



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, January 28, 2018
Fourth Sunday In
Ordinary Time

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: Come, Christians, Join To Sing
BB 548

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 63)

*I will lift up my eyes at the name of
the one who knows me well.*

Preparation Prayer Of St. Francis BB 523

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Take And Eat BB 361
I Am The Bread Of Life BB 364

Recessional: Take The Word Of God With You
BB 382

10:00 AM

Gathering: Let Us Go To The Altar BB 316

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 103)

The Lord is kind and merciful. (2x)

Preparation We Will Rise Again BB 440
The Prayer Of St. Francis BB 523

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Blessed Are They BB 629
We Remember BB 495

Recessional: Lead Me, Lord BB 630



Find us on:
facebook®

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!

January 14, 2018

Offertory	\$7,790.74
Seminarian Fund	\$2,332.00

January 21, 2018

Offertory	\$6,819.57
Fuel	\$2,519.39

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

January 28, 2018	No Second Collection
February 4, 2018	Property Management



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

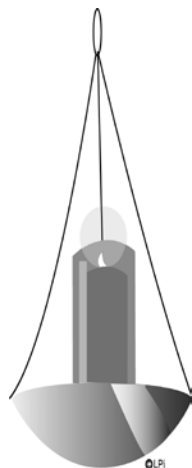
Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on a Percentage Increase

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 ✠

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you would like an "end of year" financial statement of your contributions to the parish for 2017, please call the Parish Office at 382-8324. **Financial Statements are issued on a request only basis.**



The Sanctuary Candle in Holy Angels Church will burn this week in loving memory of
Lewis Gould, Sr.
by his family

The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of
Helen Lacomchik
by Laura Branting

AMAZON SMILE

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.

From the Pastor's Desk



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED

Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow is now closed 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.
Fr. Albert



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?

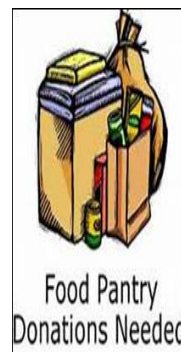
Any contribution is welcome.

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 WINTER...

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, January 28

10:00 AM	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	Plaistow
11:00 AM	RCIA	Plaistow
11:00 AM	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	Plaistow

Wednesday, January 31
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH
OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

7:00 PM	Reader Scripture Share	Plaistow
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Thursday, February 1

8:30 AM	Adoration Begins	Newton
9:00 AM	Intercessory Prayer	Plaistow
10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting	Plaistow
8:30 PM	Adoration Ends	Newton

Saturday, February 3

3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Plaistow
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Sunday, February 4

10:00 AM	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	Plaistow
11:00 AM	Confirmation Session	Plaistow
11:00 AM	RCIA	Plaistow
11:00 AM	Baptism Catechesis	Plaistow

HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you or someone you know is in the hospital and wants to receive a visit, please contact the Parish Office at 603-382-8324. If you or someone you know faces a hospital admission, make sure they know to inform the hospital that they are Catholic and are members of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish. If a person cannot make this information known at the time of admission, a family member may be able to make that information known to the hospital staff.

**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, February 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, January 27 ~ Vigil / 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

4:00 PM Lucilia DeMelo by Lucia Guilmette
Plaistow

Sunday, January 28 ~ Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

8:00 AM Debbie Caron by Members of the Former Mary, Mother of the Church Social Life Committee
Newton

10:00 AM Joyce Valli by Alex and Joyce Szczapa
Plaistow

Monday, January 29 ~ Weekday
2 Sm 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Tuesday, January 30 ~ Weekday
2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3; Mk 5:21-43

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Plaistow

Wednesday, January 31 ~ John Bosco, Priest
2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6

6:30 PM Mary Safka by Ann Marie & Joseph Sheehan
Plaistow

Thursday, February 1 ~ Weekday
1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Friday, February 2 ~ Presentation of the Lord
Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40
No Mass

Saturday, February 3 ~ Blaise, Bishop and Martyr;
Ansgar, Bishop

1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34 (Day)

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39 (Vigil)

4:00 PM Mary Coltin by Janice Bettencourt
Plaistow

Sunday, February 4 ~ Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

8:00 AM Betsy Hawkins by Susan and Mick Swanwick
Newton

10:00 AM Everett Burke (Birthday Remembrance)
 by his wife
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 ✠

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.

