



MUSIC FOR THE LITURGY

Sunday, August 26, 2018
Twenty-First Sunday In
Ordinary Time

4:00 PM
8:00 AM

Gathering: Praise To The Lord BB 194

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 19)

*Lord, you have the words of
everlasting life.*

Preparation Blest Are They BB 629

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion Song Of The Body Of Christ BB 333
I Am The Bread Of Life BB 364

Recessional: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee BB 543

10:00 AM

Gathering: Table Of Plenty BB 310

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 34)

*Taste and see the goodness of the
Lord, the goodness of the Lord.*

Preparation Christ Be Our Light BB 596
Love Goes On BB 478

Mass Parts Mass of Creation

Communion We Remember BB 495
Behold The Lamb BB 339

Recessional: I Am The Bread Of Life BB 364

✠ 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!

August 15, 2018

Assumption of Mary \$ 891.00

August 19, 2018

Offertory \$5,126.23
Fuel \$1,516.25

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

August 26, 2018 Missionary Co-op
September 2, 2018 Property Management



We welcome in our faith community
Nicholas John Scola, Jr.
who recently received the Sacrament of Baptism

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 ✠

THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD PANTRY

Your Dollars At Work Helping Others

St. Luke's Food Pantry, in coordination with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, was able to launch a new program to help families with back to school shopping. The St. Vincent de Paul Society applied for and received a grant from the Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund in the amount \$5,000 for the purpose of helping families to purchase school clothing for their children for the new school year. Additional funds were obtained when St. Luke's Food Pantry reached out to parishioners, local businesses, and groups to raise money to help fund this program and for donations of filled backpacks. Through our combined efforts, this program was able to come to fruition. It is exciting to say that we were able to help about 70 local children and their families with vouchers specifically for clothing and we will be able to provide almost all of the children with filled backpacks. A sincere thank you to the businesses and individuals who made monetary donations and donated backpacks with supplies to support the back to school drive. All of the families are very grateful for the help they received!

"Together we can make a difference."



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Registration for the 2018-2019 Academic Year for Grades Pre-K through 8 has begun. If your child is currently enrolled, a registration form has been sent home. If your child is new to the Program, please call Joyce Szczapa in the Religious Education Office at 603-382-8324 for more information.

CATECHISTS NEEDED

Our Religious Education Program is in need of catechists for Sunday mornings. Training will be provided. If you can help, please email Joyce at jszczapa@stluketheevangelist.net.



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?

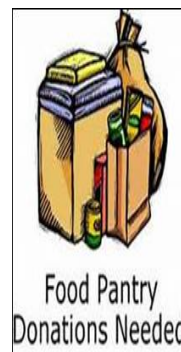
Any contribution is welcome.

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 SUMMER...

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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ WEEKLY CALENDAR ✠

Wednesday, August 29
HOLY ANGELS CHURCH
OPEN ALL DAY FOR PRAYER

Thursday, August 30

8:30 AM Adoration Begins **Newton**
8:30 PM Adoration Ends **Newton**

Saturday, September 1

3:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation **Plaistow**

Sunday, September 2

11:00 AM Baptism Catechesis **Plaistow**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

In observance of the Labor Day holiday, the Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, September 3**. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, September 4 at 8:30 AM.



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

**St. Vincent
de Paul
Society**



Your "Dropped Dollar" Hard At Work

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society! Please know that your "dropped dollars" are being used wisely to help the poor in our area. Your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Drop-a-Dollar in the St. Vincent de Paul box
on your way out of church.

Remember ~ 100% of your donation is used to help those
who need a hand up, not a hand out.

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, September 19 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, August 25 ~ Vigil / 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

4:00 PM Phil Consentino
by Raymond and Beverley Viglione
Plaistow

Sunday, August 26 ~ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

8:00 AM Ronald Metcalf by Paul Roberts
Newton

10:00 AM In Thanksgiving to St. Michael the Archangel
Plaistow

Monday, August 27 ~ Monica

2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Mt 23:13-22

8:00 AM Intentions of Paul Fournier by Dan & Jean Lloyd
Newton

**Tuesday, August 28 ~ Augustine, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church**

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Mt 23:23-26

8:00 AM Intentions of Verna Carbone
by Rachel Lanseigne
Plaistow

Wednesday, August 29 ~ Passion of John the Baptist

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Mk 6:17-29

6:30 PM Donald Culbert, Jr. (3rd Anniversary)
by Jane Culbert
Plaistow

Thursday, August 30 ~ Weekday

1 Cor 1:1-9; Mt 24:42-51

8:00 AM Mary Stevens by Bill and Marjorie Knowles
Newton

Friday, August 31 ~ Weekday

1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13

No Mass

Saturday, September 1 ~ Weekday

1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30 (Day)

*Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8,
14-15, 21-23 (Vigil)*

4:00 PM Millie Gattinella by Pat Zakiewicz
Plaistow

Sunday, September 2 ~ 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8,
14-15, 21-23*

8:00 AM Joseph Thompson by Knights of Columbus,
St. Jude Council #6617
Newton

10:00 AM Mark Bloom by Knights of Columbus,
St. Jude Council #6617
Plaistow

PRAYER LINE

St. Luke's offers a prayer line as a resource for those seeking prayer assistance. To submit your prayer request please call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 314 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

✠ FAITH FORMATION & PARISH INFORMATION ✠



The Sanctuary Candle in Mary, Mother of the Church will burn this week in loving memory of
Dennis Fitzgerald
 by his wife and family

RCIA

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. **RCIA** is intended to serve:

- Those not Baptized who would like to learn more about the Catholic religion.
- Those Baptized in another religion who think they might like to become Catholic.
- Those Baptized Catholic but have not been raised in the Faith.

If you or someone you know is interested in inquiring about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church, call Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The monthly preparation session for infant Baptism will be held after the 10:00 AM Liturgy on **Sunday, September 2, 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.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating an anniversary of **5, 25, or 50 years** to attend the **Fall Wedding Anniversary Mass**. Couples are encouraged to invite select family members to share in the joyous occasion. This celebration will be held on **Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 2:00 PM at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester**. To register, please contact your parish office **by September 18, 2018**. The parish office will submit all necessary information. All registrants will receive an invitation to this special celebration. **Couples celebrating other significant anniversaries will be asked to register next year for a Spring Celebration.**

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.

ADORATION

We are truly blessed to have times for Adoration of Our Lord in our Parish. This time of prayer and intercession is not only a source of great grace for the individual, but it is a great source of grace for us as a parish family, as well.

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

**Newton – Thursday
 8:30 AM – 8:30 PM**

If you can commit to one hour a week in Adoration of our Lord, or if you can be a substitute, please contact Cathy Smith at 603-382-8324, ext. 305 or email her at csmith@stluketheevangelist.net.

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

✠ PARISH DIRECTORY ✠

Parish Office	382-8324
Parish Prayer Line	382-8324 x 314
St. Vincent de Paul Society	382-8324 x 315
St. Luke's Food Pantry	819-4949
Preschool	382-9783
Presentation of Mary Convent	382-2744

Fr. Albert Tremblay	fr.albert@stluketheevangelist.net
Cathy Smith	csmith@stluketheevangelist.net
Joyce Szapa	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** ✠

HIGH ADVENTURE SCOUT RETREAT

The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and their Leaders have been gathering every year for the past 38 years on the 3rd weekend in September to give a meaningful, spirit-filled beginning to a new year of Scouting.

All Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts in grades 6-12, and adult leaders, are invited to the 38th Annual High Adventure Scout Retreat **from Friday, September 14 to Sunday, September 16, 2018** at Camp Fatima in Gilmanton Iron Works, NH. The cost is \$10 per scout and \$7 per adult.

This retreat is very active, involving the scouts in a number of fun, interesting, challenging, thought provoking and faith filled activities. It includes a climbing wall, high ropes, capture the flag, and dance.

Uniforms are only required for flags, dinner, and Mass. Please consider wearing Class B uniforms.

For more information, contact the Catholic Scouting Committee at nhcatholicscouting@gmail.com.

**HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING
FALL SESSIONS**

A terminal diagnosis can be a lonely experience. At a time when understanding is needed most, many Hospice patients find themselves isolated, even from family and friends. You can help end that isolation by becoming a Hospice volunteer. You will be taught how to provide compassionate support to those patients at the end of life and their families. Rockingham VNA & Hospice is offering a comprehensive Hospice volunteer training **beginning on September 7 and continuing each Friday from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM through October 26, 2018**. Classes will be held at Rockingham VNA & Hospice, 137 Epping Road, Exeter, NH. To register, or for more information, call Martha Carlson, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, at 772-2981.

