



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, April 29, 2018
Fifth Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: Sing With All The Saints In Glory
BB 611

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118)

This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice; let us be glad. This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation.

Sprinkling Rite: *God, you have moved upon the waters, you have sung in the rush of wind and flame; and in your love, you have called us sons and daughters, make us people of the water and your name.*

Preparation Love Divine, All Loves Excelling BB 474

Mass Parts Storrington Mass

Communion: The Body Of Christ (Choir)
I Received The Living God BB 327

Recessional: Sing, O Sing BB 551

10:00 AM

Gathering: I Know That My Redeemer Lives
BB 679

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118)

This day was made by the Lord, let us rejoice; let us be glad. This day was made by the Lord. Let us rejoice in salvation.

Sprinkling Rite: *If we have died to ourselves in Jesus, then we shall arise to new life in Him, Alleluia, alleluia!*

Preparation We Walk By Faith BB 497
We Praise You, O Lord BB 550

Mass Parts Mass of God's Promise

Communion: We Have Been Told BB 498
All I Ask Of You BB 483

Recessional: All The Ends Of The Earth BB 549

✠ 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!

April 22, 2018

Offertory	\$6,071.17
Fuel	\$1,999.25

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

April 29, 2018	Catholic Charities
May 6, 2018	Property Management
May 10, 2018	Ascension
May 13, 2018	No Second Collection
May 20, 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 ✠



In Loving Memory

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Rita Sparfeld



BLESSING OF MOTHERS

A special blessing of mothers will be given at all Masses on the weekend of **Mother's Day, May 13, 2018.**



FIRST COMMUNION DAY

First Communion will take place in our parish on the following **Sundays: May 6** at the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Liturgies in Newton and Plaistow **and May 13** at the 10:00 AM Liturgy in Plaistow. Please pray for our First Communicants and their families as they prepare for this joyous celebration!

From the Pastor's Desk



HOLY ANGELS CEMETERY REMAINS CLOSED

Given all of the snow and cold we have had in the past few weeks, Holy Angels Cemetery in Plaistow **will remain closed until MAY 1, 2018.** Once we have determined that the snow is gone and the ground is safe, we will reopen the Cemetery. 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?

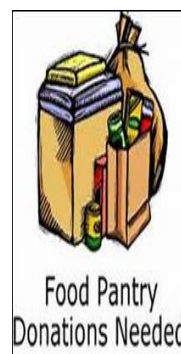
Any contribution is welcome.

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 SPRING...

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Sunday, April 29

10:00 AM	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	First Eucharist Retreat	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>

Wednesday, May 2

**HOLY ANGELS CHURCH
OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER**

Thursday, May 3

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>
8:30 PM	Adoration Ends	<i>Newton</i>

Saturday, May 5

3:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	<i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, May 6

8:00 AM	First Eucharist	<i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	First Eucharist	<i>Plaistow</i>
10:00 AM	Religious Education – Pre-K to 8	
11:00 AM	Baptism Catechesis	<i>Plaistow</i>
11:00 AM	RCIA	<i>Plaistow</i>



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.

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



A Happy and Blessed Easter to you all. Thank you to those who made the St. Vincent de Paul Society the benefactor of your Lenten almsgiving. It is truly appreciated. And thank you to everyone who purchased an Easter lily (or just made a donation!). It is through your generosity that we are able to continue our mission to help those in our community who need a "hand up," not a hand out. Your donations have recently helped clients with rent and utility assistance.

We couldn't do it without you, so maybe you want to join us? Our next meeting is **May 16 at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Hall in Plaistow. Come on by and see what we're all about.

If you seek assistance or need information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society, call 603-382-8324 x315.

