



## MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, February 25, 2018  
Second Sunday Of Lent

4:00 PM  
8:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 91)

*Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble; be with me, Lord, I pray.*

Preparation Save Your People BB 129

Mass Parts Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion: I Have Loved You BB 603  
Loving And Forgiving BB 665

Recessional: **We depart in silence during Lent**

10:00 AM

Gathering: Hold Us In Your Mercy

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 91)

*Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble; be with me, Lord, I pray.*

Preparation Come And Worship The Lord  
BB 306  
Renew Me, Lord BB 645

Mass Parts Mass of Christ the Savior

Communion: I Have Loved You BB 603  
Loving And Forgiving BB 665

Recessional: **We depart in silence during Lent**



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!

**COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR  
FEBRUARY 18, 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

February 25, 2018	No Second Collection
March 4, 2018	Property Management
March 11, 2018	Easter Flowers
March 18, 2018	Fuel
March 25, 2018	Catholic Relief Services



**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

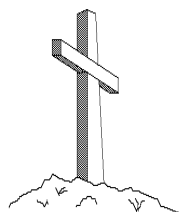
## ✠ PARISH NEWS ✠

### 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.**

### LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

**Evening Prayer** is sung at Newton at 6:00 PM on all Sundays of Lent. Join us for a quiet time of prayer and reflection. The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available immediately after Evening Prayer each Sunday of the Lenten Season.



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening during Lent at 6:30 PM in Newton. A soup supper will follow Stations on Friday, March 23.

### 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 every **Tuesday night at 7:00 PM** through Holy Week. This is a short-term commitment and a great way to experience a new ministry. For more information, contact Val Barczak, Parish Music Director, at [mvmbarczak@comcast.net](mailto:mvmbarczak@comcast.net).

### **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?***

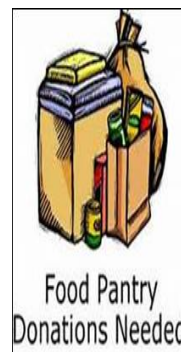
Any contribution is welcome.

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.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### ✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

#### Sunday, February 25

10:00 AM	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Confirmation Session	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

#### Wednesday, February 28

#### HOLY ANGELS CHURCH

#### OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

7:00 PM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
7:00 PM	Reader Scripture Share	<i>Plaistow</i>

#### Thursday, March 1

8:30 AM	Adoration Begins	<i>Newton</i>
9:00 AM	Intercessory Prayer	<i>Plaistow</i>
10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
1:30 PM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
8:30 PM	Adoration Ends	<i>Newton</i>

#### Friday, March 2

6:30 PM	Stations of the Cross	<i>Newton</i>
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#### Saturday, March 3

3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Sunday, March 4

10:00 AM	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	First Eucharist Meeting	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Confirmation Session	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Baptism Catechesis	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	Disciples On The Journey	<i>Plaistow</i>
6:00 PM	Vespers	<i>Newton</i>
6:30 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Newton</i>

**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, March 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 24 ~ Vigil / Second Sunday of Lent

*Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10*

4:00 PM	Irene and Ben Zakiewicz by Pat Zakiewicz	<i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Sunday, February 25 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

*Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10*

8:00 AM	People of the Parish	<i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	John and Juanita Reynolds by their family	<i>Plaistow</i>

#### Monday, February 26 ~ Lenten Weekday

*Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38*

8:00 AM	Intentions of Nancy Pelletier by her husband	<i>Newton</i>
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#### Tuesday, February 27 ~ Lenten Weekday

*Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12*

8:00 AM	Mary "Laurie" Herlihy (Month's Mind)	<i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Wednesday, February 28 ~ Lenten Weekday

*Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28*

6:30 PM	Myrtle A. Dodge by Louella and Julia Saab	<i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Thursday, March 1 ~ Lenten Weekday

*Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31*

8:00 AM	Elizabeth Shea (Month's Mind)	<i>Newton</i>
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#### Friday, March 2 ~ Lenten Weekday

*Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46*

*No Mass*

#### Saturday, March 3 ~ Katharine Drexel, Virgin

*Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 (Day)*

*Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM	Paul O'Leary by Jack and Barbara Brotz	<i>Plaistow</i>
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#### Sunday, March 4 ~ Third Sunday of Lent

*Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25*

8:00 AM	People of the Parish	<i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Joyce Valli by Cathy Smith	<i>Plaistow</i>

### 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, March 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.



### RICE BOWLS AVAILABLE

Operation Rice Bowl is the official Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. Each Lent, parishes, schools and other faith communities participate in Operation Rice Bowl to learn more about the work of CRS and put their faith into action. Operation Rice Bowl provides funding to CRS for many third world projects that promote agricultural, nutritional and educational sufficiency. Additionally, Operation Rice Bowl supports local anti-poverty programs. Rice Bowls are available at the entrances of both Churches and are **due back by Holy Thursday, March 29.**

### 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  
Cathy Smith  
Joyce Szczapa  
Jackie Tremblay  
Thomas Kondel  
Val Barczak  
Youth Ministry  
Parish Council

fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net  
csmith@stluketheevangelist.net  
jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net  
jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net  
tkondel@stluketheevangelist.net  
mvmbarczak@comcast.net  
youth@stluketheevangelist.net  
parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net



✠ Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese ✠

**DIVORCE CARE**

DivorceCare is coming to Southern NH. DivorceCare is a support group within a 13 week video-assisted course that helps you to find healing from the pain, anger, depression, loneliness, and fears of Separation or Divorce. It gives you Hope and the Tools to move on in your life, while helping you to grow closer to God at the same time. The 13 week course is free. Required workbook is \$20. The course starts on **February 27** and meets every Tuesday at 7:00 PM at Saints Mary and Joseph Parish, 200 Lawrence, Road, Salem, NH. For more information, or to register, call 508-982-9104 or email [JoeDoc222@aol.com](mailto:JoeDoc222@aol.com).

**CENTERING PRAYER  
AND LECTIO DIVINA: AN INTRODUCTION**

**March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2018**

**April 17, 24, 2018**

**10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**

Our Lady of Hope House of Prayer in New Ipswich, NH invites you to learn the fundamentals of each of these methods of prayer. Each week you will view a portion of Fr. Thomas Keating's instructive video on Centering Prayer. The video will be followed each week by a group Centering Prayer experience. Time for sharing the experience of your at-home practice of Centering Prayer will also be a part of the meeting. An explanation of the four steps of Lectio Divina will be presented in the fourth week. The Group Centering Prayer will be followed by Lectio Divina. Come to experience the peace and transformation that these two methods of prayer can bring to your prayer. Though attendance at all six sessions is encouraged, you may come to as many as you are able. For more information, contact Sisters Rita Pay or Suzanne Rivard, p.m. at 603-878-2346 or [olhope1@yahoo.com](mailto:olhope1@yahoo.com).

**DIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

The Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Manchester are currently registering students for the 2018-2019 academic year. Parishioners who are planning to register at Catholic Schools should contact the school directly for information. A subsidized tuition rate is available for qualified parishioners for elementary and middle schools. In order to be eligible for the tuition subsidy, a family must be (a) registered in a Parish for at least a year prior to the school year; (b) be contributing members of the Parish; and (c) be involved in the Parish Community. Each school has information about this reduced rate; you can also contact the Parish Office for more information. Visit the Diocesan website at [www.catholicnh.org](http://www.catholicnh.org) for more information.

**ST. PATRICK CELEBRATION  
IRISH BOILED DINNER**

The Knights of Columbus will be holding an Irish Boiled Dinner on **Saturday, March 10 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM** in the Parish Center. The funds raised from the meal will be used by the Knights to help support St. Luke's Food Pantry and the Parish's Capital Improvement Campaign. The boiled dinner will consist of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, turnips, desserts, and refreshments. Hot dogs will be available for the kids. There will be Irish Music and an Irish Step Dancing exhibition. There will be several raffles for Irish theme baskets, gift items, and a 50/50 Raffle. Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$4 for kids, with a \$30 maximum per family. There will also be meals available for take-out. Tickets will go on sale after Mass on the **weekends of February 24 and March 3** and will also be available at the door. If you would like to donate a gift or a theme basket, please contact Stephanie Meader at 603-974-2281. If you have any questions or would like to help with the event, please contact Ed Wencis at 603-362-5783 or Roland Richardson at 443-848-3328.