**SEEKING GOD IN ALL THINGS
Our Lady of Hope House of Prayer
September 21-23, 2018**

We would be amazed at how many ways God is present to us every day! All too often, our full and busy lives make it easy to miss out on experiencing God's loving presence in everyday things. Our daily lives become very different when we are able to feel God present to us in all things. This quiet and reflective weekend is an opportunity to experience different ways of opening our contemplative hearts so that we can encounter God's loving presence in all things. Come and awaken your contemplative spirit through Lectio Divina, centering prayer, quiet reflection, and song. **Registration deadline is September 7, 2018**. To register, or for more information, contact Sisters Rita Pay or Suzanne Rivard, pm at 603-878-2346 or olhope1@yahoo.com.



**ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH 11TH ANNUAL
JURIED CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR
Saturday, November 10, 2018**

**CASH RAFFLE TICKETS
WILL BE HERE SOON!**

The Cash Raffle needs lots and lots and lots of tickets sold to parishioners and – especially – to people outside the parish. If we sell all of our tickets, we'll raise **\$4,500** for St. Luke's!!!

You can be a big help ...

*** When asked to take tickets for others to buy or sell, please say yes.

*** Please buy at least one book of tickets yourself.

If you have questions, or would like to help make our Christmas Craft Fair even more successful, please send a message to stlukenhfair@gmail.com or leave a message for Julie Lamere at the Parish Office: 603-382-8324. Thank you!

FOR OUR RECORDS

We need your help to keep our records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, or address changes in your family, please notify the parish office by email at jtremblay@stluketheevangelist.net or by calling 603-382-8324. If you are new to our parish, registration forms are available at the entrances of both churches. You can also find a registration form on our website at <http://stlukenh.org>. Thank you.

**VETERAN TO VETERAN
HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

Rockingham VNA & Hospice is offering a comprehensive **Veteran to Veteran** Hospice volunteer training **beginning on September 7 and continuing each Friday from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM through October 26, 2018**. Classes will be held at Rockingham VNA & Hospice, 137 Epping Road, Exeter, NH. To register, or for more information, call Martha Carlson, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, at 772-2981.

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.

BRING THE BIBLE TO LIFE AND LIVE SCRIPTURE EVERY DAY!!!!



Join us for six weeks of exploration of the Bible that equips you to apply the message of Scripture to your daily life.

Six Weeks with the Bible series, published by *Loyola Press*, is an ideal way to learn important background information on Scripture, experience praying God's Word, and discover the difference the Bible can make in your life today.

Our Fall Bible share groups will be exploring the theme "Relating to Others as Jesus Would" *Loyola Press* states: "We will read some excerpts from the Gospels in order to examine how Jesus related to the people in his life. As we proceed, we will explore connections between what we find in Scripture and our own life. The goal is to become more like Jesus."

If you are interested in joining a group either on Sunday mornings after the 10 a.m. Mass, beginning September 9, or on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning September 12, or Thursday afternoons at 1:30 p.m., beginning September 13; please cut the form at the bottom and complete. Completed forms should be returned either in the collection basket or the parish office no later than Tuesday, September 4. Any questions, contact Cathy Smith at 382-8324 or csmith@stluketheevangelist.net

Groups will meet downstairs in the Church Hall

(There is an \$8 book fee)

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Relating to Others as Jesus Would (check one)

Sundays at 11 a.m. ____ Wednesdays at 7 p.m. ____ Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. ____
Sept. 9 – Oct. 14 Sept. 12 – Oct. 17 Sept. 13 – Oct. 18



Why don't you think about it too?

**Parish Giving is a simple,
secure and convenient way to
manage your stewardship
without weekly envelopes and
without worries.**

- Parish Giving allows you to select contribution amounts and special collections right from your own computer or smartphone
- 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.
- Log on to the St. Luke the Evangelist Parish website <http://stlukenh.org>, click on the Parish Giving logo and follow the easy registration instructions.

Parish Giving



Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time | August 26, 2018

Nowhere to Go, but With Jesus

By Mary Katharine Deeley

When confronted with a new idea or a new way of doing things, many of us hesitate. There is often a bit of fear in trying something new, and changing the way we do things is sometimes uncomfortable. I remember when we moved from an apartment to a new house. I was very unsettled for several days until a new routine could be established and the many boxes were out of the way. It was a change, and I didn't like it at first. Now I can't imagine that we would have raised our family anywhere else.

The many disciples who were following Jesus listened intently as he talked to them about living bread, and eating and drinking his flesh and blood. That new way of thinking was as unsettling as our new house had been—maybe more so. The apostles who were closest to him even admitted that it was a hard saying to accept, and John records that many followers left him and “returned to their former way of life.” But the apostles were willing to wrestle with it not because they were so wise, smart, or understanding, but because they believed that Jesus was the Holy One of God and that compelled them to follow him even to death. They had nowhere else to go; Jesus alone could give them what they craved: eternal life.