✠ MASS INTENTIONS ✠

Saturday, April 28 ~ Vigil / Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

4:00 PM	Kevin Gallant (25 th Anniversary) by Patricia Gallant and family <i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, April 29 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

8:00 AM	Joseph Thompson by Jackie Tremblay <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	W. Ralph Sampson by his wife and family <i>Plaistow</i>

Monday, April 30 ~ Pius V, Pope

Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26

8:00 AM	Ryan McGrath by Conor Howley <i>Newton</i>
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Tuesday, May 1 ~ Joseph the Worker

Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Mt 13:54-58

8:00 AM	Martin Feuer (Month's Mind) <i>Plaistow</i>
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Wednesday, May 2 ~ Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8

6:30 PM	Martin & Florence Fogel and Frank Kelcourse by Elaine Kelcourse <i>Plaistow</i>
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Thursday, May 3 ~ Philip and James, Apostles

1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

8:00 AM	Ronald Metcalf (Month's Mind) <i>Newton</i>
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Friday, May 4 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17

No Mass

Saturday, May 5 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21 (Day)

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17 (Vigil)

4:00 PM	Nancy Raymond by Pat Zakiewicz <i>Plaistow</i>
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Sunday, May 6 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

8:00 AM	Joe Thompson by Brian and Marie Lessard <i>Newton</i>
10:00 AM	Sarah Delle Chiaie by Barbara Lawrence <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.

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

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠

A NEW WAY OF SEEING CONFIRMATION

In the Diocese of Manchester – all of New Hampshire - we are making plans to relocate the celebration of Confirmation to its rightful place as the sacrament of initiation: after Baptism and before First Communion.

Parents and catechists will prepare the children to experience both Confirmation and First Communion at the age of eight or nine, or school grade 3. This is not an added program, but simply a new way of seeing. In fact, it is important to clear our heads of the notion that a body of knowledge is needed before Confirmation can be received. Sacraments are gifts, not something we earn.

So, our teaching about Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist must take a new perspective. The combination of these three sacraments initiates us into the community of faith which is the body of Christ. We enter into church membership and fellowship through this initiation process. In the church, which is the body of Christ, we encounter the living Christ who is our Lord and Savior. Sacraments are not *things* that we received; they are *experiences* of a living organism, a living community of many members alive in the Holy Spirit with Christ as our head.

The primary sacrament of God is the Lord Jesus Christ. In him, God has become visible and is communicated to the world. The church is the sacrament of Christ. In the church, we encounter Christ who connects us to the heavenly Father. The seven sacraments of the church are those special experiences of the faith community when the church celebrates and becomes what it is meant to be: the body of Christ in the world. Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist mark the beginning of the process for each of us.

The family environment is the normal place and context for religious formation. Parents must be alert to their increased responsibility for the faith development of the children now that Confirmation will have been celebrated at an earlier age.

RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, May 6, 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. 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.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who has been Baptized and received Eucharist, but has not celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation? If you would like to prepare for Confirmation, or if you have questions, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. We have many people who have made the commitment to spend an hour each week with our Eucharistic Lord, **but** we need more people so there will be at least two people at each hour. We are also looking for people who would be able to substitute.

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	mvmbarczak@comcast.net
Youth Ministry	youth@stluketheevangelist.net
Parish Council	parishcouncil@stluketheevangelist.net

✠ **Parish News ~ Youth News ~ Around The Diocese** ✠

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DONATION TO THE
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND**

The St Jude Council of the Knights of Columbus from our parish is very pleased to announce that they have just made a donation of \$959 towards the needed improvements for our parish. The donation now leaves a balance of \$1,541 towards the \$2,500 pledge that the Knights made earlier this year. The Knights have committed to fill the balance of the pledge this year



The Sanctuary Candle in
Holy Angels Church
will burn this week
in loving memory of
W. Ralph Sampson
by his wife and family

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION

On **Thursday, May 10**, we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, which is a holy day of obligation. Liturgies will be celebrated at **6:30 PM on Wednesday, May 9 in Plaistow** and at **8:00 AM on Thursday, May 10 in Newton**.

**CRAFTERS AND ARTISTS WANTED FOR POPULAR
CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**

It's that time of year again when each of us starts making plans for the crafting season ... which fairs?? which weekends??

If you – or someone you know – would like to be considered as a vendor for this year's St. Luke the Evangelist Christmas Craft Fair, **the first jury period ends on May 7th**. We expect to be oversubscribed, so don't delay!

Work must be original and executed by the applicants, and may include food and/or beverages (no baked goods).

1st – Please save the date of our Parish Fair: **Saturday November 10, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**.

2nd – To apply, please contact the Craft Fair at: stlukenhfair@gmail.com. Applications are also available at <http://stlukenh.org> under "News and Events" or call the Parish Office at 603-382-8324.

