Family By their daughter Sonia and family

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 ✠

EUCHARIST IS THE CULMINATION SACRAMENT

The Eucharist is the summit in the center of our lives in the church community. In its celebration we become rooted in the mystery of the dying and rising of Jesus Christ. We anticipate the heavenly banquet already here on earth. All the other sacraments either lead to the Eucharist or flow from the Eucharist.

By our pastoral adaptations during the 20th century, we seem to treat Confirmation as the “crowning sacrament,” not the Eucharist. We did this especially by delaying its celebration and requiring longer and more elaborate preparation.

Baptism and Confirmation prepare us for the celebration of Eucharist. By Baptism we have been given access to the family of God’s New Covenant people. In Confirmation we have been sealed in the relationship of community in the body of Christ. Thus, we have a right to sit at the “family table” on Sundays and share in the body and blood of the Lord.

Confirmation functions as a sealing of Baptism and as a qualification for the Eucharistic assembly. Confirmation, therefore, should be celebrated *between* Baptism and Eucharist, *before* Eucharist, not after.

A number of adult Catholics have never been confirmed in the church. There is something missing, spiritually, in the lives of those who have not been sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The church in this diocese will restore the traditional order in which the sacraments of initiation have celebrated: Baptism in infancy, usually, and then Confirmation and First Communion. Then the weekly celebration of the Eucharist will truly become a feast of the family, with all its members being fully initiated.

All Catholics in New Hampshire are being asked to reflect on this view of what it means to be confirmed. And as we adjust our perspective on the place of Confirmation, the preeminent place of the Eucharist is more clearly highlighted.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who has been Baptized and received Eucharist, but has not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation? 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.

RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. 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.

ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. We have many people 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.

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, December 3, 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. 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 | music@stluketheevangelist.net |
| Youth Ministry | youth@stluketheevangelist.net |
| Parish Council | parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net |

✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

PARENTS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS

On **Sunday, November 19**, we will be teaching a Diocesan, mandated Safe Environment Lesson to the students at their regular dismissal time. The lessons are called *Circles of Care*.

These safety lessons have taken place for the past 8 years for all students in our Parish. The lessons are age-appropriate and are introduced as part of the commitment made by our diocese and the Bishops of the United States to provide safe environment training for Religious Education students.

If you have any questions regarding these lessons, please call Joyce Szczapa at the Religious Education Office at (603) 382-8324.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Students currently in school grades 8, 9 or 10 are invited to apply for the Preparation Program for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation sessions begin on **February 4** and are held following the 10 am Liturgy at Plaistow. The preparation program culminates with the celebration of the Sacrament on Sunday, April 22. Admitted candidates **MUST** attend every preparation session. **Deadline to apply for 2018 is December 4.** Any student applying should already be attending Sunday Liturgy on a regular basis.

HELP WANTED! Parents and adults in the Parish are welcome to consider acting as teachers or aides for the Confirmation Preparation program. All adult volunteers must complete the Diocese of Manchester protocols for working with children. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

GIVING TREES

Giving Trees will be located in the back of both churches beginning on the weekend of **November 26**. Please take an ornament, buy the item(s) listed, and return it - **with the ornament attached** - to the church or the parish office **no later than December 17**. Thank you for your generosity in helping those in need!



ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE!

<http://stlukenh.org>

**CHRISTMAS FAIR
WRAP UP MEETING**

Thank you to every person who helped our 10th Annual Christmas Craft Fair to be a success!

If you took one or more yard signs, please return it/them to church **by November 26**. Please do not remove signs from the stands unless the stands are broken.



Signs should be placed outside the main entrance of the church. Fair elves will whisk them away to the Plaistow Choir Loft.

If you have any ideas on how to make next year's Fair even better than this year's, please come to the Wrap-Up Meeting on **Sunday, November 12 at 4:00 PM** in the Plaistow Church Hall. You can also send an email to Elaine Kindler at stlukenhfair@gmail.com.



The Flowers in Holy Angels Church were donated in loving memory of **Geraldine Miele** by her sister, Rachel Lanseigne

CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

The Contemporary Choir is always looking for new members. If you would like to sing with us or you can play an instrument, we would be overjoyed to have you join us! All ages and abilities are invited.

We would also like to invite children in Grades K-8 to join in forming a **Children's Choir** for the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Liturgy.