I've often wondered what I might have said had Jesus asked me if I also wanted to go away. I hope I could have overcome my fear long enough to recognize Jesus for who he was and for the gift he was bringing me. +

Sunday Readings

Joshua 24:1–2a, 15–17, 18b

[Joshua said,] “Choose today whom you will serve....

As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Ephesians 5:21–32 or 5:2a, 25–32

“For this reason a man shall leave [his] father and [his] mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

John 6:60–69

Simon Peter answered [Jesus], “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

*The apostles had
nowhere else to go;
Jesus alone could give
them what they craved:
eternal life.*

A Word From Pope Francis

The living legacy of martyrs gives us peace and unity today. They teach us that, with the power of love, with meekness, one can fight against arrogance, violence and war, and one can bring about peace with patience....O Lord, make us worthy witnesses to the gospel and to your love.

—Homily remembering martyrs of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries,

April 22, 2017



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Following Jesus can be difficult. Do I have the conviction to follow him anyway?
- What do my words and actions say about me?



Embracing Sacred Time

By Richard Rohr, OFM

According to the psychologist Carl Jung, all humans need to confront the same question: Are we related to something infinite or not? Are we part of an enchanted universe or traveling in a desperate, private search for meaning?

Biblical revelation offers us the answer to this essential human question: Yes, we are part of something infinite—and wonderfully so!

Not only that, but we cannot know the meaning of our lives until we see that each life is but a thread in a much larger tapestry. Only within this context can each of us find our own private meaning.

Throughout history, religions have held that the way we know God is by finding him in spiritual places, following rituals, engaging in correct behavior. We have been told: Do all those things right and you will “get” God. Typically that is where religion has started—with the notion that if we answer correctly, then God will like us and we will meet God

Biblical revelation, however, takes us to a new level by telling us that we come to the real through the actual, through what is. So it’s not about finding God only in sacred places. The Bible transforms sacred place to sacred time. Time is transformed and experienced altogether

differently because, suddenly, God is available in all of time. That is why Jesus says the temple must fall—to lessen the importance of sacred places.

Now we understand that God is manifest in the ordinary, actual, and daily rather than only in the spiritual and special. This contrasts from what so many of us learned! There is no need to travel somewhere set apart to “be spiritual.” Amazingly, God is in the actual, real world.

Meeting God Daily

We are already spiritual beings. We just don’t know it! And the task of biblical revelation is to teach us how to be human, present, and to see the extraordinary in the ordinary. That is the whole miracle of biblical revelation: Think of the wars and adulteries, the marriages and festivals that make up much of the Bible—the ordinary events of life.

Perhaps that is why so many of us, Catholics in particular, didn’t like to read the Bible for so long. It wasn’t spiritual enough, special enough. In truth, it was like our lives, but we didn’t see the good news in that. But it is indeed good news that we meet God in the eventful world.

Lessons From Life

This lesson is most evident in the lives of the Jews, who were always situated in the bloody middle of history. We see it in their forty-year journey in the desert and again in their exile. The Jews let God come into their reality. They possessed a rare power to stand their ground before negative realities with God alone. They stood naked before their enemies, always trusting in God. How daring that was!

Our challenge today is to take these new awarenesses to heart. It will mean letting go of our certitude that God is to be found only in designated places and moments and, instead, surrendering to the scary mystery of God. It means allowing ourselves to be transformed. If we approach the Bible correctly, it leaves us humble and vulnerable. We need to let go of our answers and explanations and, instead, become blank slates before God, eager to listen to what God has to say.

Our reward will be a God who continually unfolds before us throughout the hours of our lives, the God who is ever with us. +

PRAYER

Lord, you reveal the wisdom of God in the hearts of all people. Help me teach others by example the wisdom of your love, forgiveness, and peace.

From *Faithful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage
and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 27–
September 1, 2018

Monday, St. Monica:
2 Thes 1:1–5, 11–12 / Mt 23:13–22

Tuesday, St. Augustine:
2 Thes 2:1–3a, 14–17 / Mt 23:23–26

Wednesday, Passion of St. John the Baptist:
2 Thes 3:6–10, 16–18 / Mk 6:17–29

Thursday, Weekday:
1 Cor 1:1–9 / Mt 24:42–51

Friday, Weekday:
1 Cor 1:17–25 / Mt 25:1–13

Saturday, Weekday:
1 Cor 1:26–31 / Mt 25:14–30

Bringing Home
the Word 
August 26, 2018

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