We are always looking for new vendors to keep our
Fair exciting for our visitors!
Don't miss out on participating in this fun and
well-attended event!

**ATTENTION ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS,
LECTORS, AND ALTAR SERVERS**

Scheduling for June 2 to August 26

Jeanne Sullivan needs to be notified **by May 14th** regarding any Masses at which you either wish to serve and/or cannot serve for June, July, and August. Please remember to state your ministry and Mass time. Thank you.

New ministers need to give Jeanne their phone numbers and email addresses when they contact her, as well as the Mass time at which they wish to serve.

You should **contact Jeanne** at 382-4760 or jmsul@myfairpoint.net (NOT Jackie Tremblay who would only have to forward it to Jeanne).

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS

Rockingham VNA & Hospice

The Rockingham VNA & Hospice will be offering 6 week Bereavement Support Groups **starting on May 7** at the Hospice offices, 137 Epping Road, Exeter. A Monday afternoon group, from 12:30 to 2:00 PM, and a Tuesday evening group, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM, are planned. These groups are free to the public, but registration is required. For more information and to register, please call Jane Oldfield-Spearman, Bereavement Services Coordinator, at 603-772-2981.

Compassionate Friends of Greater Newburyport

The Compassionate Friends (TCF) of Greater Newburyport provides support for bereaved families after the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling - any age, any cause. Monthly support meetings are held in the Immaculate Conception Parish Center, Newburyport, MA, Room 209 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM on the fourth Monday of the month. Barbara J. Hopkinson is founder and chapter leader. For more information, contact Barbara at 617-410-6309 or info@abutterflysjourney.org.

THINKING ABOUT REMARRIAGE?

A day long program for couples who are thinking about remarriage and for engaged couples who plan to remarry will be held at St. Pius X Parish in Manchester on **Saturday, May 19 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**. For more information, contact Alyse Hlasny at 603-663-0108.

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. Be sure to choose:

St Luke the Evangelist Parish, Plaistow.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY LUNCHEON

Our Parish has formed two groups of volunteers who help in providing lunch following a Funeral Liturgy.

Bereavement Ministry Volunteers contribute food items, and other helpers get things ready, serve, and clean up when everyone goes on their way.

We all work as a team, so helpers will be called on to serve in a particular sequence that spreads out the work and time commitment. This is an ideal ministry for retirees or stay-at-home Moms or Dads who have kids at school. Also, it is an opportunity for anyone, if they are able, to bring food items the night before or early in the morning on the day of the funeral on their way to work.

To assist grieving families, when requested (and based on hall availability) we will provide a luncheon after the funeral service. A standard menu has been developed to simplify this operation. Although there will be no formal charge for this service, families who are able are encouraged to make a donation.

If you are interested, and not already signed up in helping with this ministry, please complete the form below and put it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office. Any questions, please contact Cathy Smith at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net or call 382-8324.

Name: _____
Phone: _____ Cell: _____
E-mail _____

I would like to assist with memorial meals on a rotating basis: **(please circle all that apply)**

Make phone calls to volunteers

Food Donations:

Salads (garden, potato, cole slaw, or pasta)

Desserts (bar cookies, cakes, brownies)

Finger Roll Sandwiches (2 doz.) (tuna, egg, chicken, or ham)

Soup (winter only)

Serving/Clean up:

Food Serving (at meal)

Clean up (hall & kitchen)

CREMATION?

While burial or entombment of the body remains the preference and is encouraged by the Church, cremation may be chosen for sufficient reason. The Revised Code of Canon Law states: “The Church earnestly recommends the pious custom of burial be retained; but it does not forbid cremation, unless this is chosen for reasons which are contrary to Christian teaching.” (CIC, c. 1176.3)

When is Cremation Allowed? Cremation may be requested for hygienic, economic or other reasons of a public or private nature. Some examples include: transfer of the remains to a distant place, possible avoidance of considerable expense, a severe psychological fear of burial in the ground or in a tomb. The selection of cremation was the specific choice of the individual before death. When requested by the family of the deceased for what also might be determined as an appropriate pastoral reason.

If a body is to be cremated, is it preferable that cremation take place after the Funeral Liturgy?

It is recommended that priority be given to the celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy with the body of the deceased present.

