



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, January 21, 2018
Third Sunday In
Ordinary Time

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: Sing A New Song BB 544

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 63)

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

Preparation Remember Your Love BB 662

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Gift Of Finest Wheat BB 324
The Supper Of The Lord BB 354

Recessional: Lord Of The Dance BB 564

10:00 AM

Gathering: Table Of Plenty BB 310

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 103)

The Lord is kind and merciful. (2x)

Preparation Here I Am, Lord BB 379
Servant Song BB 377

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Remember Your Love BB 662
Behold The Lamb BB 339

Recessional: All The Ends Of The Earth BB 793



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!

**COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR
JANUARY 14, 2018
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

January 21, 2018	Fuel
January 28, 2018	No Second Collection
February 4, 2018	Property Management
February 11, 2018	Catholic Schools
February 14, 2018	Aid to Churches in Central & Eastern Europe / Africa



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

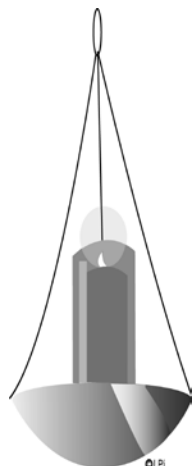
Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on a Percentage Increase

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
Helen DeRoche
by her family

The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of
Ben Zakiewicz
(3rd Anniversary)
by Pat Zakiewicz

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?

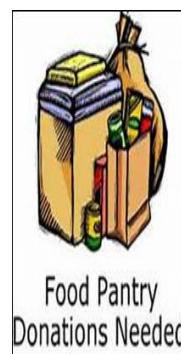
Any contribution is welcome.

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.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, January 21

10:00 AM Religious Education – Pre-K to 8 *Plaistow*
11:00 AM Reconciliation Retreat & Celebration of the
 Sacrament (Gr. 2 Parents/Students) *Plaistow*
11:00 AM RCIA *Plaistow*

Wednesday, January 24
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH
OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

7:00 PM Reader Scripture Share *Plaistow*

Thursday, January 25

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

Saturday, January 27

9:00 AM Prayer Breakfast *Plaistow*
3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation *Plaistow*

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*

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 20 ~ Vigil / 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jon 3:1-5, 10; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

4:00 PM Ginny Brinkley by Carol and Bill Verge
Plaistow

Sunday, January 21 ~ Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jon 3:1-5, 10; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

8:00 AM Everett Burke by his wife
 (Wedding Anniversary Remembrance)
Newton

10:00 AM Robert Rivard
 by Knights of Columbus, Council 6617
Plaistow

**Monday, January 22 ~ Day of Prayer for the Legal
Protection of Unborn Children**

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Mk 3:22-30
8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

**Tuesday, January 23 ~ Marianne Cope, Virgin;
Vincent, Deacon and Martyr**

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mk 3:31-35
8:00 AM People of the Parish
Plaistow

**Wednesday, January 24 ~ Francis de Sales, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church**

2 Sm 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20
6:30 PM Marrian Goodhue (Month's Mind)
Plaistow

Thursday, January 25 ~ Conversion of Paul, Apostle
Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Mk 16:15-18

8:00 AM People of the Parish
Newton

Friday, January 26 ~ Timothy and Titus, Bishops
2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Mk 4:26-34
No Mass

**Saturday, January 27 ~ Angela Merici, Virgin and
Religious Founder**

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mk 4:35-41 (Day)
Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28 (Vigil)
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

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:

Robert Bush

**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>

**OPEN INVITATION TO JOIN THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The St Jude Council invites the men of the parish to join the Knights of Columbus. We are united in our service to our local communities and our Parish of St Luke's. Our activities are varied and we have a great group of Knights and their families who enjoy being part of our Knights' family. We only ask our Brother Knights to do what they can within the comfort of their own schedule. Our activities include support of St. Luke's Food Pantry, St Jude Golf Open to help families in need, Tootsie Roll Drive to help the mentally and physically challenged, Pro-Life events, Financial Support of three Seminarians, Boy Scouting, Blood Drives, Fundraising Meals, Golf League, Family BBQ, Christmas Party, and many more activities. If you would like more information on the Knights, please contact any of the Knights listed below:

Jeff Lozeau 661-8285

Dan Sullivan 378-0458

Peter Richards 382-4315

Gene Gaudreau 382-4342

Mike Rosa 458-5520

Gordie Lewis 382-8424

Jack Ronan 580-2444

Don Richardson 362-4520

Bernie Gosselin 642-401

Greg Taillon 382-7239

Ed Wencis 362-5783

Joe Klimaszewski 362-9962

Roland Richardson 443-848-3328

Bob Nadeau 617-335-1257

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.**

WELCOME!!!!

WOMEN AND MEN PRAYER BREAKFAST



“WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?”