**ENTERTAINING ANGELS**

The Catholic Hospitality Training Institute Workshop

**Saturday, March 3, 2018**

**8:30 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Holy Family Parish – Amesbury, MA**

Cost: \$25.00

To register, call Sue Greaney at 978-388-0330, ext. 104

**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.**

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

# Lenten Prayer and Liturgy

The Church invites all people to special moments of prayer during the season of Lent. It is a common custom for people to make room in their schedule for daily Eucharist, which we celebrate as follows during the Lenten season:

Monday	8 am	Newton
Tuesday	8 am	Plaistow
Wednesday	6:30 PM	Plaistow
Thursday	8 am	Newton

Another Lenten custom involves taking a journey... to the Holy Land! Going on pilgrimage has always been an important part of our Christian tradition. By visiting a place where a religious event occurred, a pilgrim hoped to share in the experience associated with that place. The

desire to visit Jerusalem and the Holy Land was very important to Christians long ago, but because of the danger and expense of travel, and the political climate of Palestine, such a journey was not always feasible. When the Friars of the Franciscan Order took over the care of the Holy Places in Jerusalem in 1342, they began to erect "Stations" in Churches back home in Europe. It was a way to "go" to the Holy Land without ever leaving home. The custom of the Stations quickly spread to parish Churches, and the devotion of the Stations of the Cross was born.

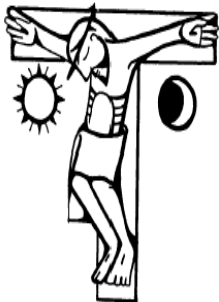


*Praying the Stations of the cross*

We walk the **Stations of the Cross** each Friday of Lent at 6:30 at **NEWTON**. Using various versions and forms of the Stations, and led by various groups in the Parish, we make Jesus' journey to the Cross our own. **On March 23, we will conclude our evening Stations with a Lenten Soup Supper.**

## Baptismal Font and Holy Water Font

During Lent, we pray and prepare to renew our own Baptismal promises even as we pray as a community for those to be Baptized. Following ancient custom, the Sacrament of Baptism is not ordinarily celebrated during Lent, and the Baptismal Font itself is sealed. We also "fast" from the Baptismal water usually present at the doors of the Church. The entire Church waits with Jesus in the desert, praying for the Living Waters of Easter.

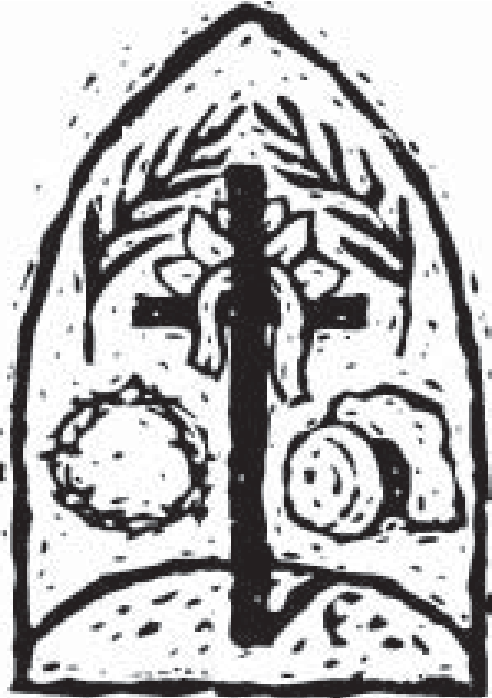


## Lenten Space, Silence, & Music

During Lent, the Church's lighting is dimmed so as to encourage an atmosphere of prayer and introspection. Our Assembly's music is more meditative and somber. **We leave at the end of Mass in silence,** reflecting on our mission as Disciples to pray, fast, and to give of ourselves in the coming week.

## LENTEN REGULATIONS

### FASTING



**Fasting for anyone between 21 and 59 years of age means having only one full meal to maintain one's strength.** Two smaller meatless and penitential meals are permitted according to one's needs, but should not equal the one full meal. One may, however, enter more into the spiritual element of fasting and not partake of any of the above-mentioned meals. Eating between meals is not permitted; but liquids, including milk and juices are allowed. **Days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Wednesdays and Fridays are also traditional fast days; however, one may fast on any day of the week.**

### ABSTINENCE

**Abstinence is the observance for all those 14 years of age or older to forego the eating of meat on: Ash Wednesday; all Fridays in Lent and on Good Friday.** When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this discipline does not apply.