Can a body be cremated prior to the Funeral Liturgy? What arrangements are different?

In the Diocese of Manchester, it is permitted to celebrate the funeral liturgy in the presence of the cremated remains. The cremated remains are to be accorded the same respect given to the corporeal remains of a human body. This includes the way they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and their final disposition. The container in which the cremated remains are placed should be dignified in nature. The cremated remains are to be positioned on a suitable table in the same place where the casket is usually positioned. They may also be placed near the Paschal Candle during the funeral liturgy. The candle and the cremated remains may be placed in the sanctuary so as to be visible to all.

What is required for the proper and reverent disposition of cremated remains?

Cremated remains are to be buried or inurned. They should not be buried on private land, but are to be buried in a cemetery or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. **The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground is not permitted.** If burial takes place at sea, according to local custom, the cremated remains are to be kept intact in a solid and durable container, and not scattered.

Keeping the cremated remains in a private home, funeral home or any other place is not considered to be the reverent disposition that the Church requires. **The integrity of the cremated remains is always to be respected.** The cremated remains of one deceased person may not be mixed with the cremated remains of another person. It is not permitted to divide the cremated remains and retain, inter or entomb them in more than one place.

It is also not permitted to divide the cremated remains in such a way that they are contained in lockets or jewelry. Any other practice which violates the integrity of the cremated remains and impedes reverent and proper burial/disposition is prohibited. Whenever possible, appropriate memorialization should be utilized at the place of burial.

Consult your cemetery office for all available options for the respectful burial, disposition and memorialization of cremated remains.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



In the Vineyard

God, the giver of joy,
in Baptism you join us to Christ,
the true Vine,
and, through your Word,
we are sustained in holiness
and wisdom.
Send your Holy Spirit upon
your vineyard
so that, each branch may thrive
and reveal your glory by yielding love
and joy.
Sustain the Church in holiness
and help it bear much fruit for
your kingdom.
When our parched hearts begin
to wither,
draw us close to you and nurture us
with your grace.
And on that final day, may we be found
praising your holy name
in the assembly of your people.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

