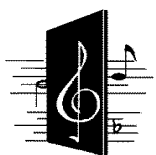


## ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST



### MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, February 4, 2018  
Fifth Sunday In  
Ordinary Time

4:00 PM  
8:00 AM

Gathering: All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name  
BB 729

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 63)

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

Preparation We Are The Light Of The World  
BB 597

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Our Blessing Cup BB 363  
One Bread, One Body BB 340

Recessional: How Can I Keep From Singing BB 442

10:00 AM

Gathering: Gather Us In BB 303

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 63)

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

Preparation This Alone BB 404  
We Are The Light Of The World  
BB 597

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion: Spirit And Grace BB 347  
The Cry Of The Poor BB 620

Recessional: How Can I Keep From Singing BB 442



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

St. Luke the Evangelist is now on Facebook! Go to  
[www.facebook.com/stlukenh.org/](http://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 28, 2018

Offertory

\$6,271.29

### 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

February 4, 2018	Property Management
February 11, 2018	Catholic Schools
February 14, 2018	Aid to Churches in Central / Eastern Europe and Africa
February 18, 2018	Fuel



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

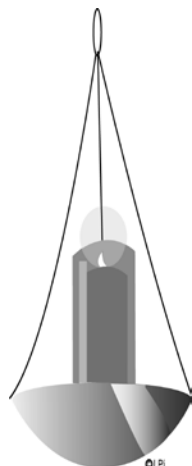
### Suggested Weekly Contribution Based on a Percentage Increase

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 **Joseph D. Gibbs** by his wife and family

The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of **Robert Wojciechowski** by Laura Branting



### **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.***

### **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](http://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**

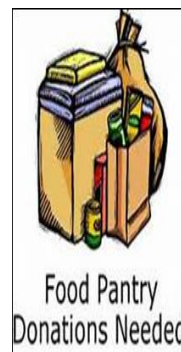


### **HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY CLOSED**

**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

### **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.

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

**Sunday, February 4**

<b>10:00 AM</b>	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Confirmation Session	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Baptism Catechesis	<i>Plaistow</i>

**Monday, February 5**

<b>7:00 AM</b>	Knights of Columbus	<i>Plaistow</i>
----------------	---------------------	-----------------

**Wednesday, February 7**  
**HOLY ANGELS CHURCH**  
**OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER**

<b>7:00 PM</b>	Reader Scripture Share	<i>Plaistow</i>
----------------	------------------------	-----------------

**Thursday, February 8**

<b>8:30 AM</b>	Adoration Begins	<i>Newton</i>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Intercessory Prayer	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>8:30 PM</b>	Adoration Ends	<i>Newton</i>

**Saturday, February 10**

<b>3:00 PM</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
----------------	-----------------------------	-----------------

**Sunday, February 11**  
**Prepare Churches For Lent After Masses**

<b>10:00 AM</b>	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>

### 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, February 3 ~ Vigil / 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39*  
**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*

**Monday, February 5 ~ Agatha, Virgin and Martyr**  
*1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56*  
**8:00 AM** Mrs. May Harriman by Sandra Estabrook  
*Newton*

**Tuesday, February 6 ~ Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs**  
*1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13*  
**8:00 AM** Robert Bush (Month's Mind)  
*Plaistow*

**Wednesday, February 7 ~ Weekday**  
*1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23*  
**6:30 PM** Vincent Dowd (Birthday Remembrance)  
 by his family  
*Plaistow*

**Thursday, February 8 ~ Jerome Emiliani;**  
**Josephine Bakhita, Virgin**  
*1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30*  
**8:00 AM** People of the Parish  
*Newton*

**Friday, February 9 ~ Weekday**  
*1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19; Mk 7:31-37*  
**No Mass**

**Saturday, February 10 ~ Scholastica, Virgin**  
*1 Kgs 12:26-32, 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10 (Day)*  
*Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31—11:1; Mk 1:40-45 (Vigil)*  
**4:00 PM** William Martin Lewis (10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) and  
 Alicia Dinesco by the Lewis family  
*Plaistow*

**Sunday, February 11 ~ Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31—11:1; Mk 1:40-45*  
**8:00 AM** Ann Sullivan (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary) by her family  
*Newton*  
**10:00 AM** Kyle DiPerri by his family  
*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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net">fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Cathy Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@stluketheevangelist.net">csmith@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Joyce Szczapa	<a href="mailto:jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net">jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Jackie Tremblay	<a href="mailto:jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net">jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Thomas Kondel	<a href="mailto:tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net">tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Val Barczak	<a href="mailto:music@stluketheevangelist.net">music@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Youth Ministry	<a href="mailto:youth@stluketheevangelist.net">youth@stluketheevangelist.net</a>
Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net">parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net</a>



✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠



## In Loving Memory

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:  
**Mary "Laurie" Herlihy**

### 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!

### SOUPER BOWL COLLECTION

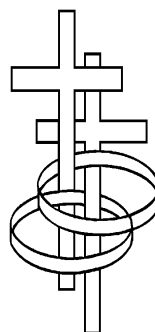
More than 25 years ago, **Souper Bowl of Caring** began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat." Since that day, more than \$125 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving. We invite you to be a part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. **Our Collection will take place Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.** Please consider giving generously on Super Bowl Sunday. Every dollar donated goes to St. Luke the Evangelist Food Pantry, our 2018 Souper Bowl of Caring charity of choice.