(Matthew 16:15)

Please join us for a reflection and talk by Sr. Deborah, osf, on Saturday, January 27, at 9 a.m., with a snow date of February 3, in the Church Hall. We will come together for breakfast, a talk, discussion, and prayer. We will close our sharing and prayer at 12 noon. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail the office at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net by **Monday, January 22**, or call the office at 382-8324.

(There will be a free will offering that will be donated to The Little Sisters of Saint Francis.)

The Gospel at Home

This Sunday's Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus calls four fishermen to become fishers of people. They respond quickly and follow Jesus. They share in his work of spreading the Good News of God's love. This is a call that comes to all on this Sunday, and we all need to respond with the same joy and enthusiasm as the first disciples.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child learned that Jesus calls people to belong to his family. We all follow Jesus by fulfilling our responsibilities in daily life. Talk to your child about ways to be loving or forgiving, and point out times when your child acts as a member of God's loving family.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child learned about listening to God's Word and to others. Ask your child to share the story "Listening to Emma" with the family. Be sure to listen carefully and to encourage your child to share details. Discuss ways to make sure you are listening to one another.

Good News (Grades 2-3): Your child learned about being sent by Jesus to share his Good News with others. Talk about ways your family can share Jesus' message with others during Lent. Remember that actions will always speak louder than words when it comes to bringing the Good News to others.

Venture (Grades 4-6): Ask your child to share with the family what he or she learned about the Gospel of Mark. The class also acted out a play about the Prophet Jonah, who was called by God but really did not want to answer yes. Talk about the experiences Jonah had in the story. Discuss ways that your family can answer God's call to follow Jesus and bring the Good News to the people you meet.

Visions (Grades 7-8): The class this week explored how Christians discover their vocations. Ask your son or daughter to share with the family the story, "God Changed My Mind." The class also studied the Eucharistic Prayer from the Mass. This is a good opportunity to share as a family how important the Mass is to you and how important it is to attend Mass every Sunday. Talk a bit about the example of Pope Francis and how he discovered his vocation.

Pray Together

Sometimes God's call is discovered in silence. When you complete your conversation about Sunday's Gospel lesson, invite all the members of your family to share a few moments of silent prayer. You can all hold hands or just sit quietly together. An adult can remind the family that Jesus calls all of you to follow him. (If anybody starts to fidget, it is time to conclude.) End by praying together the Sign of the Cross.

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 of discipleship. 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.

The Lenten Journey is about PRAYER.

Prayer is conversation with God. Make a good habit of daily prayer. Read the Psalms; and each Lent try and learn one or two by heart. Try to sing your prayer at home, and make every effort to sing well when you worship with others.



The Lenten Journey is about FASTING. To prepare himself for his life’s work, Jesus fasted in the wilderness. As Christians grow up, they need to learn traditional, healthy ways to fast. When we fast, we deny ourselves some food or other good things. We remind ourselves of how dependent we are on God’s gifts, which always must be shared fairly and never taken for granted.

The Lenten Journey is about GIVING. Almsgiving means “sharing compassion.” Almsgiving means more than giving away the things we don’t need. It means giving away some of the things we do need because someone else also needs them. It means giving of ourselves.

Our **Lenten Journey** is about faith sharing during the Lenten season. It is a way to learn more about your faith, and grow as a disciple of the Lord; it is a way to meet fellow parishioners, and to contribute to the life of our Parish.

All are welcome!

What to do?

Today we invite 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 upcoming 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.

You will have the opportunity to sign-up by filling out the registration form in this bulletin today and in the coming weeks, or call the Parish Office at 382-8324.

What else? During Lent, special *Paschal Mission* inserts in the weekly bulletin will focus on the Lenten Scriptures and on discipleship in the real world. Sunday Homilies will touch on living Jesus' Gospel and on the questions discussed at Group meetings.

Evangelization – spreading the “Good News” is something everyone can do!

WE ARE SEEKING SMALL GROUP LEADERS ON OUR **LENTEN JOURNEY**

As a leader, you'll have the responsibility of opening and closing each small group session with a prayer, and helping people feel at ease with each other during the session. With your fellow group members, you will learn more about Scripture, participate in interesting discussions, meet some wonderful people, and have the opportunity to build up the Body of Christ.

Couples are welcome to share the group leader task!

***Indicate a “leader preference” on the registration form.
For more information call 382-8324.***

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)**

✠ 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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time | January 21, 2018

The Power of Christ's Invitation

By Mary Katharine Deeley

Whether he knew it or not, Jonah was one of the most powerful prophets in Israel. He had scarcely started on his journey through Ninevah when the entire city under the direction of the king expressed sorrow for their sins and turned God's judgment to mercy. I think we all hope we might be that effective in our jobs.

If we to continue to read the Book of Jonah, though, we find that he wasn't so happy about this turn of events—he felt it

made him look weak. Did he not predict the destruction of Ninevah if they failed to repent?