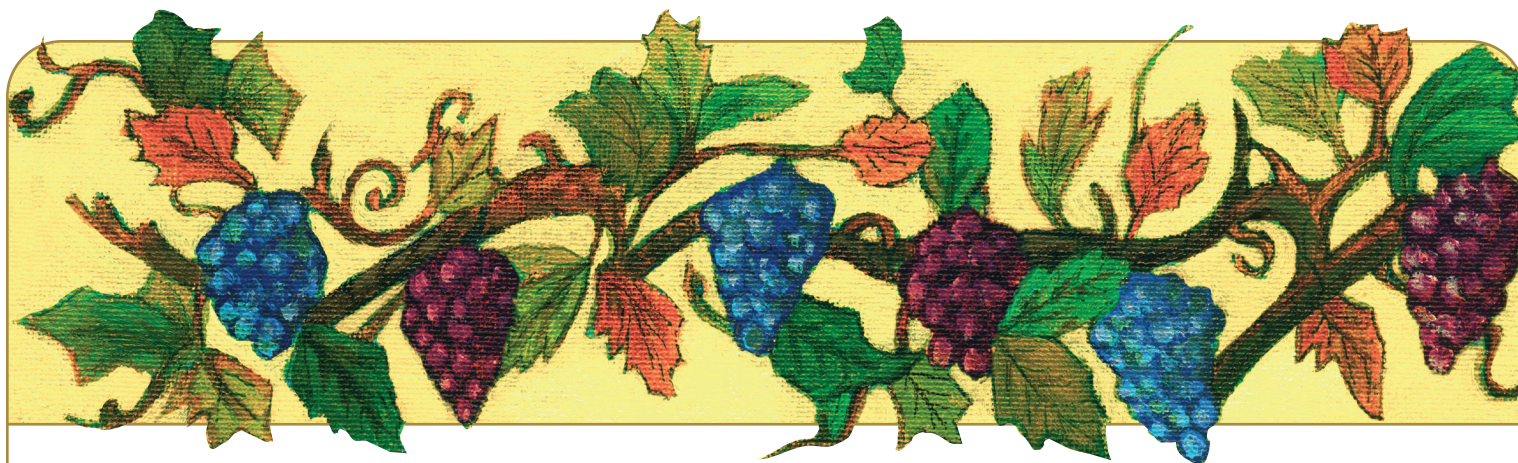
Sunday, April 29, 2018

Pruning



Today's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 9:26–31; Psalm 22:26–27, 28, 30, 31–32; 1 John 3:18–24; John 15:1–8. When St. Paul first encountered the Christian community, he was not kind or receptive to their message. His heart was transformed when he finally encounters Christ on the road to Damascus. From that point on, he became a fervent preacher of the Gospel. Like the pruned vine in the Gospel, Paul opened his heart to the Good News and allowed the vine grower to prune away all that was dead and did not bear fruit. The Word, which called out to him in Damascus, broke open his heart and won him over. When has the proclaimed Word at Mass deepened your love for Christ and stirred you from your pew to share the Gospel?

After our Lenten journey, we, like Paul, have opened ourselves to God's mercy; the dead branches have been pruned so that we might bear fruit. Paul and the other disciples went about preaching and building up the Kingdom. We have to ask ourselves, what does it look like in our time to be heralds of Good News? Through prayer, the celebration of the Eucharist, and good works, we remain connected to the Vine and grow in holiness. This holiness, this life in the Holy Spirit, helps us see the poor, assists us in reaching out to the places where the Gospel is silenced, and enables us to love. Peruse a hymnal at the parish and pray with a song in the discipleship or mission section that grabs your heart. What do you hear?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 30

Idols

It can be easy to get caught in the fame of a sports figure or celebrity and forget that Jesus is the true Savior. In the First Reading, Paul and Barnabas are misidentified as the gods Zeus and Hermes. Their words were so captivating that the people couldn't hear the real message and began to honor them as gods. Quickly they admonished this action. How do we keep our eyes on the prize, especially when we hear so many "good" messages? Today, pray for all who are in positions of power that they might use their status for good and lead others to right living. *Today's Readings: Acts 14:5-18; Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16; John 14:21-26.*

Tuesday, May 1

Make Known

As members of the Body of Christ, our lives proclaim the goodness of God's mercy and compassion. Through our actions and words, we make known the splendor of God and teach others about Christ. The Psalm reminds us that we are God's friends whose mouths must speak his praise. How do you offer praise to God, especially when the Good News is not welcomed? Think of a concrete way you might share the Gospel today. *Today's Readings: Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21; John 14:27-31a.*

Wednesday, May 2

Memorial of St. Athanasius

Today, the Church remembers St. Athanasius, who was bishop of Alexandria in the fourth century. He is an important figure and doctor of the Church because he staunchly fought against the Arian heresy, which denied Christ's divinity. He was met with much opposition, but fervently taught the faith, especially the Incarnation. *Today's Readings: Acts 15:1-6; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; John 15:1-8.*

Thursday, May 3

Feast of Sts. Philip and James

The two Apostles we commemorate today remind us that we are called to holiness. Both were members of the original Twelve who followed Jesus. Through their ministry, they led others to encounter Christ. Philip, as we see in today's Gospel, took a long time to realize who Jesus was. There is not much known about James the Lesser, but tradition tells us that he is the author of the Letter of James and was the bishop of Jerusalem. Philip and James are the patrons of Uruguay. Honor these saints by praying for Uruguayans. *Today's Readings: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Psalm 19:2-3, 4-5; John 14:6-14.*

Friday, May 4

Love One Another

As we near the end of the Easter season, John's Gospel account reminds us that Jesus' death was the ultimate gift of love. Jesus commands his followers to love as he loves. This is not easy to do. Jesus was filled with compassion for the poor and marginalized. He revealed the undying and unbiased love God has for his children. Spend time meditating on Jesus' words, "Love one another as I have loved you." *Today's Readings: Acts 15:22-31; Psalm 57:8-9, 10 and 12; John 15:12-17.*

Saturday, May 5

The World

In the Gospel, Jesus states, "You do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world." At Baptism, we were adopted as children of God and belong totally to God. We live in the world and our living helps make known the presence of Christ. As Christians, we are called to be radical witnesses of God's truth and love. This message, especially when it contradicts worldly ideals, is not always welcome. Make notes of ways you might help foster love with those you encounter. *Today's Readings: Acts 16:1-10; Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 5; John 15:18-21.*



The Gospel for All Ages

Family Catechesis

Gospel Weeklies
Pflaum
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

5th Sunday of Easter • April 29, 2018 • Jesus Is the Vine, We Are the Branches

Sunday Readings: Acts 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

Weekly Discussion Questions

For the Parish Bulletin

Life Question: When have you experienced a shared commitment energizing a wide community?