### EASTER PRECEPT

The Easter Precept – or Easter Duty is the decree for all the faithful to **receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season** (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2042). The faithful must celebrate the **Sacrament of Penance at least once a year in preparation for the reception of Holy Eucharist.** Traditionally, the Church has marked the time in which one may fulfill the Easter Duty between the First Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday. A monthly celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is encouraged for all.

### PRAYER AND ALMSGIVING

All of the faithful are encouraged to spend additional time in prayer during the Lenten season, and to participate in the devotional practices of the Parish. It is also praise worthy for the faithful to give generously to charities and to their Church during this Season of Sacrifice.



**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST  
LENT- EASTER LITURGICAL SCHEDULE 2018**

**THE BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN FAST FEBRUARY 14**

**ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY 8 am Newton &  
6:30 pm Plaistow**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Plaistow: Saturdays 3:00 pm  
(except Holy Saturday); Newton: Sundays of Lent 6:30 pm  
Monday of Holy Week (March 26 - Plaistow 11:00am - 1:00  
PM, Newton 5:00-7:00 PM

**LENTEN EVENING PRAYER:** Sunday evenings of Lent at Newton, 6 pm

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Fridays of Lent - 6:30 pm - at Newton    Lenten Soup Supper Friday March  
23 following Stations

**HOLY WEEK**

Monday of Holy Week March 26- Liturgy at 8 am - Newton

Tuesday of Holy Week March 27- Liturgy at 8 am - Plaistow

Wednesday of Holy Week March 28 - Liturgy at 6:30 pm - Plaistow  
Tenebrae at 7:30 PM

**PASCHAL TRIDUUM**

**HOLY THURSDAY MARCH 29** Morning prayer 8 am - Newton

Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Newton

**LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 6:30 PM - Newton**

*-Eucharistic Adoration follows-*

Night Prayer 10:00 pm - Newton

**GOOD FRIDAY MARCH 30 -** Morning prayer 8 am - Plaistow

Mid-day prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

Stations of the Cross 3 pm - Newton

**SERVICE OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

**& HOLY COMMUNION 6:30 PM - Plaistow**

**HOLY SATURDAY March 31-** Morning Prayer 8 am - Plaistow

Mid-day Prayer 12 noon - Plaistow

**EASTER GREAT VIGIL AT 8 PM - Plaistow**

(Reception in Hall to follow)