### 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](http://www.dutileoil.net/free-fuel-for-veterans.html)

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.



### JOIN THE CHOIR FOR EASTER

Have you ever wanted to "lift your voice in song" to God, especially at Easter time? Can you spare a couple of hours on Tuesday nights? Why not join the adult choir for Easter this year? No previous experience or special skills are required! We will be rehearsing on **Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM, beginning on February 13** and continuing through Holy Week. This is a short-term commitment and is a great way to experience a new ministry. For more information, contact Val Barczak, Parish Music Director, at [mymbarczak@comcast.net](mailto:mymbarczak@comcast.net).

### DISCIPLES ON THE JOURNEY

Disciples On The Journey offers downloads for families and teens. For more information, go to [www.disciplesonthejourney.org](http://www.disciplesonthejourney.org)

### 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. Our **Lenten Journey** program helps Discipleship!

**Lenten Journey is about SMALL GROUPS... IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN-UP!** We continue to welcome sign-ups for small groups. **On the back of this flyer is a REGISTRATION FORM. Return the form by Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at the office, or call the office at 382-8324.**

**Meetings begin next week!** 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.



**All group members will pick up their resource booklets  
at the first meeting.**

**Groups begin meeting NEXT WEEK!**

**Sunday, February 11, at 11 a.m. in Room 8; downstairs in the Church Hall.**

**Wednesday, February 14, after the 6:30 p.m. Mass in Room 8; downstairs in the Church Hall.**

**Thursday, February 15, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 8; downstairs in the Church Hall.**

**Ash Wednesday is next Wednesday, February 14!**

# **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 for All Ages

Family Catechesis

**Gospel Weeklies**  
parish FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time • February 4, 2018 • Jesus Heals**

**Sunday Readings:** Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

## Weekly Discussion Questions

**For the Parish Bulletin**

**Life Question:** How has the life-giving power of Jesus raised you up? How have you responded?

**Gospel Question:** Who models Jesus' kind of service and healing for you?

## LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

### Exploring the Sunday Readings (Adults)

Who models a discipleship of service that you try to follow? Visit [exploringthesundayreadings.com](http://exploringthesundayreadings.com)

### Visions (Grades 7-8)

**Life Question:** Who serves the Christian community in a way you can see yourself doing?

**Gospel Question:** How does Jesus make a difference to people in need?

### Venture (Grades 4-6)

**Life Question:** When have you been sick? What is hard about being sick?

**Gospel Question:** When have you acted like Jesus?

### Good News (Grades 2-3)

**Life Question:** What does it mean to serve others? Who do you know that serves others?

**Gospel Question:** How does Jesus serve and help people?

### Promise (Grades K-1)

**Life Question:** How can you help at home and school?

**Gospel Question:** How does Jesus help people?

### Seeds (Preschool)

**Life Question:** What do you like to do with your grandparents?

**Gospel Question:** Who does Jesus help? Who follows Jesus?

## Family Corner

### About the Gospel

In Galilee, Jesus cured the sick and drove evil from the town. Everyone wanted to meet Jesus and see him heal people. The Gospel also reminds us that Jesus took time to pray so he could carry out his healing ministry.

Visit [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) to read this Sunday's Scripture.

### In Church

When the Prayers of the Faithful are read, listen carefully for the names of people who are sick and pray specifically for them.

### Question of the Week

How do you feel when you see people who are sick or struggling?



### Family Prayer

Jesus, help us to do your work of feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, and comforting others.

## Rincón de la Familia

### Acerca del Evangelio

En Galilea, Jesús curaba a los enfermos y expulsaba el mal del pueblo. Todos querían conocer a Jesús y verlo sanar a la gente. El Evangelio también nos recuerda que Jesús dedicaba tiempo a rezar para poder llevar a cabo su ministerio de sanación.

Visita [www.usccb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings) para leer las lecturas de este domingo.

### En la Iglesia

Cuando se lee la Oración de los Fieles, escucha atento los nombres de las personas que están enfermas y reza en especial por ellas.

### Pregunta de la semana

¿Cómo te sientes cuando ves a la gente que está enferma o con problemas?



### Oración en familia

Jesús, ayúdanos a llevar a cabo tu obra de alimentar al hambriento, cuidar al enfermo y consolar a los demás.



## ✠ 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.catholicnh.org/support) for a listing of groups.





# Bringing Home the Word

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time | February 4, 2018

## You Are Not Alone

By Mary Katharine Deeley

**I**llness, depression, and misfortune can make us feel alone and afraid. We wonder whether anyone can understand what we're going through or help us.

The first five chapters of Mark's Gospel give us several healing stories in which Jesus, by touch or word, restores individuals to wholeness. He casts out demons. He cures the sick, like Simon's mother-in-law. The stories confirm what our faith tells us—that God's healing power is for all people and that good news lifts us and gives us joy.