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 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, February 4, 2018** 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.

ATTENTION ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, LECTORS, AND ALTAR SERVERS:

It is time to prepare Ministry Schedules for **March through May 2018** (this includes Easter liturgies from Palm Sunday, March 25 to Easter Sunday, April 1, for which there will be sign-up sheets).

If there are any times at which you cannot serve or when you would really like to serve, Jeanne needs to be notified by **February 12**.

Contact Jeanne Sullivan at 382-4760 or jmsul@myfairpoint.net.

Please remember to include your ministry and Mass time in your message. Please **contact Jeanne** and **NOT Jackie** because Jackie will just have to forward your email to Jeanne.

Please let Jeanne know your availability and desires for the Easter liturgies in case she needs to make phone calls.

Thanks, as always, for your help.

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.

**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.

The Church in Plaistow is open all day on Wednesdays for people to stop by and pray before the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle.

✠ 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 ✠



Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Lorraine Laurin

**HELP WANTED TO PUT AWAY
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

With Lent fast approaching, volunteers are welcome to help prepare the churches on **Sunday, February 11 following the 8:00 AM Liturgy in Newton and the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow.** Our tasks include taking down our Christmas decorations and some light clean up of the churches in preparation for the Lenten 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 – or just stay after Mass!

OPEN HOUSE

ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Sunday, January 28, 2018

12:00 to 2:00 PM

The St. Joseph Regional Catholic School in Salem invites you to their Open House for coffee and donuts on January 28 beginning at 12:00 Noon. They want to thank you for supporting and praying for them. Tours of the school will be available. Younger visitors are welcome to make a special winter craft with some of our students. Please come see the great things happening at St. Joe's. Questions? Contact info@sjrcs.com or 893-6811 ext. 19.



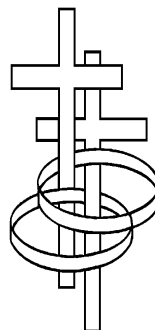
WINTER 2018

6 WEEK BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS

The Rockingham VNA & Hospice is offering 6-week interactive support groups that will explore the grieving process and provide an opportunity for those who are grieving to meet in a safe, supportive environment and share with others who are also grieving. Afternoon sessions are being offered in Epping, NH and evening sessions are being offered in Exeter, NH. For more information, call Molly Brewster at 772-2981.

ST. LUKE'S WEBSITE!

<http://stlukenh.org>



WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

The Church celebrates World Marriage Day on the weekend of **February 10-11, 2018** and the faith commitment of countless couples living out the sacrament of Marriage. At the conclusion of all Liturgies that weekend, married couples will be invited to renew their own wedding vows. Please pray for those married among us, and remember those preparing to be married as well.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS

Our Lady of Hope House of Prayer

February 23-25, 2018

You are invited for a weekend of silent retreat to pray with themes from the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. There will be talks on topics from the Spiritual Exercises, time for prayer with Scripture, Eucharistic Adoration, and spiritual direction if desired. Registration deadline is **February 9, 2018.** To register, or for more information, contact Srs. Rita Pay or Suzanne Rivard, p.m. at 603-878-2346 or olhope1@yahoo.com.

FREEDOM FUEL

Veterans who cannot pay for fuel oil or kerosene may be eligible for free fuel. This fuel is also available for those who are in combat at this time. Proof that he or she is overseas is all that is required. Retired veterans must show dd214, a veterans card, or a family member must prove that the need is real. For more information, go to www.dutileoil.net/free-fuel-for-veterans.html

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Office, Holy Angels Cemetery Office, Saint Luke Food Pantry and the Parish Liturgical schedule complies with the longstanding inclement weather policy of Saint Luke Religious Education Program and Holy Angels Pre-School-Kindergarten:

If the Timberlane and/or Sanborn regional school districts close because of inclement weather, ALL Parish Offices and Parish programs will be closed or suspended. All activities by any Parish or non-Parish groups will be cancelled for that day/evening on both campuses.