Gospel Question: What reasons for practicing ecumenism do you hear in Jesus' use of the vine image?

LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

Exploring the Sunday Readings (Adults)

In how many ways is your life firmly rooted in the true vine of Christ?

Visit exploringthesundayreadings.com

Visions (Grades 7-8)

Life Question: What is the most amazing place in nature you've ever visited?

Gospel Question: What does the imagery of vine and branches tell you about your relationship with Jesus?

Venture (Grades 4-6)

Life Question: What makes you feel one with other Christians? With other Catholics?

Gospel Question: What do you think Jesus means when he says he is a vine and we are the branches?

Good News (Grades 2-3)

Life Question: What are ways we connect with each other?

Gospel Question: How is Jesus like a vine?

Promise (Grades K-1)

Life Question: What parts of Mass are your favorites?

Gospel Question: How are you connected to Jesus?

Seeds (Preschool)

Life Question: Who helps you?

Gospel Question: What has God made that you like most? Pray: Thank you, God, for _____.

Family Corner

About the Gospel

Jesus tells us he is the vine and we are the branches. He explains that we can only grow in faith and do the right things if we stay close to him. Jesus will correct and guide us, just as a gardener prunes and tends a garden so it will grow strong.

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

In Church

When the gifts are brought to the altar, remember how important vineyards are to the Catholic Church. At Mass, Jesus becomes truly present in the Bread and the Wine.

Question of the Week

How can you stay connected to Jesus, like branches are connected to a vine?



Family Prayer

Help us to find ways to stay close to you, Jesus, so we can grow in faith and love.

Rincón de la Familia

Acerca del Evangelio

Jesús nos dice que Él es la vid y nosotros somos las ramas. Explica que podemos crecer en la fe y hacer las cosas correctas solamente si permanecemos cerca de Él. Jesús nos corregirá y guiará, al igual que un jardinero poda y cuida un jardín para que crezca fuerte.

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

En la Iglesia

Cuando se llevan los dones al altar, recuerda la importancia de los viñedos para la Iglesia Católica. En la misa, Jesús se hace verdaderamente presente en el Pan y en el Vino.

Pregunta de la semana

¿De qué manera puedes permanecer unido a Jesús, como las ramas están unidas a la vid?



Oración en familia

Ayúdanos a encontrar maneras para permanecer cerca de Ti, Jesús, y poder crecer en la fe y en el amor.

✠ PARISH MINISTRIES & INFORMATION ✠

JOIN THE CHOIR!

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

CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

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

ALTAR SERVERS

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



READERS WANTED

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

GREETERS AND USHERS WANTED

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

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

HOSPITAL VISITATION

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

PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. Submit your prayer request to csmith@stluketheevangelist.net or call 382-8324, ext. 314.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST JUDE COUNCIL #6617 SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

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



Bringing Home the Word +

Fifth Sunday of Easter | April 29, 2018

We Are the Branches

By Mary Katharine Deeley

Many enduring images of Church come to us from the New Testament. One is Paul's image: "The Body of Christ." Another comes from our Gospel today: "The Vine and the Branches."

Both are metaphors of living organisms. For both, Christ is the most important element. Christ is the head of the Body and the symbol of authority and purpose. Christ is the Vine that brings life and nutrients to the branches that produce fruit. Anyone who has visited a winery knows the significance of the vine. If it's cut, the branches wither and the crop fails.

Why is it important to have both images?

John's image reminds us that the Church can't survive if it's separated from Christ. We can live only if we remain in Christ so that the power of grace can continue to infuse us with everything we need to bear the fruit of love, compassion, and mercy.

Paul's metaphor keeps us humble. Regardless of how this Body is structured, Christ is the true head; we are to submit ourselves in obedience to him regardless of how important we are in this world. We also know we belong as a community to Christ and in communion with one another.