There will be a meeting following the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, November 19** to organize and welcome new choir members, new instrumentalists, and students who want to sing at the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Liturgy.

If you have any questions, see any choir member.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

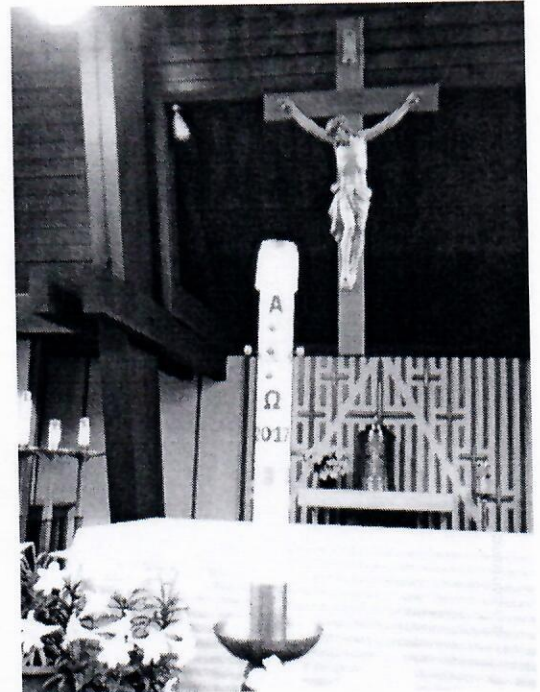
The Knights will be having a membership drive on **November 18-19**. Knights will be available after all Liturgies to answer any questions you may have about the K of C. All Parishioners are invited for coffee and donuts after the 10:00 AM Mass on November 19. The Knights don't ask for a specific time commitment from our members. We only ask members to do what they can, when they can. This is a great opportunity to help those in need, serve our community, and support our Faith and Parish with like-minded men and their families.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

50th Anniversary of the Dedication of Mary, Mother of the Church in Newton

On November 19, 1967, Bishop Ernest Primeau of the Diocese of Manchester solemnly Dedicated the church in Newton for sacred use.

The rite for the dedication of a church and an altar is rightly considered among the most solemn liturgical services in the Catholic Church. A church is the place where the Christian community is gathered to hear the word of God, to offer intercession and praise to God, and above all to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, and it is the place where the holy sacrament of the Eucharist is kept. Thus it stands as a special kind of image of the Church itself, which is God's temple built from living stones. And the altar of a church, around which the holy people of God gather to take part in the Lord's sacrifice and to be refreshed at the heavenly meal, stands as a sign of Christ himself, who is the priest, the victim, and the altar of his own sacrifice. (Committee on Sacred Worship, United States Catholic Conference)



The anniversary of dedication of each local Parish's church building is celebrated as a solemnity in that local community, outranking most Sundays in Ordinary Time and even the Parish's patron saint. Thomas G. Simons, author of *Holy People, Holy Place: Rites for the Church's House* (LTP: 1998), writes:

"The celebration of the anniversary of the dedication of the parish church building is an often-forgotten opportunity to celebrate the life of the local church and re-emphasize to the people the importance of the gathering place for God's holy people. It is an occasion in which sacred identity and local history become tangible. The continuity of the faith from generation to generation is celebrated".

On the weekend of November 18 & 19 we will pray in both of our Parish churches in thanksgiving for all the blessings received in our churches at Newton and in Plaistow. Join us in prayer to Almighty God who has blessed us in so many ways with the diversity and richness of our communities.

We will gather for Solemn Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday, November 19 at 6 PM in Newton. A reception will follow in the Church's narthex. All are welcome to celebrate with us!





EAT, DRINK & RAISE MONEY!

COME SUPPORT A DOUGH RAISER TO BENEFIT

**St Luke the Evangelist
Parish**

*UNO® will
donate up to
20%
of your check*

DATE:

Sunday, Nov 12, 2017

VALID AT:

**30 Cushing Ave
Haverhill
978-556-9595**

**DINE-IN
OR
TAKEOUT!**

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking area. Valid only for the date listed above.

unodoughraisers.com

PRESENT THIS TO YOUR SERVER

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unodoughraisers.com

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Once again this year our Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Food Pantry will provide Thanksgiving Food Baskets to needy families in our area. The cost of purchasing items for all of the baskets typically runs to well over \$1500.00, and with hard times facing so many, we anticipate the need to be even greater than previous years.