**APRIL 1 EASTER SUNDAY LITURGIES**

**8 AM - Newton**

**10 AM - Plaistow**

Easter Solemn Vespers with Benediction at 6 pm - Newton

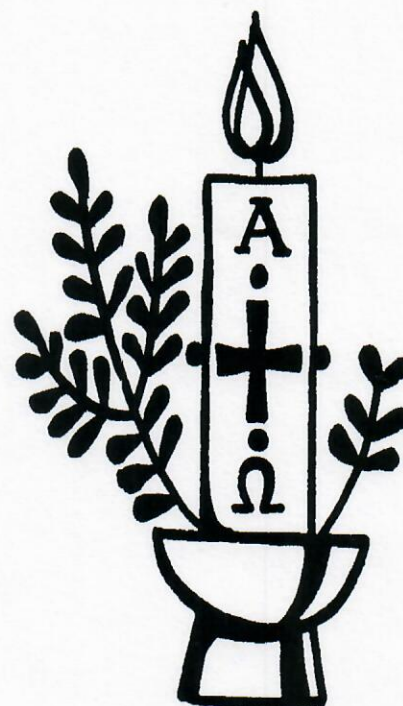
**LENTEN SEASON  
DAILY LITURGIES:**

M 8 am Newton

T 8 am Plaistow

W 6:30 pm Plaistow

Th 8 am Newton



**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH**

Newton: 12 Amesbury Road, Newton, NH  
03858

Plaistow: 8 Atkinson Depot Road, Plaistow,  
NH 03865

www. <http://stlukenh.org>  
(603) 382-8324



# The Gospel for All Ages

Family Catechesis

**Gospel Weeklies**  
Pflaum  
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

**2nd Sunday of Lent • February 25, 2018 • Jesus is both human and divine.**

**Sunday Readings:** Genesis 22:1-2, 9, 10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

## Weekly Discussion Questions

### For the Parish Bulletin

**Life Question:** How does deep change happen in people's lives?

**Gospel Question:** When have you glimpsed God in your life?

### LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

#### Exploring the Sunday Readings (Adults)

When have you glimpsed the presence of Christ in your life or in the life of the Christian community?

Visit [exploringthesundayreadings.com](http://exploringthesundayreadings.com)

#### Visions (Grades 7-8)

**Life Question:** What is an event in your life that has changed you?

**Gospel Question:** Who does the voice from Heaven say Jesus is?

#### Venture (Grades 4-6)

**Life Question:** What is one thing you would like to change about yourself? What is one thing you want to keep?

**Gospel Question:** What is Jesus' vision for his future and that of his friends?

#### Good News (Grades 2-3)

**Life Question:** What have you learned about Jesus so far this year?

**Gospel Question:** What do we learn about Jesus in Sunday's Gospel?

#### Promise (Grades K-1)

**Life Question:** How can you make a difference in your family?

**Gospel Question:** What ways are you changing and growing during Lent?

#### Seeds (Preschool)

**Life Question:** What are some of the ways you listen to others?

**Gospel Question:** What are ways you are growing and changing?

## Family Corner

### About the Gospel

Today we celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus. Jesus takes three of his friends up a mountain where he changes in appearance and his clothes become dazzling white. They hear God say, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." They wonder what all of this means.

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

### In Church

Think of yourself as a disciple, especially when the priest consecrates the host and elevates it as the Body of Christ. The Apostles probably felt that way when they saw Jesus shining on the mountain.

### Question of the Week

How will you change and grow during Lent?

### Family Prayer

Lord, help us to remember we also are God's beloved children.

## Rincón de la Familia

### Acerca del Evangelio

Hoy celebramos la Transfiguración de Jesús. Jesús lleva a tres de sus amigos a la cima de un monte donde cambia su apariencia y su ropa se vuelve resplandeciente. Oyen a Dios decir: "Este es mi Hijo, el Amado, escúchenlo". Todos se preguntan qué significa todo esto.

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

### En la Iglesia

Piensa en ti como discípulo, en especial cuando el sacerdote consagra la hostia y la eleva como el Cuerpo de Cristo. Los Apóstoles probablemente se sintieron de esa manera cuando vieron a Jesús brillar en la montaña.

### Pregunta de la semana

¿Cómo cambiarás y crecerás durante la Cuaresma?

### Oración en familia

Señor, ayúdanos a recordar que también somos hijos amados de Dios.



# SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



## Transformed Hearts

God of unimaginable blessings,  
who tested Abraham's faith,  
help us to surrender all that is  
self-seeking.

Filled with compassion,  
you revealed your love for us  
in the Paschal Mystery of your beloved  
Son, Jesus.

Grant us, during this Lenten journey,  
transformed hearts that shine with the  
light of your glory;  
enlighten your people  
so we may be attentive to the sound of  
your voice.

Keep us ever mindful of your presence  
and of the countless gifts you have  
bestowed upon us  
so that on that final day,  
we may be called your beloved children.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Listen



*Today's Readings: Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13; 15–18; Psalm 116:10, 15, 16–17, 18–19; Romans 8:31b–34; Mark 9:2–10.* Each time you hear the First Reading you may wonder how God could ask Abraham to sacrifice his son. The passage, though, highlights Abraham's unwavering devotion to God. As our father in faith, Abraham teaches us to listen carefully to God. He also teaches us to remain faithful to the covenant. We know from the reading that God promised to bless Abraham and his descendants for generations because of this witness of faith. Can you think of a time God asked you to sacrifice something dear to you? How did you respond?