There are many parts to the Body and many clusters of fruit on the vine. To leave either is to separate ourselves from Christ.

That's why praying together each week is so important. It reminds us who we are and to whom we belong.

Let us offer praise for this vine and for this Body into which our baptism has called us. +

A Word From Pope Francis

The Holy Spirit, in the variety of his gifts, unites us and enables us to contribute to the building up of the Church in holiness.... Let us ask the Lord to help us to take an ever more active part in the Church's life and mission.

—General audience,
June 26, 2013



Sunday Readings

Acts 9:26–31

The Church ... was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

1 Jn 3:18–24

Love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Jn 15:1–8

[Jesus said,] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower."

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION REFLECTION

- Do I find ways to regularly read and hear the word of God?
- What symbols would sincerely represent the way I live my life?



John's Gospel: Our Gift

By Bishop Robert F. Morneau

One of the treasures of the Church is the Gospel of John. In this work we are given a unique insight into the life of Jesus. Moreover, we are invited to enter into intimate union with Christ, at a personal level and as members of a community.

In the John's Gospel we learn the concept of "blessedness," what it means to live a Christian life. To the extent that we respond to our fourfold baptismal call, we will experience the blessedness John articulates.

Through the other evangelists—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—we see Jesus as someone who is earthly, but also the very presence of God in history. The Gospel of John, on the other hand, presents Jesus as the preexistent one. In becoming human, Jesus reveals the inner workings of divine life. That life is offered to us, and salvation consists precisely in our participation in it. To the extent that we accept Jesus into our lives, we enter into the mystery of salvation.

Through our baptism into the life of Jesus, we are called to maturity, holiness, community, and service. John's Gospel articulate those calls, and provides insights into living them. Responding to the call is the way to a blessed, happy life.

Four Roadmaps

The call to maturity! The mature disciple

is a person of faith. Faith is the opening of our lives to God revealed in Jesus. Everything depends on faith, on our submission to Jesus and his word. Maturity is a lifelong process; faith demands ongoing development. The reading and rereading of the Gospel of John helps us grow into the full stature of Christ.

The call to holiness! Within Catholic tradition, holiness is the perfection of love. John speaks eloquently of the grace of love. In the Last Supper discourse, Jesus speaks profoundly of the values of friendship, intimacy, and love. This love points to union with God and unity among us. The tenderness and force of God's love is overwhelming. And the test? To lay down one's life for others.

It is in John's Gospel that Jesus uses the metaphor of the vine and the branches. This image captures the essence of holiness. To the degree that we are united to Jesus, the Vine, then we the branches, can bear fruit that will last forever. Holiness is that union, that oneness which sustains us on our journey.

The call to community! One characteristic of early Christians was the insistence on Jesus' command that its members love one another. Another feature was dedication of the community to the person of Jesus. His vision and values were their compass. They came together because of an outside enemy, the "world," which stood for all that was not good.

The call to service! John depicts Jesus as someone for others. In the Cana miracle of water turned to wine, in the healing of the royal official's son, in the raising of Lazarus from the dead, in the washing of the feet at the Last Supper, in the resurrection accounts—Jesus is serving the physical, psychological, and spiritual needs of the people.

Simple Treasure

A great treasure, this Gospel of John. Though complex in many ways, there is an underlying simplicity: Jesus, the preexistent Word of God, is for and with us. We are invited into a life of deep friendship and called to share the gift of light, love, and life with others. God dwells within us; we are temples of the Holy Spirit. Thus, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me" (14:1). +

PRAYER

Risen Jesus, your abiding presence gives us hope.
Help me to be a loving presence to others.

From *Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter Through Pentecost*,

Rev. Warren J. Savage
and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 30–May 5, 2018

Monday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 14:5–18 / Jn 14:21–26


Tuesday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 14:19–28 / Jn 14:27–31a

Wednesday, St. Athanasius, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church:
Acts 15:1–6 / Jn 15:1–8

Thursday, Sts. Philip and James,
Apostles: 1 Cor 15:1–8 / Jn 14:6–14

Friday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 15:22–31 / Jn 15:12–17

Saturday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 16:1–10 / Jn 15:18–21

Bringing Home
the Word 
April 29, 2018

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