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of Thanksgiving Baskets, please place your contribution in an envelope marked "***THANKSGIVING BASKETS,***" and place it in the offering basket. You may also visit the Parish Offices and make a contribution in person.

Thank you for your support of the poor among us.

The Gospel for All Ages

Family Catechesis

Pflaum
**Gospel
Weeklies**
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time • November 12, 2017 • Foolish Choices

Sunday Readings: Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Weekly Discussion Questions

For the Parish Bulletin

Life Question: What is something foolish you have done that forced you to learn the hard way?

Gospel Question: What do you find is necessary to fuel your spiritual life as oil is to ancient lamps or gas to cars? What keeps your spirit alive?

LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

Exploring the Sunday Readings (Adults)

Gospel Question: How do you fuel the lamp of your enthusiasm for life in Christ?

Visit exploringthesundayreadings.com

Visions (Grades 7-8)

Life Question: What peer pressure do you experience to do things you think are foolish?

Gospel Question: What is a wise way to keep your lamp burning in your friendship with God?

Venture (Grades 4-6)

Life Question: What is a consequence?

Gospel Question: What are wise ways you can be ready every day for Jesus' coming?

Good News (Grades 2-3)

Life Question: When do you pray?

Gospel Question: What is wise about praying?

Promise (Grades K-1)

Life Question: What are choices I make every day?

Gospel Question: What choices are wise?

Seeds (Preschool)

Life Question: What makes a good day?

Gospel Question: What is something you don't want to miss?

Family Corner

About the Gospel

What if you had a pop quiz and had not done your homework? You would not be prepared. In the parable of the maidens who needed oil for their lamps, Jesus warns us that we need to always be prepared because we do not know when he will return.

Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings to read this Sunday's Scripture.

In Church

Try to arrive in church a few minutes early. Spend that time in quiet prayer as you get ready to meet Jesus in his Word and in the Eucharist.

Question of the Week



If Jesus came back today, would you be ready to meet him?

Family Prayer

Jesus, remind us to always be prepared for you, especially each Sunday at Mass.

Rincón de la Familia

Acerca del Evangelio

¿Que pasaría si te presentan una prueba sorpresiva y no hubieras hecho la tarea? No estarías preparado. En la parábola de las jóvenes que necesitaban aceite para sus lámparas, Jesús nos advierte que siempre tenemos que estar preparados porque no sabemos cuándo regresará Jesús.

Visita www.usccb.org/bible/readings para leer las lecturas de este domingo.

En la Iglesia

Trata de llegar a la iglesia unos minutos antes. Pasa ese tiempo rezando en silencio mientras te preparas para encontrarte con Jesús en su Palabra y en la Eucaristía.

Pregunta de la semana



Si Jesús viniera hoy, ¿estarías listo para encontrarte con él?

Oración en familia

Jesús, recuérdanos estar siempre preparados para Ti, especialmente cada domingo en misa.

✠ 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

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time | November 12, 2017

Fundamental Planning

By Janel Esker

At first glance, the well-prepared (including me) might take great pride in today’s Gospel. You know who you are—you whose purses contain everything but the kitchen sink, you who stockpile food and fuel just in case “the big one” hits. I rarely leave the house without food, drinks, tissues, and reading materials and am often the one others come to when they’re less than prepared for a long wait, unexpected hunger, or a surprise runny nose. And I’m hardly humble about my planning abilities—it’s perhaps my favorite topic for gloating.

Then how, on a recent weeklong trip, did I forget to pack underwear? My family was shocked that The Planner had forgotten something so basic. No gloating that week!

In gospel times, lamp oil was also a necessity—how would a lamp remain lit without oil? Yet five of the women in the wedding procession left home without it. Did they just forget? Did they think the bridegroom would be on time so there’d be no need for lamps after dark? How did they miss something so fundamental?

We too, in our busy lives, often miss the fundamentals. *Fundamental 1:* Life is short and we will die—at a time we don’t know. *Fundamental 2:* Nothing is more important than our relationship with God.

Today’s Gospel challenges us to think about how we’re preparing ourselves for the end of our lives. We prepare wills, trusts, and health-care directives, but how about spiritual preparations? What are we doing to deepen our relationship with God every day? How are we living our Christian faith more concretely on a daily basis? These are the fundamentals. How prepared are we? †

We sometimes miss the basics.