In the event of a weather related closing, the scheduled weekday Liturgy will not be held and the intention (if any) will be moved to a conveniently available date. **Sunday (or Saturday evening) liturgies can never be cancelled, but all are advised to use prudence when deciding to travel to Church during winter storms.**

Do Something for Lent. Renew your faith.

What is the **Lenten Journey** all about? Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are called the “three pillars” of the Christian way of life. They help support a full and healthy life. During Lent we try to repair and strengthen these three pillars, which also are called the “three disciplines” because they help people become better disciples of the Lord.

What to do?

Today we continue to welcome sign-ups for small group Scripture sharing during Lent.

We continue to pray together as our 2018 Lenten Journey gets underway. Ask for the Spirit’s guidance as you consider your involvement; pray that our Parish’s Lenten Journey be blessed.



Join a small group! Groups meet six times during the Lenten season to discuss the Lenten Sunday Lectionary readings. You will learn more about Scripture through the resource book provided, participate in interesting discussions, meet some wonderful people, and have the opportunity to build up the Body of Christ.

Take the opportunity to sign-up by filling out the registration form on the back and dropping it in the collection basket next week, drop it off at the parish office, or call the Parish Offices at 382-8324.

**Groups begin meeting the week of
February 11**

DISCIPLES ON THE JOURNEY REGISTRATION FORM



Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Please check the time and day you prefer

Sunday Mornings at 11 a.m. ____ Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. ____
(Feb. 11 – March 18) (Feb. 14 – March 21)

Thursday Afternoons at 1:30 p.m. ____
(Feb. 15 – March 22)

Check if you are willing to be a group leader _____

**GROUP MEETINGS BEGIN
THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11**

**GROUPS WILL MEET IN ROOM 8 IN THE
CHURCH HALL**

**(Please return this form in the collection basket or bring
to the parish office)**

The Gospel at Home

This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus shows his power and authority over evil. His teaching during Sabbath worship amazes his audience. Jesus teaches as one with authority. In his healing and his teaching, Jesus is fueled by the Holy Spirit and driven by God's love.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child learned about the peace that only Jesus can offer. Talk about "Pippa's Problem and Her Peaceful Path." Be sure to point out actions that are peaceful and those that are not. Remind your child that we experience Jesus' peace through the Holy Spirit when we follow God's example of love.

Promise (Grades K-1): In class, your child talked about all the people who are teachers in his or her life. Talk as a family about teachers who taught you important things, such as tying shoes, singing, reading, crossing the street, and the like. Ask your child to tell you about Sister Thea from this week's lesson.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned that good actions are powerful. Ask your child to share with the family the "power lantern" he or she made in class. Talk about the words on the lantern and what kind of power these words show. Hang the lantern in a prominent place in your home as a reminder of the week's Gospel and its lesson.

Venture (Grades 4-6): February is Black History Month, so the class learned about some important black Catholics in America. The class also discussed ways to live the Gospel teachings. As a family, discuss ways your family is living out the Good News of the Gospel in your home. Ask your child to share the story of Saints Perpetua and Felicity. Why are they patrons of mothers?

Visions (Grades 7-8): During this week's class, your son or daughter learned about black Catholic saints as well as Rosa Parks. The lesson also explored Jesus' authority and his home territory—Galilee. The class also discussed how people can be affected by advertising and can make bad judgments as a result. Ask your young person to share with the family three ways to handle all the advertising that is part of life today. Talk about how advertising affects your family. Ask your son or daughter to share the story of the Father Patrick Desbois.

Pray Together

When you complete your conversation about Sunday's Gospel lesson, gather in a comfortable spot in your home. Let each person in the family pray in their own words that God will help bring healing and kindness to everyone you meet. After each person has a say, all can respond with the words, "Jesus, help us show your healing to all we meet."

✠ PARISH MINISTRIES & INFORMATION ✠

JOIN THE CHOIR!

Why not join the Choir? We have lots of fun, work hard, and singing is a great way to worship! You don't have to know how to read music to join – come on down!

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.

ALTAR SERVERS

We welcome any student who has celebrated their First Eucharist to become an **Altar Server**. Training typically begins with the new server being an "observer" until they are ready to function as servers. Parents – see Fr. Albert or call the Parish Office for more information at 382-8324.