In examining the Gospel, God's promise becomes more evident. We are the heirs to this great promise. At the

Transfiguration, God reveals his beloved Son to Peter, James, and John. They have known Jesus, but now they have seen him in his full glory. This moment prefigured all that will come about in the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus. Once and for all, God revealed in Jesus the depth of his love. God's sacrifice of his Son shows how much God loves us. God has kept his promise and now we, the heirs of this great mystery, are invited to share it with all people.

In these early days of Lent, take time to sit quietly and listen to God. In a journal, write or draw what you hear and rest in the dazzling presence of God whose love knows no end.





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, February 26

#### Forgiveness

“Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins,” is the refrain for today’s Psalm. This refrain is a fitting response to the First Reading in which Daniel calls out his people’s sin. He also reminds us that God is compassionate and forgiving. Sin separates us from God, but when we seek pardon with contrite hearts, God hears us and embraces us. We are then called to imitate God and forgive one another. How might you practice forgiveness? Today, meditate on the Act of Contrition. *Today’s Readings: Daniel 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Luke 6:36–38.*

### Tuesday, February 27

#### Hear and Listen

The prophet Isaiah passionately calls upon the people to “hear” and to “listen” to God. Isaiah also calls to us in this Lenten season to open our hearts to God’s love. Listen! Hear! God is calling you away from our misdeeds and urging you to work for justice. God’s promise is that the stain upon our hearts will be washed clean and become as white as snow. Place yourself in the First Reading and the Gospel as you pray today. What do you hear? *Today’s Readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.*

### Wednesday, February 28

#### Save Me

Strong emotion is evident in today’s Psalm. When distraught, we can look to the psalms for the words to give voice to our feelings. Other psalms help us sing of our love for God. No matter how we feel at the moment, the psalms can help us realize God’s love for us and surrender ourselves to him. This evening, pray today’s Psalm. *Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.*

### Thursday, March 1

#### What Path

The prophet Jeremiah presents us with two paths. The first is for the one who trusts in earthly things or ideas. This person will not have life. The second is the path of the one who trusts in the Lord. The one who follows the Lord will bear abundant fruit. Consider your life. What path have you chosen? Take a slow walk today and meditate upon this reading and your journey. *Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19–31.*

### Friday, March 2

#### The Vineyard

Imagine yourself (and your parish) as the vineyard in today’s story. How often have you rejected or ignored God’s servants? It is difficult at times to hear the call to conversion. If you put yourself into the story, who would you be and how would you react? Ultimately, Jesus is trying to teach us that he is the one who saves and those who choose to ignore and not follow will not inherit the Kingdom. Go forth today and cultivate good conversations and share the Good News. *Today’s Readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.*

### Saturday, March 3

#### Loving and Forgiving

The Prodigal Son is a familiar story that invites us to contemplate our relationship with God and God’s abounding love for us. As you read this Gospel once again, identify the main movements. What does this parable teach about forgiveness? As the Psalm states, “The Lord is kind and merciful,” and each of us, united in love, is called to show compassion. Consider ways you might festively celebrate one’s return or the gift of reconciliation. *Today’s Readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.*







# Bringing Home the Word

Second Sunday of Lent | February 25, 2018

## God's Test of Obedience

By Mary Katharine Deeley

**T**he Apostle Paul was absolutely certain the love of God would find us no matter what happened and that if we had any role model and ancestor in faith, it was Abraham.

The stories are familiar. Abraham left his ancestral home to find a land promised him by a God who had only recently revealed himself. Abraham believed a child would come to him and Sarah, though both were old. Finally, he showed he would give everything in obedience to God when he was asked to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac.

This last story is troublesome to us. Would God require human sacrifice?

We can understand this as a story of faith in two ways. The traditional interpretation is that God requires everything from us and wants nothing to come between us and our love of God. God's "test" of Abraham is a test of obedience. Will we give our "all?"

The second way of seeing the story begins with our understanding that many of the surrounding nations practiced child sacrifice. It may not have been a surprise when God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son, since his neighbors were doing it, too. But at the critical moment, when the angel calls out to tell Abraham to stop, he does. The Lord wants a different relationship with his people.

Abraham's faith is shown as much in his obedience to the second order as to the first. God doesn't want us to be just like everyone else. Rather, God wants us as his own people, following the path he carves for us—even if it means going against the tide. +

*We can understand  
the story of Abraham's  
faith in two ways.*

## Sunday Readings

**Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18**

"Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the angel.