But for now, we see a people so moved by the word of God that they immediately change their behavior. In Mark's Gospel, Christ's invitation is just as compelling for the four fishermen who abandon their nets and their father by the sea and immediately change their direction and their lives.

I have a hard time imagining the words that would make me drop everything to follow a completely different path. Certainly I've taken the advice of friends and family or have responded to circumstances that demanded a new direction, but only after reflection and prayer—but it took considerably longer than a single moment.

The power of the good news, however, is unlike any other to those who are open to it. When we really hear God's voice, our hearts yearn to be in his presence and, though not always easily, our souls and minds bend to his will.

How is God's word calling you to change today?+

The power of the good news is unlike any other to those who are open to it.

A Word From Pope Francis

For every Christian, the proclamation and witnessing of the Gospel is never an isolated act. This is important.... No evangelizer acts, as Paul VI recalled, "in virtue of a... personal inspiration, but in union with the mission of the Church and in her name."

—Address to International Union of Superiors General, May 8, 2013



Sunday Readings

Jonah 3:1–5, 10

They proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth.

1 Corinthians 7:29–31

For the world in its present form is passing away.

Mark 1:14–20

Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

- Do I understand that putting off the voice of God is also putting off all the good, joy, and peace he wants to bring about by what he is asking?



Seven Divine Works of Art

By Fr. Thomas Richstatter, OFM

One thing you can say about Catholics: We aren't afraid of things. In fact, it's the opposite. We know that creation is good and that created things can serve as a window through which we see something of God. For us, things are not an obstacle to grace but a means of grace. This is true in those celebrations we call sacraments.

Humans are body, mind, and spirit, and we Catholics come to God with our whole being—not with words alone. We do not simply say, “Jesus is my Savior.” We Catholics do more.

We go into the baptismal tomb where we die with Christ, then plunge into the waters of birth in him. We come up from the Church's womb with rebirth and new life to be oiled and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, and fed on the Body and Blood of Christ at the Eucharist. Catholicism is an incarnated religion. It uses the ordinary stuff of this world to touch the world beyond.

An artist is always somehow embodied in his or her work. We can look at a painting and say, “That is a Picasso.” We hear a piece of music and say, “That's clearly Beethoven.”

In a similar way we can look at the sacraments and say, “That's God!” We

see the artist revealed in the work of art. That's what the sacraments are—seven great artworks revealing the Creator.

Portraits of God

Baptism reveals God as the womb and source of all life. When I see a newly baptized infant in his or her parents' arms, I get a glimpse of parental God embracing us—loving us, not because of what we have done, but because we are God's children. Confirmation reveals our destiny; we are to live to make visible in outward signs the “personality” of our Creator God. We are to be signs of wisdom, judgment, courage, knowledge, reverence, and awe.

Eucharist says it all: We become present to the Lord who died that we might live—who feeds us with his Body and Blood so that we become one body filled with his Spirit.

Reconciliation reveals a God ever ready to forgive and embrace us. Anointing shows us a God who heals, longing for the end of sickness, pain, and disease and calling us—along with all creation—to wholeness. Holy orders provides a glimpse of a God who shepherds the flock, leading and sanctifying all into the kingdom.

And what a powerful sign we have in marriage! In the faithful, total, through-thick-and-thin, for-better-or-worse love the couple promises each other in the rite of marriage, all who witness the sacrament can glimpse how God loves us:

faithfully, totally, through thick and thin, for better or worse. At their wedding, the bride and groom receive many wonderful gifts. But the gifts they receive are not as wonderful as the gift the couple gives us. They give us a sacrament, a sign of who God is.

Seeing More

As Americans, we value efficiency and production. We like getting to the point and getting the job done. Sometimes this can blind us to the symbolic function of things and events.

Sacraments “produce” through symbols. Sacraments help us see more. They help us see God in a baby's smile or in the touch of a loved one; they help us to find God in the “I'm sorry” of someone who has hurt us. The sacraments, and all of creation, reveal the divine Creator artist. +



Lord, you call me to do the work of God in the world. Help me to say yes to your work of peace and reconciliation.

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

Rev. Warren J. Savage
and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

January 22–27

- Mon. Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children: 2 Sm 5:1–7, 10 / Mk 3:22–30
- Tue. Weekday: 2 Sm 6:12b–15, 17–19 / Mk 3:31–35
- Wed. St. Francis de Sales: 2 Sm 7:4–17 / Mk 4:1–20

- Thu. Conversion of St. Paul: Acts 22:3–16 or Acts 9:1–22 / Mk 16:15–18
- Fri. Sts. Timothy and Titus: 2 Tm 1:1–8 or Ti 1:1–5 / Mk 4:26–34
- Sat. Weekday: 2 Sm 12:1–7a, 10–17 / Mk 4:35–41

Bringing Home
the Word 
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