A Word From Pope Francis

Dear brothers, unless we train ministers capable of warming people’s hearts, of walking with them in the night, of dialoguing with their hopes and disappointments, of mending their brokenness, what hope can we have for our present and future journey? It isn’t true that God’s presence has been dimmed in them.

—Address to bishops of Brazil, July 27, 2013



Sunday Readings

Wisdom 6:12–16

Resplendent and unfading is wisdom, and she is readily perceived by those who love her.

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 or 13–14

God, through Jesus, [will] bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Matthew 25:1–13

[Jesus said,] “Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Am I constantly in contact with the mercy of God so I am always ready?
- How am I living now so that I am always prepared for the final encounter with Jesus?



Why Do We Suffer? *By Michael D. Guinan, OFM*

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, the Mexican and Haitian earthquakes, the Indian Ocean tsunami. Accidents, terror attacks, disease, and death. Natural disasters and those produced by humans bring with them so much suffering. Ancient literature from Egypt and Mesopotamia attests that even then people called out, “Why?” In the lament psalms of the Bible, the psalmist cries out, “Why, Lord?” Our voices join an age-old chorus!

The problem of suffering is difficult. How can we understand a benevolent, just God in the face of such human experiences?

Perhaps the best biblical example of this struggle is found in the Book of Job. Job suffers the loss of possessions and family and is afflicted with a terrible disease. Friends hear of his plight and come to console him. After Job’s cry of pain, the discussion begins.

Why is Job suffering? One easy answer that surfaces immediately is that Job deserves it; he is suffering because of his sins. When Job rejects this, his friends counter, in effect, “Don’t give us that! All humans are rotten sinners!” For them, all suffering is somehow a punishment for sin. Sad to say, Job’s friends have vocal descendants even now. While it is true that our sinful actions have consequences, as an all-purpose explanation, this one is too simplistic.

Problem or Mystery?

Even within the Book of Job, the situation is more complicated. As readers, we know from the start that his friends are wrong. Job is righteous, and his suffering is allowed by God to test his virtue. Other answers also appear in the book. Like any good ancient Near Eastern father, God disciplines us through suffering to make us better (5:17–18, 36:15). Or, suffering is mysterious, so who are we to understand God’s ways? (11:7–10, 15:8–9).

Although these responses may give temporary relief, ultimately they are not satisfactory answers to the meaning of suffering. While we seek understanding, perhaps this is not the best approach to the problem. In fact, maybe the problem with suffering is that it is not really a “problem” at all, but a mystery.

What is the difference? A problem is something “out there.” We can see all the pieces, survey its dimensions. The question is, how do we put it together? How do we solve it? Problems are solved intellectually. A mystery is different. It is a situation in which I am so immersed that I can never get far enough away to see it all “out there.” Love and death are mysteries. So is suffering.

Mysteries involve us on the deepest levels of our relationships with ourselves, others, the natural world, and with God. To be human is to be enmeshed in these relationships. When they grow into greater wholeness (through love) or come apart (through suffering), we are in the

presence of mystery. We will never solve the meaning of suffering any more than the meaning of love.

“I Am With You”

At the heart of Christianity is the affirmation that, through the Incarnation, Jesus entered into these relationships too. Jesus fully shared in the human condition. When he faced suffering and death, he also called out, “Why?” His final words from the cross were, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34). We know that God did not forsake Jesus but raised him to everlasting life.

Nowhere in Scripture do we read, “Have faith in me, and you will understand everything, including suffering!” But we do read, whatever the suffering, “Do not be afraid, for I am with you.” We do not suffer alone. Together, we survive all suffering—even death itself! †

WEEKDAY READINGS

November 13–18

Mon. St. Frances Xavier Cabrini:
Wis 1:1–7 / Lk 17:1–6


Tue. Weekday:
Wis 2:23–3:9 / Lk 17:7–10

Wed. Weekday:
Wis 6:1–11 / Lk 17:11–19

Thu. Weekday:
Wis 7:22b–8:1 / Lk 17:20–25

Fri. St. Elizabeth of Hungary:
Wis 13:1–9 / Lk 17:26–37

Sat. Weekday:
Wis 18:14–16; 19:6–9 / Lk 18:1–8



Lord, I am grateful for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Help me to keep awake to the movement of your Spirit in my life.

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