**Romans 8:31b–34**

He who did not spare his own Son...how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

**Mark 9:2–10**

[God said,] "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

## A Word From Pope Francis

Lent...is a special time for recalling the gift of our baptism, when we became children of God. The Church invites us to renew the gift she has given us, not to let this gift lie dormant as if it were something from the past or locked away in a memory chest.

—Homily,  
February 14, 2016



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### ONE QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

- Are we willing to stay peacefully within God's plan, even if it means sacrifice?
- Do we trust God's plans more than our own?
- Is there anything more beloved by us than God's loving plan for us?



# Belonging to God

By Kathy Coffey

**The First Commandment:** “I, the LORD, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery. You shall not have other gods beside me” (Exodus 20:2–3).

Newspapers carried the story of a father who was boating with his son and the boy’s friend. When a strong, unexpected current carried the children overboard, the dad rescued them both. But after dragging them to safety, he could not save himself and drowned.

We can speculate about the gratitude the son, his friend, and their families will carry throughout their lives. Every breath they take is, in some sense, a gift of and a tribute to the heroic father who saved them. When people do us a big favor, we can rarely repay them. We breathe gratitude and cannot say thanks enough.

The extreme thankfulness that recipients must feel gives us a clue about the First Commandment. When we read about God freeing the Hebrews from Egypt, it’s hard to relate. Few of us know slavery firsthand. Hearing about people who are slaves today, many of them children, we’re appalled. We can only imagine what it means when someone unlocks the prison door and says, “You’re free.” To forget such a liberator would be the worst ingratitude.

***Whatever our circumstances, God has freed us.***

## Awareness, Gratitude

After a gift like the one the Hebrew people received, how could they ignore God? How could they even think of worshipping anyone or anything else?

Before we get too high and mighty, scorning those ungrateful Jews, we should look at the ways God has freed us. Our situation may not be as obvious as imprisonment, but there are other, subtler forms of slavery. Some are caught in addictions to gambling, smoking, drugs, or alcohol. Others are trapped in unhealthy habits, fears, or relationships. From all of these, God is the ultimate liberator, freeing us in ways that surpass what we can do for ourselves.

Whatever our particular circumstances, God has freed us from something. And how gratefully do we respond? We probably need a reminder to put God first as badly as the Hebrews did.

If we say we belong to God completely and wholeheartedly, how do we show it? Do we set aside time each day to reflect on God’s ongoing action in our lives? (For harried commuters this can be done at stop signs.) Do we fall asleep naming the ways God was present in our days and the blessings he brought? If we take this commandment seriously, it will be reflected in our calendars and checkbooks. How do we spend our time and money?

## Learning From Jesus

If we really want to know what this commandment means, we should look at the way it operates in Jesus’ life. He is passionately caught up in the love of his Father; his primary goal is pleasing God. Inspired and heartened by God, he responds constantly to God’s initiatives. Prayer punctuates his life; he often withdraws to renew his delight in God and be strengthened by their time together. During this time, he must experience God’s love, listen for God’s guidance, imagine God’s face.

Jesus shows us what it means to belong to God. During his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, every human instinct rebels against the course ahead, but he holds fast to whatever the Father asks. If we can share in his all-consuming love, it places us in the house of God at all times. As Jesus’ joy and compassion shows us, that’s a far better place to live than the house of slavery. +

## PRAYER

Lord, you watch over me and love me as your child. Help me to see all people as your children and treat them with gentleness, love, and respect.

*From Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter,*

Rev. Warren J. Savage  
and Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

February 26–March 3

Mon. Lenten Weekday:  
Dn 9:4b–10 / Lk 6:36–38

Tue. Lenten Weekday:  
Is 1:10, 16–20 / Mt 23:1–12

Wed. Lenten Weekday:  
Jer 18:18–20 / Mt 20:17–28

Thu. Lenten Weekday: Jer 17:5–10 /  
Lk 16:19–31

Fri. Lenten Weekday: Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a,  
17b–28a / Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Sat. Lenten Weekday: Mi 7:14–15, 18–20 /  
Lk 15:1–3, 11–32