READERS WANTED

Our Parish community is in need of new **READERS** for weekend and weekday Liturgies. Readers proclaim the readings and lead the Assembly in the General Intercessions on Sundays. A good heart and clear speaking voice are the only qualifications needed – all other training and materials are provided. Any adult or high school age student is welcome to become a **READER**. Anyone who is interested can see Father Albert. Prospective **READERS** can also call the Parish Office for more information at 382-8324.

GREETERS AND USHERS WANTED

Our Parish community is in need of **GREETERS** and **USHERS** to assist us at the weekend liturgies. **Greeters** are principally concerned with offering a welcome to all who come through the doors of our churches, distributing the weekly Bulletin and making guests feel part of our Parish. They also help designate people to bring up the gifts during the offertory. The ministry of **Usher** is also concerned with hospitality; helping with the collections at Mass, helping people who need handicap access to the church in Plaistow, and helping to designate people to bring up the gifts during the offertory. Couples or families are invited to serve together! Anyone who is interested can see Father Albert. Prospective **GREETERS** and **USHERS** can also call the Parish Office for more information at 382-8324.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers are a special opportunity for remembering a departed loved one or offering thanksgiving for a blessing or family event. A floral arrangement placed in front of the altar for the Sunday Liturgy can be purchased for an offering of \$85, with an accompanying announcement in the weekly bulletin. Availability is limited according to the Liturgical Calendar. Offerings can be reserved on a first-come basis by contacting the Parish Office at 382-8324.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you or someone you know is in the hospital and wants to receive a visit, please contact the parish office at 382-8324. If you or someone you know faces a hospital admission, make sure they know to inform the hospital that they are Catholic and are members of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish. If a person cannot make this information known at the time of admission, a family member may be able to make that information known to the hospital staff.

PRAYER LINE

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST JUDE COUNCIL #6617 SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

The St. Jude Council is a vital part of your parish. We are a Catholic men's fraternal organization whose main purposes are charitable works and supporting our parish and community. We are involved with many activities during the year, including: A yearly Golf Tournament to raise money to help local families in need; Blood Drives; A Wedding Vows/Valentine's Day Meal & Dance; Food Baskets; Family Pool Party & BBQ. This is just a small sampling of the many activities of the St. Jude Council. We offer opportunities not just for the men, but for our members' entire family, including a Squires Club for young men between the ages of 10 and 18. The only requirement for membership is that you are a practicing Catholic who wants to join other men and their families of the parish to help those who are in need, support your parish, and enjoy the fellowship of other members and their families. If you would like to find out more about the Knights, please contact Bernie Gosselin at 603-642-4012.



Bringing Home the Word

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time | January 28, 2018

The Authority of Jesus' Word

By Mary Katharine Deeley

When my children were small, I had the power all mothers have to soothe little cuts, scrapes, and bruises with a single kiss. Mother kisses, and the hurt is lessened or disappears altogether.

It worked wonders until the day my daughter burned her hand when she touched a steam pot. With full confidence, she lifted her fingers to be kissed—and then realized they still hurt. Over and over she lifted them to my lips, and over and over I kissed them until I finally admitted we needed to

try something else. Cold water and a washcloth eventually soothed the pain, and the limits of my magic touch were suddenly apparent.

Jesus' power is of a different magnitude. It's evident when he reads and preaches with authority (from the Greek word *exousia*, which means "out of himself"—as opposed to studying or having a title thrust on him). It's even more manifest when he simply rebukes a demon and the demon leaves his human host—not because he wants to, but because he knows true authority when he sees and hears it.

It's no wonder the people are astonished. They've never seen this kind of immediate response. This is no mother's kiss to heal the little hurts of life, no magician pretending to have power he doesn't. This is the Son of God come to cast out evil itself and open the Scriptures so the people can hear God's word in a new and powerful way.

Today, let us turn to him to heal our wounds and make us whole. +

***This is the Son of God
come to cast out
evil itself.***

A Word From Pope Francis

What an illusion it is when people today shut their eyes in the face of sickness and disability! They fail to understand the real meaning of life....The world does not become better because only apparently "perfect" people live there...but when human solidarity, mutual acceptance, and respect increase.