But for those touched by the loneliness of infirmity of mind, body, or spirit, the stories alone might not be enough. Instead, the fervent prayer of the psalmist might be our grace: "The LORD ...[heals] the brokenhearted" (Psalm 147:2–3). Or, our peace might rest in the simple knowledge of two often-overlooked lines from the Gospels: "They brought him many who were possessed by demons" (Matthew 8:16), and, "The whole town was gathered at the door" (Mark 1:33).

Simply put, everyone came, and no one was alone. No matter what our condition, we are not alone. Christ is there in our pain and suffering to give us the grace to endure. We're not always cured by human standards, but Christ helps us find wholeness no matter what we suffer—and in him we find our peace and our joy.

Isaiah told us that the name given to the Messiah was Emmanuel, which means "God with us."

In Christ, we see the evidence that God's promise has come true. +

***"The LORD...[heals]  
the brokenhearted."***

Psalm 147:2–3

## A Word From Pope Francis

Jesus sends his disciples out to all nations....We too were part of all those people of two thousand years ago. Jesus did not provide a short list of who is, or is not, worthy of receiving his message and his presence. Instead, he always embraced life as he saw it.

—Canonization of Fr. Junípero Serra,  
September 23, 2015



## Sunday Readings

### Job 7:1–4, 6–7

My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope.

### 1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23

I have become all things to all, to save at least some.

### Mark 1:29–39

[Jesus said,] "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come."

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS REFLECTION

- When you look around, what needs for the gospel of love do you see?
- Which of these needs can you fill as Jesus' apostle?



# Transforming Our Pain Into Sacred Wounds

By Richard Rohr, OFM

**A**ll religion is about transforming pain and what to do with that pain—the absurd, tragic, unjust experiences that make up our lives. The hurts, disappointments, and betrayals; the burdens of sinfulness and brokenness pile up throughout life. We must find a way to make our pain into sacred wounds. We must find a way to give meaning to our hurts and find God in that suffering. Our faith is a gift that helps us deal with life's tragedies.

Throughout history, literature has idealized people at the top: presidents and leaders who hold power and control the system. But biblical revelation turns history upside down with empathy for victims. It idealizes the bottom. It says that true power is not focused at the top. Then Jesus comes to epitomize that message by becoming poor, naked, and expelled—the one who teaches us that the way down is really the way up.

Our lesson is that we need to stop looking for meaning at the top and, instead, go to the edges and the bottom where we find those excluded and expelled. By his life and teaching, Jesus reminds us that we have to be rejected. We have to experience being on the outside before we have something to say.

***By his life and teaching, Jesus reminds us  
that we have to be rejected.***

This is the gift of biblical revelation. It's why we're the only religion that worships the victim, the one considered the problem by religious authorities.

## God of Surprises

When Christians call Jesus the Lord of history—this bleeding, naked, crucified man—we are turning history around! We may not realize how scandalous and silly this seems to others. But when you think about it, the crucified Jesus is an unlikely candidate for God.

But this is the very Jesus who, through his teaching and life, reminds us to be careful where we look for God. Expect to find God in unexpected places, he tells us. And so it is in all of history: It has been the excluded ones and people at the bottom who have the privileged viewpoint. Why? Because it is from that position that we meet God, that we understand the illusion and lies of a system built on power, prestige, possessions. But until all that is taken from us, we don't know that. Until then we are simply playing the game, enjoying the fruits of the system.

Recall how Jesus sends his disciples to preach from a position of vulnerability. "Go out, take nothing for your journey," he tells them. Why? Because he knows they're going to fail and look like fools. They have to or they won't have a message to deliver.

## Hard Truths

It's an initiation of sorts: Jesus sends his disciples into situations where people are going to laugh at them and consider them nobodies. Only when you are a nobody will you understand what it means to be somebody. That is when you will find your life on new ground. We call it the reign of God.

The Bible begins with a fall for a reason. The story of Adam and Eve is a microcosm of what will happen in every life. You and I will fall. Somewhere we will experience our own absurdity, our utter brokenness. This reality isn't something to hold off; it's a necessary, tragic, and beautiful part of the journey.

The answer to our pain is the Jesus who was rejected, betrayed, and abandoned; then hanged on a cross, bleeding and naked. The answer to our pain is the risen Christ, who reminds us that through pain we have new life. +



Lord, you hear the cry of the poor. Hear my cry for inner peace and happiness.

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

Rev. Warren J. Savage  
and Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

February 5-10

Mon. St. Agatha:  
1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 / Mk 6:53-56

Tue. St. Paul Miki and Companions:  
1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 / Mk 7:1-13

Wed. Weekday:  
1 Kgs 10:1-10 / Mk 7:14-23

Thu. Weekday:  
1 Kgs 11:4-13 / Mk 7:24-30

Fri. Weekday:  
1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 / Mk 7:31-37

Sat. St. Scholastica: 1 Kgs 12:26-32;  
13:33-34 / Mk 8:1-10