—Jubilee for the Sick
and Persons With
Disabilities,
June 12, 2016



Sunday Readings

Deuteronomy 18:15–20

[Moses said,] "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you...."

1 Corinthians 7:32–35

I should like you to be free of anxieties.

Mark 1:21–28

Jesus...said, "Quiet! Come out of him!"....He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION REFLECTION

- Am I letting myself be tricked into eating any moral junk food that isn't healthy for my long-term spiritual and moral flourishing?



Why We Need the Church

By Thomas H. Groome

Ever wonder why Catholics emphasize going to church as a way of keeping the Sabbath holy? Of course Protestant Christians are committed to Sunday worship, but we add a note of obligation. For us, participating in Sunday Mass is a privilege but also a serious responsibility. We may not miss Sunday Mass—except for some good reason. And, far more than attending as spectators, we are expected to function as active members in a community.

The sense of Sunday obligation is only one instance of the communal emphasis that is core to Catholicism. Catholic Christian faith is essentially communal; we are disciples in community and a community of disciples. We're convinced that God reaches out to us as community and that we most effectively reach out to God together. So, we may not simply watch Mass on TV or go to a mountaintop for our own religious experience.

It is through Christian community that we access the Scriptures and traditions that forge our identity in faith, to the sacraments that sustain us, to the models of holiness in the saints, to people to pray with us on our journey home to God. Indeed, Catholic spirituality calls us to a personal relationship with God, but through Christian community.

In Our Nature

The Bible highlights the communal nature of faith. Indeed, it seems that God designed our human nature as relational. When God differentiated the lonely Adam into male and female, he made them “companions” to each other. Then, beginning with God’s call of Abraham and Sarah to parent a people, Hebrew faith is lived as community.

Likewise, early Christians favored communal metaphors to describe their shared discipleship to Jesus. Paul’s image of the Church as Body of Christ was the most compelling. Within this body, the hand and foot, the eye and ear, and all individual parts are vitally important; yet all the organs must function together as one (see 1 Corinthians 12:26). By baptism, we are bonded together as one with Christ and each other; “we though many, are one body in Christ (Romans 12:5). And all members must contribute their gifts for “building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12).

Rooted in History

During the Reformation, Protestant leaders rebelled against the exaggerated power of the Church, charging it with replacing rather than representing God. As a consequence, they de-emphasized the communal nature of Christian faith. When the Catholic Church regrouped at the Council of Trent, it agreed that people must have their own personal relationship with God but that our faith must be realized through Christian community.

Catholicism is so intent on the communal nature of faith as to propose that even death doesn’t break the bond of baptism. So, we can ask those in the eternal presence of God to pray for us—with Mary holding pride of place among this communion of saints. Likewise, we can intercede for departed loved ones who may need “purgation” in order to enter the eternal presence of God. In death, “life is changed, not ended” (Preface, Mass of Resurrection) and certainly not the bond of baptism.

This communal emphasis of Catholicism requires that we be active in a local parish. If we don’t like our assigned one, the 1983 Code of Canon Law gives us permission to “shop around” a bit. It is imperative that we find a local Catholic community to call home and share our time, talents, and treasure to sustain its mission. For Catholics at least, we’re all in this together. +



Lord, you created me to live
in the freedom of your love.
Give me the courage to share
your love with all people.

*From Peaceful Meditations
for Every Day in Ordinary Time,*

Rev. Warren J. Savage
and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

January 29–February 3

Mon. Weekday: 2 Sm 15:13–14, 30; 16:5–13 / Mk 5:1–20

Tue. Weekday: 2 Sm 18:9–10, 14b, 24–25a, 30–19:3 / Mk 5:21–43

Wed. St. John Bosco, Priest: 2 Sm 24:2, 9–17 / Mk 6:1–6

Thu. Weekday: 1 Kgs 2:1–4, 10–12 / Mk 6:7–13

Fri. Presentation of the Lord: Mal 3:1–4 / Heb 2:14–18 / Lk 2:22–40 or 2:22–32

Sat. Weekday: 1 Kgs 3:4–13 / Mk 6:30–34

Bringing Home
the Word 
January 28